NRSV™

UPDATED EDITION

eBible

With Deuterocanonical/Apocryphal
Books of the Old Testament

Friendship Press™

Contains the Old and New Testaments and the Deuterocanonical/Apocryphal Books of the Old Testament

About This Product

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition eBible

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1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24* | *25* | *26* | *27* | *28* | *29* | *30* | *31*

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1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24* | *25*

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1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24* | *25* | *26* | *27* | *28* | *29*

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1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10*

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72 | *73* | *74* | *75* | *76* | *77* | *78* | *79* | *80* | *81* | *82* | *83* | *84* | *85* | *86* | *87* | *88* | *89* | *90* | *91* | *92* | *93* | *94* | *95* | *96* | *97* | *98* | *99* | *100* | *101* | *102* | *103* | *104* | *105* | *106* | *107* | *108* | *109* | *110* | *111* | *112* | *113* | *114* | *115* | *116* | *117* | *118* | *119* | *120* | *121* | *122* | *123* | *124* | *125* | *126* | *127* | *128* | *129* | *130* | *131* | *132* | *133* | *134* | *135* | *136* | *137* | *138* | *139* | *140* | *141* | *142* | *143* | *144* | *145* | *146* | *147* | *148* | *149* | *150*

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Jeremiah

1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24* | *25* | *26* | *27* | *28* | *29* | *30* | *31* | *32* | *33* | *34* | *35* | *36* | *37* | *38* | *39* | *40* | *41* | *42* | *43* | *44* | *45* | *46* | *47* | *48* | *49* | *50* | *51* | *52*

Lamentations

1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5*

Ezekiel

1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24* | *25* | *26* | *27* | *28* | *29* | *30* | *31* | *32* | *33* | *34* | *35* | *36* | *37* | *38* | *39* | *40* | *41* | *42* | *43* | *44* | *45* | *46* | *47* | *48*

Daniel

1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12*

Hosea

1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14*

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1 | *2* | *3*

Amos
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9*

Obadiah
1

Jonah
1 | *2* | *3* | *4*

Micah
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7*

Nahum
1 | *2* | *3*

Habakkuk
1 | *2* | *3*

Zephaniah
1 | *2* | *3*

Haggai
1 | *2*

Zechariah
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14*

Malachi
1 | *2* | *3* | *4*

The Deuterocanonical/Apocryphal Books of the Old Testament

Tobit
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14*

Judith
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16*

Esther (Greek)

Addition A — 11 — 12 | 1 | 2 | 3 | Addition B — 13 | 3 | 4 | Addition C — 13 — 14 | Addition D — 15 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | Addition E — 16 | 8 | 9 | 10 | Addition F — 11

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1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19

Sirach

Prologue | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 | 51

Baruch

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5

Letter of Jeremiah

1

Azariah and the Three Jews

1

Susanna

1

Bel and the Dragon

1

1 Maccabees

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16

2 Maccabees

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15

1 Esdras

1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9

Prayer of Manasseh

1

Psalm 151

151

3 Maccabees
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7*

2 Esdras
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16*

4 Maccabees
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18*

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Matthew
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24* | *25* | *26* | *27* | *28*

Mark
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16*

Luke
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24*

John
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21*

Acts
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22* | *23* | *24* | *25* | *26* | *27* | *28*

Romans
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16*

1 Corinthians
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16*

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Ephesians
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6*

Philippians
1 | *2* | *3* | *4*

Colossians
1 | *2* | *3* | *4*

1 Thessalonians
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5*

2 Thessalonians
1 | *2* | *3*

1 Timothy
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6*

2 Timothy
1 | *2* | *3* | *4*

Titus
1 | *2* | *3*

Philemon
1

Hebrews
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13*

James
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5*

1 Peter
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5*

2 Peter
1 | *2* | *3*

1 John
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5*

2 John
1

3 John
1

Jude
1

Revelation
1 | *2* | *3* | *4* | *5* | *6* | *7* | *8* | *9* | *10* | *11* | *12* | *13* | *14* | *15* | *16* | *17* | *18* | *19* | *20* | *21* | *22*

To the Reader

From the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

Motivated by love and respect for Scripture, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC) hopes that you will find this *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition* (*NRSVue*) suitable to inspire, inform, and guide daily living. The goal of the *NRSVue* is to offer a readable and accurate version of the Holy Bible to the global English-speaking community for public worship and personal study, for scholarship and study in classrooms, and for informing faith and action in response to God.

Together with religious leaders from diverse communities of faith, we join in the conviction that the Scriptures offer good news of God's love—wisdom to guide, hope to sustain, truth to empower, forgiveness to change, and peace to bless all of creation.

The *NRSVue* extends the *New Revised Standard Version's* (*NRSV*) purpose to deliver an accurate, readable, up-to-date, and inclusive version of the Bible. It also continues the work of offering a version as free as possible from the gender bias inherent in the English language, which can obscure earlier oral and written renditions. The *NRSVue*, like the *NRSV*, follows "in the tradition of the *King James Bible*, [introducing] such changes as are warranted on the basis of accuracy, clarity, euphony, and current English usage, . . . as literal as possible, as free as necessary" (*NRSV's* preface "To the Reader"). As also stated in the *NRSV* preface, the Bible's message "must not be disguised in phrases that are no longer clear or hidden under words that have changed or lost their meaning; it must be presented in language that is direct and plain and meaningful to people today."

Why an Update?

The *NRSV* has been called the most accurate of English-language translations, based on the available manuscript evidence, textual analysis,

and philological understanding. In the more than thirty years since its first publication, hundreds of ancient manuscripts have been studied in exacting detail. The *NRSVue* is informed by the results of this research. Laboring through this material has deepened scholarly insight into Jewish and Christian sacred texts and advanced understanding of ancient languages. With new textual evidence, historical insights, and philological understandings (which include exploring the meanings of ancient texts in light of the cultures that produced them), the *NRSVue* brings greater precision in interpreting Scripture today. The goal of these practices has been to translate the ancient texts as accurately as possible while reflecting the cultural differences across time and conditions. Such a translation approach permitted the Editorial Committee to present the text as literally as possible and as freely as necessary.

The Update Process

The current updating process involves scores of scholars and leaders from multiple faith communities, inclusive of gender and ethnic identities, with the unwavering goal to render an accurate version of original source texts into the most current understandings of contemporary language and culture.

It is for this reason, too, that the NCC commissioned the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), the leading international association of biblical scholars, to review and update the *NRSV*. The SBL's mandate and process were single-mindedly intended to ensure the currency and integrity of the *NRSVue* as the most up-to-date and reliable Bible for use and study in English-language religious communities and educational institutions.

A Final Word

Since its beginnings in the early 1950s, the NCC has supported the work of scholars who dedicate their lives to the study of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. Likewise, the NCC's steadfast aim has been to encourage readers to study the Scriptures so they will be inspired and informed in their faithful action to love God with their hearts, souls, minds, and strength and to love each other as God loves.

The communions of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA have undertaken this work as a sacred trust.

Preface to the *NRSV Updated Edition*

From the Society of Biblical Literature

Purpose of the Revision

First published in 1611, the *King James Version* slowly but steadily attained a well-deserved stature as the English language's "Authorized Version" of the Scriptures. At the same time, the scholarly foundation that produced the *King James Version* shifted as new manuscripts came to light and philological understandings improved. As a result of these scholarly advances, the *Revised Standard Version* was authorized to improve the translation, based on more evidence of the original texts and early translations of the Bible, the meanings of its original languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, as well as ancient translations into Arabic, Armenian, Coptic, Ethiopic, Georgian Greek, Syriac, and Latin), and changes to the English language itself. The forty years between the *Revised Standard Version* and the *New Revised Standard Version* likewise witnessed many developments in biblical scholarship, textual criticism, linguistics, and philology. The same has occurred over the last thirty years, including the publication of all the biblical texts discovered near the Dead Sea, and these developments warrant this update. As with its predecessors, the *NRSVue* can claim a well-known line from the 1611 preface to the *King James Version*: "We never thought from the beginning that we should need to make a new translation . . . but to make a good one better."

The National Council of Churches, which holds the copyright of the *New Revised Standard Version*, commissioned the Society of Biblical Literature to direct the *NRSVue* revision project thirty years after its original publication. The editors of this edition encourage readers to read the excellent prefaces to both the *Revised Standard Version* (1952) and the *New Revised Standard Version* (1989); some elements of the latter have been incorporated herein. This preface also outlines the process of the update and the mandate under which it was conducted.

Process of the Revision

The review managed by the Society of Biblical Literature included seven general editors and fifty-six book editors, with several general editors serving also as book editors. The general editors were divided into three teams: Old Testament (also known as the Hebrew Scriptures), Apocrypha (also known as the Deuterocanon), and the New Testament. In addition to the seven general editors, the National Council of Churches appointed two members of its Bible Translation and Utilization Advisory Committee to serve as liaisons to the committee of general editors appointed by the Society of Biblical Literature. Three members of the Society's staff participated in and managed the project.

Beginning in 2017, each book of the Bible was assigned to one or more book editors. Over the course of two years (2018–2019), the book editors submitted their proposed updates to the general editors. Each of the three teams of general editors met at least once a month for two years (2019–2020) to review and discuss the proposed updates submitted by the book editors. The accepted updates were submitted to the National Council of Churches in 2021 for its final review and approval of what is now the *NRSVue*.

The *NRSVue* presents approximately 12,000 substantive edits and 20,000 total changes, which include alterations in grammar and punctuation.

Like its predecessors, this *NRSVue* has relied on the best results of modern discovery and scholarship. The mandate primarily focused on two types of revisions: text-critical and philological. The *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition* (*NRSVue*) is not a new translation. While some stylistic improvements have been made, these were reserved for instances where the translation was awkward, unclear, or inaccurate. Other changes involve matters of consistency, grammar and punctuation, and general improvements that render the translation and notes more consistent and uniform.

Text-Critical Revisions

The role of text criticism in Bible translation is to establish a base text from which to translate, a text reconstructed from the earliest versions in the original languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek), as well as in ancient translations of the books of the Old Testament, Apocrypha, and New Testament. Translators rely on scholarly critical editions of the Bible for their work. A typical text-critical resource establishes a text based on scholarly judgment of the preferred reading among the readings available, with important alternative readings provided in a detailed apparatus. Scholars follow well-established rules in their effort to determine one preferred or superior reading from among others, though this remains both art and science. The challenge of establishing the Hebrew and Aramaic text of the Old Testament is different from the corresponding challenge in the New Testament. For the New Testament, a large number of Greek manuscripts exist, preserving many variant forms of the text. Some of them were copied only two or three centuries later than the original composition of the books. While the Dead Sea Scrolls dramatically improved the resources for Old Testament textual criticism, most translations, including the *NRSVue*, still rely especially on a standardized form of the text established many centuries after the books were written.

The goal of the text-critical review was to evaluate whether or not to modify the textual basis for the revision. To this end, the text underlying the *New Revised Standard Version* was examined in the light of all available evidence, making use of new data, perspectives, and scholarly resources. The review occasionally resulted in a change to the translation itself or to the textual notes that have been an integral feature of the *New Revised Standard Version*.

For the Old Testament, the team made use of the *Biblia Hebraica Quinta* (2004–) for those books published to date and the *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia* (1977; ed. sec. emendata, 1983) for the remaining books. Both are editions of the Hebrew and Aramaic text as current early in the Christian era and fixed by Jewish scholars (the Masoretes) of the sixth to the ninth centuries. The vowel signs, which were added by the Masoretes, are accepted in the main, but where a more probable and convincing reading can be obtained by assuming different vowels, we adopted that reading. No notes are given in such cases because the vowel points are more recent and less reliably original than the consonants.

Departures from the consonantal text of the best manuscripts have been made only where it seems clear that errors in copying were introduced before the Masoretes standardized the Hebrew text. Most of the corrections adopted in the *NRSVue* are based on other ancient Hebrew manuscripts or on the ancient versions (translations into Greek, Aramaic, Syriac, and Latin), which were made prior to the time of the work of the Masoretes and which therefore may reflect earlier forms of the Hebrew text. In such instances a note specifies the manuscript, version, or versions attesting the correction and also gives a translation of the Masoretic Text.

Since the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Septuagint translation predate the Christian era, they present for certain books an earlier and more original version in the development of the texts. Each of the versions was considered authoritative by a community. This advance in textual scholarship is recent, however, so the *NRSVue* retains for its translation the version presented by the Masoretic Text, whether it attests the earlier, parallel, or later version. The differences between these major versions are larger than can be added to the notes.

The *NRSVue* uses double brackets in the Old Testament in the same way the *New Revised Standard Version* did in the New Testament: to enclose passages that are now regarded to be later additions to the text but that have been retained because of their evident antiquity and their importance in the textual tradition. In short, the text-critical basis for the Old Testament is an improved Masoretic Text, which was the goal of the *New Revised Standard Version*. The Masoretic Text has been given preference where there is no scholarly consensus in favor of another reading or where the arguments are equivocal.

The *Revised Standard Version of the Bible* containing both the Old and New Testaments was published in 1952; a translation of the Apocrypha in the Old Testament followed in 1957. In 1977, this collection was issued in an expanded edition containing three additional texts considered canonical by Eastern Orthodox communions (3 and 4 Maccabees and Psalm 151). Thereafter the *Revised Standard Version* gained the distinction of being officially authorized for use by all major Christian churches: Protestant, Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Eastern Orthodox. The translation of the Apocrypha, therefore, is not peripheral but of equal import as the translation of the Old Testament and the New Testament. Indeed, some of the

deuterocanonical books were originally written in Hebrew or Aramaic and were considered sacred texts by the early Jewish communities who first transmitted them and the later Christians who preserved them.

The *NRSVue* includes a considerable number of changes to the Apocrypha. Because there is no single critical edition for the books in this collection, the team made use of a number of texts. For most books the basic Greek text used was the edition of the Septuagint prepared by Alfred Rahlfs (Stuttgart, 1935). For several books the more recent volumes of the Göttingen Septuagint project were utilized. *A New English Translation of the Septuagint* (Oxford, 2009) also served as a resource to compare translations and evaluate critical texts for individual books.

For the book of Tobit, the *New Revised Standard Version* relied on the shorter Greek manuscript tradition; the *NRSVue* translated the longer Greek tradition (preserved in Codex Sinaiticus), while taking the Qumran manuscripts and other ancient witnesses into account. For the three Additions to Daniel, the Committee continued to use the Greek version attributed to Theodotion. Ecclesiasticus has an especially challenging textual history. The team generally followed the Greek text of Joseph Ziegler (and the versification in the Prologue), while giving particular consideration to the earliest Hebrew manuscripts from the Dead Sea region, with occasional recourse to the Syriac. The versification of 1 Esdras now follows Robert Hanhart's edition (Göttingen, 1974), which also brings the book into conformity with its usage in the Eastern Orthodox tradition. The basic text adopted in rendering 2 Esdras is the Latin version given in Robert Weber's *Biblia Sacra* (Stuttgart, 1971), with consultation of the Latin texts of R. L. Bensly (1895) and Bruno Violet (1910), as well as by taking into account the Syriac, Ethiopic, Arabic, Armenian, and Georgian versions. Since the Additions to the Book of Esther are disjointed and unintelligible as they stand in most editions of the Apocrypha, we provide them with their original context by translating the entirety of Greek Esther from Hanhart's edition (Göttingen, 1983). The versification of the Letter of Jeremiah now conforms to Ziegler's edition (Göttingen, 1957, 1976). The Septuagint's Psalm 151 is an abbreviated version of the Hebrew composition found in the 11QPsalms^{a} scroll. While the Greek remains the basis for the translation, the team also consulted that scroll.

For the New Testament, the team based its work on three recent editions of the Greek New Testament: (1) *The Greek New Testament*, 5th revised edition (United Bible Societies, 2014); (2) *The Greek New Testament: SBL Edition* (Society of Biblical Literature and Logos Bible Software, 2010); and, (3) for Acts and the Catholic Letters, *Novum Testamentum Graecum: Editio Critica Maior* (Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2013, 2017). Occasionally these editions differ in regard to text or punctuation; in such cases the team followed the reading best supported by a combination of both traditional and more recent approaches and considerations. As in the original *NRSV*, double brackets are used to enclose a few passages that are generally regarded to be later additions to the text but that have been retained because of their antiquity and importance in the textual tradition. Here and there in the notes the phrase "Other ancient authorities read" identifies alternative readings preserved by Greek manuscripts and early versions. In both Testaments, other possible translations of the text are indicated by the word "Or."

Textual criticism continues to evolve. Not only have additional manuscripts become available, but some of the goals and methodology have changed over the last several decades. This is more the case for reconstructing the books of the Old Testament and Apocrypha, but it is generally true for the entire enterprise. In the *NRSVue*, care was taken not to push too far ahead of the existing critical editions or to turn the translation itself and its notes into a critical edition. Nevertheless, a careful reader will notice in general a more generous use of the notes for alternative readings. The editors hope that this work will serve translators in the future.

Philological Revisions

Deciphering the meanings of the Bible's ancient languages involves a host of efforts: the study of the languages themselves, the comparative study of cognate languages from the ancient Near East and the Greco-Roman world, the disciplines of philology and linguistics, and the historical study of the social, cultural, and economic contexts in which the Bible was written. The *NRSVue* took special care not to use terms in ways that are historically or theologically anachronistic, though, as in every translation, anachronism is unavoidable.

The *NRSVue* continues and improves the effort to eliminate masculine-oriented language when it can be done without altering passages that reflect the historical situation of ancient patriarchal culture. This goal is to provide a historically accurate and acceptable rendering without using contrived English. Only occasionally has the pronoun "he" or "him" or other gendered language been retained in passages where the reference may have been to a woman as well as to a man, for example, in several legal texts in Leviticus and Deuteronomy. In such instances of formal, legal language, the options of either putting the passage in the plural or of introducing additional nouns to avoid masculine pronouns in English could easily obscure the historical background to and literary character of the original. In the vast majority of cases, however, inclusiveness has been attained by simple rephrasing or by introducing plural forms when this does not distort meaning.

The *NRSVue* also continues the well-established practice of using in the Old Testament the word LORD (or, in certain cases, GOD). This represents the traditional way that English versions render the Divine Name, the "Tetragrammaton" (see the notes on Exodus 3.14, 15), following the precedent of the ancient Greek and Latin translators and the long-established practice in the reading of the Hebrew Scriptures in the synagogue.

The Future of Revisions and a Virtue of This Translation

The *NRSVue* represents a base text that was produced from a variety of textual witnesses, a text that was not used by any one community but combines readings from several of them. This, however, may well be a model and a reminder to us today: it results in a text that can be used across both Jewish and Christian traditions and in all their diverse communities. Indeed, this model stretches back to 1611, the origin of this edition. The translators of the *King James Version* took into account all of the preceding English versions and owed something to each of them. In 1977 the *Revised Standard Version* incorporated books that permitted it to become officially authorized by all the major Christian churches, and the use of the Masoretic Text of the Hebrew Scriptures reflects the use of that text in synagogues.

Beginning with the Revised Standard Version Bible Committee, the translation teams became both ecumenical and interfaith. The process that produced this translation of the Bible represents an ideal and a virtue. It is a Bible produced by consensus that can be used among and across pluralistic communities in contexts both academic and religious.

In the future, new text-critical resources will become available, the methodology and goals of textual criticism may change, translation theory may evolve, and the need to reflect contemporary language will be constant. In short, efforts to update the translation of the Bible will continue. As they do, it is the hope of the Society of Biblical Literature that this translation will continue to be produced by a diverse team and for diverse readers.

Abbreviations for the *NRSVue* Text Notes

The following abbreviations are used in the text notes.

Aquila	Aquila's Greek Old Testament
Arab	Arabic
Aram	Aramaic
Arm	Armenian
Cn	Correction; provides the most probable reconstruction of the original text where the text has suffered in transmission and the versions provide no satisfactory restoration
Ethiop	Ethiopic
Georg	Georgian
Gk	Greek
Heb	Hebrew
Jerome	Jerome's Latin translation of Psalms based on the Hebrew
Lat	Latin
ms(s)	manuscript(s)
MT	vocalized Masoretic Text
OL	Old Latin
Q	Qumran
S	Codex Sinaiticus
Sam	Samaritan Hebrew text
Symmachus	Symmachus's Greek Old Testament
Syr	Syriac Version of the Old Testament
Syr H	Syriac Version of Origen's Hexapla
Theodotion	Theodotion's Greek Old Testament
Tg	Targum
Vg	Vulgate

The Old Testament

Genesis	Gen
Exodus	Ex
Leviticus	Lev
Numbers	Num
Deuteronomy	Deut
Joshua	Josh
Judges	Judg
Ruth	Ruth
1 Samuel	1 Sam
2 Samuel	2 Sam
1 Kings	1 Kings
2 Kings	2 Kings
1 Chronicles	1 Chr
2 Chronicles	2 Chr
Ezra	Ezra
Nehemiah	Neh
Esther	Esth
Job	Job
Psalms	Ps
Proverbs	Prov
Ecclesiastes	Eccl
Song of Songs	Song
Isaiah	Isa
Jeremiah	Jer
Lamentations	Lam

Ezekiel	Ezek
Daniel	Dan
Hosea	Hos
Joel	Joel
Amos	Am
Obadiah	Ob
Jonah	Jon
Micah	Mic
Nahum	Nah
Habakkuk	Hab
Zephaniah	Zeph
Haggai	Hag
Zechariah	Zech
Malachi	Mal

The Deuterocanonical/Apocryphal Books of the Old Testament

Tobit	Tob
Judith	Jdt
Esther (Greek)	Add Esth
Wisdom of Solomon	Wis
Sirach	Sir
Baruch	Bar
Letter of Jeremiah	Let Jer
Azariah and the Three Jews	Song of Thr
Susanna	Sus
Bel and the Dragon	Bel
1 Maccabees	1 Macc
2 Maccabees	2 Macc

1 Esdras	1 Esd
Prayer of Manasseh	Pr Man
Psalm 151	Ps 151
3 Maccabees	3 Macc
2 Esdras	2 Esd
4 Maccabees	4 Macc

The New Testament

Matthew	Mt
Mark	Mk
Luke	Lk
John	Jn
Acts	Acts
Romans	Rom
1 Corinthians	1 Cor
2 Corinthians	2 Cor
Galatians	Gal
Ephesians	Eph
Philippians	Phil
Colossians	Col
1 Thessalonians	1 Thess
2 Thessalonians	2 Thess
1 Timothy	1 Tim
2 Timothy	2 Tim
Titus	Titus
Philemon	Philem
Hebrews	Heb

James	Jas
1 Peter	1 Pet
2 Peter	2 Pet
1 John	1 Jn
2 John	2 Jn
3 John	3 Jn
Jude	Jude
Revelation	Rev

The Old Testament

Genesis

Genesis 1

SIX DAYS OF CREATION AND THE SABBATH

1 When God began to create[a] the heavens and the earth,* [2]the earth was
complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind
from God[b] swept over the face of the waters.* [3]Then God said, "Let there
be light," and there was light.* [4]And God saw that the light was good, and
God separated the light from the darkness.* [5]God called the light Day, and
the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was
morning, the first day.*

6 And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let
it separate the waters from the waters."* [7]So God made the dome and
separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were
above the dome. And it was so.* [8]God called the dome Sky. And there was
evening and there was morning, the second day.

9 And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into
one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.* [10]God called the dry
land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And
God saw that it was good.* [11]Then God said, "Let the earth put forth
vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that
bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so.* [12]The earth brought forth
vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind
bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. [13]And there
was evening and there was morning, the third day.

14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate
the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for
days and years,* [15]and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light
upon the earth." And it was so. [16]God made the two great lights—the
greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the
stars.* [17]God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth,

[18]to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.* [19]And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

20 And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." [21]So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.* [22]God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."* [23]And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24 And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. [25]God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.*

26 Then God said, "Let us make humans[c] in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth[d] and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."*

[27]So God created humans[e] in his image,
in the image of God he created them;[f]
male and female he created them.*

[28]God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."* [29]God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.* [30]And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.* [31]God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.*

Genesis 2

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude.* [2]On
the sixth[g] day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the
seventh day from all the work that he had done.* [3]So God blessed the
seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that
he had done in creation.*

4 These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were
created.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE CREATION

In the day that the LORD[h] God made the earth and the heavens, [5]when no
plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet
sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and
there was no one to till the ground,* [6]but a stream would rise from the earth
and water the whole face of the ground—[7]then the LORD God formed man
from the dust of the ground[i] and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life,
and the man became a living being.* [8]And the LORD God planted a garden
in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed.* [9]Out
of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the
sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and
the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*

10 A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it
divides and becomes four branches. [11]The name of the first is Pishon; it is
the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold,
[12]and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there.*
[13]The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the
whole land of Cush. [14]The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows
east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.*

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till
it and keep it. [16]And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely

eat of every tree of the garden, [17]but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."*

18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner."* [19]So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.* [20]The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but for the man[j] there was not found a helper as his partner. [21]So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.* [22]And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. [23]Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."*

[24]Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.* [25]And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

Genesis 3

THE FIRST SIN AND ITS PUNISHMENT

1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD
God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat
from any tree in the garden'?"* 2The woman said to the serpent, "We may
eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3but God said, 'You shall not eat of
the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it,
or you shall die.' "* 4But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die,*
5for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you
will be like God,[k] knowing good and evil." 6So when the woman saw that
the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the
tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and
she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.* 7Then
the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they
sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the
time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from
the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.* 9But the LORD
God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" 10He said, "I
heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked,
and I hid myself."* 11He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have
you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12The man
said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from
the tree, and I ate."* 13Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this
that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."*
14The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat

all the days of your life.*
15 I will put enmity between you and the woman
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."*
16 To the woman he said,
"I will make your pangs in childbirth exceedingly great;
in pain you shall bring forth children,
yet your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you."*
17 And to the man[l] he said,
"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
about which I commanded you,
'You shall not eat of it,'
cursed is the ground because of you;
in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;*
18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.*
19 By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return."*

20 The man named his wife Eve[m] because she was the mother of all living. 21 And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man[n] and for his wife and clothed them.

22 Then the LORD God said, "See, the humans have become like one of us, knowing good and evil, and now they might reach out their hands and

take also from the tree of life and eat and live forever”* —[23]therefore the LORD God sent them forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which they were taken.* [24]He drove out the humans, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.*

Genesis 4

CAIN MURDERS ABEL

1 Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain,[o]
saying, "I have produced a man with the help of the LORD." [2]Next she bore
his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the
ground.* [3]In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the
fruit of the ground,* [4]and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his
flock, their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering,*
[5]but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry,
and his countenance fell.* [6]The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and
why has your countenance fallen? [7]If you do well, will you not be
accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is
for you, but you must master it."

8 Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let us go out to the field."[p] And when
they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.*
[9]Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He said, "I do
not know; am I my brother's keeper?" [10]And the LORD said, "What have
you done? Listen, your brother's blood is crying out to me from the
ground!* [11]And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its
mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. [12]When you till the
ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and
a wanderer on the earth."* [13]Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is
greater than I can bear! [14]Today you have driven me away from the soil,
and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on
the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me."* [15]Then the LORD said to
him, "Not so![q] Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance." And
the LORD put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill
him.* [16]Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in
the land of Nod,[r] east of Eden.

BEGINNINGS OF CIVILIZATION

17 Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch, and he built a
city and named it Enoch after his son Enoch.* [18]To Enoch was born Irad,
and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael the father of
Methushael, and Methushael the father of Lamech.* [19]Lamech took two
wives; the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.
[20]Adah bore Jabal; he was the ancestor of those who live in tents and have
livestock. [21]His brother's name was Jubal; he was the ancestor of all those
who play the lyre and pipe. [22]Zillah bore Tubal-cain, who made all kinds of
bronze and iron tools. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

23 Lamech said to his wives:

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say:
I have killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for striking me.*
[24]If Cain is avenged sevenfold,
truly Lamech seventy-sevenfold."*

25 Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth,[s]
for she said, "God has appointed for me another child instead of Abel,
because Cain killed him."* [26]To Seth also a son was born, and he named
him Enosh. At that time people began to invoke the name of the LORD.*

Genesis 5

ADAM'S DESCENDANTS TO NOAH AND HIS SONS

1 This is the list of the descendants of Adam. When God created humans,[t]
he made them[u] in the likeness of God.* [2]Male and female he created them,
and he blessed them and called them humans[v] when they were created.*

3 When Adam had lived one hundred thirty years, he became the father
of a son in his likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.* [4]The
days of Adam after he became the father of Seth were eight hundred years,
and he had other sons and daughters. [5]Thus all the days that Adam lived
were nine hundred thirty years, and he died.*

6 When Seth had lived one hundred five years, he became the father of
Enosh.* [7]Seth lived after the birth of Enosh eight hundred seven years and
had other sons and daughters.* [8]Thus all the days of Seth were nine hundred
twelve years, and he died.

9 When Enosh had lived ninety years, he became the father of Kenan.
[10]Enosh lived after the birth of Kenan eight hundred fifteen years and had
other sons and daughters. [11]Thus all the days of Enosh were nine hundred
five years, and he died.*

12 When Kenan had lived seventy years, he became the father of
Mahalalel.* [13]Kenan lived after the birth of Mahalalel eight hundred and
forty years and had other sons and daughters. [14]Thus all the days of Kenan
were nine hundred and ten years, and he died.

15 When Mahalalel had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of
Jared.* [16]Mahalalel lived after the birth of Jared eight hundred thirty years
and had other sons and daughters. [17]Thus all the days of Mahalalel were
eight hundred ninety-five years, and he died.

18 When Jared had lived one hundred sixty-two years he became the
father of Enoch.* [19]Jared lived after the birth of Enoch eight hundred years
and had other sons and daughters. [20]Thus all the days of Jared were nine
hundred sixty-two years, and he died.

21 When Enoch had lived sixty-five years, he became the father of Methuselah.* [22]Enoch walked with God after the birth of Methuselah three hundred years and had other sons and daughters. [23]Thus all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years. [24]Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him.*

25 When Methuselah had lived one hundred eighty-seven years, he became the father of Lamech. [26]Methuselah lived after the birth of Lamech seven hundred eighty-two years and had other sons and daughters.* [27]Thus all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty-nine years, and he died.

28 When Lamech had lived one hundred eighty-two years, he became the father of a son; [29]he named him Noah, saying, "Out of the ground that the LORD has cursed this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the toil of our hands."* [30]Lamech lived after the birth of Noah five hundred ninety-five years and had other sons and daughters. [31]Thus all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy-seven years, and he died.

32 After Noah was five hundred years old, Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.*

Genesis 6

THE WICKEDNESS OF HUMANS

1 When people began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters
were born to them,* [2]the sons of God saw that they were fair, and they took
wives for themselves of all that they chose.* [3]Then the LORD said, "My
spirit shall not abide[w] in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall
be one hundred twenty years."* [4]The Nephilim were on the earth in those
days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went in to the daughters
of humans, who bore children to them. These were the heroes that were of
old, warriors of renown.

5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of humans was great in the earth and
that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil
continually.* [6]And the LORD was sorry that he had made humans on the
earth, and it grieved him to his heart.* [7]So the LORD said, "I will blot out
from the earth the humans I have created—people together with animals
and creeping things and birds of the air—for I am sorry that I have made
them." [8]But Noah found favor in the sight of the LORD.*

NOAH PLEASES GOD

9 These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man,
blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God.* [10]And Noah had three
sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.*

11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with
violence. [12]And God saw that the earth was corrupt, for all flesh had
corrupted its ways upon the earth.* [13]And God said to Noah, "I have
determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence
because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with the earth.*
[14]Make yourself an ark of cypress[x] wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover
it inside and out with pitch.* [15]This is how you are to make it: the length of
the ark three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty
cubits. [16]Make a roof[y] for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and put the

door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks.
17For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy
from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is
on the earth shall die.* 18But I will establish my covenant with you, and you
shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives
with you.* 19And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of
every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and
female.* 20Of the birds according to their kinds and of the animals
according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to
its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive.* 21Also
take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up, and it shall
serve as food for you and for them." 22Noah did this; he did all that God
commanded him.*

Genesis 7

THE GREAT FLOOD

1 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household,
for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation.*
2 Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a
pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate;* 3 and seven
pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive
on the face of all the earth. 4 For in seven days I will send rain on the earth
for forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I
will blot out from the face of the ground." 5 And Noah did all that the LORD
had commanded him.

6 Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came on the
earth. 7 And Noah with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives went into
the ark to escape the waters of the flood.* 8 Of clean animals and of animals
that are not clean and of birds and of everything that creeps on the ground,
9 two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had
commanded Noah. 10 And after seven days the waters of the flood came on
the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the
seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep
burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened.* 12 The rain fell
on the earth forty days and forty nights.* 13 On the very same day Noah with
his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives
of his sons entered the ark,* 14 they and every wild animal of every kind and
all domestic animals of every kind and every creeping thing that creeps on
the earth and every bird of every kind.z 15 They went into the ark with Noah,
two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life.* 16 And those
that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded
him, and the LORD shut him in.*

17 The flood continued forty days on the earth, and the waters increased
and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth.* 18 The waters swelled
and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the

waters.* 19The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high
mountains under the whole heaven were covered; 20the waters swelled
above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. 21And all flesh died
that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all
swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings;*
22everything on dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died.* 23He
blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, human
beings and animals and creeping things and birds of the air; they were
blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left and those with him in the
ark.* 24And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred fifty days.*

Genesis 8

THE FLOOD SUBSIDES

1 But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and all the domestic
animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the
earth, and the waters subsided;* 2the fountains of the deep and the windows
of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained,* 3and
the waters gradually receded from the earth. At the end of one hundred fifty
days the waters had abated,* 4and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth
day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat.* 5The
waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the
first day of the month, the tops of the mountains appeared.

6 At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had
made* 7and sent out the raven, and it went to and fro until the waters were
dried up from the earth.* 8Then he sent out the dove from him to see if the
waters had subsided from the face of the ground, 9but the dove found no
place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were
still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and
brought it into the ark with him. 10He waited another seven days, and again
he sent out the dove from the ark, 11and the dove came back to him in the
evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah
knew that the waters had subsided from the earth.* 12Then he waited
another seven days and sent out the dove, and it did not return to him any
more.

13 In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the
month, the waters were dried up from the earth, and Noah removed the
covering of the ark and looked and saw that the face of the ground was
drying.* 14In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the
earth was dry. 15Then God said to Noah, 16"Go out of the ark, you and your
wife and your sons and your sons' wives with you.* 17Bring out with you
every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every
creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the
earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth."* 18So Noah went out with

his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. [19]And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families.

GOD'S PROMISE TO NOAH

20 Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.* [21]And when the LORD smelled the pleasing odor, the LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of humans, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.*

[22]As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,
summer and winter, day and night
shall not cease."*

Genesis 9

THE COVENANT WITH NOAH

1 God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply
and fill the earth.* [2]The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of
the earth and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the
ground and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered.
[3]Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you, and just as I gave you
the green plants, I give you everything.* [4]Only, you shall not eat flesh with
its life, that is, its blood.* [5]For your own lifeblood I will surely require a
reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each
one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life.*

[6]Whoever sheds the blood of a human,
by a human shall that person's blood be shed,
for in his own image
God made humans.*

[7]"And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and have dominion
over[a] it."*

8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, [9]"As for me, I am
establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you* [10]and
with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals,
and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.[b,*]
[11]I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off
by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the
earth."* [12]God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between
me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future
generations:* [13]I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the
covenant between me and the earth.* [14]When I bring clouds over the earth
and the bow is seen in the clouds, [15]I will remember my covenant that is
between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters
shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.* [16]When the bow is in
the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between

God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth."* 17God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

NOAH AND HIS SONS

18 The sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan.* 19These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was peopled.*

20 Noah, a man of the soil, was the first to plant a vineyard. 21He drank some of the wine and became drunk, and he lay uncovered in his tent. 22And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. 23Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father; their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.* 24When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, 25he said,

"Cursed be Canaan;
lowest of slaves shall he be to his brothers."*

26He also said,

"Blessed by the LORD my God be Shem,
and let Canaan be his slave.*
27May God make space for Japheth,[c]
and let him live in the tents of Shem,
and let Canaan be his slave."*

28 After the flood Noah lived three hundred fifty years. 29All the days of Noah were nine hundred fifty years, and he died.

Genesis 10

NATIONS DESCENDED FROM NOAH

1 These are the descendants of Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth;
children were born to them after the flood.

2 The descendants of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal,
Meshech, and Tiras.* [3]The descendants of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and
Togarmah. [4]The descendants of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and
Rodanim.[d] [5]From these the coastland peoples spread. These are the
descendants of Japheth[e] in their lands, with their own language, by their
families, in their nations.*

6 The descendants of Ham: Cush, Egypt, Put, and Canaan.* [7]The
descendants of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The
descendants of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. [8]Cush became the father of
Nimrod; he was the first on earth to become a mighty warrior. [9]He was a
mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty
hunter before the LORD."* [10]The beginning of his kingdom was Babel,
Erech, Akkad, and Calneh in the land of Shinar.* [11]From that land he went
into Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth-ir, Calah, and [12]Resen between
Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city. [13]Egypt became the father of
Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim,* [14]Pathrusim, Casluhim, from
whom the Philistines come, and Caphtorim.

15 Canaan became the father of Sidon, his firstborn, and Heth* [16]and the
Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, [17]the Hivites, the Arkites, the
Sinites, [18]the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. Afterward the
families of the Canaanites spread abroad.* [19]And the territory of the
Canaanites extended from Sidon in the direction of Gerar as far as Gaza and
in the direction of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim as far as
Lasha.* [20]These are the descendants of Ham, by their families, their
languages, their lands, and their nations.

21 To Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the elder brother
of Japheth, children were born. [22]The descendants of Shem: Elam, Asshur,

Arpachshad, Lud, and Aram.* [23]The descendants of Aram: Uz, Hul, Gether,
and Mash.* [24]Arpachshad became the father of Shelah, and Shelah became
the father of Eber.* [25]To Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was
Peleg,[f] for in his days the earth was divided, and his brother's name was
Joktan.* [26]Joktan became the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth,
Jerah,* [27]Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, [28]Obal, Abimael, Sheba, [29]Ophir,
Havilah, and Jobab; all these were the descendants of Joktan. [30]The
territory in which they lived extended from Mesha in the direction of
Sephar, the hill country of the east. [31]These are the descendants of Shem, by
their families, their languages, their lands, and their nations.

32 These are the families of Noah's sons, according to their genealogies,
in their nations, and from these the nations spread abroad on the earth after
the flood.*

Genesis 11

THE TOWER OF BABEL

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. [2]And as they
migrated from the east,[g] they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and
settled there.* [3]And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and
fire them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone and bitumen for mortar.
[4]Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its
top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall
be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."* [5]The LORD came
down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built.* [6]And the LORD
said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is
only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do
will now be impossible for them.* [7]Come, let us go down and confuse their
language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech."* [8]So
the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and
they left off building the city.* [9]Therefore it was called Babel,[h] because
there the LORD confused the language of all the earth, and from there the
LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.*

DESCENDANTS OF SHEM

10 These are the descendants of Shem. When Shem was one hundred
years old, he became the father of Arpachshad two years after the flood,*
[11]and Shem lived after the birth of Arpachshad five hundred years and had
other sons and daughters.

12 When Arpachshad had lived thirty-five years, he became the father of
Shelah, [13]and Arpachshad lived after the birth of Shelah four hundred three
years and had other sons and daughters.

14 When Shelah had lived thirty years, he became the father of Eber,
[15]and Shelah lived after the birth of Eber four hundred three years and had
other sons and daughters.

16 When Eber had lived thirty-four years, he became the father of Peleg,
[17]and Eber lived after the birth of Peleg four hundred thirty years and had
other sons and daughters.

18 When Peleg had lived thirty years, he became the father of Reu, [19]and
Peleg lived after the birth of Reu two hundred nine years and had other sons
and daughters.

20 When Reu had lived thirty-two years, he became the father of Serug,
[21]and Reu lived after the birth of Serug two hundred seven years and had
other sons and daughters.

22 When Serug had lived thirty years, he became the father of Nahor,
[23]and Serug lived after the birth of Nahor two hundred years and had other
sons and daughters.

24 When Nahor had lived twenty-nine years, he became the father of
Terah, [25]and Nahor lived after the birth of Terah one hundred nineteen years
and had other sons and daughters.

26 When Terah had lived seventy years, he became the father of Abram,
Nahor, and Haran.

DESCENDANTS OF TERAH

27 Now these are the descendants of Terah. Terah was the father of
Abram, Nahor, and Haran, and Haran was the father of Lot. [28]Haran died
before his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans.
[29]Abram and Nahor took wives; the name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and
the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah. She was the daughter of Haran the
father of Milcah and Iscah. [30]Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.*

31 Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot son of Haran and his
daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out together
from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they
came to Haran, they settled there.* [32]The days of Terah were two hundred
five years, and Terah died in Haran.

Genesis 12

THE CALL OF ABRAM

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred
and your father's house to the land that I will show you.* [2]I will make of
you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that
you will be a blessing.* [3]I will bless those who bless you, and the one who
curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be
blessed."[i,*]

4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.
Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.* [5]Abram
took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that
they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and
they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land
of Canaan,* [6]Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the
oak[j] of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.* [7]Then the
LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land."
So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.* [8]From
there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his
tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar
to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD.* [9]And Abram journeyed on
by stages toward the Negeb.

ABRAM AND SARAI IN EGYPT

10 Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to
reside there as an alien, for the famine was severe in the land. [11]When he
was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know well that you
are a woman beautiful in appearance, [12]and when the Egyptians see you,
they will say, 'This is his wife'; then they will kill me, but they will let you
live.* [13]Say you are my sister, so that it may go well with me because of
you and that my life may be spared on your account."* [14]When Abram
entered Egypt the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful.
[15]When the officials of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And

the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.* 16And for her sake he dealt
well with Abram, and he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male and female
slaves, female donkeys, and camels.*

17 But the LORD afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues
because of Sarai, Abram's wife.* 18So Pharaoh called Abram and said,
"What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was
your wife?* 19Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my
wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her, and be gone." 20And Pharaoh
gave his men orders concerning him, and they set him on the way with his
wife and all that he had.*

Genesis 13

ABRAM AND LOT SEPARATE

1 So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had and
Lot with him, into the Negeb.*

2 Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. [3]He
journeyed on by stages from the Negeb as far as Bethel, to the place where
his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai,* [4]to the place
where he had made an altar at the first, and there Abram called on the name
of the LORD.* [5]Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds
and tents, [6]and the land could not support both of them living together
because their possessions were so great that they could not live together.
[7]Thus strife arose between the herders of Abram's livestock and the herders
of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites lived in the
land.*

8 Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me
and between your herders and my herders, for we are kindred.* [9]Is not the
whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left
hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go
to the left." [10]Lot looked about him and saw that the plain of the Jordan was
well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of
Egypt, in the direction of Zoar; this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom
and Gomorrah.* [11]So Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and
Lot journeyed eastward, and they separated from each other. [12]Abram
settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the plain
and moved his tent as far as Sodom.* [13]Now the people of Sodom were
wicked, great sinners against the LORD.*

14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Raise
your eyes now, and look from the place where you are, northward and
southward and eastward and westward,* [15]for all the land that you see I will
give to you and to your offspring forever.* [16]I will make your offspring like
the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your
offspring also can be counted.* [17]Rise up, walk through the length and the

breadth of the land, for I will give it to you.”* 18So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks[k] of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.*

Genesis 14

LOT'S CAPTIVITY AND RESCUE

1 In the days of King Amraphel of Shinar, King Arioch of Ellasar, King
Chedorlaomer of Elam, and King Tidal of Goiim,* 2these kings made war
with King Bera of Sodom, King Birsha of Gomorrah, King Shinab of
Admah, King Shemeber of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, that is, Zoar.*
3All these joined forces in the Valley of Siddim, that is, the Dead Sea.[1,*]
4Twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but in the thirteenth year they
rebelled. 5In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with
him came and subdued the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, the Zuzim in
Ham, the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim,* 6and the Horites in the hill country
of Seir as far as El-paran on the edge of the wilderness;* 7then they turned
back and came to En-mishpat, that is, Kadesh, and subdued all the country
of the Amalekites and also the Amorites who lived in Hazazon-tamar.*
8Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the
king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, that is, Zoar, went out, and they
joined battle in the Valley of Siddim 9with King Chedorlaomer of Elam,
King Tidal of Goiim, King Amraphel of Shinar, and King Arioch of Ellasar,
four kings against five. 10Now the Valley of Siddim was full of bitumen
pits, and as the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some fell into them, and
the rest fled to the hill country. 11So the enemy took all the goods of Sodom
and Gomorrah and all their provisions and went their way;* 12they also took
Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who lived in Sodom, and his goods and
departed.*

13 Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, who
was living by the oaks[m] of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of
Aner; these were allies of Abram.* 14When Abram heard that his nephew
had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, three
hundred eighteen of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.* 15He divided
his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and routed them and
pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus. 16Then he brought back all the

goods and also brought back his nephew Lot with his goods and the women and the people.*

ABRAM BLESSED BY MELCHIZEDEK

17 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh, that is, the King's Valley.* 18And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High.n,* 19He blessed him and said,

"Blessed be Abram by God Most High,o
maker of heaven and earth,*
20and blessed be God Most High,p
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!"

And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.* 21Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." 22But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to Godq Most High,r maker of heaven and earth,* 23that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, so that you might not say, 'I have made Abram rich.'* 24I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten and the share of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre. Let them take their share."

Genesis 15

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAM

1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do
not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."*
2But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue
childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"s,* 3And Abram
said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be
my heir."* 4But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be
your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir."* 5He brought
him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are
able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."*
6And he believed the LORD, and the LORDt reckoned it to him as
righteousness.

7 Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the
Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess."* 8But he said, "O Lord GOD,
how am I to know that I shall possess it?"* 9He said to him, "Bring me a
heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a
turtledove, and a young pigeon." 10He brought him all these and cut them in
two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in
two.* 11And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove
them away.

12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep
and terrifying darkness descended upon him.* 13Then the LORDu said to
Abram, "Know this for certain, that your offspring shall be aliens in a land
that is not theirs and shall be slaves there, and they shall be oppressed for
four hundred years,* 14but I will bring judgment on the nation that they
serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions.* 15As for
yourself, you shall go to your ancestors in peace; you shall be buried in a
good old age.* 16And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for
the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."*

17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and
a flaming torch passed between these pieces.* 18On that day the LORD made

a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates,* 19the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, 20the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, 21the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.”

Genesis 16

THE BIRTH OF ISHMAEL

1 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children. She had an Egyptian
slave whose name was Hagar,* 2and Sarai said to Abram, "You see that the
LORD has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my slave; it may be
that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of
Sarai.* 3So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai,
Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her slave, and gave her to her
husband Abram as a wife.* 4He went in to Hagar, and she conceived, and
when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her
mistress. 5Then Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on
you! I gave my slave to your embrace, and when she saw that she had
conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between
you and me!"* 6But Abram said to Sarai, "Your slave is in your power; do
to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she ran away
from her.

7 The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness,
the spring on the way to Shur.* 8And he said, "Hagar, slave of Sarai, where
have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am running
away from my mistress Sarai." 9The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return
to your mistress, and submit to her." 10The angel of the LORD also said to
her, "I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted
for multitude."* 11And the angel of the LORD said to her,

"Now you have conceived and shall bear a son;
you shall call him Ishmael,[v]
for the LORD has given heed to your affliction.*
12He shall be a wild ass of a man,
with his hand against everyone,
and everyone's hand against him,
and he shall live at odds with all his kin."*

[13]So she named the LORD who spoke to her, "You are El-roi,"[w] for she said, "Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?"[x,*] [14]Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi;[y] it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

15 Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.[*] [16]Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him[z] Ishmael.

Genesis 17

THE SIGN OF THE COVENANT

1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and
said to him, "I am God Almighty;[a] walk before me, and be blameless.*
[2]And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you
exceedingly numerous."* [3]Then Abram fell on his face, and God said to
him, [4]"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of
a multitude of nations.* [5]No longer shall your name be Abram,[b] but your
name shall be Abraham,[c] for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of
nations.* [6]I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of
you, and kings shall come from you.* [7]I will establish my covenant between
me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for
an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.*
[8]And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land where you
are now an alien, all the land of Canaan, for a perpetual holding, and I will
be their God."*

9 God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you
and your offspring after you throughout their generations. [10]This is my
covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring
after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised.* [11]You shall
circumcise the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant
between me and you.* [12]Throughout your generations every male among
you shall be circumcised when he is eight days old, including the slave born
in your house and the one bought with your money from any foreigner who
is not of your offspring.* [13]Both the slave born in your house and the one
bought with your money must be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in
your flesh an everlasting covenant. [14]Any uncircumcised male who is not
circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he
has broken my covenant."*

15 God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her
Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. [16]I will bless her and also give you a son
by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples

shall come from her."* [17]Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"* [18]And Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live in your sight!" [19]God said, "No, but your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac.[d] I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.* [20]As for Ishmael, I have heard you; I will bless him and make him fruitful and exceedingly numerous; he shall be the father of twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation.* [21]But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this season next year." [22]And when he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham.

23 Then Abraham took his son Ishmael and all the slaves born in his house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him.* [24]Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.* [25]And his son Ishmael was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. [26]That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised, [27]and all the men of his house, slaves born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

Genesis 18

A SON PROMISED TO ABRAHAM AND SARAH

1 The LORD appeared to Abraham[e] by the oaks[f] of Mamre, as he sat at the
entrance of his tent in the heat of the day.* [2]He looked up and saw three
men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to
meet them and bowed down to the ground.* [3]He said, "My lord, if I find
favor with you, do not pass by your servant. [4]Let a little water be brought,
and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.* [5]Let me bring a
little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on
—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have
said."* [6]And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make
ready quickly three measures[g] of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes."
[7]Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to
the servant, who hastened to prepare it. [8]Then he took curds and milk and
the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them
under the tree while they ate.*

9 They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in
the tent." [10]Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and
your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent
entrance behind him.* [11]Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in
age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.* [12]So Sarah
laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old,
shall I be fruitful?"* [13]The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh
and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' [14]Is anything too
wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season,
and Sarah shall have a son."* [15]But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh,"
for she was afraid. He said, "Yes, you did laugh."

JUDGMENT PRONOUNCED ON SODOM

16 Then the men set out from there, and they looked toward Sodom, and
Abraham went with them to set them on their way. [17]The LORD said, "Shall

I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, [18]seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?[h,*] [19]No, for I have chosen[i] him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."* [20]Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin!* [21]I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know."*

22 So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD.[j,*] [23]Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?* [24]Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it?* [25]Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"* [26]And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." [27]Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes.* [28]Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." [29]Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." [30]Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." [31]He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." [32]Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."* [33]And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Genesis 19

THE DEPRAVITY OF SODOM

1 The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the
gateway of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed
down with his face to the ground.* [2]He said, "Please, my lords, turn aside to
your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet; then you can
rise early and go on your way." They said, "No; we will spend the night in
the square."* [3]But he urged them strongly, so they turned aside to him and
entered his house, and he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread,
and they ate.* [4]But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of
Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the
house, [5]and they called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you
tonight? Bring them out to us, so that we may know them."* [6]Lot went out
of the door to the men, shut the door after him,* [7]and said, "I beg you, my
brothers, do not act so wickedly. [8]Look, I have two daughters who have not
known a man; let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please;
only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my
roof."* [9]But they replied, "Stand back!" And they said, "This fellow came
here as an alien, and he would play the judge! Now we will deal worse with
you than with them." Then they pressed hard against the man Lot and came
near the door to break it down.* [10]But the men inside reached out their
hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. [11]And
they struck with blindness the men who were at the door of the house, both
small and great, so that they were unable to find the door.*

SODOM AND GOMORRAH DESTROYED

12 Then the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law,
sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city—bring them out of the
place.* [13]For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against
its people has become great before the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to
destroy it."* [14]So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to

marry his daughters, "Up, get out of this place, for the LORD is about to destroy the city." But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.*

15 When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or else you will be consumed in the punishment of the city."* [16]But he lingered, so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the LORD being merciful to him, and they brought him out and left him outside the city.* [17]When they had brought them outside, they[k] said, "Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the plain; flee to the hills, or else you will be consumed."* [18]And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords; [19]your servant has found favor with you, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life, but I cannot flee to the hills, for fear the disaster will overtake me and I die. [20]Look, that city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!" [21]He said to him, "Very well, I grant you this favor too and will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken.* [22]Hurry, escape there, for I can do nothing until you arrive there." Therefore the city was called Zoar.[l] [23]The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar.

24 Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven,* [25]and he overthrew those cities and all the plain and all the inhabitants of the cities and what grew on the ground.* [26]But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.*

27 Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the LORD,* [28]and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the plain and saw the smoke of the land going up like the smoke of a furnace.*

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

THE SHAMEFUL ORIGIN OF MOAB AND AMMON

30 Now Lot went up out of Zoar and settled in the hills with his two daughters, for he was afraid to stay in Zoar, so he lived in a cave with his two daughters. [31]And the firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old,

and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the world.* 32Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, so that we may preserve offspring through our father."* 33So they made their father drink wine that night, and the firstborn went in and lay with her father; he did not know when she lay down or when she rose. 34On the next day, the firstborn said to the younger, "Look, I lay last night with my father; let us make him drink wine tonight also; then you go in and lie with him, so that we may preserve offspring through our father." 35So they made their father drink wine that night also, and the younger rose and lay with him, and he did not know when she lay down or when she rose. 36Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father. 37The firstborn bore a son and named him Moab;[m] he is the ancestor of the Moabites to this day. 38The younger also bore a son and named him Ben-ammi;[n] he is the ancestor of the Ammonites to this day.*

Genesis 20

ABRAHAM AND SARAH AT GERAR

1 From there Abraham journeyed toward the region of the Negeb and
settled between Kadesh and Shur. While residing in Gerar as an alien,*
2 Abraham said of his wife Sarah, "She is my sister." And King Abimelech
of Gerar sent and took Sarah.* 3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream by
night and said to him, "You are about to die because of the woman whom
you have taken, for she is a married woman."* 4 Now Abimelech had not
approached her, so he said, "Lord, will you destroy an innocent people?
5 Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He
is my brother.' I did this in the integrity of my heart and the innocence of
my hands."* 6 Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that you did
this in the integrity of your heart; furthermore, it was I who kept you from
sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her. 7 Now then, return
the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you shall
live. But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you and
all that are yours."*

8 So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and
told them all these things, and the men were very much afraid. 9 Then
Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us?
How have I sinned against you, that you have brought such great guilt on
me and my kingdom? You have done things to me that ought not to be
done."* 10 And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What were you thinking, that
you did this thing?" 11 Abraham said, "I did it because I thought, Surely
there is no fear of God in this place, and they will kill me because of my
wife.* 12 Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father but not
the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. 13 And when God
caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is the
kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, He
is my brother.' "* 14 Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen and male and
female slaves and gave them to Abraham and restored his wife Sarah to
him.* 15 Abimelech said, "My land is before you; settle where it pleases

you.”* 16To Sarah he said, “Look, I have given your brother a thousand
pieces of silver; it is your exoneration before all who are with you; you are
completely vindicated.” 17Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed
Abimelech and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore
children.* 18For the LORD had closed fast all the wombs of the house of
Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.*

Genesis 21

THE BIRTH OF ISAAC

1 The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as
he had promised.* [2]Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age,
at the time of which God had spoken to him.* [3]Abraham gave the name
Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.* [4]And Abraham circumcised his son
Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.* [5]Abraham
was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.* [6]Now Sarah
said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with
me."* [7]And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah
would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

HAGAR AND ISHMAEL SENT AWAY

8 The child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast on
the day that Isaac was weaned. [9]But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the
Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac.[o,*]
[10]So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the
son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac."* [11]The
matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son.* [12]But God
said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of
your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is
through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you.* [13]As for the son of the
slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your
offspring."* [14]So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a
skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the
child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered about in the
wilderness of Beer-sheba.

15 When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of
the bushes. [16]Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off,
about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, "Do not let me look on the
death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and

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

20 God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness and
became an expert with the bow.* 21He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and
his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.*

ABRAHAM AND ABIMELECH MAKE A COVENANT

22 At that time Abimelech, with Phicol the commander of his army, said
to Abraham, "God is with you in all that you do;* 23now therefore swear to
me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my offspring
or with my posterity, but as I have dealt loyally with you, you will deal with
me and with the land where you have resided as an alien." 24And Abraham
said, "I swear it."

25 When Abraham complained to Abimelech about a well of water that
Abimelech's servants had seized,* 26Abimelech said, "I do not know who
has done this; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today."
27So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the
two men made a covenant.* 28Abraham set apart seven ewe lambs of the
flock. 29And Abimelech said to Abraham, "What is the meaning of these
seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?" 30He said, "These seven ewe
lambs you shall accept from my hand in order that you may be a witness for
me that I dug this well."* 31Therefore that place was called Beer-sheba,[p]
because there both of them swore an oath.* 32When they had made a
covenant at Beer-sheba, Abimelech, with Phicol the commander of his
army, left and returned to the land of the Philistines. 33Abraham[q] planted a
tamarisk tree in Beer-sheba and there called on the name of the LORD, the
Everlasting God.[r],* 34And Abraham resided as an alien many days in the
land of the Philistines.

Genesis 22

THE COMMAND TO SACRIFICE ISAAC

1 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And
he said, "Here I am." [2]He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom
you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt
offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."* [3]So Abraham rose
early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men
with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set
out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. [4]On the
third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. [5]Then Abraham
said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go
over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." [6]Abraham
took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he
himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on
together.* [7]Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I
am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the
lamb for a burnt offering?"* [8]Abraham said, "God himself will provide the
lamb for a burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on
together.

9 When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built
an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid
him on the altar on top of the wood.* [10]Then Abraham reached out his hand
and took the knife to kill[s] his son. [11]But the angel of the LORD called to him
from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."
[12]He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now
I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only
son, from me."* [13]And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a
thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a
burnt offering instead of his son. [14]So Abraham called that place "The LORD
will provide,"[t] as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be
provided."[u]

15 The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven
16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done
this, and have not withheld your son, your only son,* 17 I will indeed bless
you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and
as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate
of their enemies,* 18 and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth
gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."* 19 So
Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to
Beer-sheba, and Abraham lived at Beer-sheba.

THE CHILDREN OF NAHOR

20 Now after these things it was told Abraham, "Milcah also has borne
children to your brother Nahor: 21 Uz the firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel
the father of Aram, 22 Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel."
23 Bethuel became the father of Rebekah. These eight Milcah bore to Nahor,
Abraham's brother.* 24 Moreover, his concubine, whose name was Reumah,
bore Tebah, Gaham, Tahash, and Maacah.

Genesis 23

SARAH'S DEATH AND BURIAL

1 Sarah lived one hundred twenty-seven years; this was the length of
Sarah's life. [2]And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron, in the land of
Canaan, and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.*
[3]Abraham rose up from beside his dead and said to the Hittites, [4]"I am a
stranger and an alien residing among you; give me property among you for
a burying place, so that I may bury my dead out of my sight."* [5]The Hittites
answered Abraham, [6]"Hear us, my lord; you are a mighty prince among us.
Bury your dead in the choicest of our burial places; none of us will
withhold from you any burial ground for burying your dead."* [7]Abraham
rose and bowed to the Hittites, the people of the land. [8]He said to them, "If
you are willing that I should bury my dead out of my sight, hear me and
entreat for me Ephron son of Zohar,* [9]so that he may give me the cave of
Machpelah, which he owns; it is at the end of his field. For the full price let
him give it to me in your presence as a possession for a burying place."
[10]Now Ephron was sitting among the Hittites, and Ephron the Hittite
answered Abraham in the hearing of the Hittites, of all who went in at the
gate of his city,* [11]"No, my lord, hear me; I give you the field, and I give
you the cave that is in it; in the presence of my people I give it to you; bury
your dead."* [12]Then Abraham bowed down before the people of the land.
[13]He said to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, "If you only
will listen to me! I will give the price of the field; accept it from me, so that
I may bury my dead there." [14]Ephron answered Abraham, [15]"My lord,
listen to me; a piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver—what is
that between you and me? Bury your dead."* [16]Abraham agreed with
Ephron, and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver that he had named
in the hearing of the Hittites, four hundred shekels of silver, according to
the weights current among the merchants.*

17 So the field of Ephron in Machpelah, which was to the east of Mamre,
the field with the cave that was in it and all the trees that were in the field,
throughout its whole area, passed* [18]to Abraham as a possession in the

presence of the Hittites, in the presence of all who went in at the gate of his city. [19]After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah facing Mamre, that is, Hebron, in the land of Canaan. [20]The field and the cave that is in it passed from the Hittites into Abraham's possession as a burying place.

Genesis 24

THE MARRIAGE OF ISAAC AND REBEKAH

1 Now Abraham was old, advanced in years, and the LORD had blessed
Abraham in all things.* [2]Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his
house, who had charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh,*
[3]and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and earth, that
you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites,
among whom I live,* [4]but will go to my country and to my kindred and get
a wife for my son Isaac."* [5]The servant said to him, "Perhaps the woman
may not be willing to follow me to this land; must I then take your son back
to the land from which you came?" [6]Abraham said to him, "See to it that
you do not take my son back there. [7]The LORD, the God of heaven, who
took me from my father's house and from the land of my birth and who
spoke to me and swore to me, 'To your offspring I will give this land,' he
will send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from
there.* [8]But if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free
from this oath of mine; only you must not take my son back there." [9]So the
servant put his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master and swore to
him concerning this matter.*

10 Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and departed, taking
all kinds of choice gifts from his master, and he set out and went to Aram-
naharaim, to the city of Nahor.* [11]He made the camels kneel down outside
the city by the well of water; it was toward evening, the time when women
go out to draw water.* [12]And he said, "O LORD, God of my master
Abraham, please grant me success today and show steadfast love to my
master Abraham.* [13]I am standing here by the spring of water, and the
daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water.* [14]Let the
young woman to whom I shall say, 'Please offer your jar that I may drink,'
and who shall say, 'Drink, and I will water your camels'—let her be the one
whom you have appointed for your servant Isaac. By this I shall know that
you have shown steadfast love to my master."*

15 Before he had finished speaking, there was Rebekah, who was born to
Bethuel son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, coming out
with her water jar on her shoulder.* [16]The young woman was very fair to
look upon, a virgin, whom no man had known. She went down to the
spring, filled her jar, and came up.* [17]Then the servant ran to meet her and
said, "Please let me sip a little water from your jar." [18]"Drink, my lord," she
said and quickly lowered her jar upon her hand and gave him a drink.*
[19]When she had finished giving him a drink, she said, "I will draw for your
camels also, until they have finished drinking."* [20]So she quickly emptied
her jar into the trough and ran again to the well to draw, and she drew for all
his camels. [21]The man gazed at her in silence to learn whether or not the
LORD had made his journey successful.*

22 When the camels had finished drinking, the man took a gold nose ring
weighing a half shekel and two bracelets for her arms weighing ten gold
shekels* [23]and said, "Tell me whose daughter you are. Is there room in your
father's house for us to spend the night?" [24]She said to him, "I am the
daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor."* [25]She added,
"We have plenty of straw and fodder and a place to spend the night." [26]The
man bowed his head and worshiped the LORD* [27]and said, "Blessed be the
LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken his steadfast
love and his faithfulness toward my master. As for me, the LORD has led me
on the way to the house of my master's kin."*

28 Then the young woman ran and told her mother's household about
these things. [29]Rebekah had a brother whose name was Laban, and Laban
ran out to the man, to the spring.* [30]As soon as he had seen the nose ring
and the bracelets on his sister's arms and when he heard the words of his
sister Rebekah, "Thus the man spoke to me," he went to the man, and there
he was, standing by the camels at the spring. [31]He said, "Come in,
O blessed of the LORD. Why do you stand outside when I have prepared the
house and a place for the camels?"* [32]So the man came into the house, and
Laban unloaded the camels and gave him straw and fodder for the camels
and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who were with him.*
[33]Then food was set before him to eat, but he said, "I will not eat until I
have told my errand." He said, "Speak on."

34 So he said, “I am Abraham’s servant. 35The LORD has greatly blessed
my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds,
silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys.* 36And Sarah
my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old, and he has
given him all that he has.* 37My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall
not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites in whose
land I live, 38but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a
wife for my son.’* 39I said to my master, ‘Perhaps the woman will not
follow me.’* 40But he said to me, ‘The LORD, before whom I walk, will send
his angel with you and make your way successful. You shall get a wife for
my son from my kindred, from my father’s house.* 41Then you will be free
from my oath, when you come to my kindred; even if they will not give her
to you, you will be free from my oath.’*

42 “I came today to the spring and said, ‘O LORD, God of my master
Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going!* 43I
am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes
out to draw, to whom I shall say, “Please give me a little water from your jar
to drink,”* 44and who will say to me, “Drink, and I will draw for your
camels also”—let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my
master’s son.’

45 “Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah
coming out with her water jar on her shoulder, and she went down to the
spring and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’* 46She quickly let down
her jar from her shoulder and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your
camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels.* 47Then I asked her,
‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s
son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose and the
bracelets on her arms.* 48Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD
and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by
the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son.*
49Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and
if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”*

50 Then Laban and Bethuel answered, “The thing comes from the LORD;
we cannot speak to you anything bad or good.* 51Look, Rebekah is before

you, take her and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has spoken."

52 When Abraham's servant heard their words, he bowed himself to the ground before the LORD.* [53]And the servant brought out jewelry of silver and of gold and garments and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave to her brother and to her mother costly ornaments.* [54]Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank, and they spent the night there. When they rose in the morning, he said, "Send me back to my master."* [55]Her brother and her mother said, "Let the young woman remain with us a while, at least ten days; after that she may go." [56]But he said to them, "Do not delay me, since the LORD has made my journey successful; let me go that I may go to my master." [57]They said, "We will call the young woman and ask her." [58]And they called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." [59]So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men.* [60]And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

"May you, our sister, become
thousands of myriads;
may your offspring gain possession
of the gates of their foes."*

[61]Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man, and the servant took Rebekah and went his way.

62 Now Isaac had come from[v] Beer-lahai-roi and was settled in the Negeb.* [63]Isaac went out in the evening to walk[w] in the field, and, looking up, he saw camels coming.* [64]And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel [65]and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. [66]And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. [67]Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife, and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.*

Genesis 25

ABRAHAM MARRIES KETURAH

1 Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah. [2]She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah.* [3]Jokshan was the father of Sheba and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim. [4]The sons of Midian were Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah. [5]Abraham gave all he had to Isaac.* [6]But to the sons of his concubines Abraham gave gifts, while he was still living, and he sent them away from his son Isaac, eastward to the east country.

THE DEATH OF ABRAHAM

7 This is the length of Abraham's life, one hundred seventy-five years. [8]Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, old and full of years, and was gathered to his people.* [9]His sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre, [10]the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried with his wife Sarah.* [11]After the death of Abraham, God blessed his son Isaac. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi.*

ISHMAEL'S DESCENDANTS

12 These are the descendants of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's slave, bore to Abraham.* [13]These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam,* [14]Mishma, Dumah, Massa, [15]Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. [16]These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes.* [17](This is the length of the life of Ishmael, one hundred thirty-seven years; he breathed his last and died and was gathered to his people.) [18]They settled from Havilah to Shur, which is

opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria; he settled down[x] alongside[y] all his people.*

THE BIRTH AND YOUTH OF ESAU AND JACOB

19 These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the
father of Isaac, [20]and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah,
daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the
Aramean.* [21]Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife because she was barren,
and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived.* [22]The
children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way,
why do I live?"[z] So she went to inquire of the LORD. [23]And the LORD said to
her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other;
the elder shall serve the younger."*

[24]When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb.
[25]The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him
Esau.* [26]Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's
heel, so he was named Jacob.[a] Isaac was sixty years old when she bore
them.*

27 When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field,
while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents.* [28]Isaac loved Esau because he
was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

ESAU SELLS HIS BIRTHRIGHT

29 Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field,
and he was famished. [30]Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red
stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.[b]) [31]Jacob said,
"First sell me your birthright." [32]Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use
is a birthright to me?" [33]Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him
and sold his birthright to Jacob.* [34]Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil

stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Genesis 26

ISAAC AND ABIMELECH

1 Now there was a famine in the land, besides the former famine that had occurred in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Gerar, to King Abimelech of the Philistines.* [2]The LORD appeared to Isaac[c] and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; settle in the land that I shall show you.* [3]Reside in this land as an alien, and I will be with you and will bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will fulfill the oath that I swore to your father Abraham.* [4]I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands, and all the nations of the earth shall gain blessing for themselves through your offspring,* [5]because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws."

6 So Isaac settled in Gerar. [7]When the men of the place asked him about his wife, he said, "She is my sister," for he was afraid to say "my wife," thinking, "or else the men of the place might kill me for the sake of Rebekah, because she is attractive in appearance."* [8]When Isaac had been there a long time, King Abimelech of the Philistines looked out of a window and saw him fondling his wife Rebekah. [9]So Abimelech called for Isaac and said, "So she is your wife! Why, then, did you say, 'She is my sister'?" Isaac said to him, "Because I thought I might die because of her." [10]Abimelech said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us."* [11]So Abimelech warned all the people, saying, "Whoever touches this man or his wife shall be put to death."

12 Isaac sowed seed in that land and in the same year reaped a hundredfold. The LORD blessed him,* [13]and the man became rich; he prospered more and more until he became very wealthy. [14]He had possessions of flocks and herds and a great household, so that the Philistines envied him.* [15](Now the Philistines had stopped up and filled with earth all the wells that his father's servants had dug in the days of his father

Abraham.)* 16And Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go away from us; you have become too powerful for us."

17 So Isaac departed from there and camped in the Wadi Gerar and settled there. 18Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of his father Abraham, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham, and he gave them the names that his father had given them.* 19But when Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found there a well of spring water, 20the herders of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herders, saying, "The water is ours." So he called the well Esek,[d] because they contended with him. 21Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over that one also, so he called it Sitnah.[e] 22He moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it, so he called it Rehoboth,[f] saying, "Now the LORD has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land."*

23 From there he went up to Beer-sheba. 24And that very night the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham; do not be afraid, for I am with you and will bless you and make your offspring numerous for my servant Abraham's sake."* 25So he built an altar there, called on the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac's servants dug a well.*

26 Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar, with Ahuzzath his adviser and Phicol the commander of his army.* 27Isaac said to them, "Why have you come to me, seeing that you hate me and have sent me away from you?"* 28They said, "We see plainly that the LORD has been with you, so we say, let there be an oath between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you* 29so that you will do us no harm, just as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed of the LORD." 30So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank. 31In the morning they rose early and exchanged oaths, and Isaac set them on their way, and they departed from him in peace.* 32That same day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well that they had dug and said to him, "We have found water!" 33He called it Shibah;[g] therefore the name of the city is Beer-sheba[h] to this day.*

ESAU'S HITTITE WIVES

34 When Esau was forty years old, he married Judith daughter of Beeri
the Hittite and Basemath daughter of Elon the Hittite,* 35and they made life
bitter for Isaac and Rebekah.*

Genesis 27

ISAAC BLESSES JACOB

1 When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he
called his elder son Esau and said to him, "My son," and he answered,
"Here I am." [2]He said, "See, I am old; I do not know the day of my death.*
[3]Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the
field, and hunt game for me.* [4]Then prepare for me savory food, such as I
like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die."*

5 Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to his son Esau. So when
Esau went to the field to hunt for game for his father,[i] [6]Rebekah said to her
son Jacob, "I heard your father say to your brother Esau, [7]'Bring me game,
and prepare for me savory food to eat, that I may bless you before the LORD
before I die.' [8]Now therefore, my son, obey my word as I command you.*
[9]Go to the flock, and get me two choice kids, so that I may prepare from
them savory food for your father, such as he likes, [10]and you shall take it to
your father to eat, so that he may bless you before he dies." [11]But Jacob said
to his mother Rebekah, "Look, my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I am a
man of smooth skin.* [12]Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to
be mocking him and bring a curse on myself and not a blessing."* [13]His
mother said to him, "Let your curse be on me, my son; only obey my word,
and go, get them for me."* [14]So he went and got them and brought them to
his mother, and his mother prepared savory food, such as his father loved.
[15]Then Rebekah took the best garments of her elder son Esau, which were
with her in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob,* [16]and she
put the skins of the kids on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.
[17]Then she handed the savory food and the bread that she had prepared to
her son Jacob.

18 So he went in to his father and said, "My father," and he said, "Here I
am; who are you, my son?" [19]Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your
firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, so
that you may bless me."* [20]But Isaac said to his son, "How is it that you
have found it so quickly, my son?" He answered, "Because the LORD your

God granted me success." [21]Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not."* [22]So Jacob went up to his father Isaac, who felt him and said, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." [23]He did not recognize him because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands, so he blessed him.* [24]He said, "Are you really my son Esau?" He answered, "I am." [25]Then he said, "Bring it to me, that I may eat of my son's game and bless you." So he brought it to him, and he ate, and he brought him wine, and he drank.* [26]Then his father Isaac said to him, "Come near and kiss me, my son." [27]So he came near and kissed him, and he smelled the smell of his garments and blessed him and said,

"Ah, the smell of my son
is like the smell of a field that the LORD has blessed.*
[28]May God give you of the dew of heaven
and of the fatness of the earth
and plenty of grain and wine.*
[29]Let peoples serve you
and nations bow down to you.
Be lord over your brothers,
and may your mother's sons bow down to you.
Cursed be everyone who curses you,
and blessed be everyone who blesses you!"*

ESAU'S LOST BLESSING

30 As soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, when Jacob had scarcely gone out from the presence of his father Isaac, his brother Esau came in from his hunting. [31]He also prepared savory food and brought it to his father. And he said to his father, "Let my father sit up and eat of his son's game, so that you may bless me."* [32]His father Isaac said to him, "Who are you?" He answered, "I am your firstborn son, Esau."* [33]Then Isaac trembled violently and said, "Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him?—yes, and blessed he shall be!"* [34]When Esau heard his father's words, he

cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry and said to his father, "Bless me, me also, father!"* 35But he said, "Your brother came deceitfully, and he has taken away your blessing." 36Esau said, "Is he not rightly named Jacob?[j] For he has supplanted me these two times. He took away my birthright, and look, now he has taken away my blessing." Then he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?"* 37Isaac answered Esau, "I have already made him your lord, and I have given him all his brothers as servants, and with grain and wine I have sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son?"* 38Esau said to his father, "Have you only one blessing, father? Bless me, me also, father!" And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.*

39 Then his father Isaac answered him:

"See, away from the fatness of the earth shall your home be
and away from the dew of heaven on high.*
40By your sword you shall live,
and you shall serve your brother,
but when you break loose,[k]
you shall break his yoke from your neck."*

JACOB ESCAPES ESAU'S FURY

41 Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob."* 42But the words of her elder son Esau were told to Rebekah, so she sent and called her younger son Jacob and said to him, "Your brother Esau is consoling himself by planning to kill you. 43Now therefore, my son, obey my voice; flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran,* 44and stay with him a while, until your brother's fury turns away— 45until your brother's anger against you turns away, and he forgets what you have done to him; then I will send and bring you back from there. Why should I lose both of you in one day?"

46 Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am weary of my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women such as these, one of the women of the land, what good will my life be to me?"*

Genesis 28

1 Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and charged him, "You shall not
marry one of the Canaanite women.* [2]Go at once to Paddan-aram to the
house of Bethuel, your mother's father, and take as wife from there one of
the daughters of Laban, your mother's brother.* [3]May God Almighty[l] bless
you and make you fruitful and numerous, that you may become a company
of peoples.* [4]May he give to you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to
your offspring with you, so that you may take possession of the land where
you now live as an alien, land that God gave to Abraham."* [5]Thus Isaac
sent Jacob away, and he went to Paddan-aram, to Laban son of Bethuel the
Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob's and Esau's mother.

ESAU MARRIES ISHMAEL'S DAUGHTER

6 Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to
Paddan-aram to take a wife from there and that as he blessed him he
charged him, "You shall not marry one of the Canaanite women,"* [7]and that
Jacob had obeyed his father and his mother and gone to Paddan-aram. [8]So
when Esau saw that the Canaanite women did not please his father Isaac,*
[9]Esau went to Ishmael and took Mahalath daughter of Abraham's son
Ishmael and sister of Nebaioth to be his wife in addition to the wives he
had.*

JACOB'S DREAM AT BETHEL

10 Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. [11]He came to a certain
place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of
the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.
[12]And he dreamed that there was a stairway[m] set up on the earth, the top of
it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending
on it.* [13]And the LORD stood beside him[n] and said, "I am the LORD, the God
of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I
will give to you and to your offspring,* [14]and your offspring shall be like
the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east

and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed[o] in you and in your offspring.* 15Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."* 16Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!"* 17And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

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

Genesis 29

JACOB MEETS RACHEL

1 Then Jacob went on his journey and came to the land of the people of the
east.* [2]As he looked, he saw a well in the field and three flocks of sheep
lying there beside it, for out of that well the flocks were watered. The stone
on the well's mouth was large, [3]and when all the flocks were gathered there,
the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the
sheep and put the stone back in its place on the mouth of the well.

4 Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where do you come from?" They
said, "We are from Haran."* [5]He said to them, "Do you know Laban son of
Nahor?" They said, "We do."* [6]He said to them, "Is it well with him?"
"Yes," they replied, "and here is his daughter Rachel, coming with the
sheep."* [7]He said, "Look, it is still broad daylight; it is not time for the
animals to be gathered together. Water the sheep, and go, pasture them."
[8]But they said, "We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together, and the
stone is rolled from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep."

9 While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's
sheep, for she kept them.* [10]Now when Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of
his mother's brother Laban, and the sheep of his mother's brother Laban,
Jacob went up and rolled the stone from the well's mouth and watered the
flock of his mother's brother Laban.* [11]Then Jacob kissed Rachel and wept
aloud. [12]And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman and that he
was Rebekah's son, and she ran and told her father.*

13 When Laban heard the news about his sister's son Jacob, he ran to
meet him; he embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house.
Jacob[q] told Laban all these things,* [14]and Laban said to him, "Surely you
are my bone and my flesh!" And he stayed with him a month.*

JACOB MARRIES LABAN'S DAUGHTERS

15 Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you
therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" [16]Now

Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of
the younger was Rachel. 17Leah's eyes were weak,[r] but Rachel was graceful
and beautiful. 18Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, "I will serve you seven
years for your younger daughter Rachel."* 19Laban said, "It is better that I
give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me."
20So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few
days because of his love for her.

21 Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her,
for my time is completed."* 22So Laban gathered together all the people of
the place and made a feast.* 23But in the evening he took his daughter Leah
and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. 24(Laban gave his maid
Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) 25When morning came, it was
Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I
not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" 26Laban
said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the
firstborn. 27Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other
also in return for serving me another seven years."* 28Jacob did so and
completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.
29(Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her maid.) 30So
Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah. He
served Laban[s] for another seven years.*

31 When the LORD saw that Leah was unloved, he opened her womb, but
Rachel was barren.* 32Leah conceived and bore a son, and she named him
Reuben,[t] for she said, "Because the LORD has looked on my affliction,
surely now my husband will love me."* 33She conceived again and bore a
son and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I am hated, he has given me
this son also," and she named him Simeon.[u] 34Again she conceived and
bore a son and said, "Now this time my husband will be joined to me,
because I have borne him three sons"; therefore he was named Levi.[v,*]
35She conceived again and bore a son and said, "This time I will praise the
LORD," therefore she named him Judah;[w] then she ceased bearing.*

Genesis 30

1 When Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, she envied her sister,
and she said to Jacob, “Give me children, or I shall die!”* [2]Jacob became
very angry with Rachel and said, “Am I in the place of God, who has
withheld from you the fruit of the womb?”* [3]Then she said, “Here is my
maid Bilhah; go in to her, that she may bear upon my knees and that I too
may have children through her.”* [4]So she gave him her maid Bilhah as a
wife, and Jacob went in to her.* [5]And Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a
son. [6]Then Rachel said, “God has judged me and has also heard my voice
and given me a son”; therefore she named him Dan.[x,*] [7]Rachel’s maid
Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son. [8]Then Rachel said,
“With mighty wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister and have
prevailed,” so she named him Naphtali.[y,*]

9 When Leah saw that she had ceased bearing children, she took her
maid Zilpah and gave her to Jacob as a wife.* [10]Then Leah’s maid Zilpah
bore Jacob a son. [11]And Leah said, “Good fortune!” So she named him
Gad.[z] [12]Leah’s maid Zilpah bore Jacob a second son. [13]And Leah said,
“Happy am I! For the women will call me happy,” so she named him
Asher.[a,*]

14 In the days of wheat harvest Reuben went and found mandrakes in the
field and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah,
“Please give me some of your son’s mandrakes.”* [15]But she said to her, “Is
it a small matter that you have taken away my husband? Would you take
away my son’s mandrakes also?” Rachel said, “Then he may lie with you
tonight for your son’s mandrakes.”* [16]When Jacob came from the field in
the evening, Leah went out to meet him and said, “You must come in to me,
for I have hired you with my son’s mandrakes.” So he lay with her that
night. [17]And God heeded Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth
son. [18]Leah said, “God has given me my hire because I gave my maid to my
husband,” so she named him Issachar.[b] [19]And Leah conceived again, and
she bore Jacob a sixth son. [20]Then Leah said, “God has endowed me with a
good gift; now my husband will honor me, because I have borne him six

sons," so she named him Zebulun.[c,*] 21Afterwards she bore a daughter and named her Dinah.

22 Then God remembered Rachel, and God heeded her and opened her womb.[*] 23She conceived and bore a son and said, "God has taken away my reproach,"[*] 24and she named him Joseph,[d] saying, "May the LORD add to me another son!"[*]

JACOB PROSPERS AT LABAN'S EXPENSE

25 When Rachel had borne Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away, that I may go to my own home and country.[*] 26Give me my wives and my children for whom I have served you, and let me go, for you know very well the service I have given you." 27But Laban said to him, "If you will allow me to say so, I have learned by divination that the LORD has blessed me because of you;[*] 28name your wages, and I will give it."[*] 29Jacob said to him, "You yourself know how I have served you and how your livestock have fared with me.[*] 30For you had little before I came, and it has increased abundantly, and the LORD has blessed you wherever I turned. But now when shall I provide for my own household also?"[*] 31He said, "What shall I give you?" Jacob said, "You shall not give me anything; if you will do this for me, I will again feed your flock and keep it: 32let me pass through all your flock today, removing from it every speckled and spotted sheep and every black lamb and the spotted and speckled among the goats, and such shall be my wages.[*] 33So my honesty will answer for me later, when you come to look into my wages with you. Every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats and black among the lambs, if found with me, shall be counted stolen."[*] 34Laban said, "Good! Let it be as you have said." 35But that day Laban removed the male goats that were striped and spotted, and all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, every one that had white on it, and every lamb that was black and put them in charge of his sons, 36and he set a distance of three days' journey between himself and Jacob, while Jacob was pasturing the rest of Laban's flock.

37 Then Jacob took fresh rods of poplar and almond and plane and peeled white streaks in them, exposing the white of the rods.[*] 38He set the rods that he had peeled in front of the flocks in the troughs, that is, the watering places, where the flocks came to drink. And since they bred when

they came to drink, [39]the flocks bred in front of the rods, and so the flocks produced young that were striped, speckled, and spotted. [40]Jacob separated the lambs and set the faces of the flocks toward the striped and the completely black animals in the flock of Laban, and he put his own droves apart and did not put them with Laban's flock. [41]Whenever the stronger of the flock were breeding, Jacob laid the rods in the troughs before the eyes of the flock, that they might breed among the rods, [42]but for the feebler of the flock he did not lay them there, so the feebler were Laban's and the stronger Jacob's. [43]Thus the man grew exceedingly rich and had large flocks and male and female slaves and camels and donkeys.*

Genesis 31

JACOB FLEES WITH FAMILY AND FLOCKS

1 Now Jacob heard that the sons of Laban were saying, "Jacob has taken all
that was our father's; he has gained all this wealth from what belonged to
our father." [2]And Jacob saw that Laban did not regard him as favorably as
he did before. [3]Then the LORD said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your
ancestors and to your kindred, and I will be with you."* [4]So Jacob sent and
called Rachel and Leah into the field where his flock was [5]and said to them,
"I see that your father does not regard me as favorably as he did before. But
the God of my father has been with me.* [6]You know that I have served your
father with all my strength, [7]yet your father has cheated me and changed my
wages ten times, but God did not permit him to harm me.* [8]If he said, 'The
speckled shall be your wages,' then all the flock bore speckled, and if he
said, 'The striped shall be your wages,' then all the flock bore striped.*
[9]Thus God has taken away the livestock of your father and given them to
me.

10 "During the mating of the flock I once had a dream in which I looked
up and saw that the male goats that leaped upon the flock were striped,
speckled, and mottled. [11]Then the angel of God said to me in the dream,
'Jacob,' and I said, 'Here I am!'* [12]And he said, 'Look up and see that all
the goats that leap on the flock are striped, speckled, and mottled, for I have
seen all that Laban is doing to you. [13]I am the God of Bethel, where you
anointed a pillar and made a vow to me. Now leave this land at once and
return to the land of your birth.' "* [14]Then Rachel and Leah answered him,
"Is there any portion or inheritance left to us in our father's house?* [15]Are
we not regarded by him as foreigners? For he has sold us, and he has been
using up the money given for us. [16]All the property that God has taken
away from our father belongs to us and to our children; now then, do
whatever God has said to you."

17 So Jacob arose and set his children and his wives on camels, [18]and he
drove away all his livestock, all the property that he had gained, the

livestock in his possession that he had acquired in Paddan-aram, to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan.

19 Now Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and Rachel stole her father's household gods.* [20]And Jacob deceived Laban the Aramean, in that he did not tell him that he intended to flee. [21]So he fled with all that he had; starting out he crossed the Euphrates[e] and set his face toward the hill country of Gilead.*

LABAN OVERTAKES JACOB

22 On the third day Laban was told that Jacob had fled. [23]So he took his kinsfolk with him and pursued him for seven days until he caught up with him in the hill country of Gilead.* [24]But God came to Laban the Aramean in a dream by night and said to him, "Take heed that you say not a word to Jacob, either good or bad."*

25 Laban overtook Jacob. Now Jacob had pitched his tent in the hill country, and Laban with his kinsfolk camped in the hill country of Gilead. [26]Laban said to Jacob, "What have you done? You have deceived me and carried away my daughters like captives of the sword.* [27]Why did you flee secretly and deceive me and not tell me? I would have sent you away with mirth and songs, with tambourine and lyre.* [28]And why did you not permit me to kiss my sons and my daughters farewell? What you have done is foolish. [29]It is in my power to do you harm, but the God of your father spoke to me last night, saying, 'Take heed that you speak to Jacob neither good nor bad.'* [30]Even though you had to go because you longed greatly for your father's house, why did you steal my gods?"* [31]Jacob answered Laban, "Because I was afraid, for I thought that you would take your daughters from me by force. [32]But anyone with whom you find your gods shall not live. In the presence of our kinsfolk, point out what I have that is yours, and take it." Now Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen the gods.[f,*]

33 So Laban went into Jacob's tent and into Leah's tent and into the tent of the two maids, but he did not find them. And he went out of Leah's tent and entered Rachel's. [34]Now Rachel had taken the household gods and put them in the camel's saddle and sat on them. Laban felt all about in the tent

but did not find them. [35]And she said to her father, "Let not my lord be angry that I cannot rise before you, for the way of women is upon me." So he searched but did not find the household gods.*

36 Then Jacob became angry and upbraided Laban. Jacob said to Laban, "What is my offense? What is my sin, that you have hotly pursued me? [37]Although you have felt about through all my goods, what have you found of all your household goods? Set it here before my kinsfolk and your kinsfolk, so that they may decide between us two. [38]These twenty years I have been with you; your ewes and your female goats have not miscarried, and I have not eaten the rams of your flocks. [39]That which was torn by wild beasts I did not bring to you; I bore the loss of it myself; of my hand you required it, whether stolen by day or stolen by night.* [40]It was like this with me: by day the heat consumed me and the cold by night, and my sleep fled from my eyes. [41]These twenty years I have been in your house; I served you fourteen years for your two daughters and six years for your flock, and you have changed my wages ten times.* [42]If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear[g] of Isaac, had not been on my side, surely now you would have sent me away empty-handed. God saw my affliction and the labor of my hands and rebuked you last night."*

LABAN AND JACOB MAKE A COVENANT

43 Then Laban answered and said to Jacob, "The daughters are my daughters, the children are my children, the flocks are my flocks, and all that you see is mine. But what can I do today about these daughters of mine or about their children whom they have borne? [44]Come now, let us make a covenant, you and I, and let it be a witness between you and me."* [45]So Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar.* [46]And Jacob said to his kinsfolk, "Gather stones," and they took stones and made a heap, and they ate there by the heap. [47]Laban called it Jegar-sahadutha,[h] but Jacob called it Galeed.[i] [48]Laban said, "This heap is a witness between you and me today." Therefore he called it Galeed* [49]and the pillar[j] Mizpah, for he said, "The LORD watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the other.* [50]If you ill-treat my daughters or if you take wives in addition to my daughters, though no one else is with us, remember that God is witness between you and me."

51 Then Laban said to Jacob, “See this heap and see the pillar, which I
have set between you and me. 52This heap is a witness, and the pillar is a
witness, that I will not pass beyond this heap to you, and you will not pass
beyond this heap and this pillar to me, for harm. 53May the God of
Abraham and the God of Nahor[k] judge between us.” So Jacob swore by the
Fear of his father Isaac,* 54and Jacob offered a sacrifice on the height and
called his kinsfolk to eat bread, and they ate bread and tarried all night in
the hill country.

55 [l]Early in the morning Laban rose up and kissed his grandchildren and
his daughters and blessed them; then he departed and returned home.*

Genesis 32

1 Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him; [2]when Jacob saw them he said, “This is God’s camp!” So he called that place Mahanaim.[m,*]

JACOB SENDS PRESENTS TO APPEASE ESAU

3 Jacob sent messengers before him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom,[*] [4]instructing them, “Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: Thus says your servant Jacob, ‘I have lived with Laban as an alien and stayed until now,[*] [5]and I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male and female slaves, and I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.’ ”[*]

6 The messengers returned to Jacob, saying, “We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him.”[*] [7]Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed, and he divided the people who were with him and the flocks and herds and camels into two companies,[*] [8]thinking, “If Esau comes to the one company and destroys it, then the company that is left will escape.”

9 And Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your kindred, and I will do you good,’[*] [10]I am not worthy of the least of all the steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two companies.[*] [11]Deliver me, please, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I am afraid of him; he may come and kill us all, the mothers with the children.[*] [12]Yet you have said, ‘I will surely do you good and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted because of their number.’ ”[*]

13 So he spent that night there, and from what he had with him he took a present for his brother Esau,[*] [14]two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, [15]thirty milch camels and their colts, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten male

donkeys. [16]These he delivered into the hand of his servants, every drove by itself, and said to his servants, "Pass on ahead of me, and put a space between drove and drove." [17]He instructed the one in the lead, "When Esau my brother meets you and asks you, 'To whom do you belong? Where are you going? And whose are these ahead of you?' [18]then you shall say, 'They belong to your servant Jacob; they are a present sent to my lord Esau, and moreover he is behind us.' " [19]He likewise instructed the second and the third and all who followed the droves, "You shall say the same thing to Esau when you meet him, [20]and you shall say, 'Moreover your servant Jacob is behind us.' " For he thought, "I may appease him with the present that goes ahead of me, and afterwards I shall see his face; perhaps he will accept me."* [21]So the present passed on ahead of him, and he himself spent that night in the camp.

JACOB WRESTLES AT PENIEL

22 The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.* [23]He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. [24]Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.* [25]When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. [26]Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me."* [27]So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." [28]Then the man[n] said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel,[o] for you have striven with God and with humans[p] and have prevailed."* [29]Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him.* [30]So Jacob called the place Peniel,[q] saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved."* [31]The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. [32]Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

Genesis 33

JACOB AND ESAU MEET

1 Now Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming, and four hundred men with
him. So he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two
maids.* 2He put the maids with their children in front, then Leah with her
children, and Rachel and Joseph last of all. 3He himself went on ahead of
them, bowing himself to the ground seven times, until he came near his
brother.*

4 But Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and
kissed him, and they wept.* 5When Esau looked up and saw the women and
children, he said, "Who are these with you?" Jacob said, "The children
whom God has graciously given your servant."* 6Then the maids drew near,
they and their children, and bowed down; 7Leah likewise and her children
drew near and bowed down; and finally Joseph and Rachel drew near, and
they bowed down. 8Esau said, "What do you mean by all this company that
I met?" Jacob answered, "To find favor with my lord."* 9But Esau said, "I
have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself." 10Jacob said,
"No, please; if I find favor with you, then accept my present from my hand,
for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God, since you have
received me with such favor.* 11Please accept my gift that is brought to you,
because God has dealt graciously with me and because I have everything I
want." So he urged him, and he took it.*

12 Then Esau said, "Let us journey on our way, and I will go alongside
you." 13But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are frail
and that the flocks and herds, which are nursing, are a care to me, and if
they are overdriven for one day, all the flocks will die. 14Let my lord pass
on ahead of his servant, and I will lead on slowly, according to the pace of
the cattle that are before me and according to the pace of the children, until
I come to my lord in Seir."*

15 So Esau said, "Let me leave with you some of the people who are
with me." But he said, "Why should my lord be so kind to me?"* 16So Esau
returned that day on his way to Seir. 17But Jacob journeyed to Succoth[r] and

built himself a house and made booths for his cattle; therefore the place is called Succoth.[*]

JACOB REACHES SHECHEM

18 Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, on his way from Paddan-aram, and he camped before the city.[*]
[19]And from the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, he bought for one hundred pieces of money[s] the plot of land on which he had pitched his tent.[*]
[20]There he erected an altar and called it El-Elohe-Israel.[t]

Genesis 34

THE RAPE OF DINAH

1 Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out
to visit the daughters of the region.* [2]When Shechem son of Hamor the
Hivite, prince of the region, saw her, he seized her and lay with her by
force. [3]And his soul was drawn to Dinah daughter of Jacob; he loved the
young woman and spoke tenderly to her. [4]So Shechem spoke to his father
Hamor, saying, "Get me this girl to be my wife."*

5 Now Jacob heard that Shechem[u] had defiled his daughter Dinah, but his
sons were with his cattle in the field, so Jacob held his peace until they
came. [6]And Hamor the father of Shechem went out to Jacob to speak with
him, [7]just as the sons of Jacob came in from the field. When they heard of
it, the men were indignant and very angry, because he had committed an
outrage in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter, for such a thing ought not
to be done.*

8 But Hamor spoke with them, saying, "The heart of my son Shechem
longs for your daughter; please give her to him in marriage. [9]Make
marriages with us; give your daughters to us, and take our daughters for
yourselves. [10]You shall live with us, and the land shall be open to you; live
and trade in it and get property in it."* [11]Shechem also said to her father and
to her brothers, "Let me find favor with you, and whatever you say to me I
will give. [12]Put the marriage present and gift as high as you like, and I will
give whatever you ask me; only give me the young woman to be my wife."*

13 The sons of Jacob answered Shechem and his father Hamor
deceitfully because he had defiled their sister Dinah. [14]They said to them,
"We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one who is uncircumcised, for
that would be a disgrace to us.* [15]Only on this condition will we consent to
you: that you will become as we are and every male among you be
circumcised. [16]Then we will give our daughters to you, and we will take
your daughters for ourselves, and we will live among you and become one
people. [17]But if you will not listen to us and be circumcised, then we will
take our daughter and be gone."

18 Their words pleased Hamor and Hamor's son Shechem. [19]And the young man did not delay to do the thing because he was delighted with Jacob's daughter. Now he was the most honored of all his family.* [20]So Hamor and his son Shechem came to the gate of their city and spoke to the men of their city, saying, [21]"These people are friendly with us; let them live in the land and trade in it, for the land is large enough for them; let us take their daughters in marriage, and let us give them our daughters. [22]Only on this condition will they agree to live among us, to become one people: that every male among us be circumcised as they are circumcised. [23]Will not their livestock, their property, and all their animals be ours? Only let us agree with them, and they will live among us." [24]And all who went out of the city gate heeded Hamor and his son Shechem, and every male was circumcised, all who went out of the gate of his city.*

DINAH'S BROTHERS AVENGE THEIR SISTER

25 On the third day, when they were still in pain, two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took their swords and came against the city unawares and killed all the males.* [26]They killed Hamor and his son Shechem with the sword and took Dinah out of Shechem's house and went away. [27]And the other sons of Jacob came upon the slain and plundered the city because their sister had been defiled. [28]They took their flocks and their herds, their donkeys, and whatever was in the city and in the field. [29]All their wealth, all their little ones and their wives, all that was in the houses, they captured and made their prey. [30]Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have brought trouble on me by making me odious to the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites and the Perizzites; my numbers are few, and if they gather themselves against me and attack me, I shall be destroyed, both I and my household."* [31]But they said, "Should our sister be treated like a prostitute?"

Genesis 35

JACOB RETURNS TO BETHEL

1 God said to Jacob, “Arise, go up to Bethel, and settle there. Make an altar
there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother
Esau.”* 2So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Put
away the foreign gods that are among you, and purify yourselves, and
change your clothes;* 3then come, let us go up to Bethel, that I may make
an altar there to the God who answered me in the day of my distress and has
been with me wherever I have gone.”* 4So they gave to Jacob all the
foreign gods that they had and the rings that were in their ears, and Jacob
hid them under the oak that was near Shechem.*

5 As they journeyed, a terror from God fell upon the cities all around
them, so that no one pursued them.* 6Jacob came to Luz, that is, Bethel,
which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him,*
7and there he built an altar and called the place El-bethel,[v] because it was
there that God had revealed himself to him when he fled from his brother.*
8And Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse, died, and she was buried under an oak
below Bethel. So it was called Allon-bacuth.[w,*]

9 God appeared to Jacob again when he came from Paddan-aram, and he
blessed him.* 10God said to him, “Your name is Jacob; no longer shall you
be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.” So he was called Israel.*
11God said to him, “I am God Almighty:[x] be fruitful and multiply; a nation
and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall spring from
you.* 12The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I
will give the land to your offspring after you.”* 13Then God went up from
him at the place where he had spoken with him.* 14Jacob set up a pillar in
the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone, and he poured out
a drink offering on it and poured oil on it.* 15So Jacob called the place
where God had spoken with him Bethel.*

THE BIRTH OF BENJAMIN AND THE DEATH OF RACHEL

16 Then they journeyed from Bethel, and when they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel was in childbirth, and she had hard labor. [17]When she was in her hard labor, the midwife said to her, "Do not be afraid, for now you have another son."* [18]As her soul was departing, for she was dying, she named him Ben-oni,[y] but his father called him Benjamin.[z] [19]And Rachel died, and she was buried on the way to Ephrath, that is, Bethlehem,* [20]and Jacob set up a pillar at her grave; it is the pillar of Rachel's tomb, which is there to this day.* [21]Israel journeyed on and pitched his tent beyond the tower of Eder.

22 While Israel lived in that land, Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine, and Israel heard of it.

Now the sons of Jacob were twelve.* [23]The sons of Leah: Reuben (Jacob's firstborn), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. [24]The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin. [25]The sons of Bilhah, Rachel's maid: Dan and Naphtali. [26]The sons of Zilpah, Leah's maid: Gad and Asher. These were the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan-aram.

THE DEATH OF ISAAC

27 Jacob came to his father Isaac at Mamre, or Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac had resided as aliens.* [28]Now the days of Isaac were one hundred eighty years. [29]And Isaac breathed his last; he died and was gathered to his people, old and full of days, and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.*

Genesis 36

ESAU'S DESCENDANTS

1 These are the descendants of Esau, that is, Edom.* [2]Esau took his wives
from the Canaanites: Adah daughter of Elon the Hittite, Oholibamah
daughter of Anah son[a] of Zibeon the Hivite,* [3]and Basemath, Ishmael's
daughter, sister of Nebaioth. [4]Adah bore Eliphaz to Esau; Basemath bore
Reuel; [5]and Oholibamah bore Jeush, Jalam, and Korah. These are the sons
of Esau who were born to him in the land of Canaan.

6 Then Esau took his wives, his sons, his daughters, and all the members
of his household, his cattle, all his livestock, and all the property he had
acquired in the land of Canaan, and he moved to a land some distance from
his brother Jacob.* [7]For their possessions were too great for them to live
together; the land where they were staying could not support them because
of their livestock.* [8]So Esau settled in the hill country of Seir; Esau is
Edom.*

9 These are the descendants of Esau, ancestor of the Edomites, in the hill
country of Seir. [10]These are the names of Esau's sons: Eliphaz, the son of
Adah the wife of Esau; Reuel, the son of Esau's wife Basemath.* [11]The sons
of Eliphaz were Teman, Omar, Zepho, Gatam, and Kenaz. [12]Timna was a
concubine of Eliphaz, Esau's son; she bore Amalek to Eliphaz. These were
the sons of Adah, Esau's wife.* [13]These were the sons of Reuel: Nahath,
Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah. These were the sons of Basemath, Esau's
wife. [14]These were the sons of Esau's wife Oholibamah, daughter of Anah
son[b] of Zibeon; she bore to Esau Jeush, Jalam, and Korah.

CLANS AND KINGS OF EDOM

15 These are the clans[c] of the sons of Esau. The sons of Eliphaz the
firstborn of Esau: the clans[d] Teman, Omar, Zepho, Kenaz,* [16]Korah, Gatam,
and Amalek; these are the clans[e] of Eliphaz in the land of Edom; they are
the sons of Adah. [17]These are the sons of Esau's son Reuel: the clans[f]
Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah; these are the clans[g] of Reuel in the

land of Edom; they are the sons of Esau's wife Basemath.* 18These are the sons of Esau's wife Oholibamah: the clans[h] Jeush, Jalam, and Korah; these are the clans[i] born of Esau's wife Oholibamah, the daughter of Anah.* 19These are the sons of Esau, that is, Edom, and these are their clans.[j]

20 These are the sons of Seir the Horite, the inhabitants of the land: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah,* 21Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan; these are the clans[k] of the Horites, the sons of Seir in the land of Edom. 22The sons of Lotan were Hori and Heman, and Lotan's sister was Timna. 23These are the sons of Shobal: Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shepho, and Onam. 24These are the sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah; he is the Anah who found the springs[l] in the wilderness as he pastured the donkeys of his father Zibeon. 25These are the children of Anah: Dishon and Oholibamah daughter of Anah.* 26These are the sons of Dishon: Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran. 27These are the sons of Ezer: Bilhan, Zaavan, and Akan.* 28These are the sons of Dishan: Uz and Aran. 29These are the clans[m] of the Horites: the clans[n] Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, 30Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan; these are the clans[o] of the Horites, clan by clan[p] in the land of Seir.

31 These are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the Israelites.* 32Bela son of Beor reigned in Edom, the name of his city being Dinhabah. 33Bela died, and Jobab son of Zerah of Bozrah succeeded him as king. 34Jobab died, and Husham of the land of the Temanites succeeded him as king. 35Husham died, and Hadad son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in the country of Moab, succeeded him as king, the name of his city being Avith. 36Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah succeeded him as king. 37Samlah died, and Shaul of Rehoboth on the Euphrates succeeded him as king. 38Shaul died, and Baal-hanan son of Achbor succeeded him as king. 39Baal-hanan son of Achbor died, and Hadar succeeded him as king, the name of his city being Pau; his wife's name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, daughter of Me-zahab.*

40 These are the names of the clans[q] of Esau, according to their families and their localities by their names: the clans[r] Timna, Alvah, Jetheth,* 41Oholibamah, Elah, Pinon, 42Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, 43Magdiel, and Iram; these are the clans[s] of Edom, that is, Esau, the father of Edom, according to their settlements in the land that they held.

Genesis 37

JOSEPH DREAMS OF GREATNESS

1 Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of
Canaan.* 2These are the descendants of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his
brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's
wives, and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. 3Now Israel
loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of
his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe.t,* 4But when his brothers
saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him
and could not speak peaceably to him.*

5 Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they
hated him even more. 6He said to them, "Listen to this dream that I
dreamed. 7There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf
rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it and bowed
down to my sheaf."* 8His brothers said to him, "Are you indeed to reign
over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?" So they hated him
even more because of his dreams and his words.*

9 He had another dream and told it to his brothers, saying, "Look, I have
had another dream: the sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down
to me." 10But when he told it to his father and to his brothers, his father
rebuked him and said to him, "What kind of dream is this that you have
had? Shall we indeed come, I and your mother and your brothers, and bow
to the ground before you?"* 11So his brothers were jealous of him, but his
father kept the matter in mind.*

JOSEPH IS SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS

12 Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem.
13And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at
Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." 14So
he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the

flock, and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem,* 15and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" 16"I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." 17The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.' " So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.* 18They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them they conspired to kill him.* 19They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. 20Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." 21But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life."* 22Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. 23So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the ornamented robe[u] that he wore, 24and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

25 Then they sat down to eat, and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt.* 26Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood?* 27Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed.* 28When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.*

29 When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes.* 30He returned to his brothers and said, "The boy is gone, and I, where can I turn?"* 31Then they took Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat, and dipped the robe in the blood.* 32They had the ornamented robe[v] taken to their father, and they said, "This we have found; see now whether it is your son's robe or not." 33He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! A wild animal has devoured him; Joseph has surely been torn to pieces."* 34Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on

his loins and mourned for his son many days.* 35All his sons and all his daughters sought to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted and said, “No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning.” Thus his father bewailed him.* 36Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh’s officials, the captain of the guard.*

Genesis 38

JUDAH AND TAMAR

1 It happened at that time that Judah went down from his brothers and
settled near a certain Adullamite whose name was Hirah. [2]There Judah saw
the daughter of a certain Canaanite whose name was Shua; he married her
and went in to her. [3]She conceived and bore a son, and he named him Er.*
[4]Again she conceived and bore a son whom she named Onan. [5]Yet again
she bore a son, and she named him Shelah. She[w] was in Chezib when she
bore him. [6]Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn; her name was Tamar. [7]But
Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD put
him to death.* [8]Then Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife and
perform the duty of a brother-in-law to her; raise up offspring for your
brother."* [9]But since Onan knew that the offspring would not be his, he
spilled his semen on the ground whenever he went in to his brother's wife,
so that he would not give offspring to his brother.* [10]What he did was
displeasing in the sight of the LORD, and he put him to death also. [11]Then
Judah said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, "Remain a widow in your father's
house until my son Shelah grows up," for he feared that he too would die,
like his brothers. So Tamar went to live in her father's house.*

12 In course of time the wife of Judah, Shua's daughter, died; when
Judah's time of mourning was over,[x] he went up to Timnah to his
sheepshearers, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite.* [13]When Tamar was
told, "Your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep," [14]she
put off her widow's garments, put on a veil, wrapped herself up, and sat
down at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. She saw
that Shelah was grown up, yet she had not been given to him in marriage.*
[15]When Judah saw her, he thought her to be a prostitute, for she had
covered her face. [16]He went over to her at the roadside and said, "Come, let
me come in to you," for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law.
She said, "What will you give me, that you may come in to me?" [17]He
answered, "I will send you a kid from the flock." And she said, "Only if you
give me a pledge until you send it."* [18]He said, "What pledge shall I give

you?" She replied, "Your signet and your cord and the staff that is in your hand." So he gave them to her and went in to her, and she conceived by him.* 19Then she got up and went away, and taking off her veil she put on the garments of her widowhood.*

20 When Judah sent the kid by his friend the Adullamite to recover the pledge from the woman, he could not find her. 21He asked the townspeople, "Where is the prostitute who was at Enaim by the wayside?" But they said, "No prostitute has been here." 22So he returned to Judah and said, "I have not found her; moreover, the townspeople said, 'No prostitute has been here.' " 23Judah replied, "Let her keep the things as her own, otherwise we will be laughed at; you see, I sent this kid, and you could not find her."

24 About three months later Judah was told, "Your daughter-in-law Tamar has prostituted herself; moreover, she is pregnant as a result of prostitution." And Judah said, "Bring her out, and let her be burned."* 25As she was being brought out, she sent word to her father-in-law, "It was the owner of these who made me pregnant." And she said, "Take note, please, whose these are, the signet and the cord and the staff."* 26Then Judah acknowledged them and said, "She is more in the right than I, since I did not give her to my son Shelah." And he did not lie with her again.*

27 When the time of her delivery came, there were twins in her womb. 28While she was in labor, one put out a hand, and the midwife took and bound on his hand a crimson thread, saying, "This one came out first." 29But just then he drew back his hand and out came his brother, and she said, "What a breach you have made for yourself!" Therefore he was named Perez.[y],* 30Afterward his brother came out with the crimson thread on his hand, and he was named Zerah.[z]

Genesis 39

JOSEPH AND POTIPHAR'S WIFE

1 Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of
Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the
Ishmaelites who had brought him down there.* 2The LORD was with Joseph,
and he became a successful man; he was in the house of his Egyptian
master.* 3His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD
caused all that he did to prosper in his hands.* 4So Joseph found favor in his
sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in
charge of all that he had.* 5From the time that he made him overseer in his
house and over all that he had, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for
Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and
field.* 6So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and with him there he
had no concern for anything but the food that he ate.

Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. 7And after a time his
master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me."* 8But he
refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, with me here, my master has
no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he
has in my hand. 9He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept
back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife. How then
could I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"* 10And although she
spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not consent to lie beside her or to
be with her. 11One day, however, when he went into the house to do his
work, and while no one else was in the house, 12she caught hold of his
garment, saying, "Lie with me!" But he left his garment in her hand and
fled and ran outside.* 13When she saw that he had left his garment in her
hand and had fled outside, 14she called out to the members of her household
and said to them, "See, my husband[a] has brought among us a Hebrew to
insult us! He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice,
15and when he heard me raise my voice and cry out, he left his garment
beside me and fled outside." 16Then she kept his garment by her until his
master came home, 17and she told him the same story, saying, "The Hebrew

servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me,* 18but as soon as I raised my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me and fled outside."

19 When his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, saying, "This is the way your servant treated me," he became enraged.* 20And Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison.* 21But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love; he gave him favor in the sight of the chief jailer.* 22The chief jailer committed to Joseph's care all the prisoners who were in the prison, and whatever was done there, he was the one who did it.* 23The chief jailer paid no heed to anything that was in Joseph's care because the LORD was with him, and whatever he did, the LORD made it prosper.*

Genesis 40

THE DREAMS OF TWO PRISONERS

1 Some time after this, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker
offended their lord the king of Egypt.* [2]Pharaoh was angry with his two
officers, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker, [3]and he put them in
custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph
was confined.* [4]The captain of the guard charged Joseph with them, and he
waited on them, and they continued for some time in custody. [5]One night
they both dreamed—the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt who
were confined in the prison—each his own dream and each dream with its
own meaning. [6]When Joseph came to them in the morning, he saw that they
were troubled. [7]So he asked Pharaoh's officers, who were with him in
custody in his master's house, "Why are your faces downcast today?"
[8]They said to him, "We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret
them." And Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God?
Please tell them to me."*

9 So the chief cupbearer told his dream to Joseph and said to him, "In my
dream there was a vine before me, [10]and on the vine there were three
branches. As soon as it budded, its blossoms came out, and the clusters
ripened into grapes. [11]Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes
and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand."
[12]Then Joseph said to him, "This is its interpretation: the three branches are
three days;* [13]within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore
you to your office, and you shall place Pharaoh's cup in his hand, just as
you used to do when you were his cupbearer. [14]But remember me when it is
well with you; please do me the kindness to make mention of me to
Pharaoh, and so get me out of this place.* [15]For in fact I was stolen out of
the land of the Hebrews, and here also I have done nothing that they should
have put me into the dungeon."*

16 When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was favorable, he
said to Joseph, "I also had a dream: there were three cake baskets on my
head, [17]and in the uppermost basket there were all sorts of baked food for

Pharaoh, but the birds were eating it out of the basket on my head." [18]And Joseph answered, "This is its interpretation: the three baskets are three days;* [19]within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head—from you!—and hang you on a pole, and the birds will eat the flesh from you."*

20 On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he made a feast for all his servants and lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants.* [21]He restored the chief cupbearer to his cupbearing, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand,* [22]but the chief baker he hanged, just as Joseph had interpreted to them.* [23]Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph but forgot him.

Genesis 41

JOSEPH INTERPRETS PHARAOH'S DREAM

1 After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile,
[2]and there came up out of the Nile seven sleek and fat cows, and they
grazed in the reed grass. [3]Then seven other cows, ugly and thin, came up
out of the Nile after them and stood by the other cows on the bank of the
Nile. [4]The ugly and thin cows ate up the seven sleek and fat cows. And
Pharaoh awoke. [5]Then he fell asleep and dreamed a second time; seven ears
of grain, plump and good, were growing on one stalk. [6]Then seven ears,
thin and blighted by the east wind, sprouted after them. [7]The thin ears
swallowed up the seven plump and full ears. Pharaoh awoke, and it was a
dream. [8]In the morning his spirit was troubled, so he sent and called for all
the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. Pharaoh told them his dreams,
but there was no one who could interpret them to Pharaoh.*

9 Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, "I remember my faults today.
[10]Once Pharaoh was angry with his servants and put me and the chief baker
in custody in the house of the captain of the guard.* [11]We dreamed on the
same night, he and I, each having a dream with its own meaning.* [12]A
young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard.
When we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us, giving an interpretation
to each according to his dream.* [13]As he interpreted to us, so it turned out; I
was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged."*

14 Then Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was hurriedly brought out of the
dungeon. When he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in
before Pharaoh.* [15]And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and there is
no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a
dream you can interpret it."* [16]Joseph answered Pharaoh, "It is not I; God
will give Pharaoh a favorable answer."* [17]Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "In
my dream I was standing on the banks of the Nile, [18]and seven cows, fat
and sleek, came up out of the Nile and fed in the reed grass. [19]Then seven
other cows came up after them, poor, very ugly, and thin. Never had I seen
such ugly ones in all the land of Egypt. [20]The thin and ugly cows ate up the

first seven fat cows, [21]but when they had eaten them no one would have known that they had done so, for they were still as ugly as before. Then I awoke. [22]I fell asleep a second time,[b] and I saw in my dream seven ears of grain, full and good, growing on one stalk, [23]and seven ears, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprouting after them, [24]and the thin ears swallowed up the seven good ears. But when I told it to the magicians, there was no one who could explain it to me."*

25 Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "Pharaoh's dreams are one and the same; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. [26]The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years; the dreams are one. [27]The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, as are the seven empty ears blighted by the east wind. They are seven years of famine.* [28]It is as I told Pharaoh; God has shown to Pharaoh what he is about to do.* [29]There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt.* [30]After them there will arise seven years of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; the famine will consume the land.* [31]The plenty will no longer be known in the land because of the famine that will follow, for it will be very grievous. [32]And the doubling of Pharaoh's dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about.* [33]Now therefore let Pharaoh select a man who is discerning and wise and set him over the land of Egypt. [34]Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plenteous years. [35]Let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and lay up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it.* [36]That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to befall the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine."

JOSEPH'S RISE TO POWER

37 The proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. [38]Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find anyone else like this, one in whom is the spirit of God?"* [39]So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. [40]You shall be over my

house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command; only with regard to the throne will I be greater than you."* 41And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt."* 42Removing his signet ring from his hand, Pharaoh put it on Joseph's hand; he arrayed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.* 43He had him ride in the chariot of his second-in-command, and they cried out in front of him, "Bow the knee!"[c] Thus he set him over all the land of Egypt.* 44Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no one shall lift up hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."* 45Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-paneah, and he gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, as his wife. Thus Joseph gained authority over the land of Egypt.

46 Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh and went through all the land of Egypt.* 47During the seven plenteous years the earth produced abundantly. 48He gathered up all the food of the seven years when there was plenty[d] in the land of Egypt and stored up food in the cities; he stored up in every city the food from the fields around it. 49So Joseph stored up grain in such abundance—like the sand of the sea—that he stopped measuring it; it was beyond measure.

50 Before the years of famine came, Joseph had two sons, whom Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, bore to him.* 51Joseph named the firstborn Manasseh,[e] "For," he said, "God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house." 52The second he named Ephraim,[f] "For God has made me fruitful in the land of my misfortunes."*

53 The seven years of plenty that prevailed in the land of Egypt came to an end, 54and the seven years of famine began to come, just as Joseph had said. There was famine in every country, but throughout the land of Egypt there was bread.* 55When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do." 56And since the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses[g] and sold to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt.* 57Moreover, all the world came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine became severe throughout the world.

Genesis 42

JOSEPH'S BROTHERS GO TO EGYPT

1 When Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons,
"Why do you keep looking at one another?* [2]I have heard," he said, "that
there is grain in Egypt; go down and buy grain for us there, that we may
live and not die."* [3]So ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain in
Egypt. [4]But Jacob did not send Joseph's brother Benjamin with his brothers,
for he feared that harm might come to him.* [5]Thus the sons of Israel were
among the people who came to buy grain, for the famine had reached the
land of Canaan.*

6 Now Joseph was governor over the land; it was he who sold to all the
people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed themselves
before him with their faces to the ground.* [7]When Joseph saw his brothers,
he recognized them, but he treated them like strangers and spoke harshly to
them. "Where do you come from?" he said. They said, "From the land of
Canaan to buy food."* [8]Although Joseph had recognized his brothers, they
did not recognize him. [9]Joseph also remembered the dreams that he had
dreamed about them. He said to them, "You are spies; you have come to see
the nakedness of the land!"* [10]They said to him, "No, my lord; your
servants have come to buy food. [11]We are all sons of one man; we are
honest men; your servants have never been spies." [12]But he said to them,
"No, you have come to see the nakedness of the land!" [13]They said, "We,
your servants, are twelve brothers, the sons of a certain man in the land of
Canaan; the youngest, however, is now with our father, and one is no
more."* [14]But Joseph said to them, "It is just as I have said to you; you are
spies! [15]Here is how you shall be tested: as Pharaoh lives, you shall not
leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here! [16]Let one of you
go and bring your brother, while the rest of you remain in prison, in order
that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you, or else, as
Pharaoh lives, surely you are spies." [17]And he put them all together in
prison for three days.

18 On the third day Joseph said to them, "Do this and you will live, for I
fear God:* [19]if you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here where
you are imprisoned. The rest of you shall go and carry grain for the famine
of your households [20]and bring your youngest brother to me. Thus your
words will be verified, and you shall not die." And they agreed to do so.*
[21]They said to one another, "Alas, we are paying the penalty for what we
did to our brother; we saw his anguish when he pleaded with us, but we
would not listen. That is why this anguish has come upon us."* [22]Then
Reuben answered them, "Did I not tell you not to wrong the boy? But you
would not listen. So now there comes a reckoning for his blood."* [23]They
did not know that Joseph understood them, since he spoke with them
through an interpreter. [24]He turned away from them and wept; then he
returned and spoke to them. And he picked out Simeon and had him bound
before their eyes.* [25]Joseph then gave orders to fill their bags with grain, to
return every man's money to his sack, and to give them provisions for their
journey. This was done for them.*

JOSEPH'S BROTHERS RETURN TO CANAAN

26 They loaded their donkeys with their grain and departed.* [27]When one
of them opened his sack to give his donkey fodder at the lodging place, he
saw his money at the top of the sack. [28]He said to his brothers, "My money
has been put back; here it is in my sack!" At this they lost heart and turned
trembling to one another, saying, "What is this that God has done to us?"

29 When they came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan, they told
him all that had happened to them, saying, [30]"The man, the lord of the land,
spoke harshly to us and charged us with spying on the land.* [31]But we said
to him, 'We are honest men; we are not spies.* [32]We are twelve brothers,
sons of our father; one is no more, and the youngest is now with our father
in the land of Canaan.' [33]Then the man, the lord of the land, said to us, 'By
this I shall know that you are honest men: leave one of your brothers with
me, take grain for the famine of your households, and go your way.*
[34]Bring your youngest brother to me, and I shall know that you are not spies
but honest men. Then I will release your brother to you, and you may trade
in the land.' "

35 As they were emptying their sacks, there in each one's sack was his bag of money. When they and their father saw their bundles of money, they were dismayed.* 36And their father Jacob said to them, "I am the one you have bereaved of children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more, and now you would take Benjamin. All this has happened to me!"* 37Then Reuben said to his father, "You may kill my two sons if I do not bring him back to you. Put him in my hands, and I will bring him back to you." 38But he said, "My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he alone is left. If harm should come to him on the journey that you are to make, you would bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to Sheol."*

Genesis 43

THE BROTHERS COME AGAIN, BRINGING BENJAMIN

1 Now the famine was severe in the land.* [2]And when they had eaten up the
grain that they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, "Go
again; buy us a little more food." [3]But Judah said to him, "The man
solemnly warned us, saying, 'You shall not see my face unless your brother
is with you.'* [4]If you will send our brother with us, we will go down and
buy you food, [5]but if you will not send him, we will not go down, for the
man said to us, 'You shall not see my face, unless your brother is with
you.' " [6]Israel said, "Why did you treat me so badly as to tell the man that
you had another brother?" [7]They replied, "The man questioned us carefully
about ourselves and our kindred, saying, 'Is your father still alive? Have
you another brother?' What we told him was in answer to these questions.
Could we in any way know that he would say, 'Bring your brother
down'?"* [8]Then Judah said to his father Israel, "Send the boy with me, and
let us be on our way, so that we may live and not die—you and we and also
our little ones. [9]I myself will be surety for him; you can hold me
accountable for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before
you, then let me bear the blame forever.* [10]If we had not delayed, we would
now have returned twice."

11 Then their father Israel said to them, "If it must be so, then do this:
take some of the choice fruits of the land in your bags, and carry them down
as a present to the man: a little balm and a little honey, gum, resin, pistachio
nuts, and almonds.* [12]Take double the money with you. Carry back with
you the money that was returned in the top of your sacks; perhaps it was an
oversight.* [13]Take your brother also, and be on your way again to the man;
[14]may God Almighty[h] grant you mercy before the man, so that he may send
back your other brother and Benjamin. As for me, if I am bereaved of my
children, I am bereaved."* [15]So the men took the present, and they took
double the money with them, as well as Benjamin. Then they went on their
way down to Egypt and stood before Joseph.

16 When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the steward of his
house, "Bring the men into the house, and slaughter an animal and make
ready, for the men are to dine with me at noon."* [17]The man did as Joseph
said and brought the men to Joseph's house. [18]Now the men were afraid
because they were brought to Joseph's house, and they said, "It is because
of the money, replaced in our sacks the first time, that we have been brought
in, so that he may have an opportunity to fall upon us, to make slaves of us
and take our donkeys." [19]So they went up to the steward of Joseph's house
and spoke with him at the entrance to the house. [20]They said, "Oh, my lord,
we came down the first time to buy food,* [21]and when we came to the
lodging place we opened our sacks, and there was each one's money in the
top of his sack, our money in full weight. So we have brought it back with
us.* [22]Moreover, we have brought down with us additional money to buy
food. We do not know who put our money in our sacks." [23]He replied,
"Rest assured; do not be afraid; your God and the God of your father must
have put treasure in your sacks for you; I received your money." Then he
brought Simeon out to them.* [24]When the steward[i] had brought the men
into Joseph's house and given them water, and they had washed their feet,
and when he had given their donkeys fodder,* [25]they made the present
ready for Joseph's coming at noon, for they had heard that they would dine
there.

26 When Joseph came home, they brought him the present that they had
carried into the house and bowed to the ground before him.* [27]He inquired
about their welfare and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom you
spoke? Is he still alive?"* [28]They said, "Your servant our father is well; he
is still alive." And they bowed their heads and did obeisance.* [29]Then he
looked up and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, "Is this
your youngest brother, of whom you spoke to me? God be gracious to you,
my son!"* [30]With that, Joseph hurried out, because he was overcome with
affection for his brother, and he was about to weep. So he went into a
private room and wept there.* [31]Then he washed his face and came out, and
controlling himself he said, "Serve the meal."* [32]They served him by
himself and them by themselves, and the Egyptians who ate with him by
themselves, because the Egyptians could not eat with the Hebrews, for that
is an abomination to the Egyptians.* [33]When they were seated before him,

the firstborn according to his birthright and the youngest according to his youth, the men looked at one another in amazement. [34]Portions were taken to them from Joseph's table, but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of theirs. So they drank and were merry with him.*

Genesis 44

JOSEPH DETAINS BENJAMIN

1 Then he commanded the steward of his house, "Fill the men's sacks with
food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the top of his
sack.* [2]Put my cup, the silver cup, in the top of the sack of the youngest,
with his money for the grain." And he did as Joseph told him. [3]As soon as
the morning was light, the men were sent away with their donkeys. [4]When
they had gone only a short distance from the city, Joseph said to his
steward, "Go, follow after the men, and when you overtake them, say to
them, 'Why have you returned evil for good? Why have you stolen my
silver cup?[j] [5]Is it not from this that my lord drinks? Does he not indeed use
it for divination? You have done wrong in doing this.' "*

6 When he overtook them, he repeated these words to them. [7]They said
to him, "Why does my lord speak such words as these? Far be it from your
servants that they should do such a thing! [8]Look, the money that we found
at the top of our sacks, we brought back to you from the land of Canaan;
why then would we steal silver or gold from your lord's house?* [9]Should it
be found with any one of your servants, let him die; moreover, the rest of us
will become my lord's slaves."* [10]He said, "Even so; in accordance with
your words, let it be: he with whom it is found shall become my slave, but
the rest of you shall go free." [11]Then each one quickly lowered his sack to
the ground, and each opened his sack. [12]He searched, beginning with the
eldest and ending with the youngest, and the cup was found in Benjamin's
sack. [13]At this they tore their clothes. Then each one loaded his donkey, and
they returned to the city.*

14 Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house while he was still
there, and they fell to the ground before him.* [15]Joseph said to them, "What
deed is this that you have done? Do you not know that one such as I can
practice divination?"* [16]And Judah said, "What can we say to my lord?
What can we speak? How can we clear ourselves? God has found out the
guilt of your servants; here we are then, my lord's slaves, both we and also
the one in whose possession the cup has been found."* [17]But he said, "Far

be it from me that I should do so! Only the one in whose possession the cup was found shall be my slave, but as for you, go up in peace to your father."

JUDAH PLEADS FOR BENJAMIN'S RELEASE

18 Then Judah stepped up to him and said, "O my lord, let your servant please speak a word in my lord's ears, and do not be angry with your servant, for you are like Pharaoh himself.* [19]My lord asked his servants, saying, 'Have you a father or a brother?' [20]And we said to my lord, 'We have a father, an old man, and a young brother, the child of his old age. His brother is dead; he alone is left of his mother's children, and his father loves him.'* [21]Then you said to your servants, 'Bring him down to me, so that I may set my eyes on him.' [22]We said to my lord, 'The boy cannot leave his father, for if he should leave his father, his father would die.' [23]Then you said to your servants, 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall see my face no more.'* [24]When we went back to your servant my father we told him the words of my lord. [25]And when our father said, 'Go again; buy us a little food,' [26]we said, 'We cannot go down. Only if our youngest brother goes with us will we go down, for we cannot see the man's face unless our youngest brother is with us.' [27]Then your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons; [28]one left me, and I said, Surely he has been torn to pieces, and I have never seen him since.* [29]If you take this one also from me and harm comes to him, you will bring down my gray hairs in sorrow to Sheol.'* [30]Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father and the boy is not with us, then, as his life is bound up in the boy's life, [31]when he sees that the boy is not with us, he will die, and your servants will bring down the gray hairs of your servant our father with sorrow to Sheol. [32]For your servant became surety for the boy to my father, saying, 'If I do not bring him back to you, then I will bear the blame in the sight of my father all my life.'* [33]Now therefore, please let your servant remain as a slave to my lord in place of the boy, and let the boy go back with his brothers. [34]For how can I go back to my father if the boy is not with me? I fear to see the suffering that would come upon my father."

Genesis 45

JOSEPH REVEALS HIMSELF TO HIS BROTHERS

1 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood
by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed
with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.* [2]And he wept
so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard
it.* [3]Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But
his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.*

4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came
closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.*
[5]And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold
me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.* [6]For the famine has
been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which
there will be neither plowing nor harvest. [7]God sent me before you to
preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many
survivors. [8]So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a
father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of
Egypt.* [9]Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son
Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not
delay. [10]You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me,
you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks,
your herds, and all that you have.* [11]I will provide for you there, since there
are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and
all that you have will not come to poverty.' [12]And now your eyes and the
eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to
you. [13]You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all
that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here."* [14]Then he fell
upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his
neck. [15]And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that
his brothers talked with him.

16 When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house, "Joseph's brothers
have come," Pharaoh and his servants were pleased. [17]Pharaoh said to

Joseph, “Say to your brothers, ‘Do this: load your animals and go back to the land of Canaan. 18Take your father and your households and come to me, so that I may give you the best of the land of Egypt, and you may enjoy the fat of the land.’* 19You are further charged to say, ‘Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and for your wives, and bring your father, and come. 20Give no thought to your possessions, for the best of all the land of Egypt is yours.’ ”

21 The sons of Israel did so. Joseph gave them wagons according to the instruction of Pharaoh, and he gave them provisions for the journey. 22To each one of them he gave a set of garments, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five sets of garments.* 23To his father he sent the following: ten donkeys loaded with the good things of Egypt and ten female donkeys loaded with grain, bread, and provision for his father on the journey. 24Then he sent his brothers on their way, and as they were leaving he said to them, “Do not quarrel[k] along the way.”

25 So they went up out of Egypt and came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan. 26And they told him, “Joseph is still alive! He is even ruler over all the land of Egypt.” He was stunned; he could not believe them. 27But when they told him all the words of Joseph that he had said to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. 28Israel said, “Enough! My son Joseph is still alive. I must go and see him before I die.”

Genesis 46

JACOB BRINGS HIS WHOLE FAMILY TO EGYPT

1 When Israel set out on his journey with all that he had and came to Beer-
sheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.* 2God spoke to
Israel in visions of the night and said, "Jacob, Jacob." And he said, "Here I
am."* 3Then he said, "I am God,[l] the God of your father; do not be afraid to
go down to Egypt, for I will make of you a great nation there.* 4I myself
will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again, and
Joseph's own hand shall close your eyes."*

5 Then Jacob set out from Beer-sheba, and the sons of Israel carried their
father Jacob, their little ones, and their wives in the wagons that Pharaoh
had sent to carry him.* 6They also took their livestock and the goods that
they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and they came into Egypt, Jacob
and all his offspring with him,* 7his sons, and his sons' sons with him, his
daughters, and his sons' daughters; all his offspring he brought with him
into Egypt.

8 Now these are the names of the Israelites, Jacob and his offspring, who
came to Egypt. Reuben, Jacob's firstborn,* 9and the children of Reuben:
Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. 10The children of Simeon: Jemuel,
Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanite woman.*
11The children of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.* 12The children of
Judah: Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez, and Zerah (but Er and Onan died in the land
of Canaan), and the children of Perez were Hezron and Hamul.* 13The
children of Issachar: Tola, Puvah, Jashub,[m] and Shimron. 14The children of
Zebulun: Sered, Elon, and Jahleel. 15These are the sons of Leah whom she
bore to Jacob in Paddan-aram, together with his daughter Dinah; in all, his
sons and his daughters numbered thirty-three. 16The children of Gad:
Ziphion, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi, and Areli. 17The children of
Asher: Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beriah, and their sister Serah. The children of
Beriah: Heber and Malchiel.* 18These are the children of Zilpah, whom
Laban gave to his daughter Leah, and these she bore to Jacob—sixteen
persons.* 19The children of Jacob's wife Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin.*

[20]To Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom
Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, bore to him.* [21]The children of
Benjamin: Bela, Becher, Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim,
Huppim, and Ard.* [22]These are the children of Rachel who were born to
Jacob—fourteen persons in all. [23]The children of Dan: Hashum.[n],* [24]The
children of Naphtali: Jahzeel, Guni, Jezer, and Shillem.* [25]These are the
children of Bilhah, whom Laban gave to his daughter Rachel, and these she
bore to Jacob—seven persons in all.* [26]All the persons belonging to Jacob
who came into Egypt who were his own offspring, not including the wives
of his sons, were sixty-six persons in all.* [27]The children of Joseph who
were born to him in Egypt were two; all the persons of the house of Jacob
who came into Egypt were seventy.*

JACOB SETTLES IN GOSHEN

28 Israel[o] sent Judah ahead to Joseph to lead the way before him into
Goshen. When they came to the land of Goshen,* [29]Joseph made ready his
chariot and went up to meet his father Israel in Goshen. He presented
himself to him, fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.*
[30]Israel said to Joseph, "I can die now, having seen for myself that you are
still alive." [31]Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I
will go up and tell Pharaoh and will say to him, 'My brothers and my
father's household, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me.*
[32]The men are shepherds, for they have been keepers of livestock, and they
have brought their flocks and their herds and all that they have.' [33]When
Pharaoh calls you and says, 'What is your occupation?'* [34]you shall say,
'Your servants have been keepers of livestock from our youth even until
now, both we and our ancestors,' in order that you may settle in the land of
Goshen, because all shepherds are abhorrent to the Egyptians."*

Genesis 47

1 So Joseph went and told Pharaoh, "My father and my brothers, with their
flocks and herds and all that they possess, have come from the land of
Canaan; they are now in the land of Goshen."* [2]From among his brothers he
took five men and presented them to Pharaoh. [3]Pharaoh said to his brothers,
"What is your occupation?" And they said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are
shepherds, as our ancestors were."* [4]They said to Pharaoh, "We have come
to reside as aliens in the land, for there is no pasture for your servants'
flocks because the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. Now, we ask you,
let your servants settle in the land of Goshen."* [5]Then Pharaoh said to
Joseph, "Your father and your brothers have come to you. [6]The land of
Egypt is before you; settle your father and your brothers in the best part of
the land; let them live in the land of Goshen; and if you know that there are
capable men among them, put them in charge of my livestock."*

7 Then Joseph brought in his father Jacob and presented him before
Pharaoh, and Jacob blessed Pharaoh. [8]Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How many
are the years of your life?"* [9]Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my
earthly sojourn are one hundred thirty; few and hard have been the years of
my life. They do not compare with the years of the life of my ancestors
during their long sojourn." [10]Then Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out
from the presence of Pharaoh.* [11]Joseph settled his father and his brothers
and granted them a holding in the land of Egypt, in the best part of the land,
in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had instructed.* [12]And Joseph provided
his father, his brothers, and all his father's household with food, according
to the number of their dependents.

THE FAMINE IN EGYPT

13 Now there was no food in all the land, for the famine was very severe.
The land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the
famine.* [14]Joseph collected all the money to be found in the land of Egypt
and in the land of Canaan in exchange for the grain that they bought, and
Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house.* [15]When the money from

the land of Egypt and from the land of Canaan was spent, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us food! Why should we die before your eyes? For our money is gone."* 16And Joseph answered, "Give me your livestock, and I will give you food in exchange for your livestock, if your money is gone." 17So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them food in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the herds, and the donkeys. That year he supplied them with food in exchange for all their livestock. 18When that year was ended, they came to him the following year and said to him, "We cannot hide from my lord that our money is all spent, and the herds of cattle are my lord's. There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our lands. 19Shall we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land in exchange for food. We with our land will become slaves to Pharaoh; just give us seed, so that we may live and not die and that the land may not become desolate."

20 So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh. All the Egyptians sold their fields, because the famine was severe upon them, and the land became Pharaoh's. 21As for the people, he made slaves of them[p] from one end of Egypt to the other. 22Only the land of the priests he did not buy, for the priests had a fixed allowance from Pharaoh and lived on the allowance that Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their land.* 23Then Joseph said to the people, "Now that I have this day bought you and your land for Pharaoh, here is seed for you; sow the land. 24And at the harvests you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh, and four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and as food for yourselves and your households and as food for your little ones."* 25They said, "You have saved our lives; may it please my lord, we will be slaves to Pharaoh."* 26So Joseph made it a statute concerning the land of Egypt, and it stands to this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth. The land of the priests alone did not become Pharaoh's.*

THE LAST DAYS OF JACOB

27 Thus Israel settled in the land of Egypt, in the region of Goshen, and they gained possessions in it and were fruitful and multiplied exceedingly.* 28Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years, so the days of Jacob, the years of his life, were one hundred forty-seven years.

29 When the time of Israel's death drew near, he called his son Joseph
and said to him, "If I have found favor with you, put your hand under my
thigh and promise to deal loyally and truly with me. Do not bury me in
Egypt.* 30When I lie down with my ancestors, carry me out of Egypt and
bury me in their burial place." He answered, "I will do as you have said."*
31And he said, "Swear to me," and he swore to him. Then Israel bowed
himself on the head of his bed.*

Genesis 48

JACOB BLESSES JOSEPH'S SONS

1 After this Joseph was told, "Your father is ill." So he took with him his
two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. [2]When Jacob was told, "Your son Joseph
has come to you," he[q] summoned his strength and sat up in bed. [3]And Jacob
said to Joseph, "God Almighty[r] appeared to me at Luz in the land of
Canaan, and he blessed me[*] [4]and said to me, 'I am going to make you
fruitful and increase your numbers; I will make of you a company of
peoples and will give this land to your offspring after you for a perpetual
holding.'[*] [5]Therefore your two sons, who were born to you in the land of
Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are now mine; Ephraim and Manasseh
shall be mine, just as Reuben and Simeon are.[*] [6]As for the offspring born to
you after them, they shall be yours. They shall be recorded under the names
of their brothers with regard to their inheritance. [7]For when I came from
Paddan, Rachel, alas, died in the land of Canaan on the way, while there
was still some distance to go to Ephrath, and I buried her there on the way
to Ephrath, that is, Bethlehem."[*]

8 When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "Who are these?" [9]Joseph said
to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." And he
said, "Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them."[*] [10]Now the eyes of
Israel were dim with age, and he could not see well. So Joseph brought
them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them.[*] [11]Israel said to
Joseph, "I did not expect to see your face, and here God has let me see your
children also."[*] [12]Then Joseph removed them from his father's knees,[s] and
he bowed himself with his face to the earth. [13]Joseph took them both,
Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left and Manasseh in his left hand
toward Israel's right, and brought them near him. [14]But Israel stretched out
his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and
his left hand on the head of Manasseh, crossing his hands, for Manasseh
was the firstborn.[*] [15]He blessed Joseph and said,

"The God before whom my ancestors Abraham and Isaac walked,
the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day,[*]

[16]the angel who has redeemed me from all harm, bless the boys,
and in them let my name be perpetuated and the name of my
ancestors Abraham and Isaac,
and let them grow into a multitude on the earth."*

17 When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, so he took his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.* [18]Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father! Since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head." [19]But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know; he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations."* [20]So he blessed them that day, saying,

"By you Israel will invoke blessings, saying,
'God make you like Ephraim and like Manasseh.' "

So he put Ephraim ahead of Manasseh. [21]Then Israel said to Joseph, "I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your ancestors.* [22]I now give to you one portion[t] more than to your brothers, the portion[u] that I took from the hand of the Amorites with my sword and with my bow."*

Genesis 49

JACOB'S LAST WORDS TO HIS SONS

1 Then Jacob called his sons and said, "Gather around, that I may tell you
what will happen to you in days to come.*

[2]Assemble and hear, O sons of Jacob;
listen to Israel your father.

[3]Reuben, you are my firstborn,
my might and the first fruits of my vigor,
excelling in rank and excelling in power.*
[4]Unstable as water, you shall no longer excel
because you went up onto your father's bed;
then you defiled it—you[v] went up onto my couch!*

[5]Simeon and Levi are brothers;
weapons of violence are their swords.*
[6]May I never come into their council;
may I not be joined to their company,
for in their anger they killed men,
and at their whim they hamstrung oxen.*
[7]Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce,
and their wrath, for it is cruel!
I will divide them in Jacob
and scatter them in Israel.*

[8]Judah, your brothers shall praise you;
your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies;
your father's sons shall bow down before you.*
[9]Judah is a lion's whelp;

from the prey, my son, you have gone up.
He crouches down, he stretches out like a lion,
like a lioness—who dares rouse him up?*
10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until tribute comes to him,[w]
and the obedience of the peoples is his.*
11 Binding his foal to the vine
and his donkey's colt to the choice vine,
he washes his garments in wine
and his robe in the blood of grapes;
12 his eyes are darker than wine
and his teeth whiter than milk.

13 Zebulun shall settle at the shore of the sea;
he shall be a haven for ships,
and his border shall be at Sidon.*

14 Issachar is a strong donkey,
lying down between the sheepfolds;
15 he saw that a resting place was good
and that the land was pleasant,
so he bowed his shoulder to the burden
and became a slave at forced labor.

16 Dan shall judge his people
as one of the tribes of Israel.*
17 Dan shall be a snake by the roadside,
a viper along the path,
that bites the horse's heels
so that its rider falls backward.*

[18]I wait for your salvation, O LORD.*

[19]Gad shall be raided by raiders,
but he shall raid at their heels.*

[20]Asher's[x] food shall be rich,
and he shall provide royal delicacies.*

[21]Naphtali is a doe let loose
that bears lovely fawns.[y,*]

[22]Joseph is a fruitful bough,[z]
a fruitful bough by a spring;
his branches run over the wall.[a,*]
[23]The archers fiercely attacked him;
they shot at him and pressed him hard.*
[24]Yet his bow remained taut,
and his arms[b] were made agile
by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob,
by the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,*
[25]by the God of your father, who will help you,
by the Almighty[c] who will bless you
with blessings of heaven above,
blessings of the deep that lies beneath,
blessings of the breasts and of the womb.*
[26]The blessings of your father
are stronger than the blessings of the eternal mountains,
the bounties[d] of the everlasting hills;
may they be on the head of Joseph,
on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers.*

[27]Benjamin is a ravenous wolf,
in the morning devouring the prey
and at evening dividing the spoil."

28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, blessing each one of them with a suitable blessing.*

JACOB'S DEATH AND BURIAL

29 Then he charged them, saying to them, "I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my ancestors in the cave in the field of Ephron the Hittite,* [30]in the cave in the field at Machpelah, near Mamre, in the land of Canaan, in the field that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite as a burial site.* [31]There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried; there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried; and there I buried Leah.* [32]The field and the cave that is in it were purchased from the Hittites." [33]When Jacob ended his charge to his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.*

Genesis 50

1 Then Joseph threw himself on his father's face and wept over him and
kissed him.* [2]Joseph commanded the physicians in his service to embalm
his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel;* [3]they spent forty days doing
this, for that is the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians wept
for him seventy days.*

4 When the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph addressed the
household of Pharaoh, "If now I have found favor with you, please speak to
Pharaoh as follows: [5]My father made me swear an oath; he said, 'I am
about to die. In the tomb that I hewed out for myself in the land of Canaan,
there you shall bury me.' Now therefore let me go up, so that I may bury
my father; then I will return."* [6]Pharaoh answered, "Go up and bury your
father, as he made you swear to do."

7 So Joseph went up to bury his father. With him went up all the servants
of Pharaoh, the elders of his household, and all the elders of the land of
Egypt, [8]as well as all the household of Joseph, his brothers, and his father's
household. Only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the
land of Goshen.* [9]Both chariots and charioteers went up with him. It was a
very great company. [10]When they came to the threshing floor of Atad,
which is beyond the Jordan, they held there a very great and sorrowful
lamentation, and he observed a time of mourning for his father seven days.*
[11]When the Canaanite inhabitants of the land saw the mourning on the
threshing floor of Atad, they said, "This is a grievous mourning on the part
of the Egyptians." Therefore the place was named Abel-mizraim;[e] it is
beyond the Jordan. [12]Thus his sons did for him as he had instructed them.
[13]They carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave of the
field at Machpelah, the field near Mamre, which Abraham bought as a
burial site from Ephron the Hittite.* [14]After he had buried his father, Joseph
returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had gone up with him to
bury his father.

JOSEPH FORGIVES HIS BROTHERS

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?"* [16]So they approached[f] Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, [17]'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. [18]Then his brothers also wept,[g] fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves."* [19]But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?* [20]Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.* [21]So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.*

JOSEPH'S LAST DAYS AND DEATH

22 So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father's household, and Joseph lived one hundred ten years. [23]Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation; the children of Machir son of Manasseh were also born on Joseph's knees.

24 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will surely come to you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."* [25]So Joseph made the Israelites swear, saying, "When God comes to you, you shall carry up my bones from here." [26]And Joseph died, being one hundred ten years old; he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.

Genesis 1

a **1.1** Or *In the beginning God created*
* **1.1** Ps 8.3; Isa 42.5; 44.24; 45.18; Jn 1.1, 2
b **1.2** Or *while the spirit of God* or *while a mighty wind*
* **1.2** Ps 104.30; Jer 4.23
* **1.3** Ps 33.6, 9; 2 Cor 4.6
* **1.4** Isa 45.7
* **1.5** Ps 74.16
* **1.6** Jer 10.12
* **1.7** Ps 148.4; Prov 8.28
* **1.9** Job 26.10; Prov 8.29; Jer 5.22; 2 Pet 3.5
* **1.10** Ps 33.7
* **1.11** Lk 6.44
* **1.14** Ps 74.16; 104.19
* **1.16** Job 38.7; Ps 136.8, 9
* **1.18** Jer 31.35
* **1.21** Ps 104.25, 26
* **1.22** Gen 8.17
* **1.25** Jer 27.5
c **1.26** Heb *adam*
d **1.26** Syr: Heb *and over all the earth*
* **1.26** Ps 100.3; Acts 17.26; Col 3.10
e **1.27** Heb *adam*
f **1.27** Heb *him*
* **1.27** Gen 5.2; Mt 19.4; 1 Cor 11.8
* **1.28** Gen 9.1, 7; Lev 26.9
* **1.29** Ps 104.14, 15; 136.25
* **1.30** Job 38.41; Ps 145.15
* **1.31** Ps 104.24

Genesis 2

* **2.1** Ps 33.6
g **2.2** Sam Gk Syr: MT *seventh*
* **2.2** Ex 20.11; Heb 4.4
* **2.3** Isa 58.13
h **2.4** Heb *YHWH*, as in other places where "LORD" is spelled with capital letters (see also Ex 3.14–15 with notes)
* **2.5** Gen 1.12; Job 38.26–28
i **2.7** In Heb the word for *ground* resembles the word for *man*

* **2.7** Gen 3.19; Job 33.4; Ps 103.14; Acts 17.25; 1 Cor 15.45
* **2.8** Gen 3.24; 4.16; Isa 51.3
* **2.9** Gen 3.22; Ezek 31.8; Rev 2.7; 22.2, 14
* **2.12** Num 11.7
* **2.14** Dan 10.4
* **2.17** Deut 30.15, 19, 20; Rom 6.23; Jas 1.15
* **2.18** 1 Cor 11.9
* **2.19** Gen 1.20, 24; Ps 8.6
j **2.20** Or *for Adam*
* **2.21** 1 Sam 26.12
* **2.23** 1 Cor 11.8; Eph 5.30
* **2.24** Mt 19.5; Mk 10.7, 8; 1 Cor 6.16; Eph 5.31
* **2.25** Gen 3.7, 10, 11

Genesis 3

* **3.1** 2 Cor 11.3; Rev 12.9; 20.2
* **3.3** 2 Cor 11.3
* **3.4** Jn 8.44
k **3.5** Or *gods*
* **3.6** 1 Tim 2.14
* **3.8** Job 31.33; Jer 23.24
* **3.10** 1 Jn 3.20
* **3.12** Prov 28.13
* **3.13** 2 Cor 11.3; 1 Tim 2.14
* **3.14** Isa 65.25; Mic 7.17
* **3.15** Isa 7.14; Mt 1.23; Jn 8.44; Acts 13.10; Rom 16.20; 1 Jn 3.8; Rev 12.7
* **3.16** Gen 4.7; Isa 13.8; 1 Cor 11.3; Eph 5.22
l **3.17** Or *to Adam*
* **3.17** Gen 2.17; 1 Sam 15.23; Rom 8.20–22
* **3.18** Ps 104.14
* **3.19** Gen 2.7; Ps 90.3; 104.29; Eccl 12.7
m **3.20** In Heb *Eve* resembles the word for *living*
n **3.21** Or *for Adam*
* **3.22** Rev 22.2
* **3.23** Gen 4.2
* **3.24** Gen 2.8, 9

Genesis 4

o **4.1** In Heb *Cain* resembles the word for *produced*
* **4.2** Lk 11.50, 51

* **4.3** Num 18.12
* **4.4** Lev 3.16; Num 18.17; Heb 11.4
* **4.5** Isa 3.9; Jude 11
p **4.8** Sam Gk Syr Vg: MT lacks *Let us go out to the field*
* **4.8** Mt 23.35; 1 Jn 3.12
* **4.10** Heb 12.24; Rev 6.10
* **4.12** v 14
* **4.14** Gen 9.6; Num 35.19, 21, 27; Ps 51.11
q **4.15** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *Therefore*
* **4.15** Ps 79.12; Ezek 9.4, 6
r **4.16** That is, *wandering*
* **4.17** Ps 49.11
* **4.18** Gen 5.21, 28, 30
* **4.23** v 18; Ex 20.13; Lev 19.18; Deut 32.35; Lk 3.36
* **4.24** v 15
s **4.25** In Heb *Seth* resembles the word for *appointed*
* **4.25** v 8; Gen 5.3
* **4.26** 1 Kings 18.24; Ps 116.17; Joel 2.32; Zeph 3.9; 1 Cor 1.2

Genesis 5

t **5.1** Heb *adam*
u **5.1** Heb *him*
* **5.1** Gen 1.26; Eph 4.24; Col 3.10
v **5.2** Heb *adam*
* **5.2** Gen 1.27
* **5.3** Gen 4.25
* **5.5** Gen 3.19; Heb 9.27
* **5.6** Gen 4.26
* **5.7** Lk 3.38
* **5.11** 1 Chr 1.1
* **5.12** 1 Chr 1.2
* **5.15** 1 Chr 1.2
* **5.18** Jude 14, 15
* **5.21** 1 Chr 1.3; Lk 3.37; Jude 14
* **5.24** 2 Kings 2.11; Heb 11.5
* **5.26** Lk 3.36
* **5.29** Gen 3.17–19
* **5.32** Gen 6.10; 10.21

Genesis 6

* **6.1** Gen 1.28
* **6.2** Deut 7.3–4
w **6.3** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.3** Ps 78.39; 1 Pet 3.19
* **6.5** Gen 8.21
* **6.6** 1 Sam 15.11, 29; 2 Sam 24.16; Isa 63.10; Mal 3.6; Jas 1.17
* **6.8** Gen 19.19; Ex 33.12; Lk 1.30; Acts 7.46
* **6.9** Gen 5.22; 7.1; Ezek 14.14, 20; Heb 11.7; 2 Pet 2.5
* **6.10** Gen 5.32
* **6.12** Ps 14.1–3
* **6.13** v 17; Ezek 7.2, 3
x **6.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.14** Heb 11.7; 1 Pet 3.20
y **6.16** Or *window*
* **6.17** Gen 7.4, 21–23
* **6.18** Gen 7.1, 7, 13; 1 Pet 3.20; 2 Pet 2.5
* **6.19** Gen 7.8, 9, 15, 16
* **6.20** Gen 7.9, 15
* **6.22** Gen 7.5; Heb 11.7

Genesis 7

* **7.1** Mt 24.38; Lk 17.26
* **7.2** Lev 10.10; 11; Ezek 44.23
* **7.7** v 1; Gen 6.18
* **7.11** Gen 8.2; Prov 8.28; Ezek 26.19
* **7.12** vv 4, 17
* **7.13** vv 1, 7; 6.18
z **7.14** Gk: Heb adds *every bird, every winged creature*
* **7.15** Gen 6.20
* **7.16** vv 2, 3
* **7.17** vv 4, 12
* **7.18** Ps 104.26
* **7.21** Gen 6.13, 17
* **7.22** Gen 2.7
* **7.23** 1 Pet 3.20; 2 Pet 2.5
* **7.24** Gen 8.3

Genesis 8

* **8.1** Gen 19.29; Ex 2.24; 14.21; 1 Sam 1.19; Job 12.15; Ps 29.10; Isa 44.27; Nah 1.4
* **8.2** Gen 7.11; Job 38.37

* **8.3** Gen 7.24
* **8.4** Jer 51.27
* **8.6** 2 Pet 2.5
* **8.7** 1 Kings 17.4, 6
* **8.11** Mt 10.16
* **8.13** 2 Pet 3.5, 6
* **8.16** Gen 7.13
* **8.17** Gen 1.22
* **8.20** Gen 7.2; 12.7, 8; 13.18; 22.2, 9; Ex 10.25
* **8.21** Gen 3.17; 6.17; 9.11, 15; Lev 1.9; 2 Cor 2.15
* **8.22** Isa 54.9; Jer 33.20, 25

Genesis 9

* **9.1** v 7; Gen 1.28
* **9.3** Gen 1.29; Deut 12.15
* **9.4** Lev 17.10–16; Deut 12.23; 1 Sam 14.33
* **9.5** Gen 4.10, 11; Ex 21.28
* **9.6** Gen 1.27; Ex 21.12, 14; Lev 24.17; Mt 26.52

a **9.7** Gk mss: Heb *multiply in*

* **9.7** vv 1, 19
* **9.9** Gen 6.18; Isa 54.9

b **9.10** Gk: Heb adds *every animal of the earth*

* **9.10** Ps 145.9
* **9.11** Isa 54.9
* **9.12** Gen 17.11
* **9.13** Ezek 1.28; Rev 4.3
* **9.15** Lev 26.42, 45; Deut 7.9
* **9.16** Gen 17.13, 19
* **9.18** Gen 10.6
* **9.19** Gen 5.32
* **9.23** Ex 20.12
* **9.25** Deut 27.16
* **9.26** Ps 144.15

c **9.27** In Heb *Japheth* resembles the verb for *make space*

* **9.27** Eph 2.13, 14; 3.6

Genesis 10

* **10.2** 1 Chr 1.5–7

d **10.4** Heb mss Sam Gk: MT *Dodanim*

e **10.5** Heb lacks *These are the descendants of Japheth*

* **10.5** Gen 5.32
* **10.6** 1 Chr 1.8–10
* **10.9** Mic 7.2
* **10.10** Mic 5.6
* **10.13** 1 Chr 1.8, 11
* **10.15** 1 Chr 1.13
* **10.18** 1 Chr 1.16; 18.3
* **10.19** Num 34.2–12
* **10.22** Gen 11.10; 14.1, 9; 2 Kings 15.19; 1 Chr 1.17; Isa 66.19
* **10.23** Job 1.1
* **10.24** Gen 11.12; Lk 3.35
f **10.25** That is, *division*
* **10.25** 1 Chr 1.19
* **10.26** 1 Chr 1.20–23
* **10.32** v 1

Genesis 11

g **11.2** Or *migrated eastward*
* **11.2** Ex 1.11, 14; 5.7–19
* **11.4** Deut 1.28
* **11.5** Gen 18.21
* **11.6** Gen 9.19; Acts 17.26
* **11.7** Gen 1.26; 42.23; Ex 4.11; 1 Cor 14.2, 11
* **11.8** Gen 10.25, 32; Lk 1.51
h **11.9** In Heb *Babel* is a play on the verb meaning *to confuse*
* **11.9** Gen 10.10
* **11.10** Gen 10.22; 1 Chr 1.17
* **11.30** Gen 16.1
* **11.31** Gen 15.7; Neh 9.7; Acts 7.4

Genesis 12

* **12.1** Acts 7.3; Heb 11.8
* **12.2** Gen 15.5; 17.4, 5; 18.18; 22.17; 28.14; 32.12; 35.11; 46.3
i **12.3** Or *by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves*
* **12.3** Gen 18.18; 22.18; 26.4; 27.29; Ex 23.22; Num 24.9; Acts 3.25; Gal 3.8
* **12.4** Gen 11.27, 31
* **12.5** Gen 11.31; 14.14
j **12.6** Or *terebinth*
* **12.6** Gen 10.18, 19; Deut 11.30; Heb 11.9
* **12.7** Gen 13.4, 15; 17.1, 8; Ps 105.9

* **12.8** Gen 13.4
* **12.12** Gen 20.11
* **12.13** Gen 20.5, 13
* **12.15** Gen 20.2
* **12.16** Gen 20.14
* **12.17** Gen 20.18; 1 Chr 16.21; Ps 105.14
* **12.18** Gen 20.9, 10
* **12.20** Prov 21.1

Genesis 13

* **13.1** Gen 12.9
* **13.3** Gen 12.8, 9
* **13.4** Gen 12.7, 8
* **13.7** Gen 26.20
* **13.8** Prov 15.18; 20.3
* **13.10** Gen 19.17–29; Deut 2.8; 14.8
* **13.12** Gen 19.29
* **13.13** Gen 18.20; 2 Pet 2.7, 8
* **13.14** Gen 28.14; Deut 3.27
* **13.15** Gen 12.7; 17.8; Deut 34.4; 2 Chr 20.7; Acts 7.5
* **13.16** Gen 16.10; 28.14
* **13.17** Num 13.17–24

k **13.18** Or *terebinths*

* **13.18** Gen 14.13; 35.27

Genesis 14

* **14.1** Isa 11.11; Dan 8.2
* **14.2** Gen 10.19; 13.10; Deut 29.23

l **14.3** Heb *Salt Sea*

* **14.3** Num 34.12; Deut 3.17; Josh 3.16
* **14.5** Gen 15.20; Deut 2.20
* **14.6** Deut 2.12, 22
* **14.7** 2 Chr 20.2
* **14.11** vv 16, 21
* **14.12** Gen 12.5; 13.12

m **14.13** Or *terebinths*

* **14.13** v 24; Gen 13.18
* **14.14** Gen 13.8; 15.3
* **14.16** vv 11, 12
* **14.17** 1 Sam 18.6, 18

n **14.18** Heb *El Elyon*
* **14.18** Ps 110.4; Heb 5.6, 10; 7.1
o **14.19** Heb *El Elyon*
* **14.19** v 22; Mt 11.25
p **14.20** Heb *El Elyon*
* **14.20** Gen 24.27; Heb 7.4
q **14.22** Gk Syr: MT *the* LORD *God*
r **14.22** Heb *El Elyon*
* **14.22** v 19; Dan 12.7
* **14.23** 2 Kings 5.16

Genesis 15

* **15.1** Gen 21.17; 26.24; Deut 33.29; Prov 11.8; Dan 10.1
s **15.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **15.2** Acts 7.5
* **15.3** Gen 14.14
* **15.4** Gal 4.28
* **15.5** Gen 22.17; Ps 147.4; Jer 33.22; Rom 4.18; Heb 11.12
t **15.6** Heb *he*
* **15.7** Gen 11.31; 13.15, 17
* **15.8** Lk 1.18
* **15.10** Lev 1.17; Jer 34.18
* **15.12** Gen 2.21
u **15.13** Heb *he*
* **15.13** Ex 12.40; Acts 7.6
* **15.14** Ex 12.36
* **15.15** Gen 25.8
* **15.16** 1 Kings 21.26
* **15.17** Jer 34.18, 19
* **15.18** Gen 12.7; 24.7; Ex 23.31; Num 34.3; Deut 11.24; Josh 1.4

Genesis 16

* **16.1** Gen 11.30; 21.9; Gal 4.24
* **16.2** Gen 30.3, 4, 9, 10
* **16.3** Gen 12.5
* **16.5** Gen 31.53
* **16.7** Gen 20.1; 21.17, 18; 22.11, 15; 31.11
* **16.10** Gen 17.20
v **16.11** That is, *God hears*
* **16.11** Ex 3.7, 9

* **16.12** Gen 25.18
w **16.13** Perhaps *God of seeing* or *God who sees*
x **16.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16.13** Gen 32.30
y **16.14** That is, *well of the living one who sees me*
* **16.15** Gal 4.22
z **16.16** Heb *Abram*

Genesis 17

a **17.1** Traditional rendering of Heb *El Shaddai*
* **17.1** Gen 28.3; Ex 6.3; Deut 18.13
* **17.2** Gen 15.18
* **17.4** Gen 35.11; 48.19
b **17.5** That is, *exalted ancestor*
c **17.5** That is, *ancestor of a multitude*
* **17.5** Neh 9.7; Rom 4.17
* **17.6** Gen 35.11; Mt 1.6
* **17.7** Gen 26.24; 28.13; Rom 9.8; Gal 3.17
* **17.8** Gen 12.7; 23.4; 28.4; Ex 6.7; Lev 26.12; Ps 105.9, 11
* **17.10** Acts 7.8
* **17.11** Ex 12.48; Deut 10.16; Rom 4.11
* **17.12** Lev 12.3; Lk 2.21
* **17.14** Ex 4.24
* **17.16** Gen 18.10; 35.11; Gal 4.31
* **17.17** Gen 18.12; 21.6
d **17.19** That is, *he laughs*
* **17.19** Gen 18.10; 21.2; 26.2–5
* **17.20** Gen 16.10; 25.12, 16
* **17.23** Gen 14.14
* **17.24** Rom 4.11

Genesis 18

e **18.1** Heb *him*
f **18.1** Or *terebinths*
* **18.1** Gen 13.18; 14.13
* **18.2** vv 16, 22; Gen 32.24; Josh 5.13; Judg 13.6–11
* **18.4** Gen 19.2; 43.24
* **18.5** Judg 6.18, 19; 13.15, 16
g **18.6** Heb *seahs*
* **18.8** Gen 19.3

* **18.10** Rom 9.9
* **18.11** Gen 17.17; Rom 4.19
* **18.12** 1 Pet 3.6
* **18.14** Jer 32.17, 27; Zech 8.6; Mt 3.9; Lk 1.37
h **18.18** Or *and all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by him*
* **18.18** Gal 3.8
i **18.19** Heb *known*
* **18.19** Deut 4.9, 10; 6.7; Josh 24.15; Eph 6.4
* **18.20** Gen 19.13; Ezek 16.49, 50
* **18.21** Gen 11.5
j **18.22** Or *while the* LORD *remained standing before Abraham*
* **18.22** Gen 19.1
* **18.23** Num 16.22; Heb 10.22
* **18.24** Jer 5.1
* **18.25** Job 8.20; Isa 3.10, 11; Rom 3.6
* **18.27** Gen 3.19; Job 4.19; 30.19; 42.6; 2 Cor 5.1
* **18.32** Judg 6.39; Jas 5.16

Genesis 19

* **19.1** Gen 18.1ff, 22
* **19.2** Gen 18.4; Heb 13.2
* **19.3** Gen 18.8
* **19.5** Judg 19.22; Isa 3.9; Rom 1.24
* **19.6** Judg 19.23
* **19.8** Judg 19.24
* **19.9** Ex 2.14; 2 Pet 2.7, 8
* **19.11** 2 Kings 6.18; Acts 13.11
* **19.12** Gen 7.1; 2 Pet 2.7, 9
* **19.13** Gen 18.20; 1 Chr 21.15
* **19.14** Ex 9.21; Num 16.21; Lk 17.28
* **19.15** Num 16.24, 26; Rev 18.4
* **19.16** Ps 34.22; Lk 18.13
k **19.17** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *he*
* **19.17** v 26; 1 Kings 19.3; Jer 48.6
* **19.21** Job 42.8, 9; Ps 145.19
l **19.22** That is, *little*
* **19.24** Deut 29.23; Isa 13.19; Lk 17.29; Jude 7
* **19.25** Ps 107.34
* **19.26** Lk 17.32
* **19.27** Gen 18.22
* **19.28** Rev 9.2; 18.9

* **19.29** 2 Pet 2.7
* **19.31** Gen 38.8, 9; Deut 25.5
* **19.32** Mk 12.19
m **19.37** That is, *from the father*
n **19.38** That is, *son of my kinsman*
* **19.38** Deut 2.19

Genesis 20

* **20.1** Gen 16.7, 14; 18.1; 26.6
* **20.2** v 12; Gen 12.13, 15
* **20.3** Gen 26.11; Job 33.15; Ps 105.14
* **20.5** 1 Kings 9.4; 2 Kings 20.3
* **20.7** 1 Sam 7.5; Job 42.8
* **20.9** Gen 26.10; 34.7; Ex 32.21; Josh 7.25
* **20.11** Gen 12.12; 26.7; Ps 36.1
* **20.13** v 5
* **20.14** Gen 12.16
* **20.15** Gen 13.9
* **20.17** Num 12.13; Job 42.9
* **20.18** Gen 12.17

Genesis 21

* **21.1** Gen 17.16, 21; 1 Sam 2.21; Gal 4.23
* **21.2** Gen 17.21; Acts 7.8; Gal 4.22; Heb 11.11
* **21.3** Gen 17.19
* **21.4** Gen 17.12; Acts 7.8
* **21.5** Gen 17.17
* **21.6** Ps 126.2; Isa 54.1
o **21.9** Gk Vg: Heb lacks *with her son Isaac*
* **21.9** Gen 16.15; Gal 4.29
* **21.10** Gal 4.30
* **21.11** Gen 17.18
* **21.12** Rom 9.7; Heb 11.18
* **21.13** v 18; Gen 16.10; 17.20
* **21.17** Ex 3.7
* **21.18** v 13
* **21.19** Num 22.31
* **21.20** Gen 28.15; 39.2, 3, 21
* **21.21** Gen 24.4
* **21.22** Gen 20.2; 26.26, 28

* **21.25** Gen 26.15, 18, 20–22
* **21.27** Gen 26.31
* **21.30** Gen 31.48, 52
p **21.31** That is, *well of seven* or *well of the oath*
* **21.31** Gen 26.33
q **21.33** Heb *He*
r **21.33** Or *the* LORD, *El Olam*
* **21.33** Gen 4.26; Deut 33.27

Genesis 22

* **22.2** 2 Chr 3.1; Heb 11.17
* **22.6** Jn 19.17
* **22.7** Jn 1.29, 36; Rev 13.8
* **22.9** Heb 11.17–19
s **22.10** Or *to slaughter*
* **22.12** Gen 26.5; 1 Sam 15.22
t **22.14** Or *will see*; Heb traditionally transliterated *Jehovah Jireh*
u **22.14** Or *he shall be seen*
* **22.16** Heb 6.13, 14
* **22.17** Gen 15.5; 24.60; 26.4; 32.12
* **22.18** Gen 18.19; Acts 3.25; Gal 3.8, 16
* **22.23** Gen 24.15

Genesis 23

* **23.2** v 19; Gen 13.18; Josh 14.15
* **23.4** 1 Chr 29.15; Ps 105.12; Heb 11.9, 13
* **23.6** Gen 14.14; 24.35
* **23.8** Gen 25.9
* **23.10** Gen 34.20, 24; Ruth 4.4
* **23.11** 2 Sam 24.21–24
* **23.15** Ex 30.13; Ezek 45.12
* **23.16** Jer 32.9; Zech 11.12
* **23.17** Gen 25.9; 49.30–32; 50.13; Acts 7.16

Genesis 24

* **24.1** v 35; Gen 13.2
* **24.2** Gen 47.29
* **24.3** Gen 10.15, 19; 14.22; 26.34, 35; 28.1, 2, 8
* **24.4** Gen 12.1; 28.2
* **24.7** Gen 12.7; 13.15; 15.18; Ex 23.20, 23

* **24.9** v 2
* **24.10** Gen 11.31, 32; 27.43
* **24.11** 1 Sam 9.11
* **24.12** v 27; Gen 26.24; Ex 3.6
* **24.13** v 43
* **24.14** Judg 6.17, 37; 1 Sam 6.7
* **24.15** v 45; Gen 22.20, 23
* **24.16** Gen 26.7
* **24.18** vv 14, 46
* **24.19** v 14
* **24.21** vv 12–14
* **24.22** v 47
* **24.24** v 15
* **24.26** vv 48, 52
* **24.27** vv 21, 42, 48
* **24.29** Gen 29.5, 13
* **24.31** Gen 26.29
* **24.32** Gen 43.24; Judg 19.21
* **24.35** v 1; Gen 13.2
* **24.36** Gen 21.2, 10; 25.5
* **24.38** v 4
* **24.39** v 5
* **24.40** v 7
* **24.41** v 8
* **24.42** vv 11, 12
* **24.43** vv 13, 14
* **24.45** vv 15, 17; 1 Sam 1.13
* **24.46** v 18
* **24.47** vv 23, 24
* **24.48** vv 26, 27
* **24.49** Gen 47.29; Josh 2.14
* **24.50** Gen 31.24; Ps 118.23
* **24.52** v 26
* **24.53** vv 10, 22
* **24.54** vv 56, 59
* **24.59** Gen 35.8
* **24.60** Gen 17.16; 22.17

v **24.62** Syr Tg: Heb *from coming to*

* **24.62** Gen 16.14; 20.1; 25.11

w **24.63** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **24.63** Ps 1.2; 77.12; 119.15; 143.5; 145.5

* **24.67** Gen 23.1, 2; 25.20; 29.18

Genesis 25

* **25.2** 1 Chr 1.32, 33
* **25.5** Gen 24.35, 36
* **25.8** Gen 15.15; 35.29; 49.29, 33
* **25.10** Gen 23.16
* **25.11** Gen 24.62
* **25.12** Gen 16.15
* **25.13** 1 Chr 1.29–31
* **25.16** Gen 17.20
x **25.18** Heb *he fell*
y **25.18** Or *down in opposition to*
* **25.18** Gen 16.12
* **25.20** Gen 24.15, 29
* **25.21** 1 Sam 1.17; Ps 127.3
z **25.22** Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **25.23** Gen 17.16; 27.29; Num 20.14; Mal 1.3; Rom 9.12
* **25.25** Gen 27.11
a **25.26** That is, *he takes by the heel* or *he supplants*
* **25.26** Gen 27.36; Hos 12.3
* **25.27** Gen 27.3, 5
b **25.30** That is, *red*
* **25.33** Heb 12.16

Genesis 26

* **26.1** Gen 12.10; 20.1, 2
c **26.2** Heb *him*
* **26.2** Gen 12.1, 7; 17.1; 18.1
* **26.3** Gen 12.2, 7; 13.15; 15.18; 20.1; 22.16–18
* **26.4** Gen 12.3; 15.5; 22.17, 18; Ex 32.13; Gal 3.8
* **26.7** Gen 12.13; 20.2, 12, 13
* **26.10** Gen 20.9
* **26.12** v 3
* **26.14** Gen 24.35; 37.11
* **26.15** Gen 21.25, 30
* **26.18** Gen 21.31
d **26.20** That is, *contention*
e **26.21** That is, *enmity*
f **26.22** That is, *broad places* or *room*

* **26.22** Gen 17.6
* **26.24** Gen 17.7; 24.12; Ex 3.6
* **26.25** Gen 12.7, 8; 13.4, 18; Ps 116.17
* **26.26** Gen 21.22
* **26.27** v 16
* **26.28** Gen 21.22, 23
* **26.31** Gen 21.31
g **26.33** In Heb *Shibah* resembles the word for *oath*
h **26.33** That is, *well of the oath* or *well of seven*
* **26.33** Gen 21.31
* **26.34** Gen 28.8; 36.2
* **26.35** Gen 27.46

Genesis 27

* **27.2** Gen 47.29
* **27.3** Gen 25.27, 28
* **27.4** v 27; Gen 48.9, 15; 49.28
i **27.5** Gk: Heb *to bring*
* **27.8** v 13
* **27.11** Gen 25.25
* **27.12** vv 21, 22
* **27.13** v 8; Mt 27.25
* **27.15** v 27
* **27.19** v 4
* **27.21** v 12
* **27.23** v 16
* **27.25** vv 4, 10, 19, 31
* **27.27** Song 4.11; Heb 11.20
* **27.28** Gen 45.18; Deut 33.13, 28
* **27.29** Gen 9.25; 12.3; 25.23; 49.8; Num 24.9; Zeph 2.8
* **27.31** v 4
* **27.32** v 18
* **27.33** Gen 28.3, 4; Rom 11.29
* **27.34** Heb 12.17
j **27.36** That is, *he supplants* or *he takes by the heel*
* **27.36** Gen 25.26, 32–34
* **27.37** vv 28, 29
* **27.38** Heb 12.17
* **27.39** v 28
k **27.40** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **27.40** Gen 25.23; 2 Kings 8.20–22

* **27.41** Gen 32.3–11
* **27.43** vv 8, 13; Gen 24.29
* **27.46** Gen 26.34, 35

Genesis 28

* **28.1** Gen 24.3, 4
* **28.2** Gen 25.20
l **28.3** Traditional rendering of Heb *El Shaddai*
* **28.3** Gen 17.1, 6
* **28.4** Gen 12.2; 17.8
* **28.6** v 1
* **28.8** Gen 24.3; 26.35
* **28.9** Gen 36.3
m **28.12** Or *ramp*
* **28.12** Jn 1.51
n **28.13** Or *stood above it*
* **28.13** Gen 13.15; 26.24; 35.1, 12; 48.3
o **28.14** Or *shall bless themselves*
* **28.14** Gen 12.3; 13.14–16; 18.18; 22.17, 18; 26.4
* **28.15** Gen 26.3; 48.21; Num 6.24; Deut 31.6, 8; Ps 121.7, 8
* **28.16** Ex 3.5; Josh 5.15
* **28.18** Gen 35.14; Lev 8.10–12
p **28.19** That is, *house of God*
* **28.19** Judg 1.23, 26; Hos 4.15
* **28.20** v 15; Gen 31.13; 1 Tim 6.8
* **28.21** Deut 26.17; Judg 11.31; 2 Sam 15.8; 19.24, 30
* **28.22** Gen 35.7, 15; Lev 27.30

Genesis 29

* **29.1** Judg 6.3, 33
* **29.4** Gen 28.10
* **29.5** Gen 24.24, 29
* **29.6** Gen 43.27
* **29.9** Ex 2.16
* **29.10** Ex 2.17
* **29.12** Gen 13.8; 14.14, 16; 24.28
q **29.13** Heb *He*
* **29.13** Gen 24.29, 31; 33.4
* **29.14** Judg 9.2
r **29.17** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **29.18** Hos 12.12
* **29.21** Judg 15.1
* **29.22** Judg 14.10; Jn 2.1, 2
* **29.27** Judg 14.12
s **29.30** Heb *him*
* **29.30** vv 17, 18
* **29.31** Gen 30.1; Ps 127.3
t **29.32** That is, *see, a son*
* **29.32** Gen 16.11; 31.42
u **29.33** In Heb *Simeon* resembles the verb for *has heard*
v **29.34** In Heb *Levi* resembles the verb for *will be joined*
* **29.34** Gen 49.5
w **29.35** In Heb *Judah* resembles the verb for *I will praise*
* **29.35** Gen 49.8; Mt 1.2

Genesis 30

* **30.1** 1 Sam 1.5, 6
* **30.2** Gen 20.18; 29.31
* **30.3** Gen 16.2
* **30.4** Gen 16.3, 4
x **30.6** That is, *he judged*
* **30.6** Lam 3.59
y **30.8** In Heb *Naphtali* resembles the verb for *I have wrestled*
* **30.8** Mt 4.13
* **30.9** v 4
z **30.11** That is, *fortune*
a **30.13** That is, *happy*
* **30.13** Prov 31.28
* **30.14** Gen 25.30
* **30.15** Num 16.9, 13
b **30.18** In Heb *Issachar* resembles the word for *my hire*
c **30.20** In Heb *Zebulun* resembles the verb for *honor*
* **30.20** Mt 4.13
* **30.22** Gen 29.31; 1 Sam 1.19, 20
* **30.23** Isa 4.1; Lk 1.25
d **30.24** That is, *he adds*
* **30.24** Gen 35.17
* **30.25** Gen 24.54, 56
* **30.27** Gen 39.3, 5
* **30.28** Gen 29.15
* **30.29** Gen 31.38–40

* **30.30** 1 Tim 5.8
* **30.32** Gen 31.8
* **30.33** Ps 37.6
* **30.37** Gen 31.9–12
* **30.43** Gen 12.16; 13.2; 24.35; 26.13, 14

Genesis 31

* **31.3** Gen 28.15, 20, 21; 32.9
* **31.5** vv 3, 42; Gen 48.15
* **31.7** v 41; Job 19.3; Ps 37.28; 105.14
* **31.8** Gen 30.32
* **31.11** Gen 48.16
* **31.13** Gen 28.13, 18, 20
* **31.14** Gen 29.15, 27
* **31.19** Gen 30.34; Judg 17.5; 1 Sam 19.13; Hos 3.4

e **31.21** Heb *the river*

* **31.21** Gen 37.25
* **31.23** Gen 13.8
* **31.24** Gen 20.3; 24.50; Job 33.15
* **31.26** 1 Sam 30.2
* **31.27** v 55; Ruth 1.9, 14; Acts 20.37
* **31.29** vv 24, 53
* **31.30** v 19

f **31.32** Heb *them*

* **31.32** Gen 44.9
* **31.35** Ex 20.12; Lev 19.32
* **31.39** Ex 22.10–13
* **31.41** v 7; Gen 29.27, 30

g **31.42** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **31.42** v 53; Gen 29.32; 1 Chr 12.17; Ps 124.1, 2; Isa 8.13
* **31.44** Gen 21.27, 32; 26.28; Josh 24.27
* **31.45** Gen 28.18

h **31.47** In Aramaic, *heap of witness*

i **31.47** In Hebrew, *heap of witness*

* **31.48** Josh 24.27

j **31.49** Cn: MT lacks pillar

* **31.49** Judg 11.29; 1 Sam 7.5

k **31.53** Heb mss Gk: MT adds *the God of their father*

* **31.53** v 42; Gen 16.5; 21.23; 28.13

l **31.55** 32.1 in Heb

* **31.55** Gen 18.33; 30.25

Genesis 32

m **32.2** That is, *two camps*
* **32.2** Ps 103.21
* **32.3** Gen 25.30; 33.14, 16; 36.8, 9
* **32.4** Prov 15.1
* **32.5** Gen 30.43; 33.8, 15
* **32.6** Gen 33.1
* **32.7** v 11
* **32.9** Gen 28.15; 31.13, 42
* **32.10** Gen 24.27; Job 8.7
* **32.11** Gen 27.41, 42; 33.4
* **32.12** Gen 28.13–15
* **32.13** Gen 43.11; Prov 18.16
* **32.20** Prov 21.14
* **32.22** Deut 3.16; Josh 12.2
* **32.24** Hos 12.3, 4
* **32.26** Hos 12.4
n **32.28** Heb *he*
o **32.28** That is, *the one who strives with God* or *God strives*
p **32.28** Or *with divine and human beings*
* **32.28** Gen 35.10; 1 Kings 18.31
* **32.29** Judg 13.17, 18
q **32.30** That is, *the face of God*
* **32.30** Gen 16.13; Ex 24.11; Num 12.8; Judg 6.22; 13.22

Genesis 33

* **33.1** Gen 32.6
* **33.3** Gen 18.2; 42.6
* **33.4** Gen 45.14, 15
* **33.5** Gen 48.9; Ps 127.3; Isa 8.18
* **33.8** Gen 32.14–16
* **33.10** Gen 43.3; 2 Sam 3.13
* **33.11** 1 Sam 25.27
* **33.14** Gen 32.3
* **33.15** Gen 34.11; 47.25; Ruth 2.13
r **33.17** That is, *booths*
* **33.17** Judg 8.5, 14; Ps 60.6
* **33.18** Gen 25.20; 28.2; Josh 24.1; Judg 9.1
s **33.19** Heb *one hundred qesitah*
* **33.19** Josh 24.32; Jn 4.5

t **33.20** That is, *God, the God of Israel*

Genesis 34

* **34.1** Gen 30.21
* **34.4** Judg 14.2
u **34.5** Heb *he*
* **34.7** Deut 22.21; Josh 7.15; Judg 20.6; 2 Sam 13.12
* **34.10** Gen 13.9; 20.15
* **34.12** Ex 22.16; Deut 22.29; 1 Sam 18.25
* **34.14** Gen 17.14
* **34.19** 1 Chr 4.9
* **34.24** Gen 23.10
* **34.25** Gen 49.5–7
* **34.30** Gen 46.26, 27; 49.6; Ex 5.21

Genesis 35

* **35.1** Gen 27.43; 28.13, 19
* **35.2** Gen 31.19; Ex 19.10, 14
* **35.3** Gen 28.15, 20–22; 32.7, 24
* **35.4** Josh 24.26; Hos 2.13
* **35.5** Ex 15.16; Deut 2.25; 11.25
* **35.6** Gen 28.19; 48.3
v **35.7** That is, *God of Bethel*
* **35.7** Gen 28.13
w **35.8** That is, *oak of weeping*
* **35.8** Gen 24.59
* **35.9** Gen 32.29; Hos 12.4
* **35.10** Gen 32.28
x **35.11** Traditional rendering of Heb *El Shaddai*
* **35.11** Gen 17.1, 6, 16; 28.3; 36.31; 48.4
* **35.12** Gen 13.15; 26.3; 28.13
* **35.13** Gen 17.22
* **35.14** Gen 28.18
* **35.15** Gen 28.19
* **35.17** Gen 30.24
y **35.18** That is, *son of my sorrow*
z **35.18** That is, *son of the right hand* or *son of the south*
* **35.19** Gen 48.7; Ruth 1.2; Mic 5.2; Mt 2.6
* **35.20** 1 Sam 10.2
* **35.22** Gen 49.2; 1 Chr 5.1; 1 Cor 5.1

* **35.27** Gen 18.19; 23.9
* **35.29** Gen 15.15; 25.8

Genesis 36

* **36.1** Gen 25.30
a **36.2** Sam Gk Syr: Heb *daughter*
* **36.2** Gen 26.34; 28.9
* **36.6** Gen 12.5
* **36.7** Gen 13.6, 11; 17.8; 28.4
* **36.8** Gen 32.3
* **36.10** 1 Chr 1.35
* **36.12** Ex 17.8, 14
b **36.14** Gk Syr: Heb *daughter*
c **36.15** Or *chiefs*
d **36.15** Or *chiefs*
* **36.15** 1 Chr 1.36
e **36.16** Or *chiefs*
f **36.17** Or *chiefs*
g **36.17** Or *chiefs*
* **36.17** 1 Chr 1.35, 37
h **36.18** Or *chiefs*
i **36.18** Or *chiefs*
* **36.18** vv 2, 5; 1 Chr 1.41
j **36.19** Or *chiefs*
* **36.20** Gen 14.6; Deut 2.12, 22; 1 Chr 1.38
k **36.21** Or *chiefs*
l **36.24** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **36.25** v 18; 1 Chr 1.52
* **36.27** 1 Chr 1.42
m **36.29** Or *chiefs*
n **36.29** Or *chiefs*
o **36.30** Or *chiefs*
p **36.30** Or *chief by chief*
* **36.31** 1 Chr 1.43
* **36.39** 1 Chr 1.50
q **36.40** Or *chiefs*
r **36.40** Or *chiefs*
* **36.40** 1 Chr 1.51
s **36.43** Or *chiefs*

Genesis 37

* **37.1** Gen 17.8; 28.4
t **37.3** Or (compare Gk): *a coat of many colors*; meaning of Heb uncertain
* **37.3** Gen 44.20
* **37.4** Gen 27.41; 49.22, 23
* **37.7** Gen 42.6, 9; 43.26; 44.14
* **37.8** Gen 49.26
* **37.10** Gen 27.29
* **37.11** Acts 7.9
* **37.14** Gen 35.27
* **37.17** 2 Kings 6.13
* **37.18** 1 Sam 19.1; Mt 27.1; Acts 23.12
* **37.21** Gen 42.22
u **37.23** Or (compare Gk): *a coat of many colors*; meaning of Heb uncertain
* **37.25** vv 28, 36; Gen 43.11; Jer 8.22
* **37.26** v 20; Gen 4.10; Job 16.18
* **37.27** Gen 42.21
* **37.28** Gen 39.1; 45.4, 5; Judg 6.3; Acts 7.9
* **37.29** Gen 44.13
* **37.30** Gen 42.13, 36
* **37.31** vv 3, 23
v **37.32** Or (compare Gk): *a coat of many colors*; meaning of Heb uncertain
* **37.33** v 20; Gen 44.28
* **37.34** v 29; 2 Sam 3.31
* **37.35** Gen 42.38; 44.29, 31; 2 Sam 12.17
* **37.36** Gen 39.1

Genesis 38

* **38.3** Gen 46.12; Num 26.19
w **38.5** Gk: Heb *He*
* **38.7** 1 Chr 2.3
* **38.8** Deut 25.5; Mt 22.24
* **38.9** Deut 25.6
* **38.11** Ruth 1.12, 13
x **38.12** Heb *when Judah was comforted*
* **38.12** Josh 15.10, 57
* **38.14** vv 11, 26
* **38.17** v 20; Ezek 16.33
* **38.18** v 25
* **38.19** v 14

* **38.24** Lev 21.9; Deut 22.21
* **38.25** v 18
* **38.26** v 14; 1 Sam 24.17
y **38.29** That is, *a breach*
* **38.29** Gen 46.12; Num 26.20; Mt 1.3
z **38.30** That is, *brightness*, perhaps alluding to the crimson thread

Genesis 39

* **39.1** Gen 37.28, 36; Ps 105.17
* **39.2** vv 3, 21, 23
* **39.3** Gen 21.22; 26.28; Acts 7.9
* **39.4** vv 8, 22
* **39.5** Gen 30.27
* **39.7** 2 Sam 13.11; Prov 7.15–20
* **39.9** Gen 20.6; 42.18; 2 Sam 12.13
* **39.12** Prov 7.13–25
a **39.14** Heb *he*
* **39.17** Ex 23.1; Ps 120.3
* **39.19** Prov 6.34, 35
* **39.20** Ps 105.18
* **39.21** v 2; Ex 3.21; Ps 105.19; Dan 1.9
* **39.22** v 4
* **39.23** vv 2, 3, 8

Genesis 40

* **40.1** vv 11, 13
* **40.3** Gen 39.20, 23
* **40.8** Gen 41.16; Dan 2.27, 28
* **40.12** Gen 41.12, 25; Dan 2.36; 4.19
* **40.14** Josh 2.12; Lk 23.42
* **40.15** Gen 37.26–28
* **40.18** v 12
* **40.19** v 13
* **40.20** vv 13, 19
* **40.21** v 13
* **40.22** v 19

Genesis 41

* **41.8** Ex 7.11, 22; Dan 2.1, 3, 27; 4.5, 7, 19
* **41.10** Gen 40.2, 3

* **41.11** Gen 40.5
* **41.12** Gen 40.12ff
* **41.13** Gen 40.21, 22
* **41.14** Ps 105.20; 113.7, 8; Dan 2.25
* **41.15** v 12
* **41.16** Gen 40.8; Dan 2.30; Acts 3.12; 2 Cor 3.5
b **41.22** Gk Syr Vg: Heb lacks *I fell asleep a second time*
* **41.24** v 8
* **41.27** 2 Kings 8.1
* **41.28** vv 25, 32
* **41.29** v 47
* **41.30** vv 54, 56; Gen 47.13
* **41.32** Num 23.19; Isa 46.10, 11
* **41.35** v 48
* **41.38** Num 27.18; Dan 4.8, 18
* **41.40** Ps 105.21, 22; Acts 7.10
* **41.41** Gen 42.6
* **41.42** Esth 3.10; Dan 5.7, 16, 29
c **41.43** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **41.43** Esth 6.9
* **41.44** Ps 105.22
* **41.46** Gen 37.2
d **41.48** Sam Gk: MT lacks *plenty*
* **41.50** Gen 46.20
e **41.51** That is, *making to forget*
f **41.52** In Heb *Ephraim* is related to the word for *fruitful*
* **41.52** Gen 17.6; 28.3; 49.22
* **41.54** v 30; Ps 105.16; Acts 7.11
g **41.56** Gk Vg Compare Syr: Heb *opened all that was in* (or, *among*) *them*
* **41.56** Gen 42.6

Genesis 42

* **42.1** Acts 7.12
* **42.2** Gen 43.8
* **42.4** Gen 35.24
* **42.5** Gen 41.57; Acts 7.11
* **42.6** Gen 37.7; 41.41, 55
* **42.7** v 30
* **42.9** Gen 37.6–9
* **42.13** Gen 37.30; 43.7
* **42.18** Lev 25.43

* **42.20** v 34
* **42.21** Prov 21.13; Hos 5.15
* **42.22** Gen 9.5, 6; 37.22
* **42.24** Gen 43.14, 23, 30; 45.14, 15
* **42.25** Gen 44.1; Rom 12.17, 20, 21
* **42.26** Gen 37.31–35
* **42.30** v 7
* **42.31** v 11
* **42.33** vv 19, 20
* **42.35** Gen 43.12, 15
* **42.36** Gen 43.14
* **42.38** Gen 37.33, 35; 44.31

Genesis 43

* **43.1** Gen 41.56, 57
* **43.3** Gen 42.20; 44.23
* **43.7** v 27; Gen 42.13
* **43.9** Gen 42.37; 44.32; Philem 18, 19
* **43.11** Gen 32.20; 37.25; Prov 18.16; Jer 8.22
* **43.12** vv 21, 22; Gen 42.35

h **43.14** Traditional rendering of Heb *El Shaddai*

* **43.14** Gen 17.1; 28.3; 35.11; 42.24; Ps 106.46
* **43.16** Gen 44.1
* **43.20** Gen 42.3, 10
* **43.21** vv 12, 15; Gen 42.35
* **43.23** Gen 42.24

i **43.24** Heb *the man*

* **43.24** Gen 18.4; 19.2; 24.32
* **43.26** Gen 37.7, 10
* **43.27** v 7; Gen 45.3
* **43.28** Gen 3.7, 10
* **43.29** Gen 35.17, 18; 42.13; Num 6.25; Ps 67.1
* **43.30** Gen 42.24; 45.2, 14, 15; 46.29
* **43.31** Gen 45.1
* **43.32** Gen 46.34
* **43.34** Gen 45.22

Genesis 44

* **44.1** Gen 42.25

j **44.4** Gk Compare Vg: Heb lacks *Why have you stolen my silver cup?*

* **44.5** v 15; Lev 19.26; Deut 18.10–14
* **44.8** Gen 43.21
* **44.9** Gen 31.32
* **44.13** Gen 37.29, 34; Num 14.6
* **44.14** Gen 37.7, 10
* **44.15** v 5
* **44.16** v 9
* **44.18** Gen 37.7, 8; 41.40–44
* **44.20** v 30; Gen 37.33; 42.13, 38; 43.8
* **44.23** Gen 43.3
* **44.28** Gen 37.31–35
* **44.29** Gen 42.36, 38
* **44.32** Gen 43.9

Genesis 45

* **45.1** Acts 7.13
* **45.2** vv 14, 15; Gen 46.29
* **45.3** Gen 43.27
* **45.4** Gen 37.28
* **45.5** Gen 37.28; 44.20; 50.20; Isa 40.2
* **45.8** Gen 41.43
* **45.10** Gen 46.28, 34; 47.1
* **45.13** Acts 7.14
* **45.18** Gen 27.28; Num 18.12, 29
* **45.22** Gen 43.34

k **45.24** Or *be agitated*

Genesis 46

* **46.1** Gen 26.24; 28.10, 13
* **46.2** Gen 22.11; 31.11; Job 33.14, 15

l **46.3** Heb *the God*

* **46.3** Gen 12.2; 28.13
* **46.4** Gen 28.15; 50.1, 13, 24, 25; Ex 3.8
* **46.5** Gen 45.19, 21
* **46.6** Deut 26.5; Josh 24.4; Ps 105.23; Isa 52.4; Acts 7.15
* **46.8** Ex 1.1
* **46.10** Ex 6.15
* **46.11** 1 Chr 6.1, 16
* **46.12** 1 Chr 2.3; 4.21

m **46.13** Compare Sam Gk: MT *Iob*

* **46.17** 1 Chr 7.30
* **46.18** Gen 29.24; 30.10
* **46.19** Gen 44.27
* **46.20** Gen 41.50
* **46.21** 1 Chr 7.6; 8.1

n **46.23** Gk: Heb *Hushim*

* **46.23** 1 Chr 7.12
* **46.24** 1 Chr 7.13
* **46.25** Gen 29.29; 30.5, 7
* **46.26** Ex 1.5
* **46.27** Deut 10.22; Acts 7.14

o **46.28** Heb *He*

* **46.28** Gen 47.1

* **46.29** Gen 45.14, 15
* **46.31** Gen 47.1
* **46.33** Gen 47.2, 3
* **46.34** Gen 13.7, 8; 26.20; 37.2; 45.10, 18; Ex 8.26

Genesis 47

* **47.1** Gen 46.31
* **47.3** Gen 46.33, 34
* **47.4** Gen 15.13; 43.1; 46.34; Deut 26.5
* **47.6** v 11; Gen 45.10, 18
* **47.8** Gen 25.7; 35.28; Job 14.1; Ps 39.12; Heb 11.9, 13
* **47.10** v 7
* **47.11** Ex 1.11; 12.37
* **47.13** Gen 41.30; Acts 7.11
* **47.14** Gen 41.56
* **47.15** v 19

p **47.21** Sam Gk Compare Vg: MT *He removed them to the cities*

* **47.22** Ezra 7.24
* **47.24** Gen 41.34
* **47.25** Gen 33.15
* **47.26** v 22
* **47.27** v 11; Gen 46.3; Ex 1.7
* **47.29** Gen 24.2, 49; Deut 31.14
* **47.30** Gen 49.29; 50.5, 13
* **47.31** Gen 21.23, 24; 24.3; 31.53; 50.25

Genesis 48

q **48.2** Heb *Israel*

r **48.3** Traditional rendering of Heb *El Shaddai*

* **48.3** Gen 28.19; 35.6, 9, 12
* **48.4** Gen 17.8
* **48.5** Gen 46.20; Josh 13.7; 14.4
* **48.7** Gen 33.18; 35.19, 20
* **48.9** Gen 33.5
* **48.10** Gen 27.1, 27
* **48.11** Gen 45.26

s **48.12** Heb *from his knees*

* **48.14** v 19
* **48.15** Gen 17.1; Heb 11.21
* **48.16** Gen 28.14; 31.11, 13, 24; 46.3

* **48.17** v 14
* **48.19** v 14; Num 1.33, 35
* **48.21** Gen 26.3; 28.15; 46.4; 50.24
t **48.22** Or *mountain slope*
u **48.22** Or *mountain slope*
* **48.22** Josh 24.32; Jn 4.5

Genesis 49

* **49.1** Num 24.14
* **49.3** Gen 29.32; Deut 21.17
v **49.4** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *he*
* **49.4** Gen 35.22; Deut 27.20
* **49.5** Gen 34.25–30
* **49.6** Gen 34.26; Prov 1.15; Eph 5.11
* **49.7** Josh 19.1, 9; 21.1–42
* **49.8** Deut 33.7; 1 Chr 5.2
* **49.9** Ezek 19.5–7; Mic 5.8
w **49.10** Or *until Shiloh comes* or *until he comes to Shiloh* or (with Syr) *until he comes to whom it belongs*
* **49.10** Num 24.17; Ps 60.7; Isa 2.2; 11.1; Lk 1.32
* **49.13** Deut 33.18, 19; Josh 19.10, 11
* **49.16** Deut 33.22; Judg 18.1, 2
* **49.17** Judg 18.26, 27
* **49.18** Ex 15.2; Ps 25.5; 119.166, 174; Isa 25.9; Mic 7.7
* **49.19** Deut 33.20; 1 Chr 5.18
x **49.20** Gk Vg Syr: Heb *From Asher*
* **49.20** Deut 33.24, 25; Josh 19.24
y **49.21** Or *that gives beautiful words*
* **49.21** Deut 33.23
z **49.22** Meaning of Heb uncertain
a **49.22** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **49.22** Deut 33.13–17
* **49.23** Gen 37.4, 24, 28
b **49.24** Heb *the arms of his hands*
* **49.24** Ps 18.34; 23.1; 132.2, 5; Isa 1.24; 28.16; 41.10; 1 Pet 2.6–8
c **49.25** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **49.25** Gen 27.28; 28.3, 13; 32.9; 48.3
d **49.26** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *of my progenitors to the boundaries*
* **49.26** Deut 33.15, 16
* **49.28** Gen 23.16–20
* **49.29** Gen 25.8; 47.30

* **49.30** Gen 23.16
* **49.31** Gen 23.19; 25.9; 35.29
* **49.33** v 29; Gen 25.8; Acts 7.15

Genesis 50

* **50.1** Gen 46.4
* **50.2** v 26
* **50.3** v 10; Num 20.29; Deut 34.8
* **50.5** Gen 47.29–31
* **50.8** Ex 8.22
* **50.10** 1 Sam 31.13; 2 Sam 1.17; Job 2.13

e **50.11** That is, *mourning of Egypt*

* **50.13** Gen 23.16; 49.29, 30
* **50.15** Gen 37.28; 42.21, 22

f **50.16** Gk Syr: Heb *they commanded*

g **50.18** Cn: Heb *also came*

* **50.18** Gen 37.7, 10; 41.43
* **50.19** Gen 45.5; Deut 32.35; Rom 12.19; Heb 10.30
* **50.20** Gen 37.26, 27; 45.5, 7
* **50.21** Gen 45.11; 47.12
* **50.24** Gen 13.15, 17; 17.7, 8; 26.3; 28.13; 35.12; 48.21; Heb 11.22

Exodus

Exodus 1

1 These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob,
each with his household:* [2]Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, [3]Issachar,
Zebulun, and Benjamin, [4]Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. [5]The total
number of people born to Jacob was seventy. (Joseph was already in
Egypt.)* [6]Then Joseph died, and all his brothers, and that whole
generation.* [7]But the Israelites were fruitful and prolific; they multiplied
and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.*

THE ISRAELITES ARE OPPRESSED

8 Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph.* [9]He said
to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more
powerful than we.* [10]Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will
increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and
escape from the land." [11]Therefore they set taskmasters over them to
oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and
Rameses, for Pharaoh.* [12]But the more they were oppressed, the more they
multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites.
[13]The Egyptians subjected the Israelites to hard servitude [14]and made their
lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and bricks and in every kind of
field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.*

15 The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was
named Shiphrah and the other Puah, [16]"When you act as midwives to the
Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, kill him, but if
it is a daughter, she shall live."* [17]But the midwives feared God; they did
not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live.*
[18]So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why
have you done this and allowed the boys to live?" [19]The midwives said to
Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women,

for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.”
20 So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and
became very strong.* 21 And because the midwives feared God, he gave
them families.* 22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every son that
is born to the Hebrews[a] you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every
daughter live.”*

Exodus 2

BIRTH AND YOUTH OF MOSES

1 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.[*]
[2]The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine
baby, she hid him three months.[*] [3]When she could hide him no longer she
got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she
put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.
[4]His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.[*]

5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her
attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and
sent her maid to bring it. [6]When she opened it, she saw the child. He was
crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews'
children," she said. [7]Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go
and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?"
[8]Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the
child's mother. [9]Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it
for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and
nursed it. [10]When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter,
and he became her son. She named him Moses,[b] "because," she said, "I
drew him out of the water."[*]

MOSES FLEES TO MIDIAN

11 One day after Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and saw
their forced labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own
people.[*] [12]He looked this way and that, and seeing no one he killed the
Egyptian and hid him in the sand. [13]When he went out the next day, he saw
two Hebrews fighting, and he said to the one who was in the wrong, "Why
do you strike your fellow Hebrew?"[*] [14]He answered, "Who made you a
ruler and judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the
Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "Surely the thing is
known."[*] [15]When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses.

So Moses fled from Pharaoh. He settled in the land of Midian and sat down by a well.* 16The priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. 17But some shepherds came and drove them away. Moses got up and came to their defense and watered their flock.* 18When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come back so soon today?"* 19They said, "An Egyptian helped us against the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock." 20He said to his daughters, "Where is he? Why did you leave the man? Invite him to share a meal."* 21Moses agreed to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah in marriage.* 22She bore a son, and he named him Gershom,[c] for he said, "I have been an alien residing in a foreign land."*

23 After a long time the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned under their slavery and cried out. Their cry for help rose up to God from their slavery.* 24God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.* 25God looked upon the Israelites, and God took notice of them.*

Exodus 3

MOSES AT THE BURNING BUSH

1 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of
Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb,[d]
the mountain of God.[*] [2]There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a
flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was
not consumed.[*] [3]Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great
sight and see why the bush is not burned up."[*] [4]When the LORD saw that he
had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!"
And he said, "Here I am." [5]Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the
sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy
ground."[*] [6]He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of
Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face,
for he was afraid to look at God.[*]

7 Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are
in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I
know their sufferings,[*] [8]and I have come down to deliver them from the
Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land,
to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the
Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.[*] [9]The
cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the
Egyptians oppress them.[*] [10]Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring
my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."[*] [11]But Moses said to God, "Who
am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"
[12]He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I
who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall
serve God on this mountain."[*]

THE DIVINE NAME REVEALED

13 But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them,
'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is
his name?' what shall I say to them?" [14]God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I

AM."[e] He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "* 15God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD,[f] the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,

and this my title for all generations.*

16"Go and assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, has appeared to me, saying: I have given heed to you and to what has been done to you in Egypt. 17I declare that I will bring you up out of the misery of Egypt, to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, a land flowing with milk and honey.'* 18They will listen to your voice, and you and the elders of Israel shall go to the king of Egypt and say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; let us now go a three days' journey into the wilderness, so that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'* 19I know, however, that the king of Egypt will not let you go except by a mighty hand.* 20So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all my wonders that I will perform in it; after that he will let you go.* 21I will bring this people into such favor with the Egyptians that, when you go, you will not go empty-handed;* 22each woman shall ask her neighbor and any woman living in the neighbor's house for jewelry of silver and of gold and clothing, and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters; so you shall plunder the Egyptians."*

Exodus 4

MOSES'S MIRACULOUS POWER

1 Then Moses answered, "But look, they may not believe me or listen to me
but say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.' "* [2]The LORD said to him, "What
is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff."* [3]And he said, "Throw it on the
ground." So he threw the staff on the ground, and it became a snake, and
Moses drew back from it. [4]Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your
hand and seize it by the tail"—so he reached out his hand and grasped it,
and it became a staff in his hand—[5]"so that they may believe that the LORD,
the God of their ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the
God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

6 Again, the LORD said to him, "Put your hand inside your cloak." He put
his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, his hand was diseased, as
white as snow.* [7]Then God said, "Put your hand back into your cloak"—so
he put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored
like the rest of his body*—[8]"If they will not believe you or heed the first
sign, they may believe the second sign. [9]If they will not believe even these
two signs or listen to you, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour
it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will
become blood on the dry ground."*

10 But Moses said to the LORD, "O my Lord, I have never been eloquent,
neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant, but I
am slow of speech and slow of tongue."* [11]Then the LORD said to him,
"Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or
blind? Is it not I, the LORD?* [12]Now go, and I will be with your mouth and
teach you what you are to speak."* [13]But he said, "O my Lord, please send
someone else." [14]Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses,
and he said, "What of your brother Aaron, the Levite? I know that he can
speak well; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you
his heart will be glad.* [15]You shall speak to him and put the words in his
mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach
you what you shall do.* [16]He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he

shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. [17]Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs."*

MOSES RETURNS TO EGYPT

18 Moses went back to his father-in-law Jethro and said to him, "Please let me go back to my own people in Egypt and see whether they are still living." And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace." [19]The LORD said to Moses in Midian, "Go back to Egypt, for all those who were seeking your life are dead."* [20]So Moses took his wife and his sons, put them on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt, and Moses carried the staff of God in his hand.*

21 And the LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders that I have put in your power, but I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.* [22]Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD: Israel is my firstborn son.* [23]I said to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." But you refused to let him go; now I will kill your firstborn son.' "*

24 On the way, at a place where they spent the night, the LORD met him and tried to kill him.* [25]But Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin, touched his feet with it, and said, "Truly you are a bridegroom of blood to me!"* [26]So he let him alone. It was then that she said "a bridegroom of blood," because of the circumcision.

27 The LORD said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." So he went, and he met him at the mountain of God and kissed him.* [28]Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD with which he had sent him and all the signs with which he had charged him.* [29]Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled all the elders of the Israelites.* [30]Aaron spoke all the words that the LORD had spoken to Moses and performed the signs in the sight of the people.* [31]The people believed, and when they heard that the LORD had given heed to the Israelites and that he had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshiped.*

Exodus 5

BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW

1 Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness."* [2]But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should listen to him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and I will not let Israel go."* [3]Then they said, "The God of the Hebrews has revealed himself to us; let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness to sacrifice to the LORD our God, or he will fall upon us with pestilence or sword."* [4]But the king of Egypt said to them, "Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their work? Get to your labors!"* [5]Pharaoh continued, "Now they are more numerous than the people of the land[g] and yet you want them to stop laboring!"* [6]That same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people, as well as their supervisors,* [7]"You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as before; let them go and gather straw for themselves. [8]But you shall require of them the same quantity of bricks as they have made previously; do not diminish it, for they are lazy; that is why they cry, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God.'* [9]Let heavier work be laid on them; then they will pay attention to[h] it and not to deceptive words."

10 So the taskmasters and the supervisors of the people went out and said to the people, "Thus says Pharaoh: I will not give you straw.* [11]Go and get straw yourselves, wherever you can find it, but your work will not be lessened in the least." [12]So the people scattered throughout the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw. [13]The taskmasters urged them on, saying, "Complete your work, the same daily assignment as when you were given straw."[i] [14]And the Israelite supervisors whom Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them were beaten and were asked, "Why did you not finish the required quantity of bricks yesterday and today, as you did before?"*

15 Then the Israelite supervisors came to Pharaoh and cried, "Why do you treat your servants like this? [16]No straw is given to your servants, yet they say to us, 'Make bricks!' Look how your servants are beaten! But the

fault is with you."[j] 17He said, "You are lazy, lazy; that is why you say, 'Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.'* 18Go now and work, for no straw shall be given you, but you shall still deliver the same number of bricks." 19The Israelite supervisors saw that they were in trouble when they were told, "You shall not lessen your daily number of bricks." 20As they left Pharaoh, they came upon Moses and Aaron, who were waiting to meet them. 21They said to them, "The LORD look upon you and judge! You have brought us into bad odor with Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us."*

22 Then Moses turned to the LORD and said, "O my Lord, why have you mistreated this people? Why did you ever send me?* 23Since I first came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has mistreated this people, and you have done nothing at all to deliver your people."*

Exodus 6

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE ASSURED

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Now you shall see what I will do to
Pharaoh: indeed, by a mighty hand he will let them go; by a mighty hand he
will drive them out of his land."*

2 God also spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am the LORD. 3I appeared
to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty,[k] but by my name 'The
LORD'[l] I did not make myself known to them.* 4I also established my
covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which
they resided as aliens.* 5I have also heard the groaning of the Israelites
whom the Egyptians have enslaved, and I have remembered my covenant.*
6Say therefore to the Israelites: I am the LORD, and I will free you from the
burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from slavery to them. I will
redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.* 7I
will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You shall know that I
am the LORD your God, who has freed you from the burdens of the
Egyptians.* 8I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham,
Isaac, and Jacob; I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD."*
9Moses told this to the Israelites, but they would not listen to Moses,
because of their broken spirit and their cruel slavery.

10 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, 11"Go and tell Pharaoh king of Egypt
to let the Israelites go out of his land." 12But Moses spoke to the LORD, "The
Israelites have not listened to me; why should Pharaoh listen to me, poor
speaker that I am?"[m] 13Thus the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron and gave
them orders regarding the Israelites and Pharaoh king of Egypt, to free the
Israelites from the land of Egypt.

THE GENEALOGY OF MOSES AND AARON

14 The following are the heads of their ancestral houses: the sons of
Reuben, the firstborn of Israel: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi; these are
the families of Reuben.* 15The sons of Simeon: Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad,

Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanite woman; these are the families of Simeon.* 16The following are the names of the sons of Levi according to their genealogies: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari, and the length of Levi's life was one hundred thirty-seven years.* 17The sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei, by their families.* 18The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, and the length of Kohath's life was one hundred thirty-three years.* 19The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of the Levites according to their genealogies.* 20Amram married Jochebed his aunt, and she bore him Aaron and Moses, and the length of Amram's life was one hundred thirty-seven years.* 21The sons of Izhar: Korah, Nepheg, and Zichri.* 22The sons of Uzziel: Mishael, Elzaphan, and Sithri.* 23Aaron married Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab and sister of Nahshon, and she bore him Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. 24The sons of Korah: Assir, Elkanah, and Abiasaph; these are the families of the Korahites.* 25Aaron's son Eleazar married one of the daughters of Putiel, and she bore him Phinehas. These are the heads of the ancestral houses of the Levites by their families.*

26 It was this same Aaron and Moses to whom the LORD said, "Bring the Israelites out of the land of Egypt, company by company." 27It was they who spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt to bring the Israelites out of Egypt, the same Moses and Aaron.

MOSES AND AARON OBEY GOD'S COMMANDS

28 On the day when the LORD spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, 29the LORD said to Moses, "I am the LORD; tell Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I am speaking to you."* 30But Moses said to the LORD, "Since I am a poor speaker,[n] why should Pharaoh listen to me?"*

Exodus 7

1 The LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet.* [2]You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his land.* [3]But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and I will multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt.* [4]When Pharaoh does not listen to you, I will lay my hand upon Egypt and bring my people the Israelites, company by company, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment.* [5]The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out from among them."* [6]Moses and Aaron did so; they did just as the LORD commanded them.* [7]Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.*

AARON'S MIRACULOUS ROD

8 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, [9]"When Pharaoh says to you, 'Perform a wonder,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh, and it will become a snake.' "* [10]So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did as the LORD had commanded; Aaron threw down his staff before Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake.* [11]Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same by their secret arts.* [12]Each one threw down his staff, and they became snakes, but Aaron's staff swallowed up theirs. [13]However, Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.*

THE FIRST PLAGUE: WATER TURNED TO BLOOD

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is hardened; he refuses to let the people go.* [15]Go to Pharaoh in the morning, as he is going out to the water; stand by at the bank of the Nile to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that was turned into a snake.* [16]Say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you to say, "Let my people go, so that they

may serve me in the wilderness." But until now you have not listened.* 17Thus says the LORD, "By this you shall know that I am the LORD." See, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall be turned to blood.* 18The fish in the river shall die, the river itself shall stink, and the Egyptians shall be unable to drink water from the Nile.' "* 19The LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron: Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt—over its rivers, its canals, and its ponds, and all its pools of water—so that they may become blood, and there shall be blood throughout the whole land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone."*

20 Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded. In the sight of Pharaoh and of his officials he lifted up the staff and struck the water in the Nile; all the water in the river was turned into blood,* 21and the fish in the river died. The river stank so that the Egyptians could not drink its water, and there was blood throughout the whole land of Egypt.* 22But the magicians of Egypt did the same by their secret arts; so Pharaoh's heart remained hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.* 23Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he did not take even this to heart. 24And all the Egyptians had to dig along the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink the water of the river.

25 Seven days passed after the LORD had struck the Nile.

Exodus 8

THE SECOND PLAGUE: FROGS

1 [o]Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says
the LORD: Let my people go, so that they may serve me.* [2]If you refuse to
let them go, I will plague your whole country with frogs. [3]The Nile shall
swarm with frogs; they shall come up into your palace, into your
bedchamber and your bed, into the houses of your officials and of your
people,[p] and into your ovens and your kneading bowls.* [4]The frogs shall
come up on you and on your people and on all your officials.' " [5][q]And the
LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your staff
over the rivers, the canals, and the pools, and make frogs come up on the
land of Egypt.' "* [6]So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of
Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.* [7]But the
magicians did the same by their secret arts and brought frogs up on the land
of Egypt.*

8 Then Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and said, "Pray to the LORD to
take away the frogs from me and my people, and I will let the people go to
sacrifice to the LORD."* [9]Moses said to Pharaoh, "Kindly tell me when I am
to pray for you and for your officials and for your people, that the frogs may
be removed from you and your houses and be left only in the Nile." [10]And
he said, "Tomorrow." Moses said, "As you say! So that you may know that
there is no one like the LORD our God,* [11]the frogs shall leave you and your
houses and your officials and your people; they shall be left only in the
Nile." [12]Then Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh, and Moses cried
out to the LORD concerning the frogs that he had brought upon Pharaoh.*
[13]And the LORD did as Moses requested: the frogs died in the houses, the
courtyards, and the fields. [14]And they gathered them together in heaps, and
the land stank. [15]But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, he
hardened his heart and would not listen to them, just as the LORD had said.*

THE THIRD PLAGUE: GNATS

16 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff
and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats throughout the
whole land of Egypt.' " [17]And they did so; Aaron stretched out his hand
with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, and gnats came on humans
and animals alike; all the dust of the earth turned into gnats throughout the
whole land of Egypt.* [18]The magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret
arts, but they could not. There were gnats on both humans and animals.*
[19]And the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God!" But
Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, just as the
LORD had said.*

THE FOURTH PLAGUE: FLIES

20 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and present
yourself before Pharaoh, as he goes out to the water, and say to him, 'Thus
says the LORD: Let my people go, so that they may serve me,* [21]because if
you will not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you, your
officials, and your people, and into your houses. The houses of the
Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, as will the land where they
live. [22]But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people
live, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I the
LORD am in this land.* [23]Thus I will make a distinction[r] between my people
and your people. This sign shall appear tomorrow.' " [24]The LORD did so,
and great swarms of flies came into the house of Pharaoh and into his
officials' houses; in all of Egypt the land was ruined because of the flies.*

25 Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Go, sacrifice to
your God within the land." [26]But Moses said, "It would not be right to do
so, for the sacrifices that we offer to the LORD our God are offensive to the
Egyptians. If we offer in the sight of the Egyptians sacrifices that are
offensive to them, will they not stone us? [27]We must go a three days'
journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as he
commands us."* [28]So Pharaoh said, "I will let you go to sacrifice to the
LORD your God in the wilderness, provided you do not go very far away.
Pray for me."* [29]Then Moses said, "As soon as I leave you, I will pray to
the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart tomorrow from Pharaoh, from

his officials, and from his people; only do not let Pharaoh again deal falsely by not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD."*

30 So Moses went out from Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD. [31]And the LORD did as Moses asked: he removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his officials, and from his people; not one remained. [32]But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also and would not let the people go.*

Exodus 9

THE FIFTH PLAGUE: LIVESTOCK DISEASED

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says
the LORD, the God of the Hebrews: Let my people go, so that they may
serve me.* [2]For if you refuse to let them go and still hold them,* [3]the hand
of the LORD will strike with a deadly pestilence your livestock in the field:
the horses, the donkeys, the camels, the herds, and the flocks. [4]But the LORD
will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of
Egypt, so that nothing shall die of all that belongs to the Israelites.' "* [5]The
LORD set a time, saying, "Tomorrow the LORD will do this thing in the land."
[6]And on the next day the LORD did so; all of the Egyptians' livestock died,
but none of the Israelites' livestock died.* [7]Pharaoh inquired and found that
not even one of the Israelites' livestock had died. But the heart of Pharaoh
was hardened, and he would not let the people go.*

THE SIXTH PLAGUE: BOILS

8 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from
the kiln, and let Moses throw it in the air in the sight of Pharaoh. [9]It shall
become dust all over the land of Egypt and shall cause festering boils on
humans and animals throughout the whole land of Egypt."* [10]So they took
soot from the kiln and stood before Pharaoh, and Moses threw it in the air,
and it caused festering boils on humans and animals. [11]The magicians could
not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils afflicted the
magicians as well as all the Egyptians. [12]But the LORD hardened the heart of
Pharaoh, and he would not listen to them, just as the LORD had spoken to
Moses.*

THE SEVENTH PLAGUE: THUNDER AND HAIL

13 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise up early in the morning and
present yourself before Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, the
God of the Hebrews: Let my people go, so that they may serve me.* [14]For

this time I will send all my plagues upon you yourself, your officials, and your people, so that you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth.* 15Indeed, by now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, and you would have been cut off from the earth.* 16But this is why I have let you live: to show you my power and to make my name resound through all the earth.* 17You are still exalting yourself against my people by not letting them go. 18Tomorrow at this time I will cause the heaviest hail to fall that has ever fallen in Egypt from the day it was founded until now.* 19Send, therefore, and have your livestock and everything that you have in the open field brought to a secure place; every human or animal that is in the open field and is not brought under shelter will die when the hail comes down upon them.' " 20Those officials of Pharaoh who feared the word of the LORD hurried their slaves and livestock off to a secure place,* 21but those who did not regard the word of the LORD left their slaves and livestock in the open field.

22 The LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven so that hail may fall on the whole land of Egypt, on humans and animals and all the plants of the field in the land of Egypt."* 23Then Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven, and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and fire came down on the earth. And the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt;* 24there was hail with fire flashing continually in the midst of it, such heavy hail as had never fallen in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. 25The hail struck down everything that was in the open field throughout all the land of Egypt, both human and animal; the hail also struck down all the plants of the field and shattered every tree in the field.* 26Only in the land of Goshen, where the Israelites were, was there no hail.*

27 Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said to them, "This time I have sinned; the LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong.* 28Pray to the LORD! Enough of God's thunder and hail! I will let you go; you need stay no longer."* 29Moses said to him, "As soon as I have gone out of the city, I will stretch out my hands to the LORD; the thunder will cease, and there will be no more hail, so that you may know that the earth is the LORD's.* 30But as for you and your officials, I know that you do not yet fear the LORD God." 31(Now the flax and the barley were ruined, for the barley was in the ear and the flax was in bud. 32But the wheat and the

spelt were not ruined, for they are late in coming up.) [33]So Moses left Pharaoh, went out of the city, and stretched out his hands to the LORD; then the thunder and the hail ceased, and the rain no longer poured down on the earth. [34]But when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned once more and hardened his heart, he and his officials. [35]So the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he would not let the Israelites go, just as the LORD had spoken through Moses.*

Exodus 10

THE EIGHTH PLAGUE: LOCUSTS

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his
heart and the heart of his officials, in order that I may show these signs of
mine among them* 2and that you may tell your children and grandchildren
how I have made fools of the Egyptians and what signs I have done among
them—so that you may know that I am the LORD."*

3 So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said to him, "Thus says the
LORD, the God of the Hebrews: How long will you refuse to humble
yourself before me? Let my people go, so that they may serve me.* 4For if
you refuse to let my people go, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your
country.* 5They shall cover the surface of the land, so that no one will be
able to see the land. They shall devour the last remnant left you after the
hail, and they shall devour every tree of yours that grows in the field.*
6They shall fill your houses and the houses of all your officials and of all the
Egyptians—something that neither your parents nor your grandparents have
seen, from the day they came on earth to this day." Then he turned and went
out from Pharaoh.*

7 Pharaoh's officials said to him, "How long shall this fellow be a snare
to us? Send the people away, so that they may serve the LORD their God. Do
you not yet understand that Egypt is ruined?"* 8So Moses and Aaron were
brought back to Pharaoh, and he said to them, "Go, serve the LORD your
God! But which ones are to go?"* 9Moses said, "We will go with our young
and our old; we will go with our sons and daughters and with our flocks and
herds, because we have the LORD's festival to celebrate."* 10He said to
them, "The LORD indeed will be with you, if ever I let your little ones go
with you! Plainly, you have some evil purpose in mind. 11No, never! Your
men may go and serve the LORD, for that is what you are asking." And they
were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.*

12 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the land of
Egypt, so that the locusts may come upon it and eat every plant in the land,
all that the hail has left."* 13So Moses stretched out his staff over the land of

Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day and all that night. When morning came, the east wind had brought the locusts. 14The locusts came upon all the land of Egypt and settled on the whole country of Egypt, such a dense swarm of locusts as had never been before nor ever shall be again.* 15They covered the surface of the whole land, so that the land was black, and they ate all the plants in the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. Nothing green was left on the trees or on the plants in the fields, in all the land of Egypt.* 16Pharaoh hurriedly summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you.* 17Do forgive my sin this once, and pray to the LORD your God that at the least he remove this deadly thing from me."* 18So he went out from Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD. 19The LORD changed the wind into a very strong west wind, which lifted the locusts and drove them into the Red Sea;[s] not a single locust was left in all the country of Egypt. 20But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let the Israelites go.*

THE NINTH PLAGUE: DARKNESS

21 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven so that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness that can be felt."* 22So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was dense darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days.* 23People could not see one another, and for three days they could not move from where they were, but all the Israelites had light where they lived. 24Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and said, "Go, serve the LORD. Only your flocks and your herds shall remain behind. Even your little ones may go with you."* 25But Moses said, "You must also let us have sacrifices and burnt offerings to sacrifice to the LORD our God. 26Our livestock also must go with us; not a hoof shall be left behind, for we must choose some of them to serve the LORD our God, and we will not know what to use to serve the LORD until we arrive there."* 27But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he was unwilling to let them go.* 28Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Take care that you do not see my face again, for on the day you see my face you shall die."* 29Moses said, "Just as you say! I will never see your face again."*

Exodus 11

WARNING OF THE FINAL PLAGUE

1 The LORD said to Moses, "I will bring one more plague upon Pharaoh and
upon Egypt; afterward he will let you go from here; indeed, when he lets
you go, he will drive you away.* [2]Tell the people that every man is to ask
his neighbor and every woman is to ask her neighbor for objects of silver
and gold."* [3]The LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians.
Moreover, Moses himself was a man of great importance in the land of
Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's officials and in the sight of the people.*

4 Moses said, "Thus says the LORD, 'About midnight I will go out
through Egypt.* [5]Every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the
firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne to the firstborn of the female
slave who is behind the handmill and all the firstborn of the livestock.*
[6]Then there will be a loud cry throughout the whole land of Egypt, such as
has never been or will ever be again.* [7]But not a dog shall growl at any of
the Israelites—not at people, not at animals—so that you may know that the
LORD makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.'* [8]Then all these
officials of yours shall come down to me and bow low to me, saying,
'Leave us, you and all the people who follow you.' After that I will leave."
And in hot anger he left Pharaoh.*

9 The LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh will not listen to you, in order that
my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt."* [10]Moses and Aaron
performed all these wonders before Pharaoh, but the LORD hardened
Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let the Israelites go out of his land.*

Exodus 12

THE FIRST PASSOVER INSTITUTED

1 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, [2]"This month
shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the
year for you.* [3]Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this
month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.
[4]If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest
neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the
number of people who eat of it. [5]Your lamb shall be without blemish, a
year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.* [6]You
shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole
assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.* [7]They shall
take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the
houses in which they eat it. [8]They shall eat the lamb that same night; they
shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.*
[9]Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its
head, legs, and inner organs. [10]You shall let none of it remain until the
morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire.*
[11]This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet,
and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover
of the LORD.* [12]I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will
strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and
on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD.* [13]The
blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the
blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike
the land of Egypt.

14 "This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate
it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it
as a perpetual ordinance.* [15]Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread; on
the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses, for whoever eats
leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day shall be cut off from
Israel.* [16]On the first day you shall hold a solemn assembly and on the

seventh day a solemn assembly; no work shall be done on those days; only what everyone must eat, that alone may be prepared by you.* 17You shall observe the Festival of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your companies out of the land of Egypt: you shall observe this day throughout your generations as a perpetual ordinance.* 18In the first month, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day, you shall eat unleavened bread.* 19For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses, for whoever eats what is leavened shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether an alien or a native of the land.* 20You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your settlements you shall eat unleavened bread."

21 Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go, select lambs for your families, and slaughter the Passover lamb.* 22Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood in the basin. None of you shall go outside the door of your house until morning.* 23For the LORD will pass through to strike down the Egyptians; when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down.* 24You shall observe this as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children.* 25When you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. 26And when your children ask you, 'What does this observance mean to you?'* 27you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.' " And the people bowed down and worshiped.*

28 The Israelites went and did just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron; so they did.

THE TENTH PLAGUE: DEATH OF THE FIRSTBORN

29 At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the prisoner who was in the dungeon and all the firstborn of the livestock.* 30Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his officials and all the Egyptians, and there was a loud cry in Egypt, for there was not a house

without someone dead.* 31Then he summoned Moses and Aaron in the night and said, "Rise up, go away from my people, both you and the Israelites! Go, serve the LORD, as you said.* 32Take your flocks and your herds, as you said, and be gone. And ask a blessing for me, too!"*

THE EXODUS: FROM RAMESES TO SUCCOTH

33 The Egyptians urged the people to hasten their departure from the land, for they said, "We shall all be dead."* 34So the people took their dough before it was leavened, with their kneading bowls wrapped up in their cloaks on their shoulders. 35The Israelites had acted according to the word of Moses; they had asked the Egyptians for jewelry of silver and gold and for clothing,* 36and the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. And so they plundered the Egyptians.*

37 The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides little ones.* 38A mixed crowd also went up with them and livestock in great numbers, both flocks and herds.* 39They baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt; it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.*

40 The time that the Israelites had lived in Egypt was four hundred thirty years.* 41At the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the companies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.* 42That was for the LORD a night of vigil, to bring them out of the land of Egypt. That same night is a vigil to be kept for the LORD by all the Israelites throughout their generations.*

DIRECTIONS FOR THE PASSOVER

43 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the ordinance for the Passover: no foreigner shall eat of it, 44but any slave who has been purchased may eat of it after he has been circumcised; 45no bound or hired servant may eat of it. 46It shall be eaten in one house; you shall not take any of the animal outside the house, and you shall not break any of its bones.* 47The whole congregation of Israel shall do this.* 48If an alien who resides

with you wants to celebrate the Passover to the LORD, all his males shall be circumcised; then he may draw near to celebrate it; he shall be regarded as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it; [49]there shall be one law for the native-born and for the alien who resides among you."*

50 All the Israelites did just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron. [51]That very day the LORD brought the Israelites out of the land of Egypt, company by company.*

Exodus 13

1 The LORD said to Moses, [2]"Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is
the first to open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and
animals, is mine."*

THE FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

3 Moses said to the people, "Remember this day on which you came out
of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the LORD brought you out
from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten.* [4]Today,
in the month of Abib, you are going out. [5]When the LORD brings you into
the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the
Jebusites, which he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with
milk and honey, you shall keep this observance in this month.* [6]Seven days
you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a
festival to the LORD.* [7]Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no
leavened bread shall be seen in your possession, and no leaven shall be seen
among you in all your territory. [8]You shall tell your child on that day, 'It is
because of what the LORD did for me when I came out of Egypt.'* [9]It shall
serve for you as a sign on your hand and as a reminder on your forehead, so
that the teaching of the LORD may be on your lips, for with a strong hand the
LORD brought you out of Egypt.* [10]You shall keep this ordinance at its
proper time from year to year.*

THE CONSECRATION OF THE FIRSTBORN

11 "When the LORD has brought you into the land of the Canaanites, as he
swore to you and your ancestors, and has given it to you, [12]you shall set
apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn offspring of
your livestock that are males shall be the LORD's.* [13]But every firstborn
donkey you shall redeem with a sheep; if you do not redeem it, you must
break its neck. Every firstborn male among your children you shall
redeem.* [14]When in the future your child asks you, 'What does this mean?'
you shall answer, 'By strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt,

from the house of slavery.* 15When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go,
the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human firstborn
to the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD every male that
first opens the womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem.'* 16It shall
serve as a sign on your hand and as an emblem[t] on your forehead that by
strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt."*

THE PILLARS OF CLOUD AND FIRE

17 When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the
land of the Philistines, although that was nearer, for God thought, "If the
people face war, they may change their minds and return to Egypt."* 18So
God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness bordering the
Red Sea.[u] The Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt prepared for
battle. 19And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph, who had required a
solemn oath of the Israelites, saying, "God will surely come to you, and
then you must carry my bones with you from here."* 20They set out from
Succoth and camped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness.* 21The LORD
went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way,
and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel
by day and by night.* 22Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of
fire by night left its place in front of the people.

Exodus 14

CROSSING THE RED SEA

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, [2]"Tell the Israelites to turn back and camp
in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-
zephon; you shall camp opposite it, by the sea.* [3]Pharaoh will say of the
Israelites, 'They are wandering aimlessly in the land; the wilderness has
closed in on them.' [4]I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them,
so that I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, and the
Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD." And they did so.*

5 When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the minds of
Pharaoh and his officials were changed toward the people, and they said,
"What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?" [6]So he had his
chariot made ready and took his army with him; [7]he took six hundred elite
chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.
[8]The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the
Israelites, who were going out boldly.* [9]The Egyptians pursued them, all
Pharaoh's horses and chariots, his chariot drivers and his army; they
overtook them camped by the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.*

10 As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the
Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the
LORD.* [11]They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in
Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you
done to us, bringing us out of Egypt?* [12]Is this not the very thing we told
you in Egypt, 'Let us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians'? For it
would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the
wilderness." [13]But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm,
and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today, for the
Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again.* [14]The LORD will
fight for you, and you have only to keep still."*

15 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the
Israelites to go forward. [16]But you lift up your staff and stretch out your
hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry

ground.* 17Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will
go in after them, and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his
army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.* 18Then the Egyptians shall know
that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his
chariots, and his chariot drivers."*

19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and
went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and
took its place behind them.* 20It came between the army of Egypt and the
army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up
the night; one did not come near the other all night.

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the
sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and
the waters were divided.* 22The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground,
the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.* 23The
Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses,
chariots, and chariot drivers. 24At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar
of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the
Egyptian army into a panic.* 25He clogged[v] their chariot wheels so that they
turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites,
for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."*

THE PURSUERS DROWNED

26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so
that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and
chariot drivers." 27So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at
dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it,
the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.* 28The waters returned and
covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that
had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.* 29But the
Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall
for them on their right and on their left.*

30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel
saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.* 31Israel saw the great work that

the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.*

Exodus 15

THE SONG OF MOSES

1 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

"I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.*
2 The LORD is my strength and my might,[w]
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him;
my father's God, and I will exalt him.*
3 The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.*

4 Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.[x,*]
5 The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.*
6 Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.*
7 In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.*
8 At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;
the floods stood up in a heap;
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.*
9 The enemy said, 'I will pursue; I will overtake;
I will divide the spoil; my desire shall have its fill of them.
I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.'*
10 You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;

they sank like lead in the mighty waters.*

11 Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?*
12 You stretched out your right hand;
the earth swallowed them.

13 In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed;
you guided them by your strength to your holy abode.*
14 The peoples heard; they trembled;
pangs seized the inhabitants of Philistia.*
15 Then the chiefs of Edom were dismayed;
trembling seized the leaders of Moab;
all the inhabitants of Canaan melted away.*
16 Terror and dread fell upon them;
by the might of your arm, they became still as a stone
until your people, O LORD, passed by,
until the people whom you acquired passed by.*
17 You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own possession,
the place, O LORD, that you made your abode,
the sanctuary, O LORD, that your hands have established.*
18 The LORD will reign forever and ever."*

19 When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.*

THE SONG OF MIRIAM

20 Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with

dancing.* 21And Miriam sang to them:

"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."*

BITTER WATER MADE SWEET

22 Then Moses ordered Israel to set out from the Red Sea,[y] and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days in the wilderness and found no water.* 23When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter. That is why it was called Marah.[z],* 24And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"* 25He cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood; he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.

There the LORD[a] made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he put them to the test.* 26He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in his sight, and give heed to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will not bring upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians, for I am the LORD who heals you."*

27 Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they camped there by the water.*

Exodus 16

BREAD FROM HEAVEN

1 The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim and came to
the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day
of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt.* [2]The
whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron
in the wilderness.* [3]The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the
hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and
ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill
this whole assembly with hunger."*

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven
for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that
day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or
not.* [5]On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be
twice as much as they gather on other days."* [6]So Moses and Aaron said to
all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who
brought you out of the land of Egypt, [7]and in the morning you shall see the
glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD.
For what are we, that you complain against us?"* [8]And Moses said, "When
the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the
morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against
him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the
LORD."

9 Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the
Israelites: 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.' "*
[10]And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they
looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the
cloud.* [11]The LORD spoke to Moses, [12]"I have heard the complaining of the
Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning
you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD
your God.' "

13 In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the
morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.* 14When the layer of
dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance,
as fine as frost on the ground.* 15When the Israelites saw it, they said to one
another, "What is it?"[b] For they did not know what it was. Moses said to
them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.* 16This is what the
LORD has commanded: Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer
per person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in
their own tents." 17The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less.
18But when they measured it with an omer, those who gathered much had
nothing over, and those who gathered little had no shortage; they gathered
as much as each of them needed.* 19And Moses said to them, "Let no one
leave any of it over until morning."* 20But they did not listen to Moses;
some left part of it until morning, and it became wormy and rotten. And
Moses was angry with them. 21Morning by morning they gathered it, as
much as each needed, but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

22 On the sixth day they gathered twice as much food, two omers apiece.
When all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses,* 23he said to
them, "This is what the LORD has commanded: Tomorrow is a day of
solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD; bake what you want to bake and
boil what you want to boil, and all that is left over put aside to be kept until
morning."* 24So they put it aside until morning, just as Moses commanded
them, and it did not rot, and there were no maggots in it.* 25Moses said,
"Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in
the field. 26Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, which is a
Sabbath, there will be none."

27 On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, and they
found none. 28The LORD said to Moses, "How long will you refuse to keep
my commandments and instructions?* 29See! The LORD has given you the
Sabbath; therefore on the sixth day he gives you food for two days; each of
you stay where you are; do not leave your place on the seventh day." 30So
the people rested on the seventh day.

31 The Israelites called it manna; it was like white coriander seed, and
the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.* 32Moses said, "This is
what the LORD has commanded: Let an omer of it be kept throughout your

generations in order that they may see the food with which I fed you in the wilderness when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.” 33And Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar, and put an omer of manna in it, and place it before the LORD, to be kept throughout your generations.”* 34Just as the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the covenant, for safekeeping.* 35The Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a habitable land; they ate manna, until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.* 36(An omer is a tenth of an ephah.)

Exodus 17

WATER FROM THE ROCK

1 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites
journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim,
but there was no water for the people to drink.* 2The people quarreled with
Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do
you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"* 3But the people thirsted
there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why
did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with
thirst?"* 4So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people?
They are almost ready to stone me."* 5The LORD said to Moses, "Go on
ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in
your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go.* 6I will be
standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and
water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in
the sight of the elders of Israel.* 7He called the place Massah[c] and
Meribah,[d] because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is
the LORD among us or not?"*

AMALEK ATTACKS ISRAEL AND IS DEFEATED

8 Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim.* 9Moses said
to Joshua, "Choose some men for us and go out; fight with Amalek.
Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my
hand."* 10So Joshua did as Moses told him and fought with Amalek, while
Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. 11Whenever Moses
held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand,
Amalek prevailed. 12But Moses's hands grew heavy, so they took a stone
and put it under him, and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one
on either side, so his hands were steady until the sun set. 13And Joshua
defeated Amalek and his people with the sword.

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this as a remembrance in a book
and recite it in the hearing of Joshua: I will utterly blot out the memory of

Amalek from under heaven."* 15And Moses built an altar and called it, The
LORD is my banner. 16He said, "A hand upon the banner of the LORD![e] The
LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

Exodus 18

JETHRO'S ADVICE

1 Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses's father-in-law, heard of all that God
had done for Moses and for his people Israel, how the LORD had brought
Israel out of Egypt.* [2]After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah, his
father-in-law Jethro took her back,* [3]along with her two sons. The name of
the one was Gershom[f] (for he had said, "I have been an alien in a foreign
land"),* [4]and the name of the other was Eliezer[g] (for he had said, "The God
of my father was my help and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh").
[5]Jethro, Moses's father-in-law, along with Moses's sons and wife, came into
the wilderness where Moses was encamped at the mountain of God.* [6]He
sent word to Moses, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, with
your wife and her two sons." [7]So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law;
he bowed down and kissed him; each asked after the other's welfare, and
they went into the tent.* [8]Then Moses told his father-in-law all that the
LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the
hardship that had found them on the way, and how the LORD had delivered
them.* [9]Jethro rejoiced for all the good that the LORD had done to Israel, in
delivering them from the Egyptians.

10 Jethro said, "Blessed be the LORD, who has delivered you from the
Egyptians and from Pharaoh.* [11]Now I know that the LORD is greater than
all gods, because he delivered the people from the Egyptians,[h] when they
dealt arrogantly with them."* [12]And Jethro, Moses's father-in-law, brought a
burnt offering and sacrifices to God, and Aaron came with all the elders of
Israel to eat bread with Moses's father-in-law in the presence of God.

13 The next day Moses sat as judge for the people, while the people
stood around him from morning until evening. [14]When Moses's father-in-
law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, "What is this that you
are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, while all the people stand
around you from morning until evening?" [15]Moses said to his father-in-law,
"Because the people come to me to inquire of God.* [16]When they have a
dispute, they come to me, and I decide between one person and another, and

I make known to them the statutes and instructions of God." [17]Moses's father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. [18]You will surely wear yourself out, both you and these people with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone.* [19]Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You should represent the people before God and bring their cases to God.* [20]Teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do.* [21]You should also look for able men among all the people, men who fear God, are trustworthy, and hate dishonest gain; set them as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens.* [22]Let them sit as judges for the people at all times; let them bring every important case to you but decide every minor case themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you.* [23]If you do this and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people will go to their homes in peace."

24 So Moses listened to his father-in-law and did all that he had said. [25]Moses chose able men from all Israel and appointed them as heads over the people, as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens.* [26]And they judged the people at all times; hard cases they brought to Moses, but any minor case they decided themselves.* [27]Then Moses let his father-in-law depart, and he went off to his own country.*

Exodus 19

THE ISRAELITES REACH MOUNT SINAI

1 On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of
Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. [2]They
journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in
the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.* [3]Then Moses
went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, "Thus you shall
say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites:* [4]'You have seen what I did
to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to
myself.* [5]Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you
shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole
earth is mine,* [6]but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy
nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."*

7 So Moses went, summoned the elders of the people, and set before
them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. [8]The people all
answered as one, "Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do." Moses
reported the words of the people to the LORD.* [9]Then the LORD said to
Moses, "I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, in order that the
people may hear when I speak with you and so trust you ever after."

THE PEOPLE CONSECRATED

When Moses had told the words of the people to the LORD,* [10]the LORD
said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow.
Have them wash their clothes* [11]and prepare for the third day, because on
the third day the LORD will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all
the people.* [12]You shall set limits for the people all around, saying, 'Be
careful not to go up the mountain or to touch the edge of it. Any who touch
the mountain shall be put to death.* [13]No hand shall touch them, but they
shall be stoned or shot with arrows;[i] whether animal or human being, they
shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they may go up on the
mountain." [14]So Moses went down from the mountain to the people. He

consecrated the people, and they washed their clothes. 15And he said to the people, "Prepare for the third day; do not go near a woman."

16 On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled.* 17Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God. They took their stand at the foot of the mountain. 18Now all of Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the LORD had descended upon it in fire; the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently.* 19As the blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses would speak and God would answer him in thunder.* 20When the LORD descended upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, the LORD summoned Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. 21Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people not to break through to see the LORD; otherwise many of them will perish.* 22Even the priests who approach the LORD must consecrate themselves, or the LORD will break out against them."* 23Moses said to the LORD, "The people are not permitted to come up to Mount Sinai, for you yourself warned us, saying, 'Set limits around the mountain and keep it holy.' "* 24The LORD said to him, "Go down, then come back up and bring Aaron with you, but do not let either the priests or the people break through to come up to the LORD; otherwise he will break out against them." 25So Moses went down to the people and told them.

Exodus 20

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1 Then God spoke all these words,*

2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery;* 3you shall have no other gods before[j] me.*

4 "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of
anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in
the water under the earth.* 5You shall not bow down to them or serve them,
for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the
iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject
me* 6but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation[k] of those who
love me and keep my commandments.*

7 "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God,
for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.*

8 "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.* 9Six days you shall
labor and do all your work.* 10But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD
your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your
male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.
11For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in
them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath
day and consecrated it.*

12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in
the land that the LORD your God is giving you.*

13 "You shall not murder.[l],*

14 "You shall not commit adultery.*

15 "You shall not steal.*

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your
neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs
to your neighbor."*

18 When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of
the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid[m] and trembled and
stood at a distance* [19]and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will
listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die."* [20]Moses said to the
people, "Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put the
fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."* [21]Then the people stood at a
distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.*

THE LAW CONCERNING THE ALTAR

22 The LORD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites: You
have seen for yourselves how I spoke with you from heaven.* [23]You shall
not make gods of silver alongside me, nor shall you make for yourselves
gods of gold.* [24]You need make for me only an altar of earth and sacrifice
on it your burnt offerings and your offerings of well-being, your sheep and
your oxen; in every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will
come to you and bless you.* [25]But if you make for me an altar of stone, do
not build it of hewn stones, for if you use a chisel upon it you profane it.*
[26]You shall not go up by steps to my altar, so that your nakedness may not
be exposed on it.

Exodus 21

THE LAW CONCERNING SLAVES

1 "These are the ordinances that you shall set before them:*

2 "When you buy a male Hebrew slave, he shall serve six years, but in the seventh he shall go out a free person, without debt.* 3If he comes in single, he shall go out single; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. 4If his master gives him a wife and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out alone. 5But if the slave declares, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out a free person,' 6then his master shall bring him before God. He shall be brought to the door or the doorpost, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl, and he shall serve him for life.*

7 "When a man sells his daughter as a slave, she shall not go out as the male slaves do.* 8If she does not please her master, who designated her for himself, then he shall let her be redeemed; he shall have no right to sell her to a foreign people, since he has dealt unfairly with her. 9If he designates her for his son, he shall deal with her as with a daughter. 10If he takes another wife to himself, he shall not diminish the food, clothing, or marital rights of the first wife.[n],* 11And if he does not do these three things for her, she shall go out without debt, without payment of money.

THE LAW CONCERNING VIOLENCE

12 "Whoever strikes a person mortally shall be put to death.* 13If it was not premeditated but came about by an act of God, then I will appoint for you a place to which the killer may flee.* 14But if someone willfully attacks and kills another by treachery, you shall take the killer from my altar for execution.*

15 "Whoever strikes father or mother shall be put to death.

16 "Whoever kidnaps a person, whether that person has been sold or is still held in possession, shall be put to death.*

17 "Whoever curses father or mother shall be put to death.*

18 "When individuals quarrel and one strikes the other with a stone or fist
so that the injured party, though not dead, is confined to bed [19]but recovers
and walks around outside with the help of a staff, then the assailant shall be
free of liability, except to pay for the loss of time and to arrange for full
recovery.

20 "When a slaveowner strikes a male or female slave with a rod and the
slave dies immediately, the owner shall be punished. [21]But if the slave
survives a day or two, there is no punishment, for the slave is the owner's
property.*

22 "When people who are fighting injure a pregnant woman so that there
is a miscarriage and yet no further harm follows, the one responsible shall
be fined what the woman's husband demands, paying as much as the judges
determine. [23]If any harm follows, then you shall give life for life,* [24]eye for
eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,* [25]burn for burn, wound
for wound, stripe for stripe.

26 "When a slaveowner strikes the eye of a male or female slave,
destroying it, the owner shall let the slave go, a free person, to compensate
for the eye. [27]If the owner knocks out a tooth of a male or female slave, the
slave shall be let go, a free person, to compensate for the tooth.

LAWS CONCERNING PROPERTY

28 "When an ox gores a man or a woman to death, the ox shall be stoned,
and its flesh shall not be eaten, but the owner of the ox shall not be liable.*
[29]If the ox has been accustomed to gore in the past and its owner has been
warned but did not restrain it, and it kills a man or a woman, the ox shall be
stoned, and its owner also shall be put to death. [30]If a ransom is imposed on
the owner, then the owner shall pay whatever is imposed for the redemption
of the victim's life.* [31]If it gores a boy or a girl, the owner shall be dealt
with according to this same rule. [32]If the ox gores a male or female slave,
the owner shall pay to the slaveowner thirty shekels of silver, and the ox
shall be stoned.*

33 "If someone leaves a pit open or digs a pit and does not cover it, and
an ox or a donkey falls into it,* [34]the owner of the pit shall make restitution,
giving money to its owner but keeping the dead animal.

35 “If someone’s ox hurts the ox of another, so that it dies, then they shall sell the live ox and divide the price of it, and the dead animal they shall also divide. [36]But if it was known that the ox was accustomed to gore in the past and its owner did not restrain it, the owner shall restore ox for ox but keep the dead animal.

Exodus 22

LAWS OF RESTITUTION

1 [o]"When someone steals an ox or a sheep and slaughters it or sells it, the thief shall pay five oxen for an ox and four sheep for a sheep. [2][p](If the thief is found breaking in and is struck dead, no bloodguilt is incurred;* [3]but if it happens after sunrise, bloodguilt is incurred.) The thief shall make full restitution or, if unable to do so, shall be sold for the theft.* [4]When the animal, whether ox or donkey or sheep, is found alive in the thief's possession, the thief shall pay double.

5 "When someone causes a field or vineyard to be grazed over or lets livestock loose to graze in someone else's field, restitution shall be made from the best in the owner's field or vineyard.

6 "When fire breaks out and catches in thorns so that the stacked grain or the standing grain or the field is consumed, the one who started the fire shall make full restitution.

7 "When someone delivers to a neighbor money or goods for safekeeping and they are stolen from the neighbor's house, then the thief, if caught, shall pay double.* [8]If the thief is not caught, the owner of the house shall be brought before God, to determine whether or not the owner had laid hands on the neighbor's goods.*

9 "In any case of disputed ownership involving ox, donkey, sheep, clothing, or any other loss, of which one party says, 'This is mine,' the case of both parties shall come before God; the one whom God condemns shall pay double to the other.*

10 "When someone delivers to another a donkey, ox, sheep, or any other animal for safekeeping and it dies or is injured or is carried off without anyone seeing it, [11]an oath before the LORD shall decide between the two of them that the one has not laid hands on the property of the other; the owner shall accept the oath, and no restitution shall be made.* [12]But if it was stolen, restitution shall be made to its owner.* [13]If it was mangled by beasts, let it be brought as evidence; restitution shall not be made for the mangled remains.

14 "When someone borrows an animal from another and it is injured or dies, the owner not being present, full restitution shall be made. [15]If the owner was present, there shall be no restitution; if it was hired, only the hiring fee is due.

SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS LAWS

16 "When a man seduces a virgin who is not engaged to be married and lies with her, he shall give the bride-price for her and make her his wife.* [17]But if her father refuses to give her to him, he shall pay an amount equal to the bride-price for virgins.

18 "You shall not permit a female sorcerer to live.*

19 "Whoever has intercourse with an animal shall be put to death.*

20 "Whoever sacrifices to any god other than the LORD alone shall be devoted to destruction.*

21 "You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.* [22]You shall not abuse any widow or orphan.* [23]If you do abuse them, when they cry out to me, I will surely heed their cry;* [24]my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children orphans.*

25 "If you lend money to my people, to the poor among you, you shall not deal with them as a creditor; you shall not exact interest from them.* [26]If you take your neighbor's cloak as guarantee, you shall restore it before the sun goes down, [27]for it may be your neighbor's only clothing to use as a cover. In what else shall that person sleep? And when your neighbor cries out to me, I will listen, for I am compassionate.

28 "You shall not revile God or curse a leader of your people.*

29 "You shall not delay to make offerings from the fullness of your harvest and from the outflow of your presses.[q]

"The firstborn of your sons you shall give to me.* [30]You shall do the same with your oxen and with your sheep: seven days it shall remain with its mother; on the eighth day you shall give it to me.*

31 "You shall be people consecrated to me, so you shall not eat any meat that is mangled by beasts in the field; you shall throw it to the dogs.*

Exodus 23

JUSTICE FOR ALL

1 "You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with the
wicked to act as a malicious witness.* [2]You shall not follow a majority in
wrongdoing; when you bear witness in a lawsuit, you shall not side with the
majority so as to pervert justice,[r],* [3]nor shall you be partial to the poor in a
lawsuit.

4 "When you come upon your enemy's ox or donkey going astray, you
shall bring it back.*

5 "When you see the donkey of one who hates you struggling under its
burden and you would hold back from setting it free, you must help to set it
free.*

6 "You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in their lawsuits.*
[7]Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and those in the
right, for I will not acquit the guilty.* [8]You shall take no bribe, for a bribe
blinds officials and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.*

9 "You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien,
for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.*

SABBATICAL YEAR AND SABBATH

10 "Six years you shall sow your land and gather in its yield,* [11]but the
seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow so that the poor of your
people may eat, and what they leave the wild animals may eat. You shall do
the same with your vineyard and with your olive orchard.

12 "Six days you shall do your work, but on the seventh day you shall
rest so that your ox and your donkey may have relief and your homeborn
slave and the resident alien may be refreshed.* [13]Be attentive to all that I
have said to you. Do not invoke the names of other gods; do not let them be
heard on your lips.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVALS

14 “Three times in the year you shall hold a festival for me. [15]You shall observe the Festival of Unleavened Bread; as I commanded you, you shall eat unleavened bread for seven days at the appointed time in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt.

“No one shall appear before me empty-handed.*

16 “You shall observe the Festival of Harvest, of the first fruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field. You shall observe the Festival of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor.* [17]Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the Lord God.

18 “You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with anything leavened or let the fat of my festival remain until the morning.

19 “The choicest of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God.

“You shall not boil a kid in its mother’s milk.*

THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN PROMISED

20 “I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared.* [21]Be attentive to him and listen to his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him.*

22 “But if you listen attentively to his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and a foe to your foes.*

23 “When my angel goes in front of you and brings you to the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, and I blot them out,* [24]you shall not bow down to their gods or serve them or follow their practices, but you shall utterly demolish them and break their pillars in pieces.* [25]You shall serve the Lord your God, and I[s] will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you.* [26]No one shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.* [27]I will send my terror in front of you and will throw into confusion all the people against whom you shall come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. [28]And I will send swarms of hornets[t] in front of you, which shall drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the

Hittites from before you.* 29I will not drive them out from before you in one
year, lest the land become desolate and the wild animals multiply against
you.* 30Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have
increased and possess the land. 31I will set your borders from the Red Sea[u]
to the sea of the Philistines and from the wilderness to the Euphrates, for I
will hand over to you the inhabitants of the land, and you shall drive them
out before you.* 32You shall make no covenant with them and their gods.*
33They shall not live in your land, lest they make you sin against me, for if
you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you."*

Exodus 24

THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT

1 Then he said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and
Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship at a distance.*
[2]Moses alone shall come near the LORD, but the others shall not come near,
and the people shall not come up with him."

3 Moses went and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the
ordinances, and all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the
words that the LORD has spoken we will do."* [4]And Moses wrote down all
the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning, built an altar at the
foot of the mountain, and set up twelve pillars, corresponding to the twelve
tribes of Israel.* [5]He sent young men of the Israelites, who offered burnt
offerings and sacrificed oxen as offerings of well-being to the LORD. [6]Moses
took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he dashed
against the altar.* [7]Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the
hearing of the people, and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will
do, and we will be obedient."* [8]Moses took the blood and dashed it on the
people, and said, "Here is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made
with you in accordance with all these words."*

ON THE MOUNTAIN WITH GOD

9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of
Israel went up,* [10]and they saw the God of Israel. Under his feet there was
something like a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for
clearness.* [11]God[v] did not lay his hand on the chief men of the Israelites;
they beheld God, and they ate and drank.

12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait
there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the
commandment, which I have written for their instruction." [13]So Moses set
out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God.
[14]To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you.
Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.* [16]The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud.* [17]Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites.* [18]Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.*

Exodus 25

OFFERINGS FOR THE TABERNACLE

1 The LORD said to Moses, [2]"Tell the Israelites to take for me an offering;
from all whose hearts prompt them to give you shall receive the offering for
me.* [3]This is the offering that you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and
bronze, [4]blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine linen, goats' hair, [5]tanned
rams' skins, fine leather,[w] acacia wood, [6]oil for the lamps, spices for the
anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,* [7]onyx stones and gems to be set
in the ephod and for the breastpiece.* [8]And they shall make me a sanctuary
so that I may dwell among them.* [9]In accordance with all that I show you
concerning the pattern of the tabernacle and of all its furniture, so you shall
make it.*

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

10 "They shall make an ark of acacia wood; it shall be two and a half
cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high.* [11]You shall
overlay it with pure gold, inside and outside you shall overlay it, and you
shall make a molding of gold upon it all around. [12]You shall cast four rings
of gold for it and put them on its four feet, two rings on one side of it and
two rings on the other side. [13]You shall make poles of acacia wood and
overlay them with gold. [14]And you shall put the poles into the rings on the
sides of the ark, for carrying the ark. [15]The poles shall remain in the rings of
the ark; they shall not be removed. [16]You shall put the covenant that I am
giving you into the ark.*

17 "Then you shall make a cover of pure gold; two cubits and a half shall
be its length and a cubit and a half its width.* [18]You shall make two
cherubim of gold; you shall make them of hammered work at the two ends
of the cover. [19]Make one cherub at one end and one cherub at the other; of
one piece with the cover you shall make the cherubim at its two ends. [20]The
cherubim shall spread out their wings above, overshadowing the cover with
their wings. They shall face one to another; the faces of the cherubim shall

be turned toward the cover.* 21You shall put the cover on the top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the covenant that I am giving you.* 22There I will meet with you, and from above the cover, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the covenant, I will tell you all that I am commanding you for the Israelites.*

THE TABLE FOR THE BREAD OF THE PRESENCE

23 "You shall make a table of acacia wood, two cubits long, one cubit wide, and a cubit and a half high.* 24You shall overlay it with pure gold and make a molding of gold around it. 25You shall make around it a rim a handbreadth wide and a molding of gold around the rim. 26You shall make for it four rings of gold and fasten the rings to the four corners at its four legs. 27The rings that hold the poles used for carrying the table shall be close to the rim. 28You shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold, and the table shall be carried with these. 29You shall make its plates and dishes and its flagons and bowls with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold.* 30And you shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before me continually.*

THE LAMPSTAND

31 "You shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The base and the shaft of the lampstand shall be made of hammered work; its cups, its calyxes, and its petals shall be of one piece with it;* 32and there shall be six branches going out of its sides: three branches of the lampstand out of one side of it and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side of it;* 33three cups shaped like almond blossoms, each with calyx and petals, on one branch, and three cups shaped like almond blossoms, each with calyx and petals, on the other branch—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand. 34On the lampstand itself there shall be four cups shaped like almond blossoms, each with its calyxes and petals.* 35There shall be a calyx of one piece with it under the first pair of branches, a calyx of one piece with it under the next pair of branches, and a calyx of one piece with it under the last pair of branches—so for the six branches that go out of the lampstand. 36Their calyxes and their branches shall be of one piece with it, the whole of it one

hammered piece of pure gold. [37]You shall make seven lamps for it, and the lamps shall be set up so as to give light on the space in front of it.* [38]Its snuffers and trays shall be of pure gold. [39]It and all these utensils shall be made from a talent of pure gold. [40]And see that you make them according to the pattern for them, which is being shown you on the mountain.*

Exodus 26

THE TABERNACLE

1 "The tabernacle itself you shall make with ten curtains of fine twisted
linen and blue, purple, and crimson yarns; you shall make them with
cherubim skillfully worked into them.* [2]The length of each curtain shall be
twenty-eight cubits and the width of each curtain four cubits; all the
curtains shall be of the same size. [3]Five curtains shall be joined to one
another, and the other five curtains shall be joined to one another.* [4]You
shall make loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain in the first set,
and likewise you shall make loops on the edge of the outermost curtain in
the second set. [5]You shall make fifty loops on the one curtain, and you shall
make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the
loops shall be opposite one another.* [6]You shall make fifty clasps of gold
and join the curtains to one another with the clasps, so that the tabernacle
may be one whole.

7 "You shall also make curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the
tabernacle; you shall make eleven curtains.* [8]The length of each curtain
shall be thirty cubits and the width of each curtain four cubits; the eleven
curtains shall be of the same size. [9]You shall join five curtains by
themselves and six curtains by themselves, and the sixth curtain you shall
double over at the front of the tent. [10]You shall make fifty loops on the edge
of the curtain that is outermost in one set and fifty loops on the edge of the
curtain that is outermost in the second set.

11 "You shall make fifty clasps of bronze and put the clasps into the
loops and join the tent together, so that it may be one whole.* [12]The part
that remains of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remains, shall
hang over the back of the tabernacle. [13]The cubit on one side and the cubit
on the other side of what remains in the length of the curtains of the tent
shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle, on this side and that side, to
cover it. [14]You shall make for the tent a covering of tanned rams' skins and
an outer covering of fine leather.[x,*]

THE FRAMEWORK

15 "You shall make upright frames of acacia wood for the tabernacle.* 16Ten cubits shall be the length of a frame and a cubit and a half the width of each frame. 17There shall be two pegs in each frame to fit the frames together; you shall make these for all the frames of the tabernacle. 18You shall make the frames for the tabernacle: twenty frames for the south side; 19and you shall make forty bases of silver under the twenty frames: two bases under the first frame for its two pegs and two bases under the next frame for its two pegs; 20and for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side twenty frames,* 21and their forty bases of silver: two bases under the first frame and two bases under the next frame; 22and for the rear of the tabernacle westward you shall make six frames. 23You shall make two frames for corners of the tabernacle in the rear; 24they shall be separate beneath but joined at the top at the first ring; it shall be the same with both of them; they shall form the two corners. 25And so there shall be eight frames, with their bases of silver, sixteen bases: two bases under the first frame and two bases under the next frame.*

26 "You shall make bars of acacia wood: five for the frames of one side of the tabernacle, 27and five bars for the frames of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the frames of the side of the tabernacle at the rear westward. 28The middle bar, halfway up the frames, shall pass through from end to end. 29You shall overlay the frames with gold and shall make their rings of gold to hold the bars, and you shall overlay the bars with gold. 30Then you shall erect the tabernacle according to the plan for it that you were shown on the mountain.*

THE CURTAIN

31 "You shall make a curtain of blue, purple, and crimson yarns and of fine twisted linen; it shall be made with cherubim skillfully worked into it.* 32You shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, which have hooks of gold and rest on four bases of silver. 33You shall hang the curtain under the clasps and bring the ark of the covenant in there, within the curtain, and the curtain shall separate for you the holy place from the most holy place.* 34You shall put the cover on the ark of the covenant in the most

holy place.* 35You shall set the table outside the curtain and the lampstand on the south side of the tabernacle opposite the table, and you shall put the table on the north side.*

36 "You shall make a screen for the entrance of the tent, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns and of fine twisted linen, embroidered with needlework.* 37You shall make for the screen five pillars of acacia and overlay them with gold; their hooks shall be of gold, and you shall cast five bases of bronze for them.*

Exodus 27

THE ALTAR OF BURNT OFFERING

1 "You shall make the altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits
wide; the altar shall be square, and it shall be three cubits high.* [2]You shall
make horns for it on its four corners; its horns shall be of one piece with it,
and you shall overlay it with bronze. [3]You shall make pots for its ashes and
shovels and basins and forks and firepans; you shall make all its utensils of
bronze.* [4]You shall also make for it a grating, a network of bronze, and on
the net you shall make four bronze rings at its four corners. [5]You shall set it
under the ledge of the altar so that the net shall extend halfway down the
altar. [6]You shall make poles for the altar, poles of acacia wood, and overlay
them with bronze; [7]the poles shall be put through the rings, so that the poles
shall be on the two sides of the altar when it is carried. [8]You shall make it
hollow, with boards. They shall be made just as you were shown on the
mountain.*

THE COURT AND ITS HANGINGS

9 "You shall make the court of the tabernacle. On the south side the court
shall have hangings of fine twisted linen one hundred cubits long for that
side;* [10]its twenty pillars and their twenty bases shall be of bronze, but the
hooks of the pillars and their bands shall be of silver.* [11]Likewise for its
length on the north side there shall be hangings one hundred cubits long,
their pillars twenty and their bases twenty, of bronze, but the hooks of the
pillars and their bands shall be of silver. [12]For the width of the court on the
west side there shall be fifty cubits of hangings, with ten pillars and ten
bases. [13]The width of the court on the front to the east shall be fifty cubits.
[14]There shall be fifteen cubits of hangings on one side, with three pillars
and three bases.* [15]There shall be fifteen cubits of[y] hangings on the other
side, with three pillars and three bases. [16]For the gate of the court there shall
be a screen twenty cubits long, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns and of
fine twisted linen, embroidered with needlework; it shall have four pillars
and with them four bases.* [17]All the pillars around the court shall be banded

with silver; their hooks shall be of silver and their bases of bronze. [18]The length of the court shall be one hundred cubits, the width fifty, and the height five cubits, with hangings of fine twisted linen and bases of bronze. [19]All the utensils of the tabernacle for every use, and all its pegs and all the pegs of the court, shall be of bronze.

THE OIL FOR THE LAMP

20 "You shall further command the Israelites to bring you pure oil of beaten olives for the light, so that a lamp may be set up to burn continually.* [21]In the tent of meeting, outside the curtain that is before the covenant, Aaron and his sons shall tend it from evening to morning before the LORD. It shall be a perpetual ordinance to be observed throughout their generations by the Israelites.*

Exodus 28

VESTMENTS FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

1 "Then bring near to you your brother Aaron and his sons with him, from among the Israelites, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron's sons: Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.* [2]You shall make sacred vestments for the glorious adornment of your brother Aaron.* [3]And you shall speak to all who are skillful, whom I have endowed with skill, so that they make Aaron's vestments to consecrate him for my priesthood.* [4]These are the vestments that they shall make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a checkered tunic, a turban, and a sash. When they make these sacred vestments for your brother Aaron and his sons to serve me as priests,* [5]they shall use gold, blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine linen.

THE EPHOD

6 "They shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and of fine twisted linen, skillfully worked.* [7]It shall have two shoulder pieces attached to its two edges, so that it may be joined together. [8]The decorated band on it shall be of the same workmanship and materials, of gold, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and of fine twisted linen. [9]You shall take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel,* [10]six of their names on the one stone and the names of the remaining six on the other stone, in the order of their birth. [11]As a gem cutter engraves signets, so you shall engrave the two stones with the names of the sons of Israel; you shall mount them in settings of gold filigree. [12]You shall set the two stones on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, as stones of remembrance for the sons of Israel, and Aaron shall bear their names before the LORD on his two shoulders for remembrance.* [13]You shall make settings of gold filigree [14]and two chains of pure gold, twisted like cords, and you shall attach the corded chains to the settings.

THE BREASTPLATE

15 "You shall make a breastpiece of judgment, in skilled work; you shall make it in the style of the ephod; of gold, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and of fine twisted linen you shall make it.* [16]It shall be square and doubled, a span in length and a span in width. [17]You shall set in it four rows of stones. A row of carnelian, chrysolite, and emerald shall be the first row;* [18]and the second row a turquoise, a sapphire,[z] and a moonstone; [19]and the third row a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; [20]and the fourth row a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper; they shall be set in gold filigree. [21]There shall be twelve stones with names corresponding to the names of the sons of Israel; they shall be like signets, each engraved with its name, for the twelve tribes.* [22]You shall make for the breastpiece chains of pure gold, twisted like cords, [23]and you shall make for the breastpiece two rings of gold and put the two rings on the two edges of the breastpiece. [24]You shall put the two cords of gold in the two rings at the edges of the breastpiece;* [25]the two ends of the two cords you shall attach to the two settings and so attach it in front to the shoulder pieces of the ephod. [26]You shall make two rings of gold and put them at the two ends of the breastpiece, on its inside edge next to the ephod.[a]* [27]You shall make two rings of gold and attach them in front to the lower part of the two shoulder pieces of the ephod, at its joining above the decorated band of the ephod. [28]The breastpiece shall be bound by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a blue cord, so that it may lie on the decorated band of the ephod and so that the breastpiece shall not come loose from the ephod. [29]So Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of judgment on his heart when he goes into the holy place, for a continual remembrance before the LORD.* [30]In the breastpiece of judgment you shall put the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be on Aaron's heart when he goes in before the LORD; thus Aaron shall bear the judgment of the Israelites on his heart before the LORD continually.*

OTHER PRIESTLY VESTMENTS

31 "You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue.* [32]It shall have an opening for the head in the middle of it, with a woven binding around its edge, like the opening in a garment,[b] so that it may not be torn. [33]On its lower hem you shall make pomegranates of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, all around the lower hem, with bells of gold between them all around

—[34]a golden bell and a pomegranate alternating all around the lower hem of the robe. [35]Aaron shall wear it when he ministers, and its sound shall be heard when he goes into the holy place before the LORD and when he comes out, so that he may not die.

36 "You shall make a rosette of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet, 'Holy to the LORD.'* [37]You shall fasten it on the turban with a blue cord; it shall be on the front of the turban. [38]It shall be on Aaron's forehead, and Aaron shall take on himself any guilt incurred in the holy offerings that the Israelites consecrate as their sacred donations; it shall always be on his forehead, in order that they may find favor before the LORD.*

39 "You shall make the checkered tunic of fine linen, and you shall make a turban of fine linen, and you shall make a sash embroidered with needlework.

40 "For Aaron's sons you shall make tunics and sashes and headdresses; you shall make them for their glorious adornment.* [41]You shall put them on your brother Aaron and on his sons with him and shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, so that they may serve me as priests.* [42]You shall make for them linen undergarments to cover their naked flesh; they shall reach from the hips to the thighs;* [43]They shall be worn by Aaron and his sons when they go into the tent of meeting or when they come near the altar to minister in the holy place, so that they do not bring guilt on themselves and die. This shall be a perpetual ordinance for him and for his descendants after him.*

Exodus 29

THE ORDINATION OF THE PRIESTS

1 "Now this is what you shall do to them to consecrate them to serve me as
priests. Take one young bull and two rams without blemish,* [2]and
unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers
spread with oil. You shall make them of choice wheat flour.* [3]You shall put
them in one basket and bring them in the basket and bring the bull and the
two rams. [4]You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the tent of
meeting and wash them with water.* [5]Then you shall take the vestments and
put on Aaron the tunic and the robe of the ephod and the ephod and the
breastpiece and gird him with the decorated band of the ephod,* [6]and you
shall set the turban on his head and put the holy diadem on the turban.*
[7]You shall take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him.*
[8]Then you shall bring his sons and put tunics on them,* [9]and you shall gird
them, Aaron and his sons, with sashes and tie headdresses on them, and the
priesthood shall be theirs by a perpetual ordinance. You shall then ordain
Aaron and his sons.*

10 "You shall bring the bull in front of the tent of meeting. Aaron and his
sons shall lay their hands on the head of the bull,* [11]and you shall slaughter
the bull before the LORD, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, [12]and shall
take some of the blood of the bull and put it on the horns of the altar with
your finger, and all the rest of the blood you shall pour out at the base of the
altar.* [13]You shall take all the fat that covers the entrails and the appendage
of the liver and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them and turn them
into smoke on the altar.* [14]But the flesh of the bull and its skin and its dung
you shall burn with fire outside the camp. It is a purification offering.*

15 "Then you shall take one of the rams, and Aaron and his sons shall lay
their hands on the head of the ram,* [16]and you shall slaughter the ram and
shall take its blood and dash it against all sides of the altar. [17]Then you shall
cut the ram into its parts and wash its entrails and its legs and put them with
its parts and its head [18]and turn the rest of the ram into smoke on the altar. It

is a burnt offering to the LORD; it is a pleasing odor, an offering by fire[c] to the LORD.*

19 "You shall take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram, [20]and you shall slaughter the ram and take some of its blood and put it on the lobe of Aaron's right ear and on the lobes of the right ears of his sons and on the thumbs of their right hands and on the big toes of their right feet and dash the rest of the blood against all sides of the altar. [21]Then you shall take some of the blood that is on the altar and some of the anointing oil and sprinkle it on Aaron and his vestments and on his sons and his sons' vestments with him; then he and his vestments shall be holy, as well as his sons and his sons' vestments with him.*

22 "You shall also take the fat of the ram, the fatty tail, the fat that covers the entrails, the appendage of the liver, the two kidneys with the fat that is on them, and the right thigh (for it is a ram of ordination), [23]and one loaf of bread, one cake of bread made with oil, and one wafer, out of the basket of unleavened bread that is before the LORD,* [24]and you shall place all these on the palms of Aaron and on the palms of his sons and raise them as an elevation offering before the LORD.* [25]Then you shall take them from their hands and turn them into smoke on the altar on top of the burnt offering for a pleasing odor before the LORD. It is an offering by fire[d] to the LORD.*

26 "You shall take the breast of the ram of Aaron's ordination and raise it as an elevation offering before the LORD, and it shall be your portion.* [27]You shall consecrate the breast that was raised as an elevation offering and the thigh that was lifted up as an offering from the ram of ordination, from that which belonged to Aaron and his sons.* [28]These things shall be a perpetual ordinance for Aaron and his sons from the Israelites, for this is an offering, and it shall be an offering by the Israelites from their sacrifice of offerings of well-being, their offering to the LORD.*

29 "The sacred vestments of Aaron shall be passed on to his sons after him; they shall be anointed in them and ordained in them.* [30]The son who is priest in his place shall wear them seven days when he comes into the tent of meeting to minister in the holy place.*

31 "You shall take the ram of ordination and boil its flesh in a holy place,* [32]and Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram and the bread that is in the basket at the entrance of the tent of meeting.* [33]They shall eat

the food by which atonement is made, to ordain and consecrate them, but no one else shall eat of it, because it is holy.* 34If any of the flesh for the ordination or of the bread remains until the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire; it shall not be eaten, because it is holy.*

35 "Thus you shall do to Aaron and to his sons, just as I have commanded you; through seven days you shall ordain them.* 36Also every day you shall offer a bull as a purification offering for atonement. Also you shall offer a sin offering for the altar, when you make atonement for it, and shall anoint it, to consecrate it.* 37Seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and consecrate it, and the altar shall be most holy; whatever touches the altar shall become holy.*

THE DAILY OFFERINGS

38 "Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs a year old regularly each day.* 39One lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer in the evening, 40and with the first lamb one-tenth of a measure of choice flour mixed with one-fourth of a hin of beaten oil, and one-fourth of a hin of wine for a drink offering. 41And the other lamb you shall offer in the evening and shall offer with it a grain offering and its drink offering, as in the morning, for a pleasing odor, an offering by fire[e] to the LORD. 42It shall be a regular burnt offering throughout your generations at the entrance of the tent of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there.* 43I will meet with the Israelites there, and it shall be sanctified by my glory;* 44I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar; Aaron also and his sons I will consecrate to serve me as priests.* 45I will dwell among the Israelites, and I will be their God.* 46And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt that I might dwell among them; I am the LORD their God.*

Exodus 30

THE ALTAR OF INCENSE

1 "You shall make an altar on which to offer incense; you shall make it of
acacia wood.* [2]It shall be one cubit long and one cubit wide; it shall be
square and shall be two cubits high; its horns shall be of one piece with it.
[3]You shall overlay it with pure gold, its top and its sides all around and its
horns, and you shall make for it a molding of gold all around. [4]And you
shall make two golden rings for it; under its molding on two opposite sides
of it you shall make them, and they shall hold the poles for carrying it. [5]You
shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. [6]You shall
place it in front of the curtain that is above the ark of the covenant, in front
of the cover that is over the covenant, where I will meet with you.* [7]Aaron
shall offer fragrant incense on it; every morning when he dresses the lamps
he shall offer it,* [8]and when Aaron sets up the lamps in the evening, he shall
offer it, a regular incense offering before the LORD throughout your
generations. [9]You shall not offer unholy incense on it or a burnt offering or
a grain offering, and you shall not pour a drink offering on it.* [10]Once a
year Aaron shall perform the rite of atonement on its horns. Throughout
your generations he shall perform the atonement for it once a year with the
blood of the atoning purification offering. It is most holy to the LORD."*

THE HALF SHEKEL FOR THE SANCTUARY

11 The LORD spoke to Moses, [12]"When you take a census of the Israelites
to register them, at registration all of them shall give a ransom for their lives
to the LORD, so that no plague may come upon them for being registered.*
[13]This is what each one who is registered shall give: half a shekel according
to the shekel of the sanctuary (the shekel is twenty gerahs), half a shekel as
an offering to the LORD.* [14]Each one who is registered, from twenty years
old and up, shall give the LORD's offering. [15]The rich shall not give more
and the poor shall not give less than the half shekel, when you bring this
offering to the LORD to make atonement for your lives.* [16]You shall take the
atonement money from the Israelites and shall designate it for the service of

the tent of meeting; before the LORD it will be a reminder to the Israelites of the ransom given for your lives."*

THE BRONZE BASIN

17 The LORD spoke to Moses, [18]"You shall make a bronze basin with a bronze stand for washing. You shall put it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and you shall put water in it;* [19]with the water[f] Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet.* [20]When they go into the tent of meeting or when they come near the altar to minister to make an offering by fire[g] to the LORD, they shall wash with water, so that they may not die. [21]They shall wash their hands and their feet, so that they may not die: it shall be a perpetual ordinance for them, for him and for his descendants throughout their generations."*

THE ANOINTING OIL AND INCENSE

22 The LORD spoke to Moses, [23]"Take the finest spices: of liquid myrrh five hundred shekels, and of sweet-smelling cinnamon half as much, that is, two hundred fifty, and two hundred fifty of aromatic cane, [24]and five hundred of cassia—measured by the sanctuary shekel—and a hin of olive oil, [25]and you shall make of these a sacred anointing oil blended as by the perfumer; it shall be a holy anointing oil.* [26]With it you shall anoint the tent of meeting and the ark of the covenant* [27]and the table and all its utensils and the lampstand and its utensils and the altar of incense [28]and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils and the basin with its stand; [29]you shall consecrate them, so that they may be most holy; whatever touches them will become holy.* [30]You shall anoint Aaron and his sons and consecrate them to serve me as priests.* [31]You shall say to the Israelites: This shall be my holy anointing oil throughout your generations. [32]It shall not be used in any ordinary anointing of the body, and you shall make no other like it in composition; it is holy, and it shall be holy to you.* [33]Whoever blends any like it or whoever puts any of it on an unqualified person shall be cut off from the people."*

34 The LORD said to Moses, "Take sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum, sweet spices with pure frankincense (an equal part of each),

[35]and make an incense blended as by the perfumer, seasoned with salt, pure and holy,* [36]and you shall beat some of it into powder and put part of it before the covenant in the tent of meeting, where I shall meet with you; it shall be most holy for you.* [37]When you make incense according to this composition, you shall not make it for yourselves; it shall be regarded by you as holy to the LORD. [38]Whoever makes any like it to use as perfume shall be cut off from the people."

Exodus 31

BEZALEL AND OHOLIAB

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, [2]"See, I have called by name Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah,* [3]and I have filled him with a divine spirit,[h] with ability, intelligence, and knowledge, and every kind of skill, [4]to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, [5]in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every kind of craft. [6]Moreover, I have appointed with him Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, and I have given skill to all the skillful, so that they may make all that I have commanded you:* [7]the tent of meeting, and the ark of the covenant, and the cover that is on it, and all the furnishings of the tent,* [8]the table and its utensils, and the pure lampstand with all its utensils, and the altar of incense,* [9]and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the basin with its stand, [10]and the finely worked vestments, the holy vestments for the priest Aaron and the vestments of his sons, for their service as priests, [11]and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense for the holy place. They shall do just as I have commanded you."*

THE SABBATH LAW

12 The LORD said to Moses, [13]"You yourself are to speak to the Israelites, 'You shall surely keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, given in order that you may know that I, the LORD, sanctify you.* [14]You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is holy for you; everyone who profanes it shall be put to death; whoever does any work on it shall be cut off from among the people.* [15]Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the LORD; whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall be put to death.* [16]Therefore the Israelites shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a perpetual covenant. [17]It is a sign forever between me and the Israelites that in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.' "*

THE TWO TABLETS OF THE COVENANT

18 When God[i] finished speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave
him the two tablets of the covenant, tablets of stone, written with the finger
of God.[*]

Exodus 32

THE GOLDEN CALF

1 When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the
mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make
gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought
us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."*
2Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your
wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me."* 3So all the
people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron.
4He took these from them, formed them in a mold,[j] and cast an image of a
calf, and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out
of the land of Egypt!"* 5When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it,
and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to
the LORD." 6They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and
brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink
and rose up to revel.*

7 The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you
brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;* 8they have
been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have
cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed
to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the
land of Egypt!' "* 9The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how
stiff-necked they are.* 10Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot
against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great
nation."*

11 But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does
your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land
of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?* 12Why should the
Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them
in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn
from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your
people.* 13Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you

swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' "* 14And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.*

15 Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain, carrying the two tablets of the covenant in his hands, tablets that were written on both sides, written on the front and on the back.* 16The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved upon the tablets.* 17When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp." 18But he said,

"It is not the sound made by victors
or the sound made by losers;
it is the sound of singing that I hear."

19As soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses's anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets from his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.* 20He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it.*

21 Moses said to Aaron, "What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?"* 22And Aaron said, "Do not let the anger of my lord burn hot; you know the people, that they are wicked.* 23They said to me, 'Make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.'* 24So I said to them, 'Whoever has gold, take it off'; so they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!"*

25 When Moses saw that the people were out of control (for Aaron had lost control of them, prompting derision among their enemies), 26then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, "Who is on the LORD's side? Come to me!" And all the sons of Levi gathered around him. 27He said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Put your sword on your side, each of you! Go back and forth from gate to gate throughout the camp, and each of you kill your brother, your friend, and your neighbor."* 28The sons

of Levi did as Moses commanded, and about three thousand of the people fell on that day. [29]Moses said, "Today you have been ordained for the service of the LORD, each one at the cost of a son or a brother, and so have brought a blessing on yourselves this day."

30 On the next day Moses said to the people, "You have sinned a great sin. But now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin."* [31]So Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Alas, this people has sinned a great sin; they have made for themselves gods of gold.* [32]But now, if you will only forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of the book that you have written."* [33]But the LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against me I will blot out of my book.* [34]But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; see, my angel shall go in front of you. Nevertheless, when the day for punishment comes, I will punish them for their sin."*

35 Then the LORD sent a plague on the people, because they made the calf —the one that Aaron had made.*

Exodus 33

THE COMMAND TO LEAVE SINAI

1 The LORD said to Moses, "Go, leave this place, you and the people whom
you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, and go to the land of which I
swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your descendants I will
give it.'* [2]I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the
Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the
Jebusites.* [3]Go up[k] to a land flowing with milk and honey, but I will not go
up among you, or I would consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-
necked people."*

4 When the people heard these harsh words, they mourned, and no one
put on ornaments.* [5]For the LORD had said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites,
'You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among
you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, and I will
decide what to do to you.' " [6]Therefore the Israelites stripped themselves of
their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

THE TENT OUTSIDE THE CAMP

7 Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off
from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought
the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp.*
[8]Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand,
each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had
gone into the tent.* [9]When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would
descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the LORD[l] would speak
with Moses.* [10]When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the
entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at
the entrance of their tent. [11]Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to
face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp, but his
young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.*

MOSES'S INTERCESSION

12 Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this
people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet
you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my
sight.'* 13Now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your
ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider, too,
that this nation is your people."* 14He said, "My presence will go with you,
and I will give you rest."* 15And he said to him, "If your presence will not
go, do not bring us up from here. 16For how shall it be known that I have
found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this
way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face
of the earth."*

17 The LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have asked,
for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."* 18Moses[m]
said, "Please show me your glory." 19And he said, "I will make all my
goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you the name, 'The
LORD,'[n] and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show
mercy on whom I will show mercy.* 20But," he said, "you cannot see my
face, for no one shall see me and live."* 21And the LORD continued, "See,
there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, 22and while my
glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you
with my hand until I have passed by; 23then I will take away my hand, and
you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."*

Exodus 34

MOSES MAKES NEW TABLETS

1 The LORD said to Moses, "Cut two tablets of stone like the former ones,
and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets,
which you broke.* 2Be ready in the morning and come up in the morning to
Mount Sinai and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain.*
3No one shall come up with you, and do not let anyone be seen throughout
all the mountain, and do not let flocks or herds graze in front of that
mountain."* 4So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the former ones, and he
rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had
commanded him, and took in his hand the two tablets of stone. 5The LORD
descended in the cloud and stood with him there and proclaimed the name,
"The LORD."o,* 6The LORD passed before him and proclaimed,

"The LORD, the LORD,
a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,*
7keeping steadfast love for the thousandth generation,p
forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin,
yet by no means clearing the guilty,
but visiting the iniquity of the parents
upon the children
and the children's children
to the third and the fourth generation."*

8And Moses quickly bowed down to the ground and worshiped.* 9He said,
"If now I have found favor in your sight, my Lord, I pray, let my Lord go
with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, pardon our iniquity and our
sin, and take us for your inheritance."*

THE COVENANT RENEWED

10 He said, "I hereby make a covenant. Before all your people I will perform marvels, such as have not been done[q] in all the earth or in any nation, and all the people among whom you live shall see the work of the LORD, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.*

11 "Observe what I command you today. See, I will drive out before you the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.* 12Take care not to make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you are going, or it will become a snare among you.* 13Rather, you shall tear down their altars, break their pillars, and cut down their sacred poles,[r],* 14for you shall worship no other god, because the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.* 15You shall not make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, for when they prostitute themselves to their gods and sacrifice to their gods, someone among them will invite you, and you will eat of the sacrifice,* 16and you will take wives from among their daughters for your sons, and their daughters who prostitute themselves to their gods will make your sons also prostitute themselves to their gods.*

17 "You shall not make cast idols.*

18 "You shall keep the Festival of Unleavened Bread. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib, for in the month of Abib you came out from Egypt.*

19 "All that first opens the womb is mine, all your male[s] livestock, the firstborn of cow and sheep.* 20The firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you shall redeem.

"No one shall appear before me empty-handed.*

21 "Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even in plowing time and in harvest time you shall rest.* 22You shall observe the Festival of Weeks, the first fruits of wheat harvest, and the Festival of Ingathering at the turn of the year.* 23Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the LORD God, the God of Israel.* 24For I will cast out nations before you and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land when you go up to appear before the LORD your God three times in the year.

25 "You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven, and the sacrifice of the festival of the Passover shall not be left until the morning.*

26 "The best of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of the LORD your God.

"You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk."*

27 The LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel."* [28]He was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.t,*

THE SHINING FACE OF MOSES

29 Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.* [30]When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. [31]But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. [32]Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.* [33]When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face,* [34]but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded,* [35]the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

Exodus 35

SABBATH REGULATIONS

1 Moses assembled all the congregation of the Israelites and said to them,
"These are the things that the LORD has commanded you to do:*

2 "Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day you shall have a
holy Sabbath of solemn rest to the LORD; whoever does any work on it shall
be put to death.* [3]You shall kindle no fire in all your dwellings on the
Sabbath day."*

PREPARATIONS FOR MAKING THE TABERNACLE

4 Moses said to all the congregation of the Israelites, "This is the thing
that the LORD has commanded:* [5]Take from among you an offering to the
LORD; let whoever is of a generous heart bring the LORD's offering: gold,
silver, and bronze; [6]blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine linen; goats'
hair, [7]tanned rams' skins, and fine leather;[u] acacia wood, [8]oil for the light,
spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, [9]and onyx stones
and gems to be set in the ephod and the breastpiece.

10 "All who are skillful among you shall come and make all that the
LORD has commanded: [11]the tabernacle, its tent and its covering, its clasps
and its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases;* [12]the ark with its poles, the
cover, and the curtain for the screen; [13]the table with its poles and all its
utensils and the bread of the Presence;* [14]and the lampstand for the light,
with its utensils and its lamps and the oil for the light; [15]and the altar of
incense, with its poles, and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense, and
the screen for the entrance, the entrance of the tabernacle;* [16]the altar of
burnt offering, with its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils, the
basin with its stand; [17]the hangings of the court, its pillars and its bases, and
the screen for the gate of the court; [18]the pegs of the tabernacle and the pegs
of the court and their cords; [19]the finely worked vestments for ministering
in the holy place, the holy vestments for the priest Aaron, and the vestments
of his sons, for their service as priests."*

OFFERINGS FOR THE TABERNACLE

20 Then all the congregation of the Israelites withdrew from the presence
of Moses. 21And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred and everyone
whose spirit was willing, and brought the LORD's offering to be used for the
tent of meeting and for all its service and for the sacred vestments.* 22So
they came, both men and women; all who were of a willing heart brought
brooches and earrings and signet rings and pendants, all sorts of gold
objects, everyone bringing an offering of gold to the LORD. 23And everyone
who possessed blue or purple or crimson yarn or fine linen or goats' hair or
tanned rams' skins or fine leather[v] brought them.* 24Everyone who could
make an offering of silver or bronze brought it as the LORD's offering, and
everyone who possessed acacia wood of any use in the work brought it.
25All the skillful women spun with their hands and brought what they had
spun in blue and purple and crimson yarns and fine linen;* 26all the women
whose hearts moved them to use their skill spun the goats' hair. 27And the
leaders brought onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and the
breastpiece* 28and spices and oil for the light and for the anointing oil and
for the fragrant incense.* 29All the Israelite men and women whose hearts
made them willing to bring anything for the work that the LORD had
commanded by Moses to be done brought it as a freewill offering to the
LORD.*

BEZALEL AND OHOLIAB

30 Then Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the LORD has called by name
Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah;* 31he has filled him
with a divine spirit,[w] with ability, intelligence, and knowledge, and with
every kind of skill, 32to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and
bronze, 33in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, in every kind of
artistic craft. 34And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab son
of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. 35He has filled them with skill to do
every kind of work done by an artisan or by a designer or by an embroiderer
in blue, purple, and crimson yarns and in fine linen or by a weaver—by any
sort of skilled worker or designer.*

Exodus 36

1 "Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the LORD has
given skill and understanding to know how to do any work in the
construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the
LORD has commanded."*

2 Moses then called Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to
whom the LORD had given skill, everyone whose heart was stirred to come
to do the work,* [3]and they received from Moses all the offerings that the
Israelites had brought for the work of constructing the sanctuary. They still
kept bringing him freewill offerings every morning,* [4]so that all the skilled
workers who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each
from the task being performed, [5]and said to Moses, "The people are
bringing much more than enough for doing the work that the LORD has
commanded us to do."* [6]So Moses gave command, and word was
proclaimed throughout the camp: "No man or woman is to make anything
else as an offering for the sanctuary." So the people were restrained from
bringing, [7]for what they had already brought was more than enough to do
all the work.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE TABERNACLE

8 All those with skill among the workers made the tabernacle with ten
curtains; they were made of fine twisted linen and blue, purple, and crimson
yarns, with cherubim skillfully worked into them.* [9]The length of each
curtain was twenty-eight cubits and the width of each curtain four cubits; all
the curtains were of the same size.

10 He joined five curtains to one another, and the other five curtains he
joined to one another. [11]He made loops of blue on the edge of the outermost
curtain of the first set; likewise he made them on the edge of the outermost
curtain of the second set; [12]he made fifty loops on the one curtain, and he
made fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that was in the second set; the
loops were opposite one another.* [13]And he made fifty clasps of gold and

joined the curtains one to the other with clasps; so the tabernacle was one whole.

14 He also made curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle; he made eleven curtains.* 15The length of each curtain was thirty cubits and the width of each curtain four cubits; the eleven curtains were of the same size. 16He joined five curtains by themselves and six curtains by themselves. 17He made fifty loops on the edge of the outermost curtain of the one set and fifty loops on the edge of the other connecting curtain. 18He made fifty clasps of bronze to join the tent together so that it might be one whole. 19And he made for the tent a covering of tanned rams' skins and an outer covering of fine leather.x,*

20 Then he made the upright frames for the tabernacle of acacia wood.* 21Ten cubits was the length of a frame and a cubit and a half the width of each frame. 22Each frame had two pegs for fitting together; he did this for all the frames of the tabernacle. 23The frames for the tabernacle he made in this way: twenty frames for the south side, 24and he made forty bases of silver under the twenty frames, two bases under the first frame for its two pegs and two bases under the next frame for its two pegs.* 25For the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, he made twenty frames 26and their forty bases of silver, two bases under the first frame and two bases under the next frame. 27For the rear of the tabernacle westward he made six frames.* 28He made two frames for the corners of the tabernacle in the rear. 29They were separate beneath but joined at the top at the first ring; he made two of them in this way for the two corners. 30There were eight frames with their bases of silver: sixteen bases, under every frame two bases.

31 He made bars of acacia wood: five for the frames of the one side of the tabernacle,* 32and five bars for the frames of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the frames of the tabernacle at the rear westward. 33He made the middle bar to pass through from end to end halfway up the frames. 34And he overlaid the frames with gold and made rings of gold for them to hold the bars and overlaid the bars with gold.

35 He made the curtain of blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine twisted linen, with cherubim skillfully worked into it.* 36He made for it four pillars of acacia and overlaid them with gold; their hooks were of gold, and

he cast for them four bases of silver. [37]He also made a screen for the entrance to the tent, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine twisted linen, embroidered with needlework, [38]and its five pillars with their hooks. He overlaid their capitals and their bases with gold, but their five bases were of bronze.

Exodus 37

MAKING THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

1 Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood; it was two and a half cubits long, a
cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high.* [2]He overlaid it with pure
gold inside and outside and made a molding of gold around it. [3]He cast for
it four rings of gold for its four feet, two rings on its one side and two rings
on its other side.* [4]He made poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with
gold [5]and put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry the
ark. [6]He made a cover of pure gold; two cubits and a half was its length and
a cubit and a half its width.* [7]He made two cherubim of hammered gold; at
the two ends of the cover he made them, [8]one cherub at one end and one
cherub at the other end; of one piece with the cover he made the cherubim
at its two ends. [9]The cherubim spread out their wings above,
overshadowing the cover with their wings. They faced one another; the
faces of the cherubim were turned toward the cover.

MAKING THE TABLE FOR THE BREAD OF THE PRESENCE

10 He also made the table of acacia wood, two cubits long, one cubit
wide, and a cubit and a half high.* [11]He overlaid it with pure gold and made
a molding of gold around it. [12]He also made around it a rim a handbreadth
wide, and he made a molding of gold around the rim. [13]He cast for it four
rings of gold and fastened the rings to the four corners at its four legs. [14]The
rings that held the poles used for carrying the table were close to the rim.
[15]He made the poles of acacia wood to carry the table and overlaid them
with gold. [16]And he made the vessels of pure gold that were to be on the
table, its plates and dishes for incense and its bowls and flagons with which
to pour drink offerings.*

MAKING THE LAMPSTAND

17 He also made the lampstand of pure gold. The base and the shaft of
the lampstand were made of hammered work; its cups, its calyxes, and its

petals were of one piece with it.* 18There were six branches going out of its
sides, three branches of the lampstand out of one side of it and three
branches of the lampstand out of the other side of it; 19three cups shaped
like almond blossoms, each with calyx and petals, on one branch, and three
cups shaped like almond blossoms, each with calyx and petals, on the other
branch—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand.* 20On the
lampstand itself there were four cups shaped like almond blossoms, each
with its calyxes and petals. 21There was a calyx of one piece with it under
the first pair of branches, a calyx of one piece with it under the next pair of
branches, and a calyx of one piece with it under the last pair of branches—
so for the six branches going out of it.* 22Their calyxes and their branches
were of one piece with it, the whole of it one hammered piece of pure gold.
23He made its seven lamps and its snuffers and its trays of pure gold. 24He
made it and all its utensils of a talent of pure gold.

MAKING THE ALTAR OF INCENSE

25 He made the altar of incense of acacia wood, one cubit long and one
cubit wide; it was square and was two cubits high; its horns were of one
piece with it.* 26He overlaid it with pure gold, its top and its sides all
around and its horns, and he made a molding of gold around it 27and two
golden rings for it under its molding, on two opposite sides of it, to hold the
poles with which to carry it. 28And he made the poles of acacia wood and
overlaid them with gold.

MAKING THE ANOINTING OIL AND THE INCENSE

29 He made the holy anointing oil also and the pure fragrant incense,
blended as by the perfumer.*

Exodus 38

MAKING THE ALTAR OF BURNT OFFERING

1 He made the altar of burnt offering of acacia wood; it was five cubits long
and five cubits wide; it was square and was three cubits high.* [2]He made
horns for it on its four corners; its horns were of one piece with it, and he
overlaid it with bronze. [3]He made all the utensils of the altar: the pots, the
shovels, the basins, the forks, and the firepans; all its utensils he made of
bronze. [4]He made for the altar a grating, a network of bronze, under its
ledge, extending halfway down. [5]He cast four rings on the four corners of
the bronze grating to hold the poles; [6]he made the poles of acacia wood and
overlaid them with bronze. [7]And he put the poles through the rings on the
sides of the altar, to carry it with them; he made it hollow, with boards.

8 He made the basin of bronze with its stand of bronze, from the mirrors
of the women who served at the entrance to the tent of meeting.*

MAKING THE COURT OF THE TABERNACLE

9 He made the court; for the south side the hangings of the court were of
fine twisted linen, one hundred cubits long;* [10]its twenty pillars and their
twenty bases were of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their bands
were of silver. [11]For the north side there were hangings[y] one hundred cubits
long; its twenty pillars and their twenty bases were of bronze, but the hooks
of the pillars and their bands were of silver.* [12]For the west side there were
hangings fifty cubits long, with ten pillars and ten bases; the hooks of the
pillars and their bands were of silver. [13]And for the front to the east, fifty
cubits. [14]The hangings for one side of the gate were fifteen cubits, with
three pillars and three bases.* [15]And likewise for the other side: on each
side of the gate of the court were hangings of fifteen cubits, with three
pillars and three bases. [16]All the hangings around the court were of fine
twisted linen. [17]The bases for the pillars were of bronze, but the hooks of
the pillars and their bands were of silver; the overlaying of their capitals
was also of silver, and all the pillars of the court were banded with silver.

[18]The screen for the entrance to the court was embroidered with needlework
in blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine twisted linen. It was twenty
cubits long and, along the width of it, five cubits high, corresponding to the
hangings of the court.* [19]There were four pillars; their four bases were of
bronze, their hooks of silver, and the overlaying of their capitals and their
bands of silver. [20]All the pegs for the tabernacle and for the court all around
were of bronze.

MATERIALS OF THE TABERNACLE

21 These are the records of the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the covenant,
which were drawn up at the commandment of Moses, the work of the
Levites being under the direction of Ithamar son of the priest Aaron.*
[22]Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the
LORD commanded Moses,* [23]and with him was Oholiab son of Ahisamach,
of the tribe of Dan, engraver, designer, and embroiderer in blue, purple, and
crimson yarns and in fine linen.

24 All the gold that was used for the work, in all the construction of the
sanctuary, the gold from the offering, was twenty-nine talents and seven
hundred thirty shekels, measured by the sanctuary shekel.* [25]The silver
from those of the congregation who were counted was one hundred talents
and one thousand seven hundred seventy-five shekels, measured by the
sanctuary shekel,* [26]a beka a head (that is, half a shekel, measured by the
sanctuary shekel) for everyone who was counted in the census, from twenty
years old and up, for six hundred three thousand, five hundred fifty men.*
[27]The hundred talents of silver were for casting the bases of the sanctuary
and the bases of the curtain, one hundred bases for the hundred talents, one
talent per base.* [28]Of the thousand seven hundred seventy-five shekels he
made hooks for the pillars and overlaid their capitals and made bands for
them. [29]The bronze offering was seventy talents and two thousand four
hundred shekels; [30]with it he made the bases for the entrance of the tent of
meeting, the bronze altar and the bronze grating for it and all the utensils of
the altar, [31]the bases all around the court, and the bases of the gate of the
court, all the pegs of the tabernacle, and all the pegs around the court.

Exodus 39

MAKING THE VESTMENTS FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

1 Of the blue, purple, and crimson yarns they made finely worked
vestments, for ministering in the holy place; they made the sacred
vestments for Aaron, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

2 He made the ephod of gold, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and of
fine twisted linen.* [3]Gold leaf was hammered out and cut into threads to
work into the blue, purple, and crimson yarns and into the fine twisted
linen, in skilled design. [4]They made for the ephod shoulder pieces, joined to
it at its two edges. [5]The decorated band on it was of the same materials and
workmanship, of gold, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and of fine
twisted linen, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

6 The onyx stones were prepared, enclosed in settings of gold filigree and
engraved like the engravings of a signet, according to the names of the sons
of Israel.* [7]He set them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, to be stones of
remembrance for the sons of Israel, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

8 He made the breastpiece, in skilled work, like the work of the ephod, of
gold, of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and of fine twisted linen.* [9]It was
square; the breastpiece was made double, a span in length and a span in
width when doubled. [10]They set in it four rows of stones. A row of
carnelian,[z] chrysolite, and emerald was the first row; [11]and the second row,
a turquoise, a sapphire,[a] and a moonstone;* [12]and the third row, a jacinth, an
agate, and an amethyst; [13]and the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper;
they were enclosed in settings of gold filigree. [14]There were twelve stones
with names corresponding to the names of the sons of Israel; they were
engraved like signets, each with its name, for the twelve tribes.* [15]They
made on the breastpiece chains of pure gold, twisted like cords, [16]and they
made two settings of gold filigree and two gold rings and put the two rings
on the two edges of the breastpiece,* [17]and they put the two cords of gold in
the two rings at the edges of the breastpiece. [18]Two ends of the two cords
they had attached to the two settings of filigree; in this way they attached it
in front to the shoulder pieces of the ephod. [19]Then they made two rings of

gold and put them at the two ends of the breastpiece, on its inside edge next to the ephod.* 20They made two rings of gold and attached them in front to the lower part of the two shoulder pieces of the ephod, at its joining above the decorated band of the ephod. 21They bound the breastpiece by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a blue cord, so that it should lie on the decorated band of the ephod and that the breastpiece should not come loose from the ephod, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

22 He also made the robe of the ephod woven all of blue yarn,* 23and the opening of the robe in the middle of it was like the opening in a garment,[b] with a binding around its edge, so that it might not be torn. 24On the lower hem of the robe they made pomegranates of blue, purple, and crimson yarns and of fine twisted linen.[c] 25They also made bells of pure gold and put the bells between the pomegranates on the lower hem of the robe all around, between the pomegranates, 26a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate all around on the lower hem of the robe for ministering, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

27 They also made the tunics, woven of fine linen, for Aaron and his sons,* 28and the turban of fine linen, and the headdresses of fine linen, and the linen undergarments of fine twisted linen, 29and the sash of fine twisted linen, and of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, embroidered with needlework, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

30 They made the rosette of the holy diadem of pure gold and wrote on it an inscription, like the engraving of a signet, "Holy to the LORD."* 31They tied to it a blue cord, to fasten it on the turban above, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

THE WORK COMPLETED

32 Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished; the Israelites had done everything just as the LORD had commanded Moses.* 33Then they brought the tabernacle to Moses, the tent and all its utensils, its clasps, its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases; 34the covering of tanned rams' skins and the covering of fine leather[d] and the curtain for the screen; 35the ark of the covenant with its poles and the cover;* 36the table with all its utensils and the bread of the Presence; 37the

pure lampstand with its lamps set on it and all its utensils and the oil for the light; [38]the golden altar, the anointing oil and the fragrant incense, and the screen for the entrance of the tent; [39]the bronze altar and its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils; the basin with its stand; [40]the hangings of the court, its pillars, and its bases, and the screen for the gate of the court, its cords, and its pegs; and all the utensils for the service of the tabernacle, for the tent of meeting; [41]the finely worked vestments for ministering in the holy place, the sacred vestments for the priest Aaron, and the vestments of his sons to serve as priests.* [42]The Israelites had done all of the work as the LORD had commanded Moses. [43]When Moses saw that they had done all the work as the LORD had commanded, he blessed them.*

Exodus 40

THE TABERNACLE ERECTED AND ITS EQUIPMENT INSTALLED

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, [2]"On the first day of the first month you shall
set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting.* [3]You shall put in it the ark of
the covenant, and you shall screen the ark with the curtain.* [4]You shall
bring in the table and arrange its setting, and you shall bring in the
lampstand and set up its lamps. [5]You shall put the golden altar for incense
before the ark of the covenant and set up the screen for the entrance of the
tabernacle. [6]You shall set the altar of burnt offering before the entrance of
the tabernacle of the tent of meeting [7]and place the basin between the tent
of meeting and the altar and put water in it. [8]You shall set up the court all
around and hang up the screen for the gate of the court. [9]Then you shall
take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it and
consecrate it and all its furniture, so that it shall become holy.* [10]You shall
also anoint the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils and consecrate the
altar, so that the altar shall be most holy.* [11]You shall also anoint the basin
with its stand and consecrate it. [12]Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons
to the entrance of the tent of meeting and wash them with water* [13]and put
on Aaron the sacred vestments, and you shall anoint him and consecrate
him, so that he may serve me as priest.* [14]You shall bring his sons also and
put tunics on them [15]and anoint them, as you anointed their father, that they
may serve me as priests; their anointing shall admit them to a perpetual
priesthood throughout all their generations."*

16 Moses did everything just as the LORD had commanded him. [17]In the
first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle
was set up. [18]Moses set up the tabernacle; he laid its bases and set up its
frames and put in its poles and raised up its pillars, [19]and he spread the tent
over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it as the LORD had
commanded Moses. [20]He took the covenant and put it into the ark and put
the poles on the ark and set the cover above the ark,* [21]and he brought the
ark into the tabernacle and set up the curtain for screening and screened the

ark of the covenant as the LORD had commanded Moses.* 22He put the table
in the tent of meeting, on the north side of the tabernacle, outside the
curtain,* 23and set the bread in order on it before the LORD as the LORD had
commanded Moses.* 24He put the lampstand in the tent of meeting,
opposite the table on the south side of the tabernacle, 25and set up the lamps
before the LORD as the LORD had commanded Moses.* 26He put the golden
altar in the tent of meeting before the curtain* 27and offered fragrant incense
on it as the LORD had commanded Moses. 28He also put in place the screen
for the entrance of the tabernacle.* 29He set the altar of burnt offering at the
entrance of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting and offered on it the burnt
offering and the grain offering as the LORD had commanded Moses. 30He set
the basin between the tent of meeting and the altar and put water in it for
washing,* 31with which Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands
and their feet. 32When they went into the tent of meeting and when they
approached the altar, they washed as the LORD had commanded Moses.*
33He set up the court around the tabernacle and the altar and put up the
screen at the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work.

THE CLOUD AND THE GLORY

34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD
filled the tabernacle.* 35Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting
because the cloud settled upon it, and the glory of the LORD filled the
tabernacle. 36Whenever the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, the
Israelites would set out on each stage of their journey,* 37but if the cloud
was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day that it was taken up.
38For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in
the cloud[e] by night, before the eyes of all the house of Israel at each stage of
their journey.*

Exodus 1

* **1.1** Gen 46.8–27
* **1.5** Gen 46.27
* **1.6** Gen 50.26
* **1.7** Gen 46.3; 47.27; Acts 7.17
* **1.8** Acts 7.18, 19
* **1.9** Ps 105.24, 25
* **1.11** Ex 3.7; 5.6
* **1.14** Ps 81.6
* **1.16** Acts 7.19
* **1.17** v 21
* **1.20** v 12; Isa 3.10
* **1.21** 1 Sam 2.35

a **1.22** Sam Gk Tg: Heb lacks *to the Hebrews*

* **1.22** Acts 7.19

Exodus 2

* **2.1** Ex 6.19, 20
* **2.2** Acts 7.20; Heb 11.23
* **2.4** Ex 15.20; Num 26.59

b **2.10** In Heb *Moses* resembles the word for *drew*

* **2.10** Acts 7.21
* **2.11** Acts 7.23, 24; Heb 11.24–26
* **2.13** Acts 7.26–28
* **2.14** Gen 19.9; Acts 7.27
* **2.15** Gen 24.11; 29.2; Acts 7.29
* **2.17** Gen 29.3, 10
* **2.18** Ex 3.1; Num 10.29
* **2.20** Gen 31.54
* **2.21** Ex 4.25; 18.2; Acts 7.29

c **2.22** In Heb *Gershom* resembles the word for *alien*

* **2.22** Ex 18.3; Heb 11.13, 14
* **2.23** Ex 3.9; Deut 26.7; Acts 7.30; Jas 5.4
* **2.24** Gen 22.16–18; Ex 6.5; Ps 105.8, 42
* **2.25** Ex 3.7; 4.31

Exodus 3

d **3.1** Gk: Heb reads *to the mountain of God, to Horeb*

* **3.1** Ex 2.18; 4.27; 18.5
* **3.2** Deut 33.16; Mk 12.26
* **3.3** Acts 7.31
* **3.5** Josh 5.15; Acts 7.33
* **3.6** Mt 22.31, 32; Mk 12.26; Lk 20.37; Acts 7.32
* **3.7** Ex 2.25; Neh 9.9; Acts 7.34
* **3.8** v 17; Gen 50.24, 25; Josh 24.11
* **3.9** Ex 1.13, 14; 2.23
* **3.10** Mic 6.4
* **3.12** Gen 31.3; Josh 1.5

e **3.14** Or *I AM WHAT I AM* or *I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE*

* **3.14** Ex 6.3; Jn 8.58; Heb 13.8

f **3.15** The word "LORD" when spelled with capital letters stands for the divine name, *YHWH*, which is here connected with the verb *hayah*, "to be"

* **3.15** Ps 135.13; Hos 12.5
* **3.17** Gen 15.14, 16; Josh 24.11
* **3.18** Ex 4.31; 5.13
* **3.19** Ex 5.2; 6.1
* **3.20** Ex 6.6; 9.15; 12.31; Deut 6.22; Neh 9.10
* **3.21** Ex 11.3; 12.36
* **3.22** Ex 11.2, 3; 12.35, 36

Exodus 4

* **4.1** Ex 3.18; 6.30
* **4.2** vv 17, 20
* **4.6** Num 12.10; 2 Kings 5.27
* **4.7** Num 12.13, 14; Deut 32.39; 2 Kings 5.14; Mt 8.3
* **4.9** Ex 7.19
* **4.10** Ex 6.12; Jer 1.6
* **4.11** Ps 94.9; Mt 11.5
* **4.12** Isa 50.4; Jer 1.9; Mt 10.19; Mk 13.11; Lk 12.11, 12; 21.14, 15
* **4.14** v 27
* **4.15** Ex 7.1, 2; Num 23.5, 12, 16; Deut 5.31
* **4.17** v 2; Ex 7.9–20
* **4.19** Ex 2.15, 23
* **4.20** Ex 17.9; Num 20.8
* **4.21** Ex 7.3, 13; 9.12, 35; 10.1; 14.8; Deut 2.30; Jn 12.40
* **4.22** Isa 63.16; 64.8; Jer 31.9; Hos 11.1; Rom 9.4
* **4.23** Ex 5.1; 6.11; 7.16; 12.29
* **4.24** Gen 17.14; Num 22.22
* **4.25** Josh 5.2, 3

* **4.27** v 14; Ex 3.1
* **4.28** vv 15, 16; Ex 8; 9
* **4.29** Ex 3.16
* **4.30** v 16
* **4.31** vv 8, 9; Ex 2.25; 3.7, 18; 12.27

Exodus 5

* **5.1** Ex 3.18; 4.23; 10.9
* **5.2** Ex 3.19; Job 21.15
* **5.3** Ex 3.18
* **5.4** Ex 1.11; 2.11; 6.6, 7
g **5.5** Sam: MT *The people of the land are now many*
* **5.5** Ex 1.7, 9
* **5.6** Ex 1.11; 3.7
* **5.8** v 17
h **5.9** Sam Gk Syr: MT *they will do*
* **5.10** v 6
i **5.13** Sam Gk Vg: MT *as when there was straw*
* **5.14** v 6; Isa 10.24
j **5.16** Cn: MT *but the fault of your people*
* **5.17** v 8
* **5.21** Gen 16.5; 34.30; Ex 14.11; 15.24
* **5.22** Num 11.11; Jer 4.10
* **5.23** Ex 3.8

Exodus 6

* **6.1** Ex 3.19, 20; 7.4, 5; 12.31, 33, 39
k **6.3** Traditional rendering of Heb *El Shaddai*
l **6.3** Heb *YHWH*; see note at 3.15
* **6.3** Ps 68.4; 83.18; Isa 52.6; Jer 16.21; Ezek 37.6, 13
* **6.4** Gen 15.18; 28.4
* **6.5** Ex 2.24
* **6.6** Deut 26.8
* **6.7** Ex 16.12; Deut 4.20; 26.8; Ps 81.6; Isa 41.20
* **6.8** Gen 15.18
m **6.12** Heb *me? I am uncircumcised of lips*
* **6.14** Gen 46.9; Num 26.5–11
* **6.15** Gen 46.10; 1 Chr 4.24
* **6.16** Gen 46.11; Num 3.17
* **6.17** 1 Chr 6.17

* **6.18** 1 Chr 6.2, 18
* **6.19** 1 Chr 6.19
* **6.20** Ex 2.1, 2; Num 26.59
* **6.21** Num 16.1; 1 Chr 6.37, 38
* **6.22** Lev 10.4; Num 3.30
* **6.24** Num 26.11
* **6.25** Num 25.7–11; Josh 24.33; Ps 106.30
* **6.29** v 11; Ex 7.2

n **6.30** Heb *am uncircumcised of lips*

* **6.30** v 12; Ex 4.10

Exodus 7

* **7.1** Ex 4.16
* **7.2** Ex 4.15
* **7.3** Ex 4.21; 11.9
* **7.4** Ex 3.19, 20; 6.6; 10.1; 11.9; 12.51; 13.3, 9
* **7.5** v 17; Ex 3.20; 8.19
* **7.6** v 2
* **7.7** Deut 34.7; Acts 7.23, 30
* **7.9** Ex 4.2, 17; Isa 7.11; Jn 2.18
* **7.10** v 9; Ex 4.3
* **7.11** v 22; Gen 41.8; Ex 8.7, 18
* **7.13** v 4; Ex 4.21
* **7.14** Ex 8.15; 10.1, 20, 27
* **7.15** v 10; Ex 4.2, 3
* **7.16** Ex 3.12, 18; 5.1, 3
* **7.17** v 5; Ex 4.9; 5.2; Rev 11.6; 16.4, 6
* **7.18** vv 21, 24
* **7.19** Ex 8.5, 6, 16; 9.22; 10.12, 21; 14.21, 26
* **7.20** Ps 78.44; 105.29
* **7.21** v 18
* **7.22** v 11; Ex 8.7

Exodus 8

o **8.1** 7.26 in Heb

* **8.1** Ex 3.12, 18

p **8.3** Gk: Heb *upon your people*

* **8.3** Ps 105.30

q **8.5** 8.1 in Heb

* **8.5** Ex 7.19

* **8.6** Ps 78.45; 105.30
* **8.7** Ex 7.11
* **8.8** vv 25, 28; Ex 9.27, 28; 10.17
* **8.10** Ex 9.14; Deut 33.26; Ps 86.8; Isa 46.9; Jer 10.6, 7
* **8.12** v 30; Ex 9.33; 10.18
* **8.15** Ex 7.4
* **8.17** Ps 105.31
* **8.18** Ex 7.11
* **8.19** Ex 7.5; 10.7
* **8.20** v 1; Ex 7.15; 9.13
* **8.22** Ex 9.4, 6, 26; 10.23; 11.6, 7
r **8.23** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *will set redemption*
* **8.24** Ps 78.45; 105.31
* **8.27** Ex 3.18; 5.3
* **8.28** vv 8, 15, 29
* **8.29** vv 8, 15
* **8.32** vv 8, 15; Ex 4.21

Exodus 9

* **9.1** Ex 8.1
* **9.2** Ex 8.2
* **9.4** Ex 8.22
* **9.6** v 4; Ex 11.5
* **9.7** Ex 7.14; 8.32
* **9.9** Rev 16.2
* **9.12** Ex 4.21
* **9.13** Ex 8.20
* **9.14** Ex 8.10
* **9.15** Ex 3.20
* **9.16** Rom 9.17
* **9.18** vv 23, 24
* **9.20** Prov 13.13
* **9.22** Rev 16.21
* **9.23** Gen 19.24; Josh 10.11; Ps 78.47; Isa 30.30; Ezek 38.22; Rev 8.7
* **9.25** v 19; Ps 78.47; 105.32, 33
* **9.26** vv 4, 6; Ex 8.22; 10.23; 11.7; 12.13
* **9.27** Ex 8.8; 10.16, 17; 2 Chr 12.6; Ps 129.4
* **9.28** Ex 8.8; 10.17
* **9.29** Ex 8.22; 19.5; 20.11; 1 Kings 8.22; Ps 24.1; 143.6
* **9.35** Ex 4.21

Exodus 10

* **10.1** Ex 4.21; 7.14
* **10.2** Ex 7.5, 17; 12.26, 27; 13.8, 14, 15; Deut 4.9; Ps 44.1
* **10.3** Ex 4.23; Jas 4.10; 1 Pet 5.6
* **10.4** Rev 9.3
* **10.5** Ex 9.32; Joel 1.4; 2.25
* **10.6** Ex 8.3, 21
* **10.7** Ex 7.5; 8.19; 12.33
* **10.8** Ex 8.8, 25
* **10.9** v 26; Ex 5.1; 12.37, 38
* **10.11** v 28
* **10.12** vv 4, 5; Eccl 7.19
* **10.14** Ps 78.46; 105.34; Joel 2.1–11
* **10.15** v 5; Ps 105.35
* **10.16** Ex 9.27
* **10.17** Ex 8.8, 29

s **10.19** Or *Sea of Reeds*

* **10.20** Ex 4.21; 11.10
* **10.21** Deut 28.29
* **10.22** Ps 105.28
* **10.24** vv 8, 10
* **10.26** v 9
* **10.27** v 20
* **10.28** v 11
* **10.29** Heb 11.27

Exodus 11

* **11.1** Ex 12.31, 33, 39
* **11.2** Ex 3.22; 12.35, 36
* **11.3** Ex 3.21; 12.36; Deut 34.10–12
* **11.4** Ex 12.29
* **11.5** Ex 12.12, 29; Ps 78.51; 105.36; 135.8; 136.10
* **11.6** Ex 12.30
* **11.7** Ex 8.22
* **11.8** Ex 12.31–33
* **11.9** Ex 7.3, 4
* **11.10** Ex 4.21; 10.20, 27

Exodus 12

* **12.2** Ex 13.4; Deut 16.1

* **12.5** Lev 22.18–20
* **12.6** Lev 23.5; Num 9.3; Deut 16.1, 6
* **12.8** Ex 34.25; Num 9.11, 12; Deut 16.7
* **12.10** Ex 23.18; 34.25
* **12.11** v 27
* **12.12** Ex 11.4, 5; Num 33.4
* **12.14** vv 6, 17; Ex 13.9, 10
* **12.15** v 19; Ex 23.15; 34.18; Lev 23.5, 6; Num 9.13; Deut 16.3
* **12.16** Lev 23.7, 8
* **12.17** v 41; Ex 13.3
* **12.18** v 2; Lev 23.5–8; Num 28.16–25
* **12.19** v 15
* **12.21** v 11; Num 9.4; Heb 11.28
* **12.22** v 7
* **12.23** vv 12, 13
* **12.24** Ex 13.5, 10
* **12.26** Ex 13.14, 15; Josh 4.6
* **12.27** v 11; Ex 4.31
* **12.29** Ex 4.23; 9.6; 11.4; Ps 78.51; 105.36
* **12.30** Ex 11.6
* **12.31** Ex 8.8, 25
* **12.32** Ex 10.9, 26
* **12.33** v 39; Ex 10.7; 11.1; Ps 105.38
* **12.35** Ex 3.21, 22; 11.2, 3
* **12.36** Ex 3.22
* **12.37** Ex 38.26; Num 1.46; 11.21; 33.3, 4
* **12.38** Ex 17.3; Num 11.4
* **12.39** vv 31–33; Ex 11.1
* **12.40** Gen 15.13; Acts 7.6; Gal 3.17
* **12.41** v 17; Ex 3.8, 10; 6.6
* **12.42** Ex 13.10; Deut 16.1
* **12.46** Num 9.12; Jn 19.33, 36
* **12.47** Num 9.13, 14
* **12.49** Num 15.15, 16; Gal 3.28
* **12.51** v 41

Exodus 13

* **13.2** vv 12, 13, 15; Ex 22.29; Lk 2.23
* **13.3** Ex 3.20; 6.1; 12.19
* **13.5** Ex 3.8; 12.25, 26
* **13.6** Ex 12.15–20

* **13.8** v 14; Ex 10.2
* **13.9** v 16; Ex 12.14; Deut 6.8; 11.18
* **13.10** Ex 12.24, 25
* **13.12** v 2; Ex 22.29; 34.19
* **13.13** Ex 34.20; Num 18.15, 16
* **13.14** vv 3, 9; Ex 12.26, 27; Deut 6.20
* **13.15** Ex 12.29

t **13.16** Or *as a frontlet*; meaning of Heb uncertain

* **13.16** v 9
* **13.17** Ex 14.11, 12; Num 14.1–4; Deut 17.16

u **13.18** Or *Sea of Reeds*

* **13.19** Gen 50.25, 26; Josh 24.32; Acts 7.16
* **13.20** Num 33.6
* **13.21** Ex 14.19, 24; 33.9, 10; Ps 78.14; 105.39; 1 Cor 10.1

Exodus 14

* **14.2** Num 33.7, 8
* **14.4** v 17; Ex 4.21; 7.5
* **14.8** v 4; Num 33.3; Acts 13.17
* **14.9** Ex 15.9
* **14.10** Neh 9.9
* **14.11** Ps 106.7, 8
* **14.13** v 30; Gen 15.1; Ex 15.2
* **14.14** Ex 15.3; Deut 1.30; 3.22; Isa 30.15
* **14.16** Ex 4.17; Num 20.8, 9, 11; Isa 10.26
* **14.17** v 4
* **14.18** v 25
* **14.19** Ex 13.21, 22
* **14.21** v 16; Ps 106.9; 114.3, 5; Isa 63.12, 13
* **14.22** Ex 15.19; Neh 9.11; Heb 11.29
* **14.24** Ex 13.21

v **14.25** Sam Gk Syr: MT *removed*

* **14.25** vv 4, 18
* **14.27** Ex 15.1, 7
* **14.28** Ps 78.53; 106.11
* **14.29** Ex 15.19; Neh 9.11; Heb 11.29
* **14.30** Ps 106.8
* **14.31** Ps 106.12

Exodus 15

* **15.1** Ps 106.12; Rev 15.3
w **15.2** Or *song*
* **15.2** Ex 3.15, 16; Ps 59.17
* **15.3** Ps 24.8; 83.18
x **15.4** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **15.4** Ex 14.6, 7, 17, 28
* **15.5** v 10; Neh 9.11
* **15.6** Ps 118.15
* **15.7** Ex 14.27; Ps 78.49, 50
* **15.8** Ex 14.22, 29; Ps 78.13
* **15.9** Ex 14.5
* **15.10** Ex 14.28
* **15.11** Ex 8.10; Deut 3.24; Ps 22.23; 72.18; Isa 6.3; Rev 4.8
* **15.13** Neh 9.12; Ps 77.15; 78.54
* **15.14** Deut 2.25; Hab 3.7
* **15.15** Gen 36.15; Num 22.3; Josh 5.1
* **15.16** Ex 23.27; 1 Sam 25.37; Ps 74.2
* **15.17** Ps 44.2; 78.54
* **15.18** Ps 10.16
* **15.19** Ex 14.23, 28
* **15.20** Num 26.59; Judg 4.4; 1 Sam 18.6; Ps 30.11; 150.4
* **15.21** v 1
y **15.22** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **15.22** Num 33.8; Ps 77.20
z **15.23** That is, *bitterness*
* **15.23** Num 33.8
* **15.24** Ex 14.11; Ps 106.13
a **15.25** Heb *he*
* **15.25** Ex 14.10; Ps 50.15
* **15.26** Deut 7.12; 28.27
* **15.27** Num 33.9, 10

Exodus 16

* **16.1** Num 33.11, 12
* **16.2** Ex 14.11; 1 Cor 10.10
* **16.3** Ex 17.3; Num 11.4, 5
* **16.4** Deut 8.2, 16; Jn 6.31; 1 Cor 10.3
* **16.5** v 22
* **16.7** v 12; Num 14.27; 16.11
* **16.9** Num 16.16
* **16.10** v 7; Num 16.19

* **16.13** Num 11.31; Ps 78.27, 28; 105.40
* **16.14** v 31; Num 11.7–9
b **16.15** Or *"It is manna"*
* **16.15** v 4
* **16.18** 2 Cor 8.15
* **16.19** v 23; Ex 12.10; 23.18
* **16.22** v 5; Ex 34.31
* **16.23** Ex 20.8; 23.12
* **16.24** v 20
* **16.28** Ps 78.10
* **16.31** Num 11.6–9
* **16.33** Heb 9.4
* **16.34** Ex 25.16, 21
* **16.35** Josh 5.12; Neh 9.20, 21

Exodus 17

* **17.1** Ex 16.1
* **17.2** Num 20.3; Deut 6.16; 1 Cor 10.9
* **17.3** Ex 16.2, 3
* **17.4** Ex 14.15; Num 14.10; 1 Sam 30.6
* **17.5** Ex 3.16, 18; 7.20
* **17.6** Num 20.10; Ps 114.8; 1 Cor 10.4
c **17.7** That is, *test*
d **17.7** That is, *quarrel*
* **17.7** Ps 81.7
* **17.8** Num 24.20; Deut 25.17–19
* **17.9** Ex 4.20
* **17.14** Ex 34.27; Num 24.20; Deut 25.19
e **17.16** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain

Exodus 18

* **18.1** Ex 2.16; 3.1
* **18.2** Ex 4.25
f **18.3** In Heb *Gershom* resembles the word for *alien*
* **18.3** Ex 2.22; Acts 7.29
g **18.4** That is, *my God helps*
* **18.5** Ex 3.1, 12
* **18.7** Gen 43.26–28
* **18.8** Ps 81.7
* **18.10** Ps 68.19, 20

h **18.11** The clause *because . . . Egyptians* has been transposed from verse 10
* **18.11** Ex 12.12; 15.11; 1 Sam 2.3
* **18.15** Num 9.8; Deut 17.8–13
* **18.18** Num 11.14, 17
* **18.19** Ex 3.12; Num 27.5
* **18.20** Deut 1.18
* **18.21** v 25; Deut 1.13, 15
* **18.22** Num 11.17; Deut 1.17, 18
* **18.25** Deut 1.15
* **18.26** v 22
* **18.27** Num 10.29, 30

Exodus 19

* **19.2** Ex 17.1; 18.5
* **19.3** Ex 20.21; Acts 7.38
* **19.4** Deut 29.2; Isa 63.9
* **19.5** Deut 5.2; 7.6; 10.14
* **19.6** Deut 14.21; 26.19; 1 Pet 2.5; Rev 1.6; 5.10
* **19.8** Ex 24.3, 7
* **19.9** v 16; Ex 24.15
* **19.10** Gen 35.2; Lev 11.44, 45; Num 8.7; 19.19; Heb 10.22
* **19.11** v 16
* **19.12** Heb 12.20
i **19.13** Heb lacks *with arrows*
* **19.16** Ex 40.34; Heb 12.18, 19
* **19.18** Gen 19.28; Ps 68.7, 8; 104.32; Heb 12.18
* **19.19** Ps 81.7; Heb 12.21
* **19.21** Ex 3.5
* **19.22** Lev 10.3; 2 Sam 6.7
* **19.23** v 12

Exodus 20

* **20.1** Deut 5.22
* **20.2** Deut 5.6; 7.8
j **20.3** Or *besides*
* **20.3** Jer 35.15
* **20.4** Lev 26.1; Deut 4.15–19; Ps 97.7
* **20.5** Deut 4.24; Isa 44.15, 19; Jer 32.18
k **20.6** Or *to thousands*
* **20.6** Deut 7.9

* **20.7** Lev 19.12; Mt 5.33
* **20.8** Ex 23.12; 31.15
* **20.9** Ex 34.21; Lk 13.14
* **20.11** Gen 2.2, 3
* **20.12** Lev 19.3; Mt 15.4; Mk 7.10; Eph 6.2
l **20.13** Or *kill*
* **20.13** Rom 13.9
* **20.14** Mt 19.18
* **20.15** Mt 19.18
* **20.16** Ex 23.1; Mt 19.18
* **20.17** Rom 7.7; 13.9
m **20.18** Sam Gk Syr Vg: MT *they saw*
* **20.18** Ex 19.18; Heb 12.18
* **20.19** Deut 5.23–27
* **20.20** Ex 14.13; 15.25; Deut 4.10
* **20.21** Deut 5.22
* **20.22** Neh 9.13
* **20.23** v 3; Ex 32.1, 2, 4
* **20.24** Gen 12.2; Lev 1.2; Deut 12.5
* **20.25** Deut 27.5, 6

Exodus 21

* **21.1** Deut 4.14
* **21.2** Lev 25.39–41; Deut 15.12–18
* **21.6** Ex 22.8, 9, 28
* **21.7** vv 2, 3; Neh 5.5
n **21.10** Heb *of her*
* **21.10** 1 Cor 7.3, 5
* **21.12** Gen 9.6; Lev 24.17
* **21.13** Num 35.22; Deut 19.4, 5
* **21.14** Deut 19.11, 12; 1 Kings 2.28–34; Heb 10.26
* **21.16** Deut 24.7
* **21.17** Lev 20.9; Mt 15.4; Mk 7.10
* **21.21** Lev 25.45, 46
* **21.23** Lev 24.19
* **21.24** Mt 5.38
* **21.28** Gen 9.5
* **21.30** v 22
* **21.32** Zech 11.12, 13; Mt 26.15
* **21.33** Lk 14.5

Exodus 22

o **22.1** 21.37 in Heb
p **22.2** 22.1 in Heb
* **22.2** Num 35.27; Mt 24.43
* **22.3** Ex 21.2; 2 Sam 12.6
* **22.7** v 4
* **22.8** v 28; Ex 21.6; Deut 17.8, 9; 19.17
* **22.9** vv 8, 28
* **22.11** Heb 6.16
* **22.12** Gen 31.39
* **22.16** Deut 22.28, 29
* **22.18** Lev 20.27; Deut 18.10
* **22.19** Lev 18.23; Deut 27.21
* **22.20** Deut 17.2, 3, 5
* **22.21** Lev 19.33; Deut 10.19
* **22.22** Deut 24.17, 18
* **22.23** Deut 15.9; Ps 18.6; Lk 18.7
* **22.24** Ps 69.24; 109.9
* **22.25** Lev 25.35–37; Deut 23.19, 20
* **22.28** Lev 24.15, 16; Acts 23.5
q **22.29** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.29** Ex 13.2, 12; 23.16
* **22.30** Lev 22.27; Deut 15.19
* **22.31** Lev 19.6; 22.8

Exodus 23

* **23.1** Ex 20.16; Ps 35.11
r **23.2** Gk: Heb lacks *justice*
* **23.2** Deut 16.19
* **23.4** Deut 22.1
* **23.5** Deut 22.4
* **23.6** vv 2, 3
* **23.7** Rom 1.18
* **23.8** Deut 10.17; 16.19
* **23.9** Ex 22.21
* **23.10** Lev 25.3
* **23.12** Ex 20.8–11
* **23.15** Ex 12.15; 34.20
* **23.16** Ex 34.22; Deut 16.13
* **23.19** Ex 22.29; Deut 14.21

* **23.20** Ex 15.16, 17; 32.34
* **23.21** Num 14.11, 35; Ps 78.40, 56
* **23.22** Gen 12.3
* **23.23** Josh 24.8, 11
* **23.24** Ex 20.5; 34.13; Lev 18.3
s **23.25** Gk Vg: Heb *he*
* **23.25** Ex 15.26; Deut 6.13; 28.5; Mt 4.10
* **23.26** Ex 15.14, 16; Deut 7.14, 23; Job 5.26; Mal 3.11
t **23.28** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **23.28** Deut 7.20; Josh 24.12
* **23.29** Deut 7.22
u **23.31** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **23.31** Gen 15.18; Josh 21.44; 24.12, 18
* **23.32** vv 13, 24; Deut 7.2
* **23.33** Deut 7.1–5, 16

Exodus 24

* **24.1** Lev 10.1, 2; Num 11.16
* **24.3** v 7; Ex 19.8
* **24.4** Gen 28.18; Deut 31.9
* **24.6** Heb 9.18
* **24.7** v 3; Heb 9.19
* **24.8** Heb 9.20; 1 Pet 1.2
* **24.9** v 1
* **24.10** Ezek 1.26; Mt 17.2; Rev 4.3
v **24.11** Heb *He*
* **24.15** Ex 19.9
* **24.16** Ex 16.10
* **24.17** Ex 3.2; Deut 4.36; Heb 12.18, 29
* **24.18** Ex 34.28; Deut 9.9

Exodus 25

* **25.2** Ex 35.5, 21; 2 Cor 8.12; 9.7
w **25.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **25.6** Ex 27.20; 30.23, 34
* **25.7** Ex 28.4, 6, 15
* **25.8** Ex 29.45; 36.1, 3, 4; Heb 9.1, 2; Rev 21.3
* **25.9** v 40; Acts 7.44; Heb 8.2, 5
* **25.10** Ex 37.1–9
* **25.16** Deut 31.26; Heb 9.4

* **25.17** Ex 37.6; Rom 3.25; Heb 9.5
* **25.20** 1 Kings 8.7; Heb 9.5
* **25.21** v 16; Ex 26.34
* **25.22** Ex 29.42, 43; 30.6, 36; Ps 80.1
* **25.23** Ex 37.10–16; Heb 9.2
* **25.29** Ex 37.16; Num 4.7
* **25.30** Lev 24.5–9
* **25.31** Ex 37.17; Heb 9.2; Rev 1.12
* **25.32** Ex 38.18
* **25.34** Ex 37.20
* **25.37** Ex 27.21; Lev 24.3, 4
* **25.40** Ex 26.30; Acts 7.44; Heb 8.5

Exodus 26

* **26.1** Ex 36.8
* **26.3** Ex 36.10
* **26.5** Ex 36.12
* **26.7** Ex 36.14
* **26.11** Ex 36.18
x **26.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **26.14** Ex 36.19
* **26.15** Ex 36.20
* **26.20** Ex 36.23
* **26.25** Ex 36.30
* **26.30** Ex 25.9, 40; 27.8; Acts 7.44; Heb 8.5
* **26.31** Ex 36.35; Mt 27.51; Heb 9.3
* **26.33** Ex 25.16; 40.21; Lev 16.2; Heb 9.2, 3
* **26.34** Ex 25.21; 40.20; Heb 9.5
* **26.35** Ex 40.22, 24; Heb 9.2
* **26.36** Ex 36.37
* **26.37** Ex 36.38

Exodus 27

* **27.1** Ex 38.1; Ezek 43.13
* **27.3** Num 4.14
* **27.8** Ex 25.40; 26.30
* **27.9** Ex 38.9
* **27.10** Ex 38.17
* **27.14** Ex 38.15
y **27.15** Gk Sam: MT lacks *cubits of*

* **27.16** Ex 36.37
* **27.20** Lev 24.2
* **27.21** Ex 26.31, 33; 28.43; 30.8; Lev 3.17; 16.34

Exodus 28

* **28.1** Num 18.7; Heb 5.1, 4
* **28.2** Ex 29.5, 29; 31.10
* **28.3** Ex 31.3, 6
* **28.4** vv 6, 15, 31, 39
* **28.6** Ex 39.2
* **28.9** 1 Chr 29.2
* **28.12** v 29; Ex 39.7
* **28.15** Ex 39.8
* **28.17** Ex 39.10ff
z **28.18** Or *lapis lazuli*
* **28.21** Ex 39.14
* **28.24** Ex 39.17
a **28.26** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **28.26** Ex 39.17
* **28.29** v 12
* **28.30** Lev 8.8; Num 27.21
* **28.31** Ex 39.22
b **28.32** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **28.36** Ex 39.30, 31
* **28.38** v 43; Lev 10.17; Num 18.1; Heb 9.28; 1 Pet 2.24
* **28.40** v 4; Ex 39.27–29
* **28.41** Ex 29.7–9; 30.30; Lev 8; Heb 7.28
* **28.42** Ex 39.28
* **28.43** Ex 20.26; 27.21; Lev 17.7; 20.19, 20

Exodus 29

* **29.1** Lev 8.2
* **29.2** Lev 6.19–23
* **29.4** Ex 40.12; Heb 10.22
* **29.5** Ex 28.2, 8
* **29.6** Lev 8.9
* **29.7** Lev 8.12
* **29.8** Lev 8.13
* **29.9** Ex 28.41; Num 18.7
* **29.10** Lev 1.4; 8.14

* **29.12** Ex 27.2; Lev 8.15
* **29.13** Lev 3.3
* **29.14** Lev 4.11, 12, 21
* **29.15** Lev 1.4–9; 8.18
c **29.18** Or *a gift*
* **29.18** Gen 8.21
* **29.21** v 1; Ex 30.25, 31; Heb 9.22
* **29.23** Lev 8.26
* **29.24** Lev 7.30
d **29.25** Or *a gift*
* **29.25** Lev 8.28
* **29.26** Lev 8.29
* **29.27** Lev 7.31, 34; Deut 18.3
* **29.28** Lev 10.15
* **29.29** Num 18.8; 20.26, 28
* **29.30** Lev 8.35; 9.1, 8; Num 20.28
* **29.31** Lev 8.31
* **29.32** Mt 12.4
* **29.33** Lev 10.14, 15, 17; 22.10
* **29.34** Lev 8.32
* **29.35** Lev 8.33
* **29.36** Ex 40.10; Heb 10.11
* **29.37** Ex 40.10; Mt 23.19
* **29.38** Num 28.3
e **29.41** Or *a gift*
* **29.42** Ex 30.8
* **29.43** 1 Kings 8.11
* **29.44** Lev 21.15
* **29.45** Ex 25.8; Lev 26.12; Rev 21.3
* **29.46** Ex 20.2

Exodus 30

* **30.1** Ex 37.25
* **30.6** Ex 25.21, 22
* **30.7** vv 34, 35; Ex 27.21
* **30.9** Lev 10.1
* **30.10** Lev 16.18
* **30.12** Num 1.2, 5; 31.50; 2 Sam 24.15; Mt 20.28
* **30.13** Mt 17.24
* **30.15** Prov 22.2
* **30.16** Ex 38.25; Num 16.40

* **30.18** Ex 38.8; 40.7, 30
f **30.19** Heb *it*
* **30.19** Ex 40.31, 32
g **30.20** Or *a gift*
* **30.21** Ex 28.43
* **30.25** Ex 37.29; 40.9
* **30.26** Lev 8.10
* **30.29** Ex 29.37
* **30.30** Lev 8.12, 30
* **30.32** vv 25, 37
* **30.33** v 38; Ex 12.15
* **30.35** v 25
* **30.36** v 32; Ex 29.37, 42; Lev 2.3; 16.2

Exodus 31

* **31.2** Ex 35.30–36.1
h **31.3** Or *with the spirit of God*
* **31.6** Ex 35.34
* **31.7** Ex 36.8; 37.1, 6
* **31.8** Ex 37.10, 17
* **31.11** Ex 30.25, 31, 34; 37.29
* **31.13** Lev 19.3, 30; Ezek 20.12, 20
* **31.14** Ex 35.2; Num 15.32, 35
* **31.15** Ex 16.23; 20.9, 10
* **31.17** v 13; Gen 2.2, 3
i **31.18** Heb *he*
* **31.18** Ex 24.12; 32.15, 16; 34.1, 28

Exodus 32

* **32.1** Ex 13.21; 24.18; Deut 9.9; Acts 7.40
* **32.2** Ex 35.22
j **32.4** Or *fashioned it with an engraving tool*; meaning of Heb uncertain
* **32.4** Deut 9.16; Acts 7.41
* **32.6** 1 Cor 10.7
* **32.7** Gen 6.11, 12; Deut 9.12; Dan 9.24
* **32.8** Ex 20.3, 4, 23; 1 Kings 12.28
* **32.9** Ex 33.3, 5; 34.9; Num 14.11–20; Acts 7.51
* **32.10** Num 14.12; Deut 9.14
* **32.11** Deut 9.18
* **32.12** v 14; Num 14.13; Deut 9.28

* **32.13** Gen 12.7; 13.15; 22.16; Ex 13.5; Heb 6.13
* **32.14** Ps 106.45
* **32.15** Deut 9.15
* **32.16** Ex 31.18
* **32.19** Deut 9.16, 17
* **32.20** Deut 9.21
* **32.21** Gen 26.10
* **32.22** Deut 9.24
* **32.23** v 1
* **32.24** v 4
* **32.27** Num 25.7–12
* **32.30** Num 25.13; 1 Sam 12.20, 23; 2 Sam 16.12
* **32.31** Ex 20.23; Deut 9.18
* **32.32** Ps 69.28; Dan 12.1; Rom 9.3; Rev 3.5; 13.8; 17.8; 21.27
* **32.33** Deut 29.20; Ps 9.5
* **32.34** Ex 3.17; 23.20; Ps 99.8
* **32.35** vv 4, 24, 28

Exodus 33

* **33.1** Gen 12.7; Ex 32.7, 13
* **33.2** Ex 23.27–31; 32.34
k **33.3** Heb lacks *Go up*
* **33.3** Ex 3.8, 17; 32.9, 10
* **33.4** Num 14.1, 39
* **33.7** Ex 29.42, 43; Deut 4.29
* **33.8** Num 16.27
l **33.9** Heb *he*
* **33.9** Ex 25.22; 31.18; Ps 99.7
* **33.11** Ex 24.13; Num 12.8; Deut 34.10
* **33.12** v 17; Ex 32.34; Jer 1.5; Jn 10.14, 15; 2 Tim 2.19
* **33.13** Ex 34.9; Deut 9.26, 29; Ps 25.4
* **33.14** Josh 22.4; Isa 63.9
* **33.16** Ex 34.10; Num 14.14
* **33.17** v 12
m **33.18** Heb *he*
n **33.19** Heb *YHWH*; see note at 3.15
* **33.19** Rom 9.15, 16, 18
* **33.20** Gen 32.20; Isa 6.5
* **33.23** Jn 1.18

Exodus 34

* **34.1** v 28; Ex 32.16, 19
* **34.2** Ex 19.20
* **34.3** Ex 19.12, 13, 21
o **34.5** Heb *YHWH*; see note at 3.15
* **34.5** Ex 33.19
* **34.6** Num 14.18; Neh 9.17; Ps 86.15; 103.8
p **34.7** Or *for thousands*
* **34.7** Ex 20.6, 7; Ps 103.3; Dan 9.9; Eph 4.32
* **34.8** Ex 4.31
* **34.9** Ex 33.3, 15, 16
q **34.10** Heb *created*
* **34.10** Deut 4.32; 5.2
* **34.11** Ex 33.2; Deut 6.3
* **34.12** Ex 23.32, 33
r **34.13** Or *Asherahs*
* **34.13** Ex 23.24; 2 Kings 18.4
* **34.14** Ex 20.3, 5; Deut 4.24
* **34.15** Num 25.2; Judg 2.17; 1 Cor 8.4, 7, 10
* **34.16** Num 25.1; Deut 7.3
* **34.17** Ex 32.8
* **34.18** Ex 12.2, 15–17; 13.4
s **34.19** Gk Theodotion Vg Tg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **34.19** Ex 13.2; 22.29
* **34.20** Ex 13.13; 23.15
* **34.21** Ex 20.9; Lk 13.14
* **34.22** Ex 23.16
* **34.23** Ex 23.14, 17
* **34.25** Ex 12.10; 23.18
* **34.26** Ex 23.19
* **34.27** Ex 17.14; 24.4
t **34.28** Heb *the ten words*
* **34.28** v 1; Ex 24.18; 31.18; Deut 4.13; 10.4
* **34.29** Ex 32.15; Mt 17.2; 2 Cor 3.7, 13
* **34.32** Ex 24.3
* **34.33** 2 Cor 3.13
* **34.34** 2 Cor 3.16

Exodus 35

* **35.1** Ex 34.32

* **35.2** Ex 31.15
* **35.3** Ex 16.23
* **35.4** Ex 25.1–7
u **35.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **35.11** Ex 26.1, 2ff; 31.6
* **35.13** Ex 25.23–30; Lev 24.5, 6
* **35.15** Ex 30.1
* **35.19** Ex 31.10
* **35.21** Ex 25.2
v **35.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **35.23** 1 Chr 29.8
* **35.25** Ex 28.3
* **35.27** 1 Chr 29.6; Ezra 2.68
* **35.28** Ex 30.23
* **35.29** v 21
* **35.30** Ex 31.1–6
w **35.31** Or *the spirit of God*
* **35.35** v 31

Exodus 36

* **36.1** Ex 25.8
* **36.2** Ex 35.21, 26; 1 Chr 29.5
* **36.3** Ex 35.27
* **36.5** 2 Chr 24.14; 31.6–10; 2 Cor 8.23
* **36.8** Ex 26.1–14
* **36.12** Ex 26.5
* **36.14** Ex 26.7
x **36.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **36.19** Ex 26.14
* **36.20** Ex 26.15–29
* **36.24** Ex 26.21
* **36.27** Ex 26.22
* **36.31** Ex 26.26
* **36.35** Ex 26.31–37

Exodus 37

* **37.1** Ex 25.10–20
* **37.3** Ex 25.12
* **37.6** Ex 25.17
* **37.10** Ex 25.23–29

* **37.16** Ex 25.29
* **37.17** Ex 25.31–39
* **37.19** Ex 25.33
* **37.21** Ex 25.35
* **37.25** Ex 30.1–5
* **37.29** Ex 30.23, 34

Exodus 38

* **38.1** Ex 27.1–8
* **38.8** Ex 30.18
* **38.9** Ex 27.9–19
y **38.11** Heb lacks *there were hangings*
* **38.11** Ex 27.11
* **38.14** Ex 27.14
* **38.18** Ex 27.16
* **38.21** Num 4.28, 33
* **38.22** Ex 31.2, 6
* **38.24** Ex 30.13
* **38.25** Ex 30.11–16
* **38.26** Ex 30.13, 15; Num 1.46
* **38.27** Ex 26.19, 21, 25, 32

Exodus 39

* **39.1** Ex 28.4; 35.23
* **39.2** Ex 28.6–12
* **39.6** Ex 28.9
* **39.7** Ex 28.12
* **39.8** Ex 28.15–28
z **39.10** The identification of several of these stones is uncertain
a **39.11** Or *lapis lazuli*
* **39.11** Ex 28.18
* **39.14** Ex 28.21
* **39.16** Ex 28.24
* **39.19** Ex 28.26
* **39.22** Ex 28.31–34
b **39.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
c **39.24** Sam Gk Syr Vg: MT lacks *fine linen*
* **39.27** Ex 28.39, 40, 42
* **39.30** Ex 28.36, 37
* **39.32** vv 42, 43; Ex 25.40

d **39.34** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **39.35** Ex 25.17; 30.6
* **39.41** Ex 26.33
* **39.43** Lev 9.22, 23

Exodus 40

* **40.2** v 17; Ex 12.2; 13.4
* **40.3** v 21
* **40.9** Ex 30.26
* **40.10** Ex 29.36, 37
* **40.12** Lev 8.1–13
* **40.13** Ex 28.41
* **40.15** Num 25.13
* **40.20** Ex 25.16
* **40.21** Ex 26.33; 35.12
* **40.22** Ex 26.35
* **40.23** v 4
* **40.25** Ex 25.37
* **40.26** v 5
* **40.28** Ex 26.36
* **40.30** v 7
* **40.32** Ex 30.19, 20
* **40.34** Num 9.15–23
* **40.36** Num 9.17; 10.11; Neh 9.19
e **40.38** Heb *it*
* **40.38** Ex 13.21; Num 9.15

Leviticus

Leviticus 1

THE BURNT OFFERING

1 The LORD summoned Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting,
saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When any of you bring an
offering of livestock to the LORD, you shall bring your offering from the
herd or from the flock.*

3 "If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, you shall offer a male
without blemish; you shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, for
acceptance on your behalf before the LORD.* [4]You shall lay your hand on
the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be acceptable on your behalf as
atonement for you.* [5]The bull shall be slaughtered before the LORD, and
Aaron's sons the priests shall offer the blood, dashing the blood against all
sides of the altar that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting.* [6]The burnt
offering shall be flayed and cut up into its parts. [7]The sons of the priest
Aaron shall put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire.* [8]Aaron's
sons the priests shall arrange the parts, with the head and the suet, on the
wood that is on the fire on the altar, [9]but its entrails and its legs shall be
washed with water. Then the priest shall turn the rest into smoke on the altar
as a burnt offering, an offering by fire[a] of pleasing odor to the LORD.*

10 "If your gift for a burnt offering is from the flock, from the sheep or
goats, your offering shall be a male without blemish. [11]It shall be
slaughtered on the north side of the altar before the LORD, and Aaron's sons
the priests shall dash its blood against all sides of the altar.* [12]It shall be cut
up into its parts, with its head and its suet, and the priest shall arrange them
on the wood that is on the fire on the altar, [13]but the entrails and the legs
shall be washed with water. Then the priest shall offer the rest and turn it
into smoke on the altar; it is a burnt offering, an offering by fire[b] of pleasing
odor to the LORD.

14 “If your offering to the LORD is a burnt offering of birds, you shall choose your offering from turtledoves or pigeons.* 15The priest shall bring it to the altar and wring off its head and turn it into smoke on the altar, and its blood shall be drained out against the side of the altar.* 16He shall remove its entrails close to its tail feathers and throw it at the east side of the altar, in the place for ashes.* 17He shall tear it open by its wings without severing it. Then the priest shall turn it into smoke on the altar, on the wood that is on the fire; it is a burnt offering, an offering by fire[c] of pleasing odor to the LORD.*

Leviticus 2

GRAIN OFFERINGS

1 "When anyone presents a grain offering to the LORD, the offering shall be
of choice flour; the worshiper shall pour oil on it and put frankincense on it*
2and bring it to Aaron's sons the priests. After taking from it a handful of
the choice flour and oil, with all its frankincense, the priest shall turn this
token portion into smoke on the altar, an offering by fire[d] of pleasing odor
to the LORD.* 3And what is left of the grain offering shall be for Aaron and
his sons, a most holy part of the offerings by fire[e] to the LORD.*

4 "When you present a grain offering baked in the oven, it shall be of
choice flour: unleavened cakes mixed with oil or unleavened wafers spread
with oil. 5If your offering is grain prepared on a griddle, it shall be of choice
flour mixed with oil, unleavened; 6break it in pieces and pour oil on it; it is
a grain offering. 7If your offering is grain prepared in a pan, it shall be made
of choice flour in oil. 8You shall bring to the LORD the grain offering that is
prepared in any of these ways, and when it is presented to the priest, he
shall take it to the altar. 9The priest shall remove from the grain offering its
token portion and turn this into smoke on the altar, an offering by fire[f] of
pleasing odor to the LORD.* 10And what is left of the grain offering shall be
for Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy part of the offerings by fire[g] to the
LORD.*

11 "No grain offering that you bring to the LORD shall be made with
leaven, for you must not turn any leaven or honey into smoke as an offering
by fire[h] to the LORD.* 12You may bring them to the LORD as an offering of
choice products, but they shall not be offered on the altar for a pleasing
odor.* 13All your grain offerings you shall season with salt; you shall not
omit from your grain offerings the salt of the covenant with your God; with
all your offerings you shall offer salt.*

14 "If you bring a grain offering of first fruits to the LORD, you shall bring
as the grain offering of your first fruits crushed new grain from fresh ears,
roasted in fire.* 15You shall add oil to it and lay frankincense on it; it is a

grain offering. 16And the priest shall turn a token portion of it into smoke—
some of the crushed grain and oil with all its frankincense; it is an offering
by fire[i] to the LORD.[*]

Leviticus 3

OFFERINGS OF WELL-BEING

1 "If the offering is a sacrifice of well-being, if you offer an animal from the herd, whether male or female, you shall offer one without blemish before the LORD.* 2You shall lay your hand on the head of the offering and slaughter it at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and Aaron's sons the priests shall dash the blood against all sides of the altar.* 3You shall offer from the sacrifice of well-being, as an offering by fire[j] to the LORD, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is around the entrails,* 4the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins, and the appendage of the liver, which he shall remove with the kidneys. 5Then Aaron's sons shall turn these into smoke on the altar, with the burnt offering that is on the wood on the fire, as an offering by fire[k] of pleasing odor to the LORD.*

6 "If your offering for a sacrifice of well-being to the LORD is from the flock, male or female, you shall offer one without blemish.* 7If you present a sheep as your offering, you shall bring it before the LORD* 8and lay your hand on the head of the offering. It shall be slaughtered before the tent of meeting, and Aaron's sons shall dash its blood against all sides of the altar.* 9You shall present its fat from the sacrifice of well-being, as an offering by fire[l] to the LORD: the whole fatty tail, which shall be removed close to the backbone, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is around the entrails, 10the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins, and the appendage of the liver, which you shall remove with the kidneys.* 11Then the priest shall turn these into smoke on the altar as a food offering by fire[m] to the LORD.*

12 "If your offering is a goat, you shall bring it before the LORD 13and lay your hand on its head; it shall be slaughtered before the tent of meeting, and the sons of Aaron shall dash its blood against all sides of the altar. 14You shall present as your offering from it, as an offering by fire[n] to the LORD, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is around the entrails, 15the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins, and the appendage of the liver, which you shall remove with the kidneys. 16Then the priest shall

turn these into smoke on the altar as a food offering by fire[o] for a pleasing odor.

"All fat is the LORD's.[*] [17]It shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generations, in all your settlements: you must not eat any fat or any blood."[*]

Leviticus 4

PURIFICATION OFFERINGS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites, saying: When anyone sins unintentionally in any of the LORD's commandments about things not to be done and does any one of them:*

3 "If it is the anointed priest who sins, thus bringing guilt on the people, he shall offer for the sin that he has committed a bull of the herd as a purification offering to the LORD.* [4]He shall bring the bull to the entrance of the tent of meeting before the LORD and lay his hand on the head of the bull; the bull shall be slaughtered before the LORD.* [5]The anointed priest shall take some of the blood of the bull and bring it into the tent of meeting.* [6]The priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle some of the blood seven times before the LORD in front of the curtain of the sanctuary. [7]The priest shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense that is in the tent of meeting before the LORD, and the rest of the blood of the bull he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering, which is at the entrance of the tent of meeting.* [8]He shall remove all the fat from the bull of purification offering: the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is around the entrails,* [9]the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins, and the lobe of the liver, which he shall remove with the kidneys, [10]just as these are removed from the ox of the sacrifice of well-being. The priest shall turn them into smoke upon the altar of burnt offering. [11]But the skin of the bull and all its flesh, as well as its head, its legs, its entrails, and its dung—[12]all the rest of the bull—he shall carry out to a clean place outside the camp, to the ash heap, and shall burn it on a wood fire; at the ash heap it shall be burned.*

13 "If the whole congregation of Israel errs unintentionally, and the matter escapes the notice of the assembly, and they do any one of the things that by the LORD's commandments ought not to be done and incur guilt,* [14]when the sin that they have committed becomes known, the assembly shall offer a bull of the herd for a purification offering and bring it before the tent of meeting.* [15]The elders of the congregation shall lay their hands

on the head of the bull before the LORD, and the bull shall be slaughtered before the LORD.* 16The anointed priest shall bring some of the blood of the bull into the tent of meeting, 17and the priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle it seven times before the LORD, in front of the curtain.* 18He shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar that is before the LORD in the tent of meeting, and the rest of the blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. 19He shall remove all its fat and turn it into smoke on the altar. 20He shall do with the bull just as is done with the bull of purification offering; he shall do the same with this. The priest shall make atonement for them, and they shall be forgiven.* 21He shall carry the bull outside the camp and burn it as he burned the first bull; it is the purification offering for the assembly.

22 "When a ruler sins, doing unintentionally any one of all the things that by the commandments of the LORD his God ought not to be done and incurs guilt,* 23once the sin that he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring as his offering a male goat without blemish.* 24He shall lay his hand on the head of the goat; it shall be slaughtered at the spot where the burnt offering is slaughtered before the LORD; it is a purification offering. 25The priest shall take some of the blood of the purification offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out the rest of its blood at the base of the altar of burnt offering.* 26All its fat he shall turn into smoke on the altar, like the fat of the sacrifice of well-being. Thus the priest shall make atonement on his behalf for his sin, and he shall be forgiven.*

27 "If anyone of the ordinary people among you sins unintentionally in doing any one of the things that by the LORD's commandments ought not to be done and incurs guilt,* 28when the sin that you have committed is made known to you, you shall bring a female goat without blemish as your offering, for the sin that you have committed.* 29You shall lay your hand on the head of the purification offering; the purification offering shall be slaughtered at the place of the burnt offering.* 30The priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and he shall pour out the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. 31He shall remove all its fat, as the fat is removed from the sacrifice of well-being, and the priest shall turn it into smoke on the altar for a pleasing odor

to the LORD. Thus the priest shall make atonement on your behalf, and you shall be forgiven.

32 "If the offering you bring as a purification offering is a sheep, you shall bring a female without blemish.* [33]You shall lay your hand on the head of the purification offering; it shall be slaughtered as a purification offering at the spot where the burnt offering is slaughtered. [34]The priest shall take some of the blood of the purification offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. [35]You shall remove all its fat, as the fat of the sheep is removed from the sacrifice of well-being, and the priest shall turn it into smoke on the altar, with the offerings by fire[p] to the LORD. Thus the priest shall make atonement on your behalf for the sin that you have committed, and you shall be forgiven.*

Leviticus 5

1 "When any of you sin in that you have heard a public adjuration to testify and, although able to testify as one who has seen or learned of the matter, do not speak up, you are subject to punishment.* [2]Or when any of you touch any unclean thing, whether the carcass of an unclean beast or the carcass of unclean livestock or the carcass of an unclean swarming thing, and are unaware of it, you have become unclean and are guilty.* [3]Or when you touch human uncleanness—any uncleanness by which one can become unclean—and are unaware of it, when you come to know it, you shall be guilty. [4]Or when any of you utter aloud a rash oath for a bad or a good purpose, whatever people utter in an oath and are unaware of it, when you come to know it, you shall in any of these be guilty. [5]When you realize your guilt in any of these, you shall confess the sin that you have committed,* [6]and you shall bring to the LORD, as your penalty for the sin that you have committed, a female from the flock, a sheep or a goat, as a purification offering, and the priest shall make atonement on your behalf for your sin.

7 "But if you cannot afford a sheep, you shall bring to the LORD, as your penalty for the sin that you have committed, two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a purification offering and the other for a burnt offering.* [8]You shall bring them to the priest, who shall offer first the one for the purification offering, wringing its head at the nape without severing it.* [9]He shall sprinkle some of the blood of the purification offering on the side of the altar, while the rest of the blood shall be drained out at the base of the altar; it is a purification offering.* [10]And the second he shall offer for a burnt offering according to the regulation. Thus the priest shall make atonement on your behalf for the sin that you have committed, and you shall be forgiven.*

11 "But if you cannot afford two turtledoves or two pigeons, you shall bring as your offering for the sin that you have committed one-tenth of an ephah of choice flour for a purification offering; you shall not put oil on it or lay frankincense on it, for it is a purification offering.* [12]You shall bring it to the priest, and the priest shall scoop up a handful of it as its memorial portion and turn this into smoke on the altar, with the offerings by fire[q] to

the LORD; it is a purification offering. 13Thus the priest shall make atonement on your behalf for whichever of these sins you have committed, and you shall be forgiven. As with the grain offering, the rest shall be for the priest."*

OFFERINGS WITH RESTITUTION

14 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 15"When any of you commit a trespass and sin unintentionally against any of the holy things of the LORD, you shall bring, as your guilt offering to the LORD, a ram without blemish from the flock, convertible into silver by the sanctuary shekel; it is a guilt offering.* 16And you shall make restitution for the holy thing in which you were remiss and shall add one-fifth to it and give it to the priest. The priest shall make atonement on your behalf with the ram of the guilt offering, and you shall be forgiven.*

17 "If any of you sin without knowing it, doing any of the things that by the LORD's commandments ought not to be done, you have incurred guilt and are subject to punishment.* 18You shall bring to the priest a ram without blemish from the flock, or the equivalent, as a guilt offering, and the priest shall make atonement on your behalf for the error that you committed unintentionally, and you shall be forgiven.* 19It is a guilt offering; you have incurred guilt before the LORD."

Leviticus 6

1 [r]The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"When any of you sin and commit a
trespass against the LORD by deceiving a neighbor in a matter of a deposit or
a pledge or by robbery or if you have defrauded a neighbor* [3]or have found
something lost and lied about it—if you swear falsely regarding any of the
various things that one may do and sin*—[4]when you have sinned and
recognize your guilt and would restore what you took by robbery or by
fraud or the deposit that was committed to you or the lost thing that you
found [5]or anything else about which you have sworn falsely, you shall
repay the principal amount and add one-fifth to it. You shall pay it to its
owner when you recognize your guilt.* [6]And you shall bring to the priest, as
your guilt offering to the LORD, a ram without blemish from the flock, or its
equivalent, for a guilt offering.* [7]The priest shall make atonement on your
behalf before the LORD, and you shall be forgiven for any of the things that
one may do and incur guilt thereby."*

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING SACRIFICES

8 [s]The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [9]"Command Aaron and his sons:
This is the rule of the burnt offering. The burnt offering itself shall remain
on the hearth upon the altar all night until the morning, while the fire on the
altar shall be kept burning. [10]The priest shall put on his linen vestments
after putting on his linen undergarments next to his body, and he shall take
up the ashes to which the fire has reduced the burnt offering on the altar and
place them beside the altar.* [11]Then he shall take off his vestments and put
on other garments and carry the ashes out to a clean place outside the camp.
[12]The fire on the altar shall be kept burning; it shall not go out. Every
morning the priest shall add wood to it, lay out the burnt offering on it, and
turn into smoke the fat pieces of the offerings of well-being. [13]A perpetual
fire shall be kept burning on the altar; it shall not go out.

14 "This is the rule of the grain offering: The sons of Aaron shall offer it
before the LORD, in front of the altar.* [15]They shall take from it a handful of
the choice flour and oil of the grain offering, with all the frankincense that

is on the offering, and they shall turn its memorial portion into smoke on the altar as a pleasing odor to the LORD. 16Aaron and his sons shall eat what is left of it; it shall be eaten as unleavened cakes in a holy place; in the court of the tent of meeting they shall eat it.* 17It shall not be baked with leaven. I have given it as their portion of my offerings by fire;[t] it is most holy, like the purification offering and the guilt offering.* 18Every male among the descendants of Aaron shall eat of it, as their perpetual due throughout your generations, from the LORD's offerings by fire;[u] anything that touches them shall become holy."*

19 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 20"This is the offering that Aaron and his sons shall offer to the LORD on the day when he is anointed: one-tenth of an ephah of choice flour as a regular grain offering, half of it in the morning and half in the evening.* 21It shall be made with oil on a griddle; you shall bring it well soaked, as a grain offering of baked[v] pieces, and you shall present it as a pleasing odor to the LORD.* 22And so the priest, anointed from among Aaron's descendants as a successor, shall prepare it; it is the LORD's—a perpetual due—to be turned entirely into smoke. 23Every grain offering of a priest shall be wholly burned; it shall not be eaten."

24 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 25"Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying: This is the rule of the purification offering. The purification offering shall be slaughtered before the LORD at the spot where the burnt offering is slaughtered; it is most holy.* 26The priest who offers it as a purification offering shall eat of it; it shall be eaten in a holy place, in the court of the tent of meeting.* 27Whatever touches its flesh shall become holy, and when any of its blood is spattered on a garment, you shall wash the bespattered part in a holy place.* 28A clay vessel in which it was boiled shall be broken, but if it is boiled in a bronze vessel, that shall be scoured and rinsed in water.* 29Every male among the priests shall eat of it; it is most holy.* 30But no purification offering shall be eaten from which any blood is brought into the tent of meeting for atonement in the holy place; it shall be burned with fire.*

Leviticus 7

1 "This is the rule of the guilt offering; it is most holy.* [2]At the spot where
the burnt offering is slaughtered, they shall slaughter the guilt offering, and
its blood shall be dashed against all sides of the altar.* [3]All its fat shall be
offered: the fatty tail, the fat that covers the entrails, [4]the two kidneys with
the fat that is on them at the loins, and the appendage of the liver, which
shall be removed with the kidneys.* [5]The priest shall turn them into smoke
on the altar as an offering by fire[w] to the LORD; it is a guilt offering. [6]Every
male among the priests shall eat of it; it shall be eaten in a holy place; it is
most holy.*

7 "The guilt offering is like the purification offering; the same rule
applies to them: the priest who makes atonement with it shall have it.* [8]So,
too, the priest who offers a burnt offering for anyone shall keep the skin of
the burnt offering that he has offered. [9]And every grain offering baked in
the oven and all that is prepared in a pan or on a griddle shall belong to the
priest who offers it.* [10]But every other grain offering, mixed with oil or dry,
shall belong to all the sons of Aaron equally.

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

11 "This is the rule of the sacrifice of well-being that one may offer to the
LORD. [12]If you offer it for thanksgiving, you shall offer with the thank
offering unleavened cakes mixed with oil, unleavened wafers spread with
oil, and cakes of choice flour well soaked in oil. [13]With your thanksgiving
sacrifice of well-being you shall bring your offering with cakes of leavened
bread. [14]From this you shall offer one cake from each offering, as a gift to
the LORD; it shall belong to the priest who dashes the blood of the offering
of well-being.* [15]And the flesh of your thanksgiving sacrifice of well-being
shall be eaten on the day it is offered; you shall not leave any of it until
morning.* [16]But if the sacrifice you offer is a votive offering or a freewill
offering, it shall be eaten on the day that you offer your sacrifice, and what
is left of it shall be eaten the next day,* [17]but what is left of the flesh of the
sacrifice shall be burned up on the third day. [18]If any of the flesh of your

sacrifice of well-being is eaten on the third day, it shall not be acceptable, nor shall it be credited to the one who offers it; it shall be an abomination, and the one who eats of it shall incur guilt.*

19 "Flesh that touches any unclean thing shall not be eaten; it shall be burned up. As for other flesh, all who are clean may eat such flesh. [20]But those who eat flesh from the LORD's sacrifice of well-being while in a state of uncleanness shall be cut off from their people.* [21]When any one of you touches any unclean thing—human uncleanness or an unclean animal or any unclean creature—and then eats flesh from the LORD's sacrifice of well-being, you shall be cut off from your people."*

22 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [23]"Speak to the Israelites: You shall eat no fat of ox or sheep or goat.* [24]The fat of an animal that died or was torn by wild animals may be put to any other use, but you must not eat it. [25]If any one of you eats the fat from an animal of which an offering by fire[x] may be made to the LORD, you who eat it shall be cut off from your people. [26]You must not eat any blood whatever, either of bird or of animal, in any of your settlements.* [27]Any one of you who eats any blood shall be cut off from your people."

28 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [29]"Speak to the Israelites: Any one of you who would offer to the LORD your sacrifice of well-being must yourself bring to the LORD your offering from your sacrifice of well-being.* [30]Your own hands shall bring the LORD's offering by fire;[y] you shall bring the fat with the breast, so that the breast may be raised as an elevation offering before the LORD. [31]The priest shall turn the fat into smoke on the altar, but the breast shall belong to Aaron and his sons.* [32]And the right thigh from your sacrifices of well-being you shall give to the priest as an offering; [33]the one among the sons of Aaron who offers the blood and fat of the offering of well-being shall have the right thigh for a portion. [34]For I have taken the breast of the elevation offering and the thigh that is offered from the Israelites, from their sacrifices of well-being, and have given them to Aaron the priest and to his sons, as a perpetual due from the Israelites.* [35]This is the portion allotted to Aaron and to his sons from the offerings made by fire[z] to the LORD, once they have been brought forward to serve the LORD as priests; [36]these the LORD commanded to be given them, when he

anointed them, as a perpetual due from the Israelites throughout their generations."

37 This is the rule of the burnt offering, the grain offering, the purification offering, the guilt offering, the offering of ordination, and the sacrifice of well-being,* 38which the LORD commanded Moses on Mount Sinai, when he commanded the Israelites to bring their offerings to the LORD, in the wilderness of Sinai.*

Leviticus 8

THE RITES OF ORDINATION

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Take Aaron and his sons with him,
the vestments, the anointing oil, the bull for the purification offering, the
two rams, and the basket of unleavened bread;* [3]and assemble the whole
congregation at the entrance of the tent of meeting." [4]And Moses did as the
LORD had commanded him. When the congregation was assembled at the
entrance of the tent of meeting, [5]Moses said to the congregation, "This is
what the LORD has commanded to be done."

6 Then Moses brought Aaron and his sons forward and washed them
with water.* [7]He put the tunic on him, fastened the sash around him, clothed
him with the robe, and put the ephod on him. He then put the decorated
band of the ephod around him, tying the ephod to him with it. [8]He placed
the breastpiece on him, and in the breastpiece he put the Urim and the
Thummim.* [9]And he set the turban on his head, and on the turban, in front,
he set the golden ornament, the holy diadem, as the LORD had commanded
Moses.*

10 Then Moses took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and all
that was in it and consecrated them.* [11]He sprinkled some of it on the altar
seven times and anointed the altar and all its utensils and the basin and its
base, to consecrate them. [12]He poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's
head and anointed him, to consecrate him.* [13]And Moses brought forward
Aaron's sons and clothed them with tunics and fastened sashes around them
and tied headdresses on them, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

14 He led forward the bull of purification offering, and Aaron and his
sons laid their hands upon the head of the bull for the purification offering,*
[15]and it was slaughtered. Moses took the blood and with his finger put some
on each of the horns of the altar, purifying the altar; then he poured out the
blood at the base of the altar. Thus he consecrated it, to make atonement for
it.* [16]Moses took all the fat that was around the entrails and the appendage
of the liver and the two kidneys with their fat and turned them into smoke

on the altar.* 17But the bull itself, its skin and flesh and its dung, he burned with fire outside the camp, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

18 Then he brought forward the ram of burnt offering. Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram,* 19and it was slaughtered. Moses dashed the blood against all sides of the altar. 20The ram was cut into its parts, and Moses turned into smoke the head and the parts and the suet. 21And after the entrails and the legs were washed with water, Moses turned into smoke the rest of the ram on the altar; it was a burnt offering for a pleasing odor, an offering by fire[a] to the LORD, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

22 Then he brought forward the second ram, the ram of ordination. Aaron and his sons laid their hands on the head of the ram,* 23and it was slaughtered. Moses took some of its blood and put it on the lobe of Aaron's right ear and on the thumb of his right hand and on the big toe of his right foot. 24After Aaron's sons were brought forward, Moses put some of the blood on the lobes of their right ears and on the thumbs of their right hands and on the big toes of their right feet, and Moses dashed the rest of the blood against all sides of the altar. 25He took the fat—the fatty tail, all the fat that was around the entrails, the appendage of the liver, and the two kidneys with their fat—and the right thigh.* 26From the basket of unleavened bread that was before the LORD, he took one cake of unleavened bread, one cake of bread with oil, and one wafer and placed them on the fat and on the right thigh.* 27He placed all these on the palms of Aaron and on the palms of his sons and raised them as an elevation offering before the LORD. 28Then Moses took them from their hands and turned them into smoke on the altar with the burnt offering. This was an ordination offering for a pleasing odor, an offering by fire[b] to the LORD.* 29Moses took the breast and raised it as an elevation offering before the LORD; it was Moses's portion of the ram of ordination, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

30 Then Moses took some of the anointing oil and some of the blood that was on the altar and sprinkled them on Aaron and his vestments and also on his sons and their vestments. Thus he consecrated Aaron and his vestments and also his sons and their vestments.*

31 And Moses said to Aaron and his sons, "Boil the flesh at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and eat it there with the bread that is in the basket of

ordination offerings, as I was commanded, ‘Aaron and his sons shall eat it,’* 32and what remains of the flesh and the bread you shall burn with fire.*
33You shall not go outside the entrance of the tent of meeting for seven days, until the day when your period of ordination is completed. For it will take seven days to ordain you;* 34as has been done today, the LORD has commanded to be done to make atonement for you.* 35You shall remain at the entrance of the tent of meeting day and night for seven days, keeping the LORD’s charge so that you do not die, for so have I been commanded.”
36Aaron and his sons did all the things that the LORD had commanded through Moses.

Leviticus 9

AARON'S PRIESTHOOD INAUGURATED

1 On the eighth day Moses summoned Aaron and his sons and the elders of
Israel. [2]He said to Aaron, "Take a bull calf for a purification offering and a
ram for a burnt offering, without blemish, and offer them before the LORD.*
[3]And say to the Israelites, 'Take a male goat for a purification offering; a
calf and a lamb, yearlings without blemish, for a burnt offering;* [4]and an ox
and a ram for an offering of well-being to sacrifice before the LORD; and a
grain offering mixed with oil. For today the LORD will appear to you.' "
[5]They brought what Moses commanded to the front of the tent of meeting,
and the whole congregation drew near and stood before the LORD. [6]And
Moses said, "This is the thing that the LORD commanded you to do, so that
the glory of the LORD may appear to you."* [7]Then Moses said to Aaron,
"Draw near to the altar and sacrifice your purification offering and your
burnt offering and make atonement for yourself and for the people, and
sacrifice the offering of the people and make atonement for them, as the
LORD has commanded."*

8 Aaron drew near to the altar and slaughtered the calf of the purification
offering, which was for himself.* [9]The sons of Aaron presented the blood to
him, and he dipped his finger in the blood and put it on the horns of the
altar, and the rest of the blood he poured out at the base of the altar.*
[10]But the fat, the kidneys, and the appendage of the liver from the purification
offering he turned into smoke on the altar, as the LORD had commanded
Moses, [11]and the flesh and the skin he burned with fire outside the camp.*

12 Then he slaughtered the burnt offering. Aaron's sons brought him the
blood, and he dashed it against all sides of the altar. [13]And they brought him
the burnt offering piece by piece and the head, which he turned into smoke
on the altar. [14]He washed the entrails and the legs and, with the burnt
offering, turned them into smoke on the altar.

15 Next he presented the people's offering. He took the goat of the
purification offering that was for the people and slaughtered it and
presented it as a purification offering like the first one.* [16]He presented the

burnt offering and sacrificed it according to regulation.* 17He presented the grain offering, and, taking a handful of it, he turned it into smoke on the altar, in addition to the burnt offering of the morning.*

18 He slaughtered the ox and the ram as a sacrifice of well-being for the people. Aaron's sons brought him the blood, which he dashed against all sides of the altar,* 19and the fat of the ox and of the ram: the fatty tail, the fat that covers the entrails, the two kidneys and the fat on them,[c] and the appendage of the liver. 20They first laid the fat on the breasts, and the fat was turned into smoke on the altar, 21and the breasts and the right thigh Aaron raised as an elevation offering before the LORD, as Moses had commanded.*

22 Aaron lifted his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down after sacrificing the purification offering, the burnt offering, and the offering of well-being. 23Moses and Aaron entered the tent of meeting and then came out and blessed the people, and the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people.* 24Fire came out from the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.*

Leviticus 10

NADAB AND ABIHU

1 Now Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu each took his censer, put fire in it,
and laid incense on it, and they offered unholy fire before the LORD, such as
he had not commanded them.* 2And fire came out from the presence of the
LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD.* 3Then Moses
said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD meant when he said,

'Through those who are near me
I will show myself holy,
and before all the people
I will be glorified.' "

And Aaron was silent.*

4 Moses summoned Mishael and Elzaphan, sons of Uzziel the uncle of
Aaron, and said to them, "Come forward and carry your kinsmen away
from the front of the sanctuary to a place outside the camp."* 5They came
forward and carried them by their tunics out of the camp, as Moses had
ordered. 6And Moses said to Aaron and to his sons Eleazar and Ithamar,
"Do not dishevel your hair and do not tear your vestments, or you will die,
and wrath will strike all the congregation; but your kindred, the whole
house of Israel, may mourn the burning that the LORD has sent.* 7You shall
not go outside the entrance of the tent of meeting, lest you die, for the
anointing oil of the LORD is on you." And they did as Moses had ordered.*

8 And the LORD spoke to Aaron, 9"Drink no wine or strong drink, neither
you nor your sons, when you enter the tent of meeting, that you may not
die; it is a statute forever throughout your generations.* 10You are to
distinguish between the holy and the common and between the unclean and
the clean,* 11and you are to teach the Israelites all the statutes that the LORD
has spoken to them through Moses."*

12 Moses spoke to Aaron and to his remaining sons, Eleazar and Ithamar,
"Take the grain offering that is left from the LORD's offerings by fire,[d] and
eat it unleavened beside the altar, for it is most holy;* 13you shall eat it in a

holy place, because it is your due and your sons' due, from the offerings by fire[e] to the LORD, for so I am commanded. 14But the breast that is elevated and the thigh that is raised, you and your sons and daughters as well may eat in any clean place, for they have been assigned to you and your children from the sacrifices of well-being of the Israelites.* 15The thigh that is raised and the breast that is elevated they shall bring, together with the offerings by fire[f] of the fat, to raise for an elevation offering before the LORD; they are to be your due and that of your children forever, as the LORD has commanded."*

16 Then Moses made inquiry about the goat of the purification offering, and it had already been burned! He was angry with Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's remaining sons, and said, 17"Why did you not eat the purification offering in the sacred area? For it is most holy, and God[g] has given it to you that you may remove the guilt of the congregation, to make atonement on their behalf before the LORD.* 18Its blood was not brought into the inner part of the sanctuary. You should certainly have eaten it in the sanctuary, as I commanded." 19And Aaron spoke to Moses, "See, today they offered their purification offering and their burnt offering before the LORD, and yet such things as these have befallen me! If I had eaten the purification offering today, would it have been agreeable to the LORD?"* 20And when Moses heard that, he agreed.

Leviticus 11

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN FOODS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying to them, [2]"Speak to the Israelites:

"From among all the land animals, these are the creatures that you may eat.[*] [3]Any animal that has divided hoofs and is cleft-footed and chews the cud—such you may eat. [4]But among those that chew the cud or have divided hoofs, you shall not eat the following: the camel, for even though it chews the cud, it does not have divided hoofs; it is unclean for you. [5]The rock badger, for even though it chews the cud, it does not have divided hoofs; it is unclean for you. [6]The hare, for even though it chews the cud, it does not have divided hoofs; it is unclean for you. [7]The pig, for even though it has divided hoofs and is cleft-footed, it does not chew the cud; it is unclean for you.[*] [8]Of their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch; they are unclean for you.[*]

9 "These you may eat, of all that are in the waters. Everything in the waters that has fins and scales, whether in the seas or in the streams—such you may eat.[*] [10]But anything in the seas or the streams that does not have fins and scales, of the swarming creatures in the waters and among all the other living creatures that are in the waters—they are detestable to you,[*] [11]and detestable they shall remain. Of their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall regard as detestable. [12]Everything in the waters that does not have fins and scales is detestable to you.

13 "These you shall regard as detestable among the birds. They shall not be eaten; they are an abomination: the eagle, the vulture, the osprey, [14]the buzzard, the kite of any kind; [15]every raven of any kind; [16]the ostrich, the nighthawk, the sea gull, the hawk of any kind; [17]the little owl, the cormorant, the great owl, [18]the water hen, the desert owl,[h] the carrion vulture, [19]the stork, the heron of any kind, the hoopoe, and the bat.[i]

20 "All winged insects that walk upon all fours are detestable to you. [21]But among the winged insects that walk on all fours you may eat those

that have jointed legs above their feet, with which to leap on the ground. [22]Of them you may eat: locusts of every kind, bald locusts of every kind, crickets of every kind, and grasshoppers of every kind.* [23]But all other winged insects that have four feet are detestable to you.

UNCLEAN ANIMALS

24 "By these you shall become unclean; whoever touches the carcass of any of them shall be unclean until the evening, [25]and whoever carries any part of the carcass of any of them shall wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening.* [26]Every animal that has divided hoofs but is not cleft-footed or does not chew the cud is unclean for you; everyone who touches one of them shall be unclean. [27]All that walk on their paws, among the animals that walk on all fours, are unclean for you; whoever touches the carcass of any of them shall be unclean until the evening, [28]and the one who carries the carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until the evening; they are unclean for you.

29 "These are unclean for you among the creatures that swarm upon the earth: the weasel, the mouse, lizards of every kind,* [30]the gecko, the land crocodile, the lizard, the sand lizard, and the chameleon. [31]These are unclean for you among all that swarm; whoever touches one of them when they are dead shall be unclean until the evening. [32]And anything upon which any of them falls when they are dead shall be unclean, whether an article of wood or cloth or leather or sackcloth, any article that is used for any purpose; it shall be dipped in water, and it shall be unclean until the evening, and then it shall be clean.* [33]And if any of them falls into any clay vessel, all that is in it shall be unclean, and you shall break the vessel.* [34]Any food that could be eaten shall be unclean if water from any such vessel comes upon it, and any liquid that could be drunk shall be unclean if it was in any such vessel. [35]Everything on which any part of the carcass falls shall be unclean; whether an oven or stove, it shall be broken in pieces; they are unclean and shall remain unclean for you. [36]But a spring or a cistern holding water shall be clean, while whatever touches the carcass in it shall be unclean. [37]If any part of their carcass falls upon any seed set aside for sowing, it is clean, [38]but if water is put on the seed and any part of their carcass falls on it, it is unclean for you.

39 “If an animal of which you may eat dies, anyone who touches its carcass shall be unclean until the evening. [40]Those who eat of its carcass shall wash their clothes and be unclean until the evening, and those who carry the carcass shall wash their clothes and be unclean until the evening.*

41 “All creatures that swarm upon the earth are detestable; they shall not be eaten.* [42]Whatever moves on its belly and whatever moves on all fours or whatever has many feet, all the creatures that swarm upon the earth you shall not eat, for they are detestable. [43]You shall not make yourselves detestable with any creature that swarms; you shall not defile yourselves with them and so become unclean.* [44]For I am the LORD your God; sanctify yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any swarming creature that moves on the earth.* [45]For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt, to be your God; you shall be holy, for I am holy.*

46 “This is the law pertaining to land animal and bird and every living creature that moves through the waters and every creature that swarms upon the earth, [47]to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean and between the living creature that may be eaten and the living creature that may not be eaten.”*

Leviticus 12

PURIFICATION OF WOMEN AFTER CHILDBIRTH

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites, saying:

"If a woman conceives and bears a male child, she shall be unclean seven days; as at the time of her menstruation, she shall be unclean.* [3]On the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised.* [4]Her time of blood purification shall be thirty-three days; she shall not touch any holy thing or come into the sanctuary until the days of her purification are completed. [5]If she bears a female child, she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her menstruation; her time of blood purification shall be sixty-six days.

6 "When the days of her purification are completed, whether for a son or for a daughter, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting a lamb in its first year for a burnt offering and a pigeon or a turtledove for a purification offering.* [7]He shall offer it before the LORD and make atonement on her behalf; then she shall be clean from her flow of blood. This is the law for her who bears a child, male or female. [8]If she cannot afford a sheep, she shall take two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a purification offering, and the priest shall make atonement on her behalf, and she shall be clean."*

Leviticus 13

SKIN DISEASE, VARIETIES AND SYMPTOMS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying:

2 "When a person has on the skin of his body a swelling[j] or an eruption
or a spot and it turns into a defiling disease on the skin of his body, he shall
be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons the priests.* [3]The priest
shall examine the disease on the skin of his body, and if the hair in the
diseased area has turned white and the disease appears to be deeper than the
skin of his body, it is a defiling disease; after the priest has examined him he
shall pronounce him unclean. [4]But if the spot is white in the skin of his
body and appears no deeper than the skin and the hair in it has not turned
white, the priest shall confine the diseased person for seven days.* [5]The
priest shall examine him on the seventh day, and if he sees that the disease
is checked and the disease has not spread in the skin, then the priest shall
confine him seven days more. [6]The priest shall examine him again on the
seventh day, and if the disease has abated and the disease has not spread in
the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean; it is only an eruption, and he
shall wash his clothes and be clean.* [7]But if the eruption spreads in the skin
after he has shown himself to the priest for his cleansing, he shall appear
again before the priest.* [8]The priest shall make an examination, and if the
eruption has spread in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is
defiling.

9 "When a person contracts a defiling skin disease, he shall be brought to
the priest. [10]The priest shall make an examination, and if there is a white
swelling[k] in the skin that has turned the hair white and there is a patch of
raw flesh in the swelling,[l,*] [11]it is a chronic defiling disease in the skin of
his body. The priest shall pronounce him unclean; he shall not confine him,
for he is unclean. [12]But if the defiling disease breaks out in the skin so that
it covers all the skin of the diseased person from head to foot, so far as the
priest can see, [13]then the priest shall make an examination, and if the
defiling disease has covered all his body, he shall pronounce him clean of
the disease; since it has all turned white, he is clean. [14]But if raw flesh ever

appears on him, he shall be unclean; [15]the priest shall examine the raw flesh and pronounce him unclean. Raw flesh is unclean; it is defiling.* [16]But if the raw flesh again turns white, he shall come to the priest;* [17]the priest shall examine him, and if the disease has turned white, the priest shall pronounce the diseased person clean. He is clean.

18 "When there is on the skin of one's body a boil that has healed,* [19]and in the place of the boil there appears a white swelling[m] or a reddish-white spot, it shall be shown to the priest.* [20]The priest shall make an examination, and if it appears deeper than the skin and its hair has turned white, the priest shall pronounce him unclean; this is a defiling disease, broken out in the boil. [21]But if the priest examines it and the hair on it is not white nor is it deeper than the skin but has abated, the priest shall confine him seven days.* [22]If it spreads in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is diseased. [23]But if the spot remains in one place and does not spread, it is the scar of the boil; the priest shall pronounce him clean.

24 "Or when the body has a burn on the skin and the patch of the burn becomes a spot, reddish-white or white, [25]the priest shall examine it. If the hair in the spot has turned white and appears deeper than the skin, it is defiling; it has broken out in the burn, and the priest shall pronounce him unclean. This is a defiling disease.* [26]But if the priest examines it and the hair in the spot is not white and it is no deeper than the skin but has abated, the priest shall confine him seven days. [27]The priest shall examine him the seventh day; if it is spreading in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him unclean. This is a defiling disease.* [28]But if the spot remains in one place and does not spread in the skin but has abated, it is a swelling[n] from the burn, and the priest shall pronounce him clean, for it is the scar of the burn.

29 "When a man or a woman has a disease on the head or in the beard,* [30]the priest shall examine the disease. If it appears deeper than the skin and the hair in it is yellow and thin, the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is an itch, a defiling disease of the head or the beard. [31]If the priest examines the itching disease, and it appears no deeper than the skin and there is no black hair in it, the priest shall confine the person with the itching disease for seven days. [32]On the seventh day the priest shall examine the itch; if the itch has not spread and there is no yellow hair in it and the itch appears to be no deeper than the skin,* [33]he shall shave, but the itch he shall not shave.

The priest shall confine the person with the itch for seven days more. [34]On the seventh day the priest shall examine the itch; if the itch has not spread in the skin and it appears to be no deeper than the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean. He shall wash his clothes and be clean.* [35]But if the itch spreads in the skin after he was pronounced clean, [36]the priest shall examine him. If the itch has spread in the skin, the priest need not seek for the yellow hair; he is unclean.* [37]But if in his eyes the itch is checked and black hair has grown in it, the itch is healed; he is clean, and the priest shall pronounce him clean.

38 "When a man or a woman has spots on the skin of the body, white spots, [39]the priest shall make an examination, and if the spots on the skin of the body are of a dull white, it is a rash that has broken out on the skin; he is clean.

40 "If anyone loses the hair from his head, he is bald, but he is clean.* [41]If he loses the hair from his forehead and temples, he has baldness of the forehead, but he is clean. [42]But if there is on the bald head or the bald forehead a reddish-white diseased spot, it is a defiling disease breaking out on his bald head or his bald forehead. [43]The priest shall examine him; if the diseased swelling[o] is reddish-white on his bald head or on his bald forehead, which resembles a defiling disease in the skin of the body, [44]he is defiled; he is unclean. The priest shall pronounce him unclean; the disease is on his head.*

45 "The person who has the defiling disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head be disheveled, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean.' [46]He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease; he is unclean. He shall live alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp.*

47 "Concerning clothing: when a defiling disease appears in it, in woolen or linen cloth, [48]in warp or woof of linen or wool or in a skin or in anything made of skin, [49]if the disease shows greenish or reddish in the garment, whether in warp or woof or in skin or in anything made of skin, it is a defiling disease and shall be shown to the priest. [50]The priest shall examine the disease and put the diseased article aside for seven days. [51]He shall examine the disease on the seventh day. If the disease has spread in the cloth, in warp or woof, or in the skin, whatever be the use of the skin, this is

a spreading defiling disease; it is unclean.* 52He shall burn the clothing, whether diseased in warp or woof, woolen or linen, or anything of skin, for it is a spreading defiling disease; it shall be burned in fire.*

53 "If the priest makes an examination and the disease has not spread in the clothing, in warp or woof, or in anything of skin, 54the priest shall command that the diseased article be washed, and he shall put it aside seven days more.* 55The priest shall examine the diseased article after it has been washed. If the diseased spot has not changed color, though the disease has not spread, it is unclean; you shall burn it in fire, whether the worn[p] spot is on the inside or on the outside.

56 "If the priest makes an examination, and the disease has abated after it is washed, he shall tear the spot out of the cloth, in warp or woof, or out of skin.* 57If it appears again in the garment, in warp or woof, or in anything of skin, it is spreading; you shall burn with fire that in which the disease appears. 58But the cloth, warp or woof, or anything of skin from which the disease disappears when you have washed it shall then be washed a second time, and it shall be clean.

59 "This is the rule for a defiling disease in a cloth of wool or linen, either in warp or woof, or in anything of skin, to decide whether it is clean or unclean."

Leviticus 14

PURIFICATION OF THE DISEASED

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"This shall be the rule for the person with a defiling skin disease at the time of his cleansing:

"He shall be brought to the priest;* [3]the priest shall go out of the camp, and the priest shall make an examination. If the disease is healed in the defiled person, [4]the priest shall command that two living clean birds and cedarwood and crimson yarn and hyssop be brought for the one who is to be cleansed.* [5]The priest shall command that one of the birds be slaughtered over fresh water in a clay vessel. [6]He shall take the living bird with the cedarwood and the crimson yarn and the hyssop and dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was slaughtered over the fresh water. [7]He shall sprinkle it seven times upon the one who is to be cleansed of the defiling disease; then he shall pronounce him clean, and he shall let the living bird go into the open field.* [8]The one who is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes and shave off all his hair and bathe himself in water, and he shall be clean. After that he shall come into the camp but shall live outside his tent seven days.* [9]On the seventh day he shall shave all his hair: of head, beard, eyebrows; he shall shave all his hair. Then he shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and he shall be clean.

10 "On the eighth day he shall take two male lambs without blemish and one ewe lamb in its first year without blemish and a grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of choice flour mixed with oil and one log[q] of oil.* [11]The priest who cleanses shall set the person to be cleansed, along with these things, before the LORD, at the entrance of the tent of meeting. [12]The priest shall take one of the lambs and offer it as a guilt offering, along with the log[r] of oil, and raise them as an elevation offering before the LORD.* [13]He shall slaughter the lamb in the place where the purification offering and the burnt offering are slaughtered in the holy place, for the guilt offering, like the purification offering, belongs to the priest; it is most holy.* [14]The priest shall take some of the blood of the guilt offering and put it on the lobe of the right ear of the one to be cleansed and on the thumb of the right hand

and on the big toe of the right foot.* 15The priest shall take some of the log[s] of oil and pour it into the palm of his own left hand 16and dip his right finger in the oil that is in his left hand and sprinkle some oil with his finger seven times before the LORD. 17Some of the oil that remains in his hand the priest shall put on the lobe of the right ear of the one to be cleansed and on the thumb of the right hand and on the big toe of the right foot, on top of the blood of the guilt offering. 18The rest of the oil that is in the priest's hand he shall put on the head of the one to be cleansed. Then the priest shall make atonement on his behalf before the LORD:* 19the priest shall offer the purification offering, to make atonement for the one to be cleansed from his uncleanness. Afterward he shall slaughter the burnt offering,* 20and the priest shall offer the burnt offering and the grain offering on the altar. Thus the priest shall make atonement on his behalf, and he shall be clean.

21 "But if he is poor and cannot afford so much, he shall take one male lamb for a guilt offering to be elevated, to make atonement on his behalf, and one-tenth of an ephah of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain offering and a log[t] of oil,* 22also two turtledoves or two pigeons, such as he can afford, one for a purification offering and the other for a burnt offering.* 23On the eighth day he shall bring them for his cleansing to the priest, to the entrance of the tent of meeting, before the LORD,* 24and the priest shall take the lamb of the guilt offering and the log[u] of oil, and the priest shall raise them as an elevation offering before the LORD.* 25The priest shall slaughter the lamb of the guilt offering and shall take some of the blood of the guilt offering and put it on the lobe of the right ear of the one to be cleansed and on the thumb of the right hand and on the big toe of the right foot.* 26The priest shall pour some of the oil into the palm of his own left hand 27and shall sprinkle with his right finger some of the oil that is in his left hand seven times before the LORD. 28The priest shall put some of the oil that is in his hand on the lobe of the right ear of the one to be cleansed and on the thumb of the right hand and the big toe of the right foot, where the blood of the guilt offering was placed.* 29The rest of the oil that is in the priest's hand he shall put on the head of the one to be cleansed, to make atonement on his behalf before the LORD. 30And he shall offer, of the turtledoves or pigeons, such as he can afford,* 31one[v] for a purification offering and the other for a burnt offering, along with a grain offering, and the priest shall

make atonement before the LORD on behalf of the one being cleansed.* 32This is the rule for the one who has a defiling disease who cannot afford the offerings for his cleansing."

33 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying:

34 "When you come into the land of Canaan, which I give you for a possession, and I put a defiling disease in a house in the land of your possession,* 35the owner of the house shall come and tell the priest, saying, 'There seems to me to be some sort of disease in my house.'* 36The priest shall command that they empty the house before the priest goes to examine the disease, or all that is in the house will become unclean, and afterward the priest shall go in to inspect the house. 37He shall examine the disease; if the disease is in the walls of the house with greenish or reddish spots, and if it appears to be deeper than the surface, 38the priest shall go outside to the door of the house and shut up the house seven days.* 39The priest shall come again on the seventh day and make an inspection; if the disease has spread in the walls of the house, 40the priest shall command that the stones in which the disease appears be taken out and thrown into an unclean place outside the city.* 41He shall have the inside of the house scraped thoroughly, and the plaster that is scraped off shall be dumped in an unclean place outside the city. 42They shall take other stones and put them in the place of those stones and take other plaster and plaster the house.

43 "If the disease breaks out again in the house, after he has taken out the stones and scraped the house and plastered it, 44the priest shall go and make inspection; if the disease has spread in the house, it is a spreading defiling disease in the house; it is unclean.* 45He shall have the house torn down, its stones and timber and all the plaster of the house, and taken outside the city to an unclean place. 46All who enter the house while it is shut up shall be unclean until the evening, 47and all who sleep in the house shall wash their clothes, and all who eat in the house shall wash their clothes.

48 "If the priest comes and makes an inspection and the disease has not spread in the house after the house was plastered, the priest shall pronounce the house clean; the disease is healed. 49For the cleansing of the house he shall take two birds, with cedarwood and crimson yarn and hyssop,* 50and shall slaughter one of the birds over fresh water in a clay vessel 51and shall take the cedarwood and the hyssop and the crimson yarn, along with the

living bird, and dip them in the blood of the slaughtered bird and the fresh water and sprinkle the house seven times.* 52Thus he shall cleanse the house with the blood of the bird, and with the fresh water, and with the living bird, and with the cedarwood and hyssop and crimson yarn, 53and he shall let the living bird go out of the city into the open field; so he shall make atonement for the house, and it shall be clean.*

54 "This is the rule for any defiling disease: for an itch,* 55for defiling diseases in clothing and houses, 56and for a swelling[w] or an eruption or a spot,* 57to determine when it is unclean and when it is clean. This is the rule for defiling diseases."

Leviticus 15

CONCERNING BODILY DISCHARGES

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them:

"When any man has a discharge from his member,[x] his discharge makes him unclean.* [3]The uncleanness of his discharge is this: whether his member[y] flows with its discharge or is stopped from discharging, he is unclean during the entire period his member[z] flows or is stopped from discharging; this is his uncleanness.[a] [4]Every bed on which the one with the discharge lies shall be unclean, and everything on which he sits shall be unclean. [5]Anyone who touches his bed shall wash his clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening. [6]All who sit on anything on which the one with the discharge has sat shall wash their clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening. [7]All who touch the body of the one with the discharge shall wash their clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening.* [8]If the one with the discharge spits on persons who are clean, then they shall wash their clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening. [9]Any saddle on which the one with the discharge rides shall be unclean. [10]All who touch anything that was under him shall be unclean until the evening, and all who carry such a thing shall wash their clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening.* [11]All those whom the one with the discharge touches without his having rinsed his hands in water shall wash their clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening. [12]Any clay vessel that the one with the discharge touches shall be broken, and every vessel of wood shall be rinsed in water.*

13 "When the one with a discharge is cleansed of his discharge, he shall count seven days for his cleansing; he shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in fresh water, and he shall be clean.* [14]On the eighth day he shall take two turtledoves or two pigeons and come before the LORD to the entrance of the tent of meeting and give them to the priest.* [15]The priest shall offer them, one for a purification offering and the other for a burnt

offering, and the priest shall make atonement on his behalf before the LORD for his discharge.*

16 "If a man has an emission of semen, he shall bathe his whole body in water and be unclean until the evening.* [17]Everything made of cloth or of leather on which the semen falls shall be washed with water and be unclean until the evening. [18]If a man lies with a woman and has an emission of semen, both of them shall bathe in water and be unclean until the evening.*

19 "When a woman has a discharge of blood that is a menstrual discharge from her body, she shall be in her impurity for seven days, and whoever touches her shall be unclean until the evening.* [20]Everything upon which she lies during her impurity shall be unclean; everything also upon which she sits shall be unclean. [21]Whoever touches her bed shall wash his clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening.* [22]Whoever touches anything upon which she sits shall wash his clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening; [23]whether it is the bed or anything upon which she sits, when he touches it he shall be unclean until the evening. [24]If any man lies with her and her impurity falls on him, he shall be unclean seven days, and every bed on which he lies shall be unclean.*

25 "If a woman has a discharge of blood for many days, not at the time of her menstrual impurity, or if she has a discharge beyond the time of her menstrual impurity, all the days of the discharge she shall continue in uncleanness; as in the days of her impurity, she shall be unclean.* [26]Every bed on which she lies during all the days of her discharge shall be treated as the bed of her impurity, and everything on which she sits shall be unclean, as in the uncleanness of her impurity. [27]Whoever touches these things shall be unclean and shall wash his clothes and bathe in water and be unclean until the evening.* [28]If she is cleansed of her discharge, she shall count seven days, and after that she shall be clean. [29]On the eighth day she shall take two turtledoves or two pigeons and bring them to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting.* [30]The priest shall offer one for a purification offering and the other for a burnt offering, and the priest shall make atonement on her behalf before the LORD for her unclean discharge.

31 "Thus you shall keep the Israelites separate from their uncleanness, so that they do not die in their uncleanness by defiling my tabernacle that is in their midst.*

32 “This is the rule for those who have a discharge: for him who has an emission of semen, becoming unclean thereby;* 33for her who is in the infirmity of her menstrual period; for anyone, male or female, who has a discharge; and for the man who lies with a woman who is unclean.”*

Leviticus 16

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

1 The LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when
they drew near before the LORD and died.* [2]The LORD said to Moses:

"Tell your brother Aaron not to come just at any time into the sanctuary
inside the curtain before the cover that is upon the ark, or he will die, for I
appear in the cloud upon the cover.* [3]Thus shall Aaron come into the holy
place: with a young bull for a purification offering and a ram for a burnt
offering.* [4]He shall put on the holy linen tunic and shall have the linen
undergarments next to his body, fasten the linen sash, and wear the linen
turban; these are the holy vestments. He shall bathe his body in water and
then put them on.* [5]He shall take from the congregation of the Israelites two
male goats for a purification offering and one ram for a burnt offering.*

6 "Aaron shall offer the bull as a purification offering for himself and
shall make atonement for himself and for his house.* [7]He shall take the two
goats and set them before the LORD at the entrance of the tent of meeting,
[8]and Aaron shall cast lots on the two goats, one lot for the LORD and the
other lot for Azazel. [9]Aaron shall present the goat on which the lot fell for
the LORD and offer it as a purification offering, [10]but the goat on which the
lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the LORD to make
atonement over it, that it may be sent away into the wilderness to Azazel.

11 "Aaron shall present the bull as a purification offering for himself and
shall make atonement for himself and for his house; he shall slaughter the
bull as a purification offering for himself.* [12]He shall take a censer full of
coals of fire from the altar before the LORD and two handfuls of crushed
sweet incense, and he shall bring it inside the curtain* [13]and put the incense
on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may shroud the
cover that is upon the covenant, or he will die.* [14]He shall take some of the
blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the front of the cover, and
before the cover he shall sprinkle the blood with his finger seven times.*

15 "He shall slaughter the goat of the purification offering that is for the
people and bring its blood inside the curtain and do with its blood as he did

with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it upon the cover and before the cover.* 16Thus he shall make atonement for the sanctuary, because of the uncleannesses of the Israelites and because of their transgressions, all their sins, and so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which remains with them in the midst of their uncleanness.* 17No one shall be in the tent of meeting from the time he enters to make atonement in the sanctuary until he comes out and has made atonement for himself and for his house and for all the assembly of Israel. 18Then he shall go out to the altar that is before the LORD and make atonement on its behalf and shall take some of the blood of the bull and of the blood of the goat and put it on each of the horns of the altar.* 19He shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times and cleanse it and sanctify it from the uncleannesses of the Israelites.*

20 "When he has finished atoning for the holy place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall present the live goat. 21Then Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the iniquities of the Israelites, and all their transgressions, all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat and sending it away into the wilderness by means of someone designated for the task.[b,*] 22The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a barren region, and the goat shall be set free in the wilderness.*

23 "Then Aaron shall enter the tent of meeting and shall take off the linen vestments that he put on when he went into the holy place and shall leave them there.* 24He shall bathe his body in water in a holy place and put on his vestments; then he shall come out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people, making atonement for himself and for the people.* 25The fat of the purification offering he shall turn into smoke on the altar. 26The one who sets the goat free for Azazel shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water and afterward may come into the camp. 27The bull of the purification offering and the goat of the purification offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, shall be taken outside the camp; their skin and their flesh and their dung shall be consumed in fire.* 28The one who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water and afterward may come into the camp.

29 "This shall be a statute to you forever: In the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble yourselves[c] and shall do no work,

neither the native-born nor the alien who resides among you.* 30For on this
day atonement shall be made for you, to cleanse you; from all your sins you
shall be clean before the LORD. 31It is a Sabbath of complete rest to you, and
you shall humble yourselves;[d] it is a statute forever.* 32The priest who is
anointed and consecrated as priest in his father's place shall make
atonement, wearing the linen vestments, the holy vestments.* 33He shall
make atonement for the sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tent
of meeting and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests and
for all the people of the assembly.* 34This shall be an everlasting statute for
you, to make atonement for the Israelites once in the year for all their sins."
And Moses did as the LORD had commanded him.*

Leviticus 17

THE SLAUGHTERING OF ANIMALS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses:

2 "Speak to Aaron and his sons and to all the Israelites and say to them:
This is what the LORD has commanded. [3]If anyone of the house of Israel
slaughters an ox or a lamb or a goat in the camp or slaughters it outside the
camp [4]and does not bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, to present
it as an offering to the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD, he shall be
held guilty of bloodshed; he has shed blood, and he shall be cut off from the
people.* [5]This is in order that the Israelites may bring their sacrifices that
they offer in the open field, that they may bring them to the LORD, to the
priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and offer them as sacrifices of
well-being to the LORD. [6]The priest shall dash the blood against the altar of
the LORD at the entrance of the tent of meeting and turn the fat into smoke
as a pleasing odor to the LORD,* [7]so that they may no longer offer their
sacrifices for goat-demons, to whom they prostitute themselves. This shall
be a statute forever to them throughout their generations.*

8 "And say to them further: Anyone of the house of Israel or of the aliens
who reside among them who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice [9]and does
not bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, to sacrifice it to the LORD,
shall be cut off from the people.*

EATING BLOOD PROHIBITED

10 "If anyone of the house of Israel or of the aliens who reside among
them eats any blood, I will set my face against that person who eats blood
and will cut that person off from the people.* [11]For the life of the flesh is in
the blood, and I have given it to you for making atonement for your lives on
the altar, for, as life, it is the blood that makes atonement.* [12]Therefore I
have said to the Israelites, 'No person among you shall eat blood, nor shall
any alien who resides among you eat blood.'

13 “And anyone of the Israelites or of the aliens who reside among them
who hunts down an animal or bird that may be eaten shall pour out its blood
and cover it with earth.* 14For the life of every creature—its blood is its life;
therefore I have said to the Israelites, ‘You shall not eat the blood of any
creature, for the life of every creature is its blood; whoever eats it shall be
cut off.’* 15All persons, native-born or alien, who eat what dies of itself or
what has been torn by wild animals shall wash their clothes and bathe
themselves in water and be unclean until the evening; then they shall be
clean.* 16But if they do not wash themselves or bathe their body, they shall
bear their guilt.”

Leviticus 18

SEXUAL RELATIONS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

2 "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: I am the LORD your God.* [3]You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not follow their statutes.* [4]My ordinances you shall observe, and my statutes you shall keep, following them: I am the LORD your God. [5]You shall keep my statutes and my ordinances; by doing so one shall live: I am the LORD.*

6 "None of you shall approach anyone near of kin to uncover nakedness: I am the LORD. [7]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father, which is the nakedness of your mother; she is your mother; you shall not uncover her nakedness.* [8]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife; it is the nakedness of your father. [9]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your sister, your father's daughter or your mother's daughter, whether born at home or born abroad.* [10]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your son's daughter or of your daughter's daughter, for their nakedness is your own nakedness. [11]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife's daughter, born in your father's house, since she is your sister. [12]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's sister; she is your father's flesh.* [13]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your mother's sister, for she is your mother's flesh. [14]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's brother; that is, you shall not approach his wife; she is your aunt.* [15]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your daughter-in-law: she is your son's wife; you shall not uncover her nakedness.* [16]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your brother's wife; it is your brother's nakedness.* [17]You shall not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, and you shall not take[e] her son's daughter or her daughter's daughter to uncover her nakedness; they are your[f] flesh; it is depravity.* [18]And you shall not take[g] a woman as a rival to her sister, uncovering her nakedness while her sister is still alive.

19 "You shall not approach a woman to uncover her nakedness while she
is in her menstrual uncleanness.* 20You shall not have sexual relations with
your neighbor's wife and defile yourself with her.* 21You shall not give any
of your offspring to sacrifice them[h] to Molech and so profane the name of
your God: I am the LORD.* 22You shall not lie with a male as with a woman;
it is an abomination.* 23You shall not have sexual relations with any animal
and defile yourself with it, nor shall any woman give herself to an animal to
have sexual relations with it; it is perversion.*

24 "Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, for by all these
practices the nations I am casting out before you have defiled themselves.*
25Thus the land became defiled, and I punished it for its iniquity, and the
land vomited out its inhabitants.* 26But you shall keep my statutes and my
ordinances and commit none of these abominations, either the native-born
or the alien who resides among you 27(for the inhabitants of the land, who
were before you, committed all of these abominations, and the land became
defiled); 28otherwise the land will vomit you out for defiling it, as it vomited
out the nation that was before you. 29For whoever commits any of these
abominations shall be cut off from their people. 30So keep my charge not to
commit any of these abominations that were done before you and not to
defile yourselves by them: I am the LORD your God."*

Leviticus 19

RITUAL AND MORAL HOLINESS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

2 "Speak to all the congregation of the Israelites and say to them: You
shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.* [3]You shall each revere your
mother and father, and you shall keep my Sabbaths: I am the LORD your
God.* [4]Do not turn to idols or make cast images for yourselves: I am the
LORD your God.*

5 "When you offer a sacrifice of well-being to the LORD, offer it in such a
way that it is acceptable on your behalf. [6]It shall be eaten on the same day
you offer it or on the next day, and anything left over until the third day
shall be consumed in fire. [7]If any of it is eaten on the third day, it is an
abomination; it will not be acceptable. [8]All who eat it shall be subject to
punishment, because they have profaned what is holy to the LORD, and any
such person shall be cut off from the people.

9 "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very
edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest.* [10]You shall not
strip your vineyard bare or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you
shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God.

11 "You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to
one another.* [12]And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the
name of your God: I am the LORD.*

13 "You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you
shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning.* [14]You
shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall
fear your God: I am the LORD.*

15 "You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to
the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor.*
[16]You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall
not stand idly by when the blood[i] of your neighbor is at stake: I am the
LORD.*

17 "You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself.* [18]You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.*

19 "You shall keep my statutes. You shall not let your animals breed with a different kind; you shall not sow your field with two kinds of seed; nor shall you put on a garment made of two different materials.*

20 "If a man has sexual relations with a woman who is a slave, designated for another man but not ransomed or given her freedom, an inquiry shall be held. They shall not be put to death, since she has not been freed, [21]but he shall bring a guilt offering for himself to the LORD, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, a ram as guilt offering.* [22]And the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of guilt offering before the LORD for his sin that he committed, and the sin he committed shall be forgiven him.

23 "When you come into the land and plant all kinds of trees for food, then you shall regard their fruit as forbidden;[j] three years it shall be forbidden[k] to you; it must not be eaten. [24]In the fourth year all their fruit shall be set apart for rejoicing in the LORD.* [25]But in the fifth year you may eat of their fruit, that their yield may be increased for you: I am the LORD your God.

26 "You shall not eat anything with its blood. You shall not practice augury or witchcraft.* [27]You shall not round off the hair on your temples or mar the edges of your beard.* [28]You shall not make any gashes in your flesh for the dead or tattoo any marks upon you: I am the LORD.*

29 "Do not profane your daughter by making her a prostitute, that the land not become prostituted and full of depravity.* [30]You shall keep my Sabbaths and revere my sanctuary: I am the LORD.*

31 "Do not turn to mediums and spiritualists; do not seek them out, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.*

32 "You shall rise before the aged and defer to the old, and you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

33 "When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien.* [34]The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-

born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.*

35 "You shall not cheat in measuring length, weight, or quantity. [36]You shall have honest balances, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin: I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt. [37]You shall keep all my statutes and all my ordinances and observe them: I am the LORD."

Leviticus 20

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF HOLINESS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Say further to the Israelites:

"Any of the Israelites or of the aliens who reside in Israel who give any of their offspring to Molech shall be put to death; the people of the land shall stone them to death.* [3]I myself will set my face against them and will cut them off from the people, because they have given of their offspring to Molech, defiling my sanctuary and profaning my holy name.* [4]And if the people of the land should ever close their eyes to them, when they give of their offspring to Molech, and do not put them to death,* [5]I myself will set my face against them and against their family and will cut them off from among their people, them and all who follow them in prostituting themselves to Molech.

6 "If any turn to mediums or spiritualists, prostituting themselves to them, I will set my face against them and will cut them off from the people.* [7]Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD your God.* [8]Keep my statutes and observe them: I am the LORD; I sanctify you.* [9]All who curse father or mother shall be put to death; having cursed father or mother, their bloodguilt is upon them.*

10 "If a man commits adultery with the wife of[1] his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall be put to death.* [11]The man who lies with his father's wife has uncovered his father's nakedness; both of them shall be put to death; their bloodguilt is upon them.* [12]If a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both of them shall be put to death; they have committed perversion; their bloodguilt is upon them.* [13]If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall be put to death; their bloodguilt is upon them.* [14]If a man takes a wife and her mother also, it is depravity; they shall be burned to death, both he and they, that there may be no depravity among you.* [15]If a man has sexual relations with an animal, he shall be put to death, and you shall kill the animal.* [16]If a woman approaches any animal and has sexual relations with it, you shall

kill the woman and the animal; they shall be put to death; their bloodguilt is upon them.

17 "If a man takes his sister, a daughter of his father or a daughter of his mother, and sees her nakedness, and she sees his nakedness, it is a disgrace, and they shall be cut off in the sight of their people; he has uncovered his sister's nakedness; he shall be subject to punishment.* [18]If a man lies with a woman during her period and uncovers her nakedness, he has laid bare her flow, and she has laid bare her flow of blood; both of them shall be cut off from their people.* [19]You shall not uncover the nakedness of your mother's sister or of your father's sister, for that is to lay bare one's own flesh; they shall be subject to punishment.* [20]If a man lies with his uncle's wife, he has uncovered his uncle's nakedness; they shall be subject to punishment; they shall die childless.* [21]If a man takes his brother's wife, it is impurity; he has uncovered his brother's nakedness; they shall be childless.*

22 "You shall keep all my statutes and all my ordinances and observe them, so that the land to which I bring you to settle in may not vomit you out.* [23]You shall not follow the practices of the nation that I am driving out before you. Because they did all these things, I abhorred them.* [24]But I have said to you, 'You shall inherit their land, and I will give it to you to possess, a land flowing with milk and honey. I am the LORD your God; I have separated you from the peoples.'* [25]You shall therefore make a distinction between the clean animal and the unclean and between the unclean bird and the clean; you shall not bring abomination on yourselves by animal or by bird or by anything with which the ground teems, which I have set apart for you to hold unclean.* [26]You shall be holy to me, for I the LORD am holy, and I have separated you from the other peoples to be mine.*

27 "A man or a woman who is a medium or a spiritualist shall be put to death; they shall be stoned to death; their bloodguilt is upon them."*

Leviticus 21

THE HOLINESS OF PRIESTS

1 The LORD said to Moses, "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them:

"No one shall defile himself for a dead person among his relatives,* [2]except for his nearest kin: his mother, his father, his son, his daughter, his brother; [3]likewise, for a virgin sister close to him because she has had no husband, he may defile himself for her. [4]But he shall not defile himself for those related to him by marriage and so profane himself. [5]They shall not make bald spots upon their heads or shave off the edges of their beards or make any gashes in their flesh.* [6]They shall be holy to their God and not profane the name of their God, for they offer the LORD's offerings by fire,[m] the food of their God; therefore they shall be holy.* [7]They shall not marry a prostitute or a woman who has been defiled; neither shall they marry a woman divorced from her husband. For they are holy to their God,* [8]and you shall treat them as holy, since they offer the food of your God; they shall be holy to you, for I the LORD, I who sanctify you, am holy. [9]When the daughter of a priest profanes herself through prostitution, she profanes her father; she shall be burned to death.

10 "The priest who is exalted above his brothers, on whose head the anointing oil has been poured and who has been consecrated to wear the vestments, shall not dishevel his hair nor tear his vestments.* [11]He shall not go where there is a dead body; he shall not defile himself even for his father or mother.* [12]He shall not go outside the sanctuary and thus profane the sanctuary of his God, for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the LORD.* [13]He shall marry only a woman who is a virgin.* [14]A widow or a divorced woman or a woman who has been defiled, a prostitute—these he shall not marry. He shall marry a virgin of his own people, [15]that he may not profane his offspring among his people, for I am the LORD; I sanctify him."

16 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [17]"Speak to Aaron and say: No one of your offspring throughout their generations who has a blemish may

approach to offer the food of his God.* 18Indeed, no one who has a blemish
shall draw near, one who is blind or lame, or one who is mutilated or
deformed,[n,*] 19or one who has a broken foot or a broken hand, 20or a
hunchback, or a dwarf, or a man with a defect in his eyes or an itching
disease or scabs or crushed testicles.* 21No descendant of Aaron the priest
who has a blemish shall come near to offer the LORD's offerings by fire;[o]
since he has a blemish, he shall not come near to offer the food of his God.*
22He may eat the food of his God, of the most holy as well as of the holy.
23But he shall not come near the curtain or approach the altar because he
has a blemish, that he may not profane my sanctuaries, for I am the LORD; I
sanctify them."* 24Thus Moses spoke to Aaron and to his sons and to all the
Israelites.

Leviticus 22

THE USE OF HOLY OFFERINGS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: [2]"Direct Aaron and his sons to deal carefully with the sacred donations of the Israelites, which they dedicate to me, so that they may not profane my holy name: I am the LORD.* [3]Say to them, 'If anyone among all your offspring throughout your generations comes near the sacred donations, which the Israelites dedicate to the LORD, while he is in a state of uncleanness, that person shall be cut off from my presence: I am the LORD.'* [4]No one of Aaron's offspring who has a defiling skin disease or suffers a discharge may eat of the sacred donations until he is clean. Whoever touches anything made unclean by a corpse or a man who has had an emission of semen,* [5]and whoever touches any swarming thing by which he may be made unclean or any human being by whom he may be made unclean—whatever his uncleanness may be*—[6]the person who touches any such shall be unclean until evening and shall not eat of the sacred donations unless he has washed his body in water. [7]When the sun sets he shall be clean, and afterward he may eat of the sacred donations, for they are his food. [8]That which died or was torn by wild animals he shall not eat, becoming unclean by it: I am the LORD.* [9]They shall keep my charge, so that they may not incur guilt and die because of it for having profaned them: I am the LORD; I sanctify them.*

10 "No layperson shall eat of the sacred donations. No bound or hired servant of the priest shall eat of the sacred donations,* [11]but if a priest acquires anyone by purchase, the person may eat of them, and those who are born in his house may eat of his food. [12]If a priest's daughter marries a layman, she shall not eat of the offering of the sacred donations, [13]but if a priest's daughter is widowed or divorced, without offspring, and returns to her father's house, as in her youth, she may eat of her father's food. No layperson shall eat of it.* [14]If a man eats of the sacred donation unintentionally, he shall add one-fifth of its value to it and give the sacred donation to the priest.* [15]No one shall profane the sacred donations of the Israelites, which they offer to the LORD, [16]causing them to bear guilt

requiring a guilt offering, by eating their sacred donations, for I am the LORD; I sanctify them."*

ACCEPTABLE OFFERINGS

17 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [18]"Speak to Aaron and his sons and all the Israelites and say to them: When anyone of the house of Israel or of the aliens residing in Israel presents an offering, whether in payment of a vow or as a freewill offering that is offered to the LORD as a burnt offering, [19]to be acceptable on your behalf it shall be a male without blemish, of the cattle or the sheep or the goats.* [20]You shall not offer anything that has a blemish, for it will not be acceptable on your behalf.*

21 "When anyone offers a sacrifice of well-being to the LORD, in fulfillment of a vow or as a freewill offering, from the herd or from the flock, to be acceptable it must be perfect; there shall be no blemish in it.* [22]Anything blind or injured or maimed or having a discharge or an itch or scabs—these you shall not offer to the LORD or put any of them on the altar as offerings by fire[p] to the LORD. [23]An ox or a lamb that is deformed or stunted you may present for a freewill offering, but it will not be accepted for a vow. [24]Any animal that has its testicles bruised or crushed or torn or cut, you shall not offer to the LORD; such you shall not do within your land, [25]nor shall you accept any such animals from a foreigner to offer as food to your God; since they are mutilated, with a blemish in them, they shall not be accepted on your behalf."*

26 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [27]"When an ox or a sheep or a goat is born, it shall remain seven days with its mother, and from the eighth day on it shall be acceptable as the LORD's offering by fire.[q],* [28]But you shall not slaughter, from the herd or the flock, an animal with its young on the same day.* [29]When you sacrifice a thanksgiving offering to the LORD, you shall sacrifice it so that it may be acceptable on your behalf.* [30]It shall be eaten on the same day; you shall not leave any of it until morning: I am the LORD.*

31 "Thus you shall keep my commandments and observe them: I am the LORD.* [32]You shall not profane my holy name, that I may be sanctified

among the Israelites: I am the LORD; I sanctify you,* 33I who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the LORD."*

Leviticus 23

APPOINTED FESTIVALS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: These are the appointed festivals of the LORD that you shall proclaim as holy convocations, my appointed festivals.*

THE SABBATH, PASSOVER, AND UNLEAVENED BREAD

3 "Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of complete rest, a holy convocation; you shall do no work: it is a Sabbath to the LORD throughout your settlements.*

4 "These are the appointed festivals of the LORD, the holy convocations, that you shall celebrate at the time appointed for them.* [5]In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, at twilight,[r] there shall be a Passover offering to the LORD,* [6]and on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Festival of Unleavened Bread to the LORD; seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. [7]On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations.* [8]For seven days you shall present the LORD's offerings by fire;[s] on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation: you shall not work at your occupations."

THE OFFERING OF FIRST FRUITS

9 The LORD spoke to Moses, [10]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you and you reap its harvest, you shall bring the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest.* [11]He shall raise the sheaf before the LORD, that you may find acceptance; on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall raise it. [12]On the day when you raise the sheaf, you shall offer a lamb a year old, without blemish, as a burnt offering to the LORD. [13]And the grain offering with it shall be two-tenths of an ephah of choice flour mixed with oil, an offering by fire[t] of pleasing odor to the LORD, and the drink offering with it shall be of wine, one-fourth of a hin.* [14]You shall eat no bread or parched grain or fresh ears until that very

day, until you have brought the offering of your God. This is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your settlements.

THE FESTIVAL OF WEEKS

15 "And from the day after the Sabbath, from the day on which you bring the sheaf of the elevation offering, you shall count seven full weeks.* 16You shall count until the day after the seventh Sabbath, fifty days; then you shall present an offering of new grain to the LORD.* 17You shall bring from your settlements two loaves of bread as an elevation offering, each made of two-tenths of an ephah; they shall be of choice flour, baked with leaven, as first fruits to the LORD.* 18You shall present with the bread seven lambs a year old without blemish, one bull of the herd, and two rams; they shall be a burnt offering to the LORD, along with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering by fire[u] of pleasing odor to the LORD. 19You shall also offer one male goat for a purification offering and two lambs a year old as a sacrifice of well-being.* 20The priest shall raise them with the bread of the first fruits as an elevation offering before the LORD, together with the two lambs; they shall be holy to the LORD for the priest. 21On that same day you shall make proclamation; you shall hold a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations. This is a statute forever in all your settlements throughout your generations.*

22 "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and for the alien: I am the LORD your God."*

THE FESTIVAL OF TRUMPETS

23 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 24"Speak to the Israelites, saying: In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe a day of complete rest, a holy convocation commemorated with trumpet blasts.* 25You shall not work at your occupations, and you shall present the LORD's offering by fire."[v]

THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

26 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [27]"Now, the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement; it shall be a holy convocation for you: you shall humble yourselves[w] and present the LORD's offering by fire,[x,*] [28]and you shall do no work during that entire day, for it is a Day of Atonement, to make atonement on your behalf before the LORD your God. [29]For those who do not humble themselves[y] during that entire day shall be cut off from the people.[*] [30]And anyone who does any work during that entire day, such a one I will destroy from the midst of the people.[*] [31]You shall do no work. This is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your settlements. [32]It shall be to you a Sabbath of complete rest, and you shall humble yourselves;[z] on the ninth day of the month at evening, from evening to evening you shall keep your Sabbath."

THE FESTIVAL OF BOOTHS

33 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [34]"Speak to the Israelites, saying: On the fifteenth day of this seventh month and lasting seven days, there shall be the Festival of Booths[a] to the LORD.[*] [35]The first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations. [36]Seven days you shall present the LORD's offerings by fire;[b] on the eighth day you shall observe a holy convocation and present the LORD's offerings by fire;[c] it is a solemn assembly; you shall not work at your occupations.[*]

37 "These are the appointed festivals of the LORD that you shall celebrate as times of holy convocation, for presenting to the LORD offerings by fire[d]—burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and drink offerings, each on its proper day[*]—[38]apart from the Sabbaths of the LORD and apart from your gifts and apart from all your votive offerings and apart from all your freewill offerings that you give to the LORD.

39 "Now, the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the produce of the land, you shall keep the festival of the LORD, lasting seven days, a complete rest on the first day and a complete rest on the eighth day.[*] [40]On the first day you shall take the fruit of majestic[e] trees, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days.[*] [41]You shall keep it as a festival to the LORD lasting seven days in the year; you shall

keep it in the seventh month as a statute forever throughout your generations. [42]You shall live in booths for seven days; all who are native-born in Israel shall live in booths,* [43]so that your generations may know that I made the Israelites live in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God."

44 Thus Moses declared to the Israelites the appointed festivals of the LORD.*

Leviticus 24

THE LAMP

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Command the Israelites to bring you
pure oil of beaten olives for the lamp, that a light may be kept burning
regularly.* [3]Aaron shall set it up in the tent of meeting, outside the curtain
of the covenant, to burn from evening to morning before the LORD
regularly; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations. [4]He shall
set up the lamps on the lampstand of pure gold[f] before the LORD regularly.*

THE BREAD FOR THE TABERNACLE

5 "You shall take choice flour and bake twelve loaves of it; two-tenths of
an ephah shall be in each loaf.* [6]You shall place them in two rows, six in a
row, on the table of pure gold before the LORD.[g,*] [7]You shall put pure
frankincense with each row, to be a token offering for the bread, as an
offering by fire[h] to the LORD. [8]Every Sabbath day Aaron shall set them in
order before the LORD regularly as a commitment of the Israelites, as a
covenant forever.* [9]They shall be for Aaron and his descendants, who shall
eat them in a holy place, for they are most holy portions for him from the
offerings by fire[i] to the LORD, a perpetual due."*

BLASPHEMY AND ITS PUNISHMENT

10 A man whose mother was an Israelite and whose father was an
Egyptian came out among the Israelites, and the Israelite woman's son and
a certain Israelite began fighting in the camp. [11]The Israelite woman's son
blasphemed the Name in a curse. And they brought him to Moses—now his
mother's name was Shelomith daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan*—
[12]and they put him in custody, until the decision of the LORD should be
made clear to them.*

13 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [14]"Take the blasphemer outside the
camp, and let all who were within hearing lay their hands on his head, and
let the whole congregation stone him.* [15]And speak to the Israelites, saying:

Anyone who curses God shall incur guilt. 16One who blasphemes the name
of the LORD shall be put to death; the whole congregation shall stone the
blasphemer. Aliens as well as the native-born, when they blaspheme the
Name, shall be put to death.* 17Anyone who kills a human being shall be
put to death.* 18Anyone who kills an animal shall make restitution for it,
life for life.* 19Anyone who maims another shall suffer the same injury in
return: 20fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; the injury
inflicted is the injury to be suffered.* 21One who kills an animal shall make
restitution for it, but one who kills a human being shall be put to death.*
22You shall have one law for the alien and for the native-born, for I am the
LORD your God."* 23Moses spoke thus to the Israelites, and they took the
blasphemer outside the camp and stoned him to death. The Israelites did as
the LORD had commanded Moses.

Leviticus 25

THE SABBATICAL YEAR

1 The LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you enter the land that I am giving you, the land shall observe a Sabbath for the LORD.* [3]Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in their yield, [4]but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of complete rest for the land, a Sabbath for the LORD: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. [5]You shall not reap the aftergrowth of your harvest or gather the grapes of your unpruned vine: it shall be a year of complete rest for the land. [6]You may eat what the land yields during its Sabbath—you, your male and female slaves, your hired and your bound laborers who live with you,* [7]for your livestock also, and for the wild animals in your land all its yield shall be for food.

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

8 "You shall count off seven weeks[j] of years, seven times seven years, so that the period of seven weeks of years gives forty-nine years. [9]Then you shall have the trumpet sounded loud; on the tenth day of the seventh month—on the Day of Atonement—you shall have the trumpet sounded throughout all your land.* [10]And you shall hallow the fiftieth year, and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one of you to your family.* [11]That fiftieth year shall be a Jubilee for you: you shall not sow or reap the aftergrowth or harvest the unpruned vines. [12]For it is a Jubilee; it shall be holy to you: you shall eat only what the field itself produces.

13 "In this year of Jubilee you shall return, every one of you, to your property.* [14]When you make a sale to your neighbor or buy from your neighbor, you shall not cheat one another.* [15]When you buy from your neighbor, you shall pay only for the number of years until the Jubilee; the

seller shall charge you only for the remaining crop years.* 16If the years are more, you shall increase the price, and if the years are fewer, you shall diminish the price, for it is a certain number of harvests that are being sold to you. 17You shall not cheat one another, but you shall fear your God, for I am the LORD your God.*

18 "You shall observe my statutes and faithfully keep my ordinances, so that you may live on the land securely.* 19The land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and live on it securely. 20Should you ask, 'What shall we eat in the seventh year, if we may not sow or gather in our crop?'* 21I will order my blessing for you in the sixth year, so that it will yield a crop for three years. 22When you sow in the eighth year, you will be eating from the old crop; until the ninth year, when its produce comes in, you shall eat the old.* 23The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine; with me you are but aliens and tenants.* 24Throughout the land that you hold, you shall provide for the redemption of the land.

25 "If anyone of your kin falls into difficulty and sells a piece of property, then the next of kin shall come and redeem what the relative has sold.* 26If the person has no one to redeem it but then prospers and finds sufficient means to do so, 27the years since its sale shall be computed and the difference refunded to the person to whom it was sold, and the property shall be returned.* 28But if there are not sufficient means to recover it, what was sold shall remain with the purchaser until the year of Jubilee; in the Jubilee it shall be released, and the property shall be returned.*

29 "If anyone sells a dwelling house in a walled city, it may be redeemed until a year has elapsed since its sale; the right of redemption shall be one year. 30If it is not redeemed before a full year has elapsed, a house that is in a walled city shall pass in perpetuity to the purchaser, throughout the generations; it shall not be released in the Jubilee. 31But houses in villages that have no walls around them shall be classed as open country; they may be redeemed, and they shall be released in the Jubilee. 32As for the cities of the Levites, the Levites shall forever have the right of redemption of the houses in the cities belonging to them.* 33Whatever property of the Levites that may be redeemed, that is, houses sold in a city belonging to them, shall be released in the Jubilee, for the houses in the cities of the Levites are their

possession among the Israelites. [34]But the pasturelands around their cities may not be sold, for that is their possession for all time.

35 "If any of your kin fall into difficulty and become dependent on you,[k] you shall support them; they shall live with you as though resident aliens.* [36]Do not take interest in advance or otherwise make a profit from them, but fear your God; let them live with you.* [37]You shall not lend them your money at interest taken in advance or provide them food at a profit. [38]I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan, to be your God.*

39 "If any who are dependent on you become so impoverished that they sell themselves to you, you shall not make them serve as slaves.* [40]They shall remain with you as hired or bound laborers. They shall serve with you until the year of the Jubilee. [41]Then they and their children with them shall go out from your authority; they shall go back to their own family and return to their ancestral property.* [42]For they are my servants whom I brought out of the land of Egypt; they shall not be sold as slaves are sold. [43]You shall not rule over them with harshness but shall fear your God.* [44]As for the male and female slaves whom you may have, it is from the nations around you that you may acquire male and female slaves. [45]You may also acquire them from among the aliens residing with you and from their families who are with you who have been born in your land; they may be your property.* [46]You may keep them as a possession for your children after you, for them to inherit as property. These you may treat as slaves, but as for your fellow Israelites, no one shall rule over the other with harshness.*

47 "If resident aliens among you prosper, and if any of your kin fall into difficulty with one of them and sell themselves to an alien or to a branch of the alien's family, [48]even after they have sold themselves they shall have the right of redemption; one of their brothers may redeem them,* [49]or their uncle or their uncle's son may redeem them, or anyone of their family who is of their own flesh may redeem them, or if they prosper they may redeem themselves.* [50]They shall compute with the purchaser the total from the year when they sold themselves to the alien until the Jubilee year; the price of the sale shall be applied to the number of years: the time they were with the owner shall be rated as the time of a hired laborer.* [51]If many years

remain, they shall pay for their redemption in proportion to the purchase price,* 52and if few years remain until the Jubilee year, they shall compute thus: according to the years involved they shall make payment for their redemption. 53As a laborer hired by the year they shall be under the alien's authority, who shall not, however, rule with harshness over them in your sight. 54And if they have not been redeemed in any of these ways, they and their children with them shall go out in the Jubilee year. 55For to me the Israelites are servants; they are my servants whom I brought out from the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

Leviticus 26

REWARDS FOR OBEDIENCE

1 "You shall make for yourselves no idols and erect no carved images or
pillars, and you shall not place figured stones in your land, to worship at
them, for I am the LORD your God.* 2You shall keep my Sabbaths and
reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.*

3 "If you follow my statutes and keep my commandments and observe
them faithfully,* 4I will give you your rains in their season, and the land
shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. 5Your
threshing shall overlap the vintage, and the vintage shall overlap the
sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full and live securely in your land.*
6And I will grant peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and no one shall
make you afraid; I will remove dangerous animals from the land, and no
sword shall go through your land.* 7You shall give chase to your enemies,
and they shall fall before you by the sword. 8Five of you shall give chase to
a hundred, and a hundred of you shall give chase to ten thousand; your
enemies shall fall before you by the sword.* 9I will look with favor upon
you and make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will maintain my
covenant with you.* 10You shall eat old grain long stored, and you shall
have to clear out the old to make way for the new.* 11I will place my
dwelling in your midst, and I shall not abhor you.* 12I[l] will be your God,
and you shall be my people.* 13I am the LORD your God who brought you
out of the land of Egypt, to be their slaves no more; I have broken the bars
of your yoke and made you walk erect.

PENALTIES FOR DISOBEDIENCE

14 "But if you will not obey me and do not observe all these
commandments,* 15if you spurn my statutes and abhor my ordinances, so
that you will not observe all my commandments and you break my
covenant, 16I in turn will do this to you: I will bring terror on you,
consumption and fever that waste the eyes and cause life to pine away. You

shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.* 17I will set my face against you, and you shall be struck down by your enemies; your foes shall rule over you, and you shall flee though no one pursues you.* 18And if in spite of this you will not obey me, I will continue to punish you sevenfold for your sins. 19I will break your proud glory, and I will make your sky like iron and your earth like copper.* 20Your strength shall be spent to no purpose: your land shall not yield its produce, and the trees of the land shall not yield their fruit.*

21 "If you continue hostile to me and will not obey me, I will continue to plague you sevenfold for your sins. 22I will let loose wild animals against you, and they shall bereave you of your children and destroy your livestock; they shall make you few in number, and your roads shall be deserted.*

23 "If in spite of these punishments you have not turned back to me but continue hostile to me,* 24then I, too, will continue hostile to you: I myself will strike you sevenfold for your sins.* 25I will bring the sword against you, executing vengeance for the covenant, and if you withdraw into your cities, I will send pestilence among you, and you shall be delivered into enemy hands.* 26When I cut off your supply of bread,[m] ten women shall bake your bread in a single oven, and they shall dole out your bread by weight, and though you eat, you shall not be satisfied.*

27 "But if, despite this, you disobey me and continue hostile to me, 28I will continue hostile to you in fury; I in turn will punish you myself sevenfold for your sins. 29You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters.* 30I will destroy your high places and cut down your incense altars; I will heap your carcasses on the carcasses of your idols. I will abhor you.* 31I will lay your cities waste, will make your sanctuaries desolate, and I will not smell your pleasing odors.* 32I will devastate the land, so that your enemies who come to settle in it shall be appalled at it.* 33And you I will scatter among the nations, and I will unsheathe the sword against you; your land shall be a desolation and your cities a waste.*

34 "Then the land shall enjoy[n] its Sabbath years as long as it lies desolate, while you are in the land of your enemies; then the land shall rest and enjoy[o] its Sabbath years.* 35As long as it lies desolate, it shall have the

rest it did not have on your Sabbaths when you were living on it. [36]And as for those of you who survive, I will send faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; the sound of a driven leaf shall put them to flight, and they shall flee as one flees from the sword, and they shall fall though no one pursues.* [37]They shall stumble over one another, as if to escape a sword, though no one pursues, and you shall have no power to stand against your enemies.* [38]You shall perish among the nations, and the land of your enemies shall devour you.* [39]And those of you who survive shall languish in the land of your enemies because of their iniquities; they shall also languish because of the iniquities of their ancestors.*

40 "But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their ancestors—their treachery against me and also their continued hostility to me,* [41]so that I in turn was hostile to them and brought them into the land of their enemies—if, then, their uncircumcised heart is humbled and they make amends for their iniquity,* [42]then will I remember my covenant with Jacob; I will remember also my covenant with Isaac and also my covenant with Abraham, and I will remember the land.* [43]For the land shall be deserted by them and enjoy[p] its Sabbath years by lying desolate without them, while they shall make amends for their iniquity, because they dared to spurn my ordinances, and they abhorred my statutes.* [44]Yet for all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not spurn them or abhor them so as to destroy them utterly and break my covenant with them, for I am the LORD their God,* [45]but I will remember in their favor the covenant with their ancestors whom I brought out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, to be their God: I am the LORD."*

46 These are the statutes and ordinances and laws that the LORD established between himself and the Israelites on Mount Sinai through Moses.*

Leviticus 27

VOTIVE OFFERINGS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to
them: When a person makes an explicit vow to the LORD concerning the
equivalent for a human being, [3]the equivalent for a male shall be: from
twenty to sixty years of age the equivalent shall be fifty shekels of silver by
the sanctuary shekel.* [4]If the person is a female, the equivalent is thirty
shekels. [5]If the age is from five to twenty years of age, the equivalent is
twenty shekels for a male and ten shekels for a female. [6]If the age is from
one month to five years, the equivalent for a male is five shekels of silver,
and for a female the equivalent is three shekels of silver.* [7]And if the person
is sixty years old or over, then the equivalent for a male is fifteen shekels
and for a female ten shekels. [8]If any cannot afford the equivalent, they shall
be brought before the priest and the priest shall assess them; the priest shall
assess them according to what each one making a vow can afford.*

9 "If the vow concerns an animal that may be brought as an offering to
the LORD, any such animal that may be given to the LORD shall be holy.
[10]Another shall not be exchanged or substituted for it, either good for bad or
bad for good, and if one animal is substituted for another, both that one and
its substitute shall be holy. [11]If the vow concerns any unclean animal that
may not be brought as an offering to the LORD, the animal shall be presented
before the priest. [12]The priest shall assess it: whether good or bad,
according to the assessment of the priest, so it shall be.* [13]But if it is to be
redeemed, one-fifth must be added to the assessment.*

14 "If a person consecrates a house to the LORD, the priest shall assess it:
whether good or bad, as the priest assesses it, so it shall stand. [15]And if the
one who consecrates the house wishes to redeem it, one-fifth shall be added
to its assessed value, and it shall revert to the original owner.*

16 "If a person consecrates to the LORD any inherited landholding, its
assessment shall be in accordance with its seed requirements: fifty shekels
of silver to a homer of barley seed. [17]If the person consecrates the field as of
the year of Jubilee, that assessment shall stand, [18]but if the field is

consecrated after the Jubilee, the priest shall compute the price for it according to the years that remain until the year of Jubilee, and the assessment shall be reduced.* 19And if the one who consecrates the field wishes to redeem it, then one-fifth shall be added to its assessed value, and it shall revert to the original owner, 20but if the field is not redeemed or if it has been sold to someone else, it shall no longer be redeemable. 21But when the field is released in the Jubilee, it shall be holy to the LORD as a devoted field; it becomes the priest's holding.* 22If someone consecrates to the LORD a field that has been purchased that is not a part of the inherited landholding, 23the priest shall compute for it the proportionate assessment up to the year of Jubilee, and the assessment shall be paid as of that day, a sacred donation to the LORD.* 24In the year of Jubilee the field shall return to the one from whom it was bought, whose holding the land is.* 25All assessments shall be by the sanctuary shekel: twenty gerahs shall make a shekel.*

26 "A firstling of animals, however, which as a firstling belongs to the LORD, cannot be consecrated by anyone; whether ox or sheep, it is the LORD's.* 27If it is an unclean animal, it shall be ransomed at its assessment, with one-fifth added; if it is not redeemed, it shall be sold at its assessment.*

28 "Nothing that a person owns that has been devoted to destruction for the LORD, be it human or animal or inherited landholding, may be sold or redeemed; every devoted thing is most holy to the LORD.* 29No human beings who have been devoted to destruction can be ransomed; they shall be put to death.

30 "All tithes from the land, whether the seed from the ground or the fruit from the tree, are the LORD's; they are holy to the LORD.* 31If persons wish to redeem any of their tithes, they must add one-fifth to them.* 32All tithes of herd and flock, every tenth one that passes under the shepherd's staff, shall be holy to the LORD. 33Let no one inquire whether it is good or bad or make substitution for it; if one makes substitution for it, then both it and the substitute shall be holy and cannot be redeemed."*

34 These are the commandments that the LORD gave to Moses for the Israelites on Mount Sinai.*

Leviticus 1

* **1.2** Lev 22.18, 19
* **1.3** Deut 15.21; Heb 9.14; 1 Pet 1.19
* **1.4** Ex 29.10; Lev 9.7; Num 15.25
* **1.5** Ex 29.11; Heb 10.11; 12.24; 1 Pet 1.2
* **1.7** Lev 6.8–13

a **1.9** Or *a gift*

* **1.9** Num 15.8–10
* **1.11** v 5

b **1.13** Or *a gift*

* **1.14** Lev 5.7
* **1.15** Lev 5.9
* **1.16** Lev 6.10

c **1.17** Or *a gift*

* **1.17** Gen 15.10; Lev 5.8

Leviticus 2

* **2.1** Lev 6.14

d **2.2** Or *a gift*

* **2.2** vv 9, 16; Lev 5.12; 6.15; Acts 10.4

e **2.3** Or *the gifts*

* **2.3** Lev 6.16; 10.12, 13

f **2.9** Or *a gift*

* **2.9** v 2; Ex 29.18

g **2.10** Or *the gifts*

* **2.10** v 3

h **2.11** Or *a gift*

* **2.11** Ex 23.18; 34.25; Lev 6.16, 17
* **2.12** Lev 7.13; 23.10, 11
* **2.13** Num 18.19; Mk 9.49
* **2.14** Lev 23.10, 14

i **2.16** Or *a gift*

* **2.16** v 2

Leviticus 3

* **3.1** Lev 7.11, 19; 22.21
* **3.2** Ex 29.11, 16, 20; Lev 1.4

j **3.3** Or *a gift*

* **3.3** Ex 29.13, 22
k **3.5** Or *a gift*
* **3.5** Ex 29.13; Lev 7.28–34
* **3.6** v 1
* **3.7** Lev 17.8, 9
* **3.8** v 2; Lev 1.4, 5
l **3.9** Or *a gift*
* **3.10** v 4
m **3.11** Or *a food gift*
* **3.11** vv 5, 16; Lev 21.6, 8, 17
n **3.14** Or *a gift*
o **3.16** Or *a food gift*
* **3.16** Lev 7.23–25
* **3.17** Gen 9.4; Lev 17.10, 14; Deut 12.16

Leviticus 4

* **4.2** Lev 5.15–18; Ps 19.12
* **4.3** vv 14, 23, 28
* **4.4** Lev 1.4
* **4.5** Lev 16.14
* **4.7** Lev 5.9; 8.15; 9.9
* **4.8** Lev 3.3–5
* **4.12** Lev 6.11; Heb 13.11
* **4.13** Lev 5.2–4, 17; Num 15.24–26
* **4.14** vv 3, 23, 28
* **4.15** Lev 1.4
* **4.17** v 6
* **4.20** Rom 5.11; Heb 2.17; 10.10–12
* **4.22** vv 2, 13
* **4.23** v 14
* **4.25** vv 7, 18, 30, 34
* **4.26** vv 19, 20
* **4.27** v 2
* **4.28** v 23
* **4.29** Lev 1.4, 5
* **4.32** v 28
p **4.35** Or *the gifts*
* **4.35** vv 26, 31; Lev 3.5

Leviticus 5

* **5.1** v 17; Prov 29.24
* **5.2** Lev 11.24–39; Num 19.11–16
* **5.5** Lev 16.21; 26.40; Num 5.7; Prov 28.13
* **5.7** Lev 12.8; 14.21
* **5.8** Lev 1.15, 17
* **5.9** Lev 4.7, 18, 30, 34
* **5.10** Lev 1.14–17
* **5.11** Lev 2.1, 2
q **5.12** Or *the gifts*
* **5.13** Lev 2.3; 4.26
* **5.15** Ex 30.13; Lev 7.1–10; 22.14
* **5.16** Lev 4.26; 6.5; 22.14; Num 5.7, 8
* **5.17** v 15; Lev 4.2, 13, 22, 27
* **5.18** vv 15–17

Leviticus 6

r **6.1** 5.20 in Heb
* **6.2** Ex 22.7, 10; Num 5.6; Prov 24.28; Acts 5.4; Col 3.9
* **6.3** Deut 22.1–3
* **6.5** Lev 5.16; Num 5.7, 8
* **6.6** Lev 5.15
* **6.7** Lev 4.26
s **6.8** 6.1 in Heb
* **6.10** Ex 28.39–41, 43; 39.27, 28
* **6.14** Lev 2.1, 2
* **6.16** Lev 2.3
t **6.17** Or *my gifts*
* **6.17** vv 26, 29, 30; Lev 2.11
u **6.18** Or *the* LORD*'s gifts*
* **6.18** vv 27, 29; Num 18.10
* **6.20** Ex 29.1, 2
v **6.21** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.21** Lev 2.5
* **6.25** Lev 1.3, 5, 11; 4.2, 24, 29, 33
* **6.26** Lev 10.17, 18
* **6.27** Ex 29.37
* **6.28** Ex 15.12
* **6.29** vv 18, 25
* **6.30** Lev 4.1, 7, 11, 12, 18, 21

Leviticus 7

* **7.1** Lev 5.14–6.7
* **7.2** Lev 1.11
* **7.4** Lev 3.4
w **7.5** Or *a gift*
* **7.6** Lev 2.3; 6.16–18
* **7.7** Lev 6.25, 26
* **7.9** Lev 2.3, 10
* **7.14** Num 18.8, 11, 19
* **7.15** Lev 22.30
* **7.16** Lev 19.6–8
* **7.18** Lev 19.7; Num 18.27
* **7.20** Lev 22.3
* **7.21** Lev 11.24, 28
* **7.23** Lev 3.17
x **7.25** Or *a gift*
* **7.26** Lev 17.10–14
* **7.29** Lev 3.1
y **7.30** Or *the LORD's gift*
* **7.31** v 34
* **7.34** Num 18.18, 19
z **7.35** Or *the gifts*
* **7.37** vv 1, 11; Lev 6.9, 14, 20, 25
* **7.38** Lev 1.1, 2

Leviticus 8

* **8.2** Ex 28.2, 4; 29.1–3; 30.24, 25
* **8.6** Ex 29.4–6
* **8.8** Ex 28.30
* **8.9** Ex 28.36, 37
* **8.10** v 2
* **8.12** Ex 30.30; Ps 133.2
* **8.13** Ex 29.8, 9
* **8.14** Ex 29.10; Lev 4.4
* **8.15** Lev 4.7; Heb 9.22
* **8.16** Lev 4.8
* **8.17** Lev 4.11, 12
* **8.18** Ex 29.15
a **8.21** Or *a gift*
* **8.21** Ex 29.18

* **8.22** Ex 29.19, 31
* **8.25** Ex 29.22
* **8.26** Ex 29.23
b **8.28** Or *a gift*
* **8.28** Ex 29.25
* **8.29** Ex 29.26
* **8.30** Ex 30.30; Num 3.3
* **8.31** Ex 29.31, 32
* **8.32** Ex 29.34
* **8.33** Ex 29.30, 35
* **8.34** Heb 7.16

Leviticus 9

* **9.2** Ex 29.1; Lev 8.18
* **9.3** Lev 4.23
* **9.6** v 23
* **9.7** Heb 5.1, 3
* **9.8** Lev 4.1–12
* **9.9** vv 12, 18
* **9.11** Lev 4.11; 8.17
* **9.15** Lev 4.27–31
* **9.16** Lev 1.3, 10
* **9.17** Lev 2.1, 2; 3.5
* **9.18** Lev 3.1–11
c **9.19** Gk: Heb *the fatty tail, and that which covers, and the kidneys*
* **9.21** Lev 7.30–34
* **9.23** v 6; Num 14.10
* **9.24** 1 Kings 18.38, 39

Leviticus 10

* **10.1** Ex 30.9; Lev 16.12; Num 3.3, 4
* **10.2** Num 3.4; 26.61
* **10.3** Ex 19.22; 30.30; Lev 21.6
* **10.4** Ex 6.18, 22; Acts 5.6, 9, 10
* **10.6** Lev 21.1, 10; Num 16.22, 46; Josh 7.1; 22.18, 20
* **10.7** Lev 21.12
* **10.9** Ezek 44.21
* **10.10** Lev 11.47; 20.25; Ezek 22.26
* **10.11** Deut 24.8; Mal 2.7
d **10.12** Or *the* LORD*'s gifts*

* **10.12** Lev 6.14–18; 21.22
e **10.13** Or *the gifts*
* **10.14** Ex 29.24, 26, 27
f **10.15** Or *the gifts*
* **10.15** Lev 7.29, 30, 34
g **10.17** Heb *he*
* **10.17** Lev 6.24–30
* **10.19** Lev 9.8, 12

Leviticus 11

* **11.2** Deut 14.3–21
* **11.7** Isa 65.4; 66.3, 17
* **11.8** Isa 52.11; Heb 9.10
* **11.9** Deut 14.9
* **11.10** Lev 7.18; Deut 14.3
h **11.18** Or *pelican*
i **11.19** Identification of several of the birds in 11.13–19 is uncertain
* **11.22** Mt 3.4; Mk 1.6
* **11.25** v 40
* **11.29** Isa 66.17
* **11.32** Lev 15.12
* **11.33** Lev 6.28; 15.12
* **11.40** Lev 17.15; 22.8
* **11.41** v 29
* **11.43** Lev 20.25
* **11.44** Ex 6.7; 19.6; Lev 19.2; 1 Pet 1.15, 16
* **11.45** Ex 6.7
* **11.47** Lev 10.10

Leviticus 12

* **12.2** Lev 15.19; 18.19
* **12.3** Gen 17.12
* **12.6** Lk 2.22
* **12.8** Lev 4.26; 5.7; Lk 2.22–24

Leviticus 13

j **13.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.2** Deut 24.8
* **13.4** v 21
* **13.6** Lev 11.25; 14.8

* **13.7** Lk 5.14
k **13.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
l **13.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.10** Num 12.10; 2 Kings 5.27; 2 Chr 26.20
* **13.15** Mt 8.3
* **13.16** Lk 5.12
* **13.18** Ex 9.9
m **13.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.19** v 42
* **13.21** Num 12.14, 15
* **13.25** v 15
* **13.27** v 5
n **13.28** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.29** v 44
* **13.32** v 5
* **13.34** Lev 14.8
* **13.36** v 30
* **13.40** Ezek 29.18
o **13.43** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.44** v 29
* **13.46** Num 5.2; 12.14; 2 Kings 7.3; 15.5; Lk 17.12
* **13.51** Lev 14.44
* **13.52** Lev 14.44
* **13.54** v 4
p **13.55** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.56** Lev 14.8

Leviticus 14

* **14.2** Mt 8.2, 4; Mk 1.40, 44; Lk 5.12, 14; 17.14
* **14.4** vv 6, 49, 51, 52; Num 19.6
* **14.7** 2 Kings 5.10, 14
* **14.8** Lev 13.6; Num 8.7
q **14.10** A liquid measure
* **14.10** Mt 8.4; Mk 1.44; Lk 5.14
r **14.12** A liquid measure
* **14.12** Ex 29.24; Lev 5.2, 18; 6.6, 7
* **14.13** Lev 1.5, 11; 2.3; 6.24–30; 7.6
* **14.14** Lev 8.23
s **14.15** A liquid measure
* **14.18** Lev 4.26
* **14.19** v 12

t **14.21** A liquid measure
* **14.21** v 22; Lev 5.7, 11; 12.8
* **14.22** Lev 12.8; 15.14, 15
* **14.23** vv 10, 11
u **14.24** A liquid measure
* **14.24** v 12
* **14.25** v 14
* **14.28** Lev 5.6
* **14.30** v 22; Lev 15.15
v **14.31** Gk Syr: Heb *afford,* [31]*such as he can afford, one*
* **14.31** Lev 5.7
* **14.34** Gen 17.8; Num 32.22; Deut 7.1
* **14.35** Ps 91.10; Prov 3.33
* **14.38** Num 12.15
* **14.40** v 45
* **14.44** Lev 13.51
* **14.49** v 4
* **14.51** Ps 51.7
* **14.53** v 20
* **14.54** Lev 13.30
w **14.56** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **14.56** Lev 13.2

Leviticus 15

x **15.2** Heb *flesh*
* **15.2** Lev 22.4; Num 5.2; 2 Sam 3.29; Mt 9.20
y **15.3** Heb *flesh*
z **15.3** Heb *flesh*
a **15.3** Q ms Gk Sam: MT lacks *during . . . uncleanness*
* **15.7** Num 19.19
* **15.10** Num 19.10
* **15.12** Lev 6.28; 11.32, 33
* **15.13** v 28
* **15.14** Lev 14.22, 23
* **15.15** Lev 14.30, 31
* **15.16** Lev 22.4; Deut 23.10
* **15.18** 1 Sam 21.4
* **15.19** Lev 12.2
* **15.21** v 27
* **15.24** Lev 20.18

* **15.25** Mt 9.20; Mk 5.25; Lk 8.43
* **15.27** v 21
* **15.29** Gen 15.9
* **15.31** Num 5.3; 19.13, 20; Ezek 5.11; 23.38; 44.23
* **15.32** vv 2, 16
* **15.33** vv 19, 24, 25

Leviticus 16

* **16.1** Lev 10.1, 2
* **16.2** Ex 25.21, 22; 30.10; Heb 9.7; 10.19
* **16.3** Lev 4.3; Heb 9.7, 12, 24, 25
* **16.4** v 24; Ex 28.39
* **16.5** Lev 4.13–21
* **16.6** Lev 9.7; Heb 5.2; 7.27, 28; 9.7
* **16.11** Heb 7.27; 9.7
* **16.12** Ex 30.34; Lev 10.1
* **16.13** Lev 22.9
* **16.14** Lev 4.6, 17; Heb 9.13, 25
* **16.15** Heb 9.3, 7, 12
* **16.16** Ex 29.36; Heb 2.17
* **16.18** Lev 4.25; Ezek 43.20, 22
* **16.19** v 14

b **16.21** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **16.21** Isa 53.6
* **16.22** Isa 53.11, 12
* **16.23** v 4; Ezek 42.14; 44.19
* **16.24** vv 3–5
* **16.27** Lev 4.12, 21; 6.30

c **16.29** Or *shall fast*

* **16.29** Lev 23.27; Num 29.7

d **16.31** Or *shall fast*

* **16.31** Lev 23.32; Isa 58.3, 5
* **16.32** v 4; Num 20.26, 28
* **16.33** vv 6, 16–18
* **16.34** Heb 9.7, 25

Leviticus 17

* **17.4** Deut 12.5–21; Rom 5.13
* **17.6** Lev 3.2; Num 18.17
* **17.7** Ex 22.20; 32.8; 34.15; Deut 32.17; 2 Chr 11.15

* **17.9** v 4
* **17.10** Lev 3.17; Deut 12.16, 23
* **17.11** v 14; Gen 9.4; Heb 9.22
* **17.13** Lev 7.26; Deut 12.16
* **17.14** v 11
* **17.15** Ex 22.31; Deut 14.21

Leviticus 18

* **18.2** Ex 6.7; Lev 11.44
* **18.3** Ex 23.24; Lev 20.23; Ezek 20.7, 8
* **18.5** Ezek 20.11; Lk 10.28; Rom 10.5; Gal 3.12
* **18.7** Lev 20.11
* **18.9** Lev 20.17
* **18.12** Lev 20.19
* **18.14** Lev 20.20
* **18.15** Lev 20.12
* **18.16** Lev 20.21

e **18.17** Or *marry*

f **18.17** Gk: Heb lacks *your*

* **18.17** Lev 20.14

g **18.18** Or *marry*

* **18.19** Lev 15.24; 20.18
* **18.20** Ex 20.14; Lev 20.10; Prov 6.32; Mt 5.27

h **18.21** Heb *to pass them over*

* **18.21** Lev 19.12; 20.2–5; 21.6
* **18.22** Lev 20.13; Rom 1.27
* **18.23** Ex 22.19; Lev 20.15; Deut 27.21
* **18.24** v 3; Lev 20.23
* **18.25** v 28; Lev 20.23; Deut 9.5; 18.12
* **18.30** v 2; Lev 22.9; Deut 11.1

Leviticus 19

* **19.2** 1 Pet 1.16
* **19.3** Ex 20.8, 12; Lev 11.44
* **19.4** Ex 20.23; 34.17; Lev 26.1; Ps 96.5
* **19.9** Lev 23.22; Deut 24.20–22
* **19.11** Ex 20.15; Lev 6.2; Eph 4.25; Col 3.9
* **19.12** Ex 20.7; Lev 18.21
* **19.13** Ex 22.7–15, 21–27; Deut 24.15; Jas 5.4
* **19.14** Deut 27.18

* **19.15** Ex 23.6; Deut 1.17
i **19.16** Heb *stand against the blood*
* **19.16** Ex 23.7; Ps 15.3; Ezek 22.9
* **19.17** Lk 17.3; Gal 6.1; 1 Jn 2.9, 11; 3.15
* **19.18** Ps 103.9; Mt 19.19; Mk 12.31; Rom 12.19; 13.9
* **19.19** Deut 22.9, 11
* **19.21** Lev 5.15
j **19.23** Heb *as their uncircumcision*
k **19.23** Heb *uncircumcision*
* **19.24** Deut 12.17, 18; Prov 3.9
* **19.26** Lev 17.10; Deut 18.10
* **19.27** Lev 21.5
* **19.28** Lev 21.5
* **19.29** Deut 23.17
* **19.30** v 3; Lev 26.2
* **19.31** Lev 20.6, 27; Deut 18.10, 11
* **19.33** Ex 22.21
* **19.34** Ex 12.48, 49; Deut 10.19

Leviticus 20

* **20.2** Lev 18.21
* **20.3** Lev 15.31; 18.21
* **20.4** Deut 17.2, 3, 5
* **20.6** Lev 19.31
* **20.7** 1 Pet 1.16
* **20.8** Ex 31.13; Lev 19.37
* **20.9** Ex 21.17; Deut 27.16
l **20.10** Heb repeats *if a man commits adultery with the wife of*
* **20.10** Lev 18.20; Deut 22.22
* **20.11** Lev 18.7, 8
* **20.12** Lev 18.15
* **20.13** Lev 18.22
* **20.14** Deut 27.23
* **20.15** Lev 18.23
* **20.17** Lev 18.9
* **20.18** Lev 18.19
* **20.19** Lev 18.12, 13
* **20.20** Lev 18.14
* **20.21** Lev 18.16
* **20.22** Lev 18.25, 26, 28
* **20.23** Lev 18.3, 24, 27, 30

* **20.24** v 26; Ex 13.5; 33.3, 16
* **20.25** Lev 11.1–47; Deut 14.3–21
* **20.26** v 24
* **20.27** Lev 19.31

Leviticus 21

* **21.1** Lev 19.28; Ezek 44.25
* **21.5** Lev 19.27; Deut 14.1; Ezek 44.20
m **21.6** Or *the* LORD*'s gifts*
* **21.6** Lev 3.11; 18.21
* **21.7** vv 13, 14
* **21.10** Lev 10.6, 7; 16.32
* **21.11** Lev 19.28
* **21.12** Ex 29.6, 7; Lev 10.7
* **21.13** v 7; Ezek 44.22
* **21.17** v 6
n **21.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **21.18** Lev 22.23
* **21.20** Deut 23.1
o **21.21** Or *the* LORD*'s gifts*
* **21.21** v 6
* **21.23** v 12

Leviticus 22

* **22.2** Lev 18.21
* **22.3** Lev 7.20
* **22.4** Lev 14.1–32; 15.16, 17; Num 19.11, 12
* **22.5** Lev 11.24, 43, 44; 15.7, 19
* **22.8** Ex 22.31; Lev 17.15
* **22.9** v 16; Lev 18.30
* **22.10** v 13
* **22.13** v 10
* **22.14** Lev 5.15, 16
* **22.16** v 9
* **22.19** Lev 1.3
* **22.20** Deut 15.21; 17.1; Heb 9.14; 1 Pet 1.19
* **22.21** Lev 3.1, 6
p **22.22** Or *as gifts*
* **22.25** Lev 21.6, 17
q **22.27** Or *the* LORD*'s gift*

* **22.27** Ex 22.30
* **22.28** Deut 22.6, 7
* **22.29** Lev 7.12
* **22.30** Lev 7.15
* **22.31** Lev 19.37
* **22.32** Lev 10.3; 18.21
* **22.33** Ex 6.7; Lev 11.45

Leviticus 23

* **23.2** vv 4, 37, 44; Num 29.39
* **23.3** Ex 31.13–17; Lev 19.3; Deut 5.13
* **23.4** v 2

r **23.5** Heb *between the two evenings*

* **23.5** Ex 12.18, 19; Num 28.16, 17
* **23.7** vv 8, 21, 25, 35, 36

s **23.8** Or *the* LORD*'s gifts*

* **23.10** Ex 23.16, 19; 34.22, 26

t **23.13** Or *a gift*

* **23.13** Lev 2.14–16
* **23.15** Deut 16.9
* **23.16** Num 28.26
* **23.17** Lev 2.12; 7.13

u **23.18** Or *a gift*

* **23.19** Lev 3.1; Num 28.30
* **23.21** v 7
* **23.22** Lev 19.9
* **23.24** Lev 25.9; Num 29.1

v **23.25** Or *the* LORD*'s gift*

w **23.27** Or *shall fast*

x **23.27** Or *the* LORD*'s gift*

* **23.27** Lev 16.29, 30

y **23.29** Or do *not fast*

* **23.29** Gen 17.14
* **23.30** Lev 20.3, 5, 6

z **23.32** Or *shall fast*

a **23.34** Or *Tabernacles*

* **23.34** vv 42, 43; Ex 23.16; Num 29.12

b **23.36** Or *the* LORD*'s gifts*

c **23.36** Or *the* LORD*'s gifts*

* **23.36** Num 29.12–38

d **23.37** Or *gifts*

* **23.37** vv 2, 4
* **23.39** Ex 23.16; Deut 16.13
e **23.40** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **23.40** Deut 16.14, 15; Neh 8.15
* **23.42** Neh 8.14–16
* **23.44** vv 2, 37

Leviticus 24

* **24.2** Ex 27.20, 21
f **24.4** Heb *pure lampstand*
* **24.4** Ex 31.8; 39.37
* **24.5** Ex 25.30
g **24.6** Heb *pure table*
* **24.6** Ex 25.24; 1 Kings 7.48
h **24.7** Or *a gift*
* **24.8** Num 4.7; 1 Chr 9.32; 2 Chr 2.4
i **24.9** Or *the gifts*
* **24.9** Lev 8.31; Mt 12.4; Mk 2.26; Lk 6.4
* **24.11** v 16
* **24.12** Ex 18.15, 16; Num 15.34
* **24.14** Lev 20.2, 27; Deut 13.9; 17.7; 21.21
* **24.16** 1 Kings 21.10, 13; Mt 12.31; Mk 3.28
* **24.17** Ex 21.12; Num 35.30, 31; Deut 19.11, 12
* **24.18** v 21
* **24.20** Ex 21.23, 24; Deut 19.21; Mt 5.38
* **24.21** vv 17, 18
* **24.22** Ex 12.49; Num 15.16

Leviticus 25

* **25.2** Ex 23.10, 11
* **25.6** vv 20, 21
j **25.8** Or *Sabbaths*
* **25.9** Lev 23.24, 27
* **25.10** vv 13, 28, 54
* **25.13** v 10
* **25.14** Lev 19.13; 1 Sam 12.3, 4; 1 Cor 6.8
* **25.15** Lev 27.18, 23
* **25.17** v 14; Lev 19.14, 32
* **25.18** Lev 19.37; 26.4, 5
* **25.20** vv 4, 5

* **25.22** Lev 26.10
* **25.23** Gen 23.4; Ex 19.5; Ps 39.12
* **25.25** Ruth 2.20; 4.4, 6
* **25.27** vv 50–52
* **25.28** v 13
* **25.32** Num 35.1–8
k **25.35** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **25.35** Deut 15.7–11; Ps 37.26; Lk 6.35
* **25.36** Ex 22.25; Deut 23.19, 20
* **25.38** Lev 11.45
* **25.39** Ex 21.2; Deut 15.12; 1 Kings 9.22
* **25.41** v 28; Ex 21.3
* **25.43** vv 46, 53; Ex 1.13, 14
* **25.45** Isa 56.3, 6
* **25.46** v 43
* **25.48** Neh 5.5
* **25.49** v 26
* **25.50** Job 7.1; Isa 16.14; 21.16
* **25.51** Jer 32.7

Leviticus 26

* **26.1** Ex 20.4, 5; Lev 19.4; Deut 5.8
* **26.2** Lev 19.30
* **26.3** Deut 28.1
* **26.5** Lev 25.18, 19; Am 9.13
* **26.6** Ps 29.11; 147.14; Zeph 3.13
* **26.8** Deut 32.30; Josh 23.10
* **26.9** Gen 17.6, 7; 22.17; Neh 9.23
* **26.10** Lev 25.22
* **26.11** Ex 25.8; Ps 76.2
l **26.12** Q ms: MT adds *I will walk among you, and I*
* **26.12** 2 Cor 6.16
* **26.14** Deut 28.15; Mal 2.2
* **26.16** Deut 28.22, 35, 51; 1 Sam 2.33
* **26.17** Lev 17.10; Deut 28.25; Ps 53.5; 106.41
* **26.19** Deut 28.23; Isa 25.11
* **26.20** Deut 11.17; Isa 17.10, 11
* **26.22** Deut 32.24
* **26.23** Jer 2.30; 5.3
* **26.24** vv 21, 28, 41
* **26.25** Num 14.12; Ezek 5.17

m **26.26** Heb *staff of bread*
* **26.26** Ps 105.16; Isa 3.1; Mic 6.14
* **26.29** Deut 28.53
* **26.30** 2 Chr 34.3; Ezek 6.3–6, 13
* **26.31** Ps 74.7; Isa 63.18
* **26.32** Jer 9.11
* **26.33** Deut 4.27; Ezek 12.15
n **26.34** Or *make up for*
o **26.34** Or *make up for*
* **26.34** v 43; 2 Chr 36.21
* **26.36** Ezek 21.7
* **26.37** Josh 7.12, 13
* **26.38** Deut 4.26, 27
* **26.39** Deut 4.27; Ezek 4.17
* **26.40** Jer 3.12–15; Lk 15.18; 1 Jn 1.9
* **26.41** 2 Chr 12.6, 7; Ezek 44.9
* **26.42** Gen 22.15–18; 26.2–5; 28.13–15
p **26.43** Or *make up for*
* **26.43** vv 15, 34, 35
* **26.44** Deut 4.31; Rom 11.2
* **26.45** Gen 17.7; Ex 6.6–8; Lev 25.38
* **26.46** Lev 7.38; 25.1; 27.34

Leviticus 27

* **27.3** Ex 30.13
* **27.6** Num 18.16
* **27.8** v 12
* **27.12** v 8
* **27.13** vv 15, 19
* **27.15** v 20
* **27.18** Lev 25.15, 16
* **27.21** Lev 25.10, 28, 31; Num 18.14
* **27.23** v 18
* **27.24** Lev 25.28
* **27.25** Ex 30.13
* **27.26** Ex 13.2, 12
* **27.27** vv 11, 12
* **27.28** Josh 6.17–19
* **27.30** Gen 28.22; Mal 3.8, 10
* **27.31** v 13
* **27.33** v 10

* **27.34** Lev 26.46; Deut 4.5

Numbers

Numbers 1

THE FIRST CENSUS OF ISRAEL

1 The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of
meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they
had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,* 2"Take a census of the whole
congregation of Israelites, in their clans, by ancestral houses, according to
the number of names, every male individually,* 3from twenty years old and
up, everyone in Israel able to go to war. You and Aaron shall enroll them,
company by company. 4A man from each tribe shall be with you, each man
the head of his ancestral house.* 5These are the names of the men who shall
assist you:

From Reuben, Elizur son of Shedeur.

6From Simeon, Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai.

7From Judah, Nahshon son of Amminadab.

8From Issachar, Nethanel son of Zuar.

9From Zebulun, Eliab son of Helon.

10From the sons of Joseph:

from Ephraim, Elishama son of Ammihud;

from Manasseh, Gamaliel son of Pedahzur.

11From Benjamin, Abidan son of Gideoni.

12From Dan, Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai.

13From Asher, Pagiel son of Ochran.

14From Gad, Eliasaph son of Deuel.*

15From Naphtali, Ahira son of Enan."

16These were the ones chosen from the congregation, the leaders of their
ancestral tribes, the heads of the divisions of Israel.*

17 Moses and Aaron took these men who had been designated by name,
18 and on the first day of the second month they assembled the whole
congregation together. They registered themselves in their clans, by their
ancestral houses, according to the number of names from twenty years old
and up, individually, 19 as the LORD had commanded Moses. So he enrolled
them in the wilderness of Sinai.

20 The descendants of Reuben, Israel's firstborn, their lineage, in their
clans, by their ancestral houses, according to the number of names,
individually, every male from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go
to war:* 21 those enrolled of the tribe of Reuben were forty-six thousand five
hundred.

22 The descendants of Simeon, their lineage, in their clans, by their
ancestral houses, those of them who were numbered, according to the
number of names, individually, every male from twenty years old and up,
everyone able to go to war:* 23 those enrolled of the tribe of Simeon were
fifty-nine thousand three hundred.

24 The descendants of Gad, their lineage, in their clans, by their ancestral
houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and up,
everyone able to go to war:* 25 those enrolled of the tribe of Gad were forty-
five thousand six hundred fifty.

26 The descendants of Judah, their lineage, in their clans, by their
ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old
and up, everyone able to go to war:* 27 those enrolled of the tribe of Judah
were seventy-four thousand six hundred.

28 The descendants of Issachar, their lineage, in their clans, by their
ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old
and up, everyone able to go to war:* 29 those enrolled of the tribe of Issachar
were fifty-four thousand four hundred.

30 The descendants of Zebulun, their lineage, in their clans, by their
ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old
and up, everyone able to go to war:* 31 those enrolled of the tribe of Zebulun
were fifty-seven thousand four hundred.

32 The descendants of Joseph: the descendants of Ephraim, their lineage,
in their clans, by their ancestral houses, according to the number of names,
from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go to war:* 33 those enrolled

of the tribe of Ephraim were forty thousand five hundred; [34]the descendants of Manasseh, their lineage, in their clans, by their ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go to war:* [35]those enrolled of the tribe of Manasseh were thirty-two thousand two hundred.

36 The descendants of Benjamin, their lineage, in their clans, by their ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go to war:* [37]those enrolled of the tribe of Benjamin were thirty-five thousand four hundred.

38 The descendants of Dan, their lineage, in their clans, by their ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go to war:* [39]those enrolled of the tribe of Dan were sixty-two thousand seven hundred.

40 The descendants of Asher, their lineage, in their clans, by their ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go to war:* [41]those enrolled of the tribe of Asher were forty-one thousand five hundred.

42 The descendants of Naphtali, their lineage, in their clans, by their ancestral houses, according to the number of names, from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go to war:* [43]those enrolled of the tribe of Naphtali were fifty-three thousand four hundred.

44 These are those who were enrolled, whom Moses and Aaron enrolled with the help of the leaders of Israel, twelve men, each representing his ancestral house.* [45]So all those enrolled of the Israelites, by their ancestral houses, from twenty years old and up, everyone able to go to war in Israel —[46]all those enrolled were six hundred three thousand five hundred fifty.* [47]The Levites, however, were not numbered by their ancestral tribe along with them.*

48 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [49]"Only the tribe of Levi you shall not enroll, and you shall not take a census of them with the other Israelites. [50]Rather, you shall appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the covenant and over all its equipment and over all that belongs to it; they are to carry the tabernacle and all its equipment, and they shall tend it and shall camp around the tabernacle.* [51]When the tabernacle is to set out, the Levites shall take it down, and when the tabernacle is to be pitched, the Levites shall set

it up. And any outsider who comes near shall be put to death.* 52The other Israelites shall camp in their respective regimental camps, by companies,* 53but the Levites shall camp around the tabernacle of the covenant, that there may be no wrath on the congregation of the Israelites, and the Levites shall perform the duties of the tabernacle of the covenant."* 54The Israelites did so; they did just as the LORD commanded Moses.

Numbers 2

THE ORDER OF ENCAMPMENT AND MARCHING

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, [2]"The Israelites shall camp each in their respective regiments, under ensigns by their ancestral houses; they shall camp facing the tent of meeting on every side.* [3]Those to camp on the east side toward the sunrise shall be of the regimental encampment of Judah by companies. The leader of the people of Judah shall be Nahshon son of Amminadab,* [4]with a company as enrolled of seventy-four thousand six hundred. [5]Those to camp next to him shall be the tribe of Issachar. The leader of the Issacharites shall be Nethanel son of Zuar,* [6]with a company as enrolled of fifty-four thousand four hundred. [7]Then the tribe of Zebulun. The leader of the Zebulunites shall be Eliab son of Helon, [8]with a company as enrolled of fifty-seven thousand four hundred. [9]The total enrollment of the camp of Judah, by companies, is one hundred eighty-six thousand four hundred. They shall set out first.*

10 "On the south side shall be the regimental encampment of Reuben by companies. The leader of the Reubenites shall be Elizur son of Shedeur,* [11]with a company as enrolled of forty-six thousand five hundred. [12]And those to camp next to him shall be the tribe of Simeon. The leader of the Simeonites shall be Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai,* [13]with a company as enrolled of fifty-nine thousand three hundred. [14]Then the tribe of Gad. The leader of the Gadites shall be Eliasaph son of Deuel,[a,*] [15]with a company as enrolled of forty-five thousand six hundred fifty. [16]The total enrollment of the camp of Reuben, by companies, is one hundred fifty-one thousand four hundred fifty. They shall set out second.

17 "The tent of meeting, with the camp of the Levites, shall set out in the center of the camps; they shall set out just as they camp, each in position, by their regiments.*

18 "On the west side shall be the regimental encampment of Ephraim by companies. The leader of the people of Ephraim shall be Elishama son of Ammihud, [19]with a company as enrolled of forty thousand five hundred. [20]Next to him shall be the tribe of Manasseh. The leader of the people of

Manasseh shall be Gamaliel son of Pedahzur,* 21with a company as enrolled of thirty-two thousand two hundred. 22Then the tribe of Benjamin. The leader of the Benjaminites shall be Abidan son of Gideoni, 23with a company as enrolled of thirty-five thousand four hundred. 24The total enrollment of the camp of Ephraim, by companies, is one hundred eight thousand one hundred. They shall set out third.*

25 "On the north side shall be the regimental encampment of Dan by companies. The leader of the Danites shall be Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai,* 26with a company as enrolled of sixty-two thousand seven hundred. 27Those to camp next to him shall be the tribe of Asher. The leader of the Asherites shall be Pagiel son of Ochran,* 28with a company as enrolled of forty-one thousand five hundred. 29Then the tribe of Naphtali. The leader of the Naphtalites shall be Ahira son of Enan, 30with a company as enrolled of fifty-three thousand four hundred. 31The total enrollment of the camp of Dan is one hundred fifty-seven thousand six hundred. They shall set out last, by their regiments."*

32 This was the enrollment of the Israelites by their ancestral houses; the total enrollment in the camps by their companies was six hundred three thousand five hundred fifty.* 33Just as the LORD had commanded Moses, the Levites were not enrolled among the other Israelites.*

34 The Israelites did just as the LORD had commanded Moses: they camped by regiments, and they set out the same way, everyone by clans, according to ancestral houses.

Numbers 3

THE SONS OF AARON

1 This is the lineage of Aaron and Moses at the time when the LORD spoke
with Moses on Mount Sinai. [2]These are the names of the sons of Aaron:
Nadab the firstborn and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar;* [3]these are the names
of the sons of Aaron, the anointed priests, whom he ordained to serve as
priests. [4]Nadab and Abihu died before the LORD when they offered unholy
fire before the LORD in the wilderness of Sinai, and they had no children.
Eleazar and Ithamar served as priests in the lifetime of their father Aaron.*

THE DUTIES OF THE LEVITES

5 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [6]"Bring the tribe of Levi near
and set them before Aaron the priest, so that they may assist him.* [7]They
shall perform duties for him and for the whole congregation in front of the
tent of meeting, doing service at the tabernacle; [8]they shall be in charge of
all the furnishings of the tent of meeting and attend to the duties for the
Israelites as they do service at the tabernacle. [9]You shall give the Levites to
Aaron and his descendants; they are unreservedly given to him from among
the Israelites.* [10]But you shall enroll Aaron and his descendants; it is they
who shall attend to the priesthood, and any outsider who comes near shall
be put to death."*

11 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [12]"I hereby take the Levites
from among the Israelites as substitutes for all the firstborn that open the
womb among the Israelites. The Levites shall be mine,* [13]for all the
firstborn are mine; when I killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I
consecrated for my own all the firstborn in Israel, both human and animal;
they shall be mine. I am the LORD."*

A CENSUS OF THE LEVITES

14 Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, saying,
[15]"Enroll the Levites by ancestral houses and by clans. You shall enroll

every male from a month old and up."* 16So Moses enrolled them according to the word of the LORD, as he was commanded. 17These were the sons of Levi, by their names: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.* 18These were the names of the sons of Gershon by their clans: Libni and Shimei. 19The sons of Kohath by their clans: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. 20The sons of Merari by their clans: Mahli and Mushi. These were the clans of the Levites, by their ancestral houses.*

21 To Gershon belonged the clan of the Libnites and the clan of the Shimeites; these were the clans of the Gershonites.* 22Their enrollment, counting all the males from a month old and up, was seven thousand five hundred. 23The clans of the Gershonites were to camp behind the tabernacle on the west, 24with Eliasaph son of Lael as head of the ancestral house of the Gershonites. 25The responsibility of the sons of Gershon in the tent of meeting was the tabernacle, the tent with its covering, the screen for the entrance of the tent of meeting,* 26the hangings of the court, the screen for the entrance of the court that is around the tabernacle and the altar, and its cords—all the service pertaining to these.

27 To Kohath belonged the clan of the Amramites, the clan of the Izharites, the clan of the Hebronites, and the clan of the Uzzielites; these were the clans of the Kohathites.* 28Counting all the males, from a month old and up, there were eight thousand six hundred performing the duties of the sanctuary. 29The clans of the Kohathites were to camp on the south side of the tabernacle,* 30with Elizaphan son of Uzziel as head of the ancestral house of the clans of the Kohathites. 31Their responsibility was the ark, the table, the lampstand, the altars, the vessels of the sanctuary with which the priests minister, and the screen—all the service pertaining to these. 32Eleazar son of Aaron the priest was to be chief over the leaders of the Levites and to have oversight of those who performed the duties of the sanctuary.

33 To Merari belonged the clan of the Mahlites and the clan of the Mushites; these were the clans of Merari.* 34Their enrollment, counting all the males from a month old and up, was six thousand two hundred. 35The head of the ancestral house of the clans of Merari was Zuriel son of Abihail; they were to camp on the north side of the tabernacle. 36The responsibility assigned to the sons of Merari was the frames of the tabernacle, the bars,

the pillars, the bases, and all their accessories—all the service pertaining to these,* 37also the pillars of the court all around, with their bases and pegs and cords.

38 Those who were to camp in front of the tabernacle on the east—in front of the tent of meeting toward the sunrise—were Moses and Aaron and Aaron's sons, who were to perform the duties of the sanctuary, whatever had to be done for the Israelites, and any outsider who came near was to be put to death.* 39The total enrollment of the Levites whom Moses and Aaron enrolled at the commandment of the LORD, by their clans, all the males from a month old and up, was twenty-two thousand.*

THE REDEMPTION OF THE FIRSTBORN

40 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Enroll all the firstborn males of the Israelites, from a month old and up, and count their names. 41But you shall take the Levites for me—I am the LORD—as substitutes for all the firstborn among the Israelites and the livestock of the Levites as substitutes for all the firstborn among the livestock of the Israelites."* 42So Moses enrolled all the firstborn among the Israelites, as the LORD commanded him. 43The total enrollment, all the firstborn males from a month old and up, counting the number of names, was twenty-two thousand two hundred seventy-three.*

44 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 45"Take the Levites as substitutes for all the firstborn among the Israelites and the livestock of the Levites as substitutes for their livestock, and the Levites shall be mine. I am the LORD.* 46As the price of redemption of the two hundred seventy-three of the firstborn of the Israelites, over and above the number of the Levites,* 47you shall take five shekels apiece, reckoning by the shekel of the sanctuary, a shekel of twenty gerahs.* 48Give to Aaron and his sons the money by which the excess number of them is redeemed." 49So Moses took the redemption money from those who were over and above those redeemed by the Levites; 50from the firstborn of the Israelites he took the money, one thousand three hundred sixty-five shekels, reckoned by the shekel of the sanctuary,* 51and Moses gave the redemption money to Aaron and his sons, according to the word of the LORD, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Numbers 4

THE KOHATHITES

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, [2]"Take a census of the Kohathites separate from the other Levites, by their clans and their ancestral houses, [3]from thirty years old up to fifty years old, all who qualify to do work relating to the tent of meeting.* [4]The service of the Kohathites relating to the tent of meeting concerns the most holy things.

5 "When the camp is to set out, Aaron and his sons shall go in and take down the screening curtain and cover the ark of the covenant with it; [6]then they shall put on it a covering of fine leather[b] and spread over that a cloth all of blue and put its poles in place.* [7]Over the table of the Presence they shall spread a blue cloth and put on it the plates, the dishes for incense, the bowls, and the flagons for the drink offering; the regular bread also shall be on it;* [8]then they shall spread over them a crimson cloth and cover it with a covering of fine leather[c] and put its poles in place. [9]They shall take a blue cloth and cover the lampstand for the light, with its lamps, its snuffers, its trays, and all the vessels for oil with which it is supplied,* [10]and they shall put it with all its utensils in a covering of fine leather[d] and put it on the carrying frame. [11]Over the golden altar they shall spread a blue cloth and cover it with a covering of fine leather[e] and put its poles in place,* [12]and they shall take all the utensils of the service that are used in the sanctuary and put them in a blue cloth and cover them with a covering of fine leather[f] and put them on the carrying frame. [13]They shall take away the ashes from the altar and spread a purple cloth over it, [14]and they shall put on it all the utensils of the altar, which are used for the service there, the firepans, the forks, the shovels, and the basins, all the utensils of the altar, and they shall spread on it a covering of fine leather[g] and put its poles in place. [15]When Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sanctuary and all the furnishings of the sanctuary, as the camp sets out, after that the Kohathites shall come to carry these, but they must not touch the holy things, or they will die. These are the things of the tent of meeting that the Kohathites are to carry.*

16 "Eleazar son of Aaron the priest shall have charge of the oil for the light, the fragrant incense, the regular grain offering, and the anointing oil, the oversight of all the tabernacle and all that is in it, in the sanctuary and in its utensils."*

17 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, [18]"You must not let the tribe of the clans of the Kohathites be destroyed from among the Levites. [19]This is how you shall deal with them in order that they may live and not die when they come near the most holy things: Aaron and his sons shall go in and assign each to a particular task or burden.* [20]But the Kohathites[h] must not go in to look on the holy things even for a moment, or they will die."

THE GERSHONITES AND MERARITES

21 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [22]"Take a census of the Gershonites also, by their ancestral houses and by their clans; [23]from thirty years old up to fifty years old you shall enroll them, all who qualify to do work in the tent of meeting.* [24]This is the service of the clans of the Gershonites, in serving and bearing burdens: [25]They shall carry the curtains of the tabernacle, and the tent of meeting with its covering, and the outer covering of fine leather[i] that is on top of it, and the screen for the entrance of the tent of meeting,* [26]and the hangings of the court, and the screen for the entrance of the gate of the court that is around the tabernacle and the altar, and their cords, and all the equipment for their service, and they shall do all that needs to be done with regard to them. [27]All the service of the Gershonites shall be at the command of Aaron and his sons, in all that they are to carry and in all that they have to do, and you shall assign to them as duties all that they are to carry.* [28]This is the service of the clans of the Gershonites relating to the tent of meeting, and their duties are to be under the oversight of Ithamar son of Aaron the priest.

29 "As for the Merarites, you shall enroll them by their clans and their ancestral houses; [30]from thirty years old up to fifty years old you shall enroll them, everyone who qualifies to do the work of the tent of meeting.* [31]This is their duty to carry, as the whole of their service in the tent of meeting: the frames of the tabernacle, with its bars, pillars, and bases,*

[32]and the pillars of the court all around with their bases, pegs, and cords, with all their equipment and all their related service, and you shall assign by name the objects that they are required to carry. [33]This is the service of the clans of the Merarites, the whole of their service relating to the tent of meeting, under the hand of Ithamar son of Aaron the priest."*

CENSUS OF THE LEVITES

34 So Moses and Aaron and the leaders of the congregation enrolled the Kohathites, by their clans and their ancestral houses,* [35]from thirty years old up to fifty years old, everyone who qualified for work relating to the tent of meeting, [36]and their enrollment by clans was two thousand seven hundred fifty. [37]This was the enrollment of the clans of the Kohathites, all who served at the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron enrolled according to the commandment of the LORD by Moses.*

38 The enrollment of the Gershonites, by their clans and their ancestral houses,* [39]from thirty years old up to fifty years old, everyone who qualified for work relating to the tent of meeting—[40]their enrollment by their clans and their ancestral houses was two thousand six hundred thirty. [41]This was the enrollment of the clans of the Gershonites, all who served at the tent of meeting, whom Moses and Aaron enrolled according to the commandment of the LORD.*

42 The enrollment of the clans of the Merarites, by their clans and their ancestral houses, [43]from thirty years old up to fifty years old, everyone who qualified for work relating to the tent of meeting, [44]and their enrollment by their clans was three thousand two hundred. [45]This is the enrollment of the clans of the Merarites, whom Moses and Aaron enrolled according to the commandment of the LORD by Moses.*

46 All those who were enrolled of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron and the leaders of Israel enrolled, by their clans and their ancestral houses, [47]from thirty years old up to fifty years old, all who qualified to do the work of service and the work of bearing burdens relating to the tent of meeting,* [48]and their enrollment was eight thousand five hundred eighty. [49]According to the commandment of the LORD through Moses, they were appointed to

their several tasks of serving or carrying; thus they were enrolled by him, as the LORD commanded Moses.

Numbers 5

UNCLEAN PERSONS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Command the Israelites to put out of
the camp everyone who has a defiling skin disease or a discharge and
everyone who is unclean through contact with a corpse;* [3]you shall put out
both male and female, putting them outside the camp; they must not defile
their camp, where I dwell among them."* [4]The Israelites did so, putting
them outside the camp; as the LORD had spoken to Moses, so the Israelites
did.

CONFESSION AND RESTITUTION

5 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [6]"Speak to the Israelites: When a
man or a woman wrongs another, breaking faith with the LORD, that person
incurs guilt* [7]and shall confess the sin that has been committed. The person
shall make full restitution for the wrong, adding one-fifth to it and giving it
to the one who was wronged.* [8]If the injured party has no next of kin to
whom restitution may be made for the wrong, the restitution for wrong shall
go to the LORD for the priest, in addition to the ram of atonement with which
atonement is made for the guilty party.* [9]Among all the sacred donations of
the Israelites, every gift that they bring to the priest shall be his.* [10]The
sacred donations of all are their own; whatever anyone gives to the priest
shall be his."*

CONCERNING AN UNFAITHFUL WIFE

11 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [12]"Speak to the Israelites and say to
them: If any man's wife goes astray and is unfaithful to him,* [13]if a man has
had intercourse with her but it is hidden from her husband, so that she is
undetected though she has defiled herself, and there is no witness against
her since she was not caught in the act;* [14]if a spirit of jealousy comes on
him and he is jealous of his wife who has defiled herself, or if a spirit of
jealousy comes on him and he is jealous of his wife, though she has not

defiled herself, [15]then the man shall bring his wife to the priest. And he shall bring the offering required for her, one-tenth of an ephah of barley flour. He shall pour no oil on it and put no frankincense on it, for it is a grain offering of jealousy, a grain offering of remembrance, bringing iniquity to remembrance.*

16 "Then the priest shall bring her near and set her before the LORD; [17]the priest shall take holy water in an earthen vessel and take some of the dust that is on the floor of the tabernacle and put it into the water. [18]The priest shall set the woman before the LORD, dishevel the woman's hair, and place in her hands the grain offering of remembrance, which is the grain offering of jealousy. In his own hand the priest shall have the water of bitterness that brings the curse.* [19]Then the priest shall make her take an oath, saying, 'If no man has lain with you, if you have not turned aside to uncleanness while under your husband's authority, be immune to this water of bitterness that brings the curse. [20]But if you have gone astray while under your husband's authority, if you have defiled yourself and some man other than your husband has had intercourse with you,' [21]—let the priest make the woman take the oath of the curse and say to the woman—'the LORD make you an execration and an oath among your people, when the LORD makes your uterus drop, your womb discharge;[j,*] [22]now may this water that brings the curse enter your bowels and make your womb discharge, your uterus drop!'[k] And the woman shall say, 'Amen. Amen.'*

23 "Then the priest shall put these curses in writing and wash them off into the water of bitterness. [24]He shall make the woman drink the water of bitterness that brings the curse, and the water that brings the curse shall enter her and cause bitter pain. [25]The priest shall take the grain offering of jealousy out of the woman's hand and shall elevate the grain offering before the LORD and bring it to the altar,* [26]and the priest shall take a handful of the grain offering as its memorial portion and turn it into smoke on the altar and afterward shall make the woman drink the water. [27]When he has made her drink the water, then, if she has defiled herself and has been unfaithful to her husband, the water that brings the curse shall enter into her and cause bitter pain, and her womb shall discharge, her uterus drop,[l] and the woman shall become an execration among her people.* [28]But if the woman has not

defiled herself and is clean, then she shall be immune and be able to conceive children.

29 "This is the law in cases of jealousy, when a wife, while under her husband's authority, goes astray and defiles herself,* 30or when a spirit of jealousy comes on a man and he is jealous of his wife, then he shall set the woman before the LORD, and the priest shall apply this entire law to her. 31The man shall be free from iniquity, but the woman shall bear her iniquity."

Numbers 6

THE NAZIRITES

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When either men or women make a special vow, the vow of a nazirite, to separate themselves to the LORD,* [3]they shall separate themselves from wine and strong drink; they shall drink no wine vinegar or other vinegar and shall not drink any grape juice or eat grapes, fresh or dried. [4]All their days as nazirites they shall eat nothing that is produced by the grapevine, not even the seeds or the skins.

5 "All the days of their nazirite vow no razor shall come upon the head; until the time is completed for which they separate themselves to the LORD, they shall be holy; they shall let the locks of the head grow long.*

6 "All the days that they separate themselves to the LORD they shall not go near a corpse.* [7]Even if their father or mother, brother or sister, should die, they may not defile themselves, because their consecration to God is upon the head. [8]All their days as nazirites they are holy to the LORD.

9 "If someone suddenly dies nearby, defiling the head of the nazirite, then they shall shave the head on the day of their cleansing; on the seventh day they shall shave it. [10]On the eighth day they shall bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons to the priest at the entrance of the tent of meeting,* [11]and the priest shall offer one as a purification offering and the other as a burnt offering and make atonement for them, because they incurred guilt by reason of the corpse. They shall sanctify the head that same day [12]and separate themselves to the LORD for their days as nazirites and bring a male lamb a year old as a guilt offering. The former time shall be void because the nazarite was defiled.*

13 "This is the law for the nazirites when the time of their consecration has been completed: they shall be brought to the entrance of the tent of meeting,* [14]and they shall offer their gift to the LORD, one male lamb a year old without blemish as a burnt offering, one ewe lamb a year old without blemish as a purification offering, one ram without blemish as an offering of well-being,* [15]and a basket of unleavened bread, cakes of choice flour

mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil, with their grain offering and their drink offerings.* 16The priest shall present them before the LORD and offer their purification offering and burnt offering 17and offer the ram as a sacrifice of well-being to the LORD, with the basket of unleavened bread; the priest also shall make the accompanying grain offering and drink offering. 18Then the nazirites shall shave the consecrated head at the entrance of the tent of meeting and shall take the hair from the consecrated head and put it on the fire under the sacrifice of well-being.* 19The priest shall take the shoulder of the ram, when it is boiled, and one unleavened cake out of the basket and one unleavened wafer and shall put them in the palms of the nazirites, after they have shaved the consecrated head. 20Then the priest shall elevate them as an elevation offering before the LORD; they are a holy portion for the priest, together with the breast that is elevated and the thigh that is offered. After that the nazirites may drink wine.

21 "This is the law for the nazirites who take a vow. Their offering to the LORD must be in accordance with the nazirite vow, apart from what else they can afford. In accordance with whatever vow they take, so they shall do, following the law for their consecration."

THE PRIESTLY BENEDICTION

22 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 23"Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying: Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them:*

24The LORD bless you and keep you;*

25the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;*

26the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

27 "So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."*

Numbers 7

OFFERINGS OF THE LEADERS

1 On the day when Moses had finished setting up the tabernacle and had
anointed and consecrated it with all its furnishings and had anointed and
consecrated the altar with all its utensils,* 2the leaders of Israel, heads of
their ancestral houses, the leaders of the tribes, who were over those who
were enrolled, made offerings.* 3They brought their offerings before the
LORD, six covered wagons and twelve oxen, a wagon for every two of the
leaders and for each one an ox; they presented them before the tabernacle.
4Then the LORD said to Moses, 5"Accept these from them, that they may be
used in doing the service of the tent of meeting, and give them to the
Levites, to each according to his service." 6So Moses took the wagons and
the oxen and gave them to the Levites. 7Two wagons and four oxen he gave
to the Gershonites, according to their service,* 8and four wagons and eight
oxen he gave to the Merarites, according to their service, under the
direction of Ithamar son of Aaron the priest.* 9But to the Kohathites he gave
none, because they were charged with the care of the holy things that had to
be carried on the shoulders.*

10 The leaders also presented offerings for the dedication of the altar at
the time when it was anointed; the leaders presented their offering before
the altar.* 11The LORD said to Moses, "They shall present their offerings,
one leader each day, for the dedication of the altar."

12 The one who presented his offering the first day was Nahshon son of
Amminadab, of the tribe of Judah; 13his offering was one silver plate
weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy
shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice
flour mixed with oil for a grain offering;* 14one golden dish weighing ten
shekels, full of incense;* 15one young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year
old, for a burnt offering; 16one male goat for a purification offering; 17and
for the sacrifice of well-being, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five
male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Nahshon son of
Amminadab.*

18 On the second day Nethanel son of Zuar, the leader of Issachar,
presented an offering;* [19]he presented for his offering one silver plate
weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy
shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice
flour mixed with oil for a grain offering; [20]one golden dish weighing ten
shekels, full of incense; [21]one young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year
old, as a burnt offering; [22]one male goat as a purification offering; [23]and for
the sacrifice of well-being, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five
male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Nethanel son of Zuar.*

24 On the third day Eliab son of Helon, the leader of the Zebulunites:*
[25]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one
silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the
sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain
offering; [26]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [27]one
young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [28]one
male goat for a purification offering; [29]and for the sacrifice of well-being,
two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This
was the offering of Eliab son of Helon.*

30 On the fourth day Elizur son of Shedeur, the leader of the
Reubenites:* [31]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty
shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel
of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain
offering; [32]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [33]one
young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [34]one
male goat for a purification offering;* [35]and for the sacrifice of well-being,
two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This
was the offering of Elizur son of Shedeur.

36 On the fifth day Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai, the leader of the
Simeonites:* [37]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty
shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel
of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain
offering; [38]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [39]one
young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [40]one
male goat for a purification offering;* [41]and for the sacrifice of well-being,

two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai.

42 On the sixth day Eliasaph son of Deuel, the leader of the Gadites:* [43]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain offering; [44]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [45]one young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [46]one male goat for a purification offering;* [47]and for the sacrifice of well-being, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Eliasaph son of Deuel.

48 On the seventh day Elishama son of Ammihud, the leader of the Ephraimites:* [49]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain offering; [50]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [51]one young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [52]one male goat for a purification offering;* [53]and for the sacrifice of well-being, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Elishama son of Ammihud.

54 On the eighth day Gamaliel son of Pedahzur, the leader of the Manassites:* [55]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain offering; [56]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [57]one young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [58]one male goat for a purification offering;* [59]and for the sacrifice of well-being, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This was the offering of Gamaliel son of Pedahzur.

60 On the ninth day Abidan son of Gideoni, the leader of the Benjaminites:* [61]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain offering; [62]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [63]one young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering;

[64]one male goat for a purification offering;* [65]and for the sacrifice of well-
being, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.
This was the offering of Abidan son of Gideoni.

66 On the tenth day Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai, the leader of the
Danites:* [67]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty
shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel
of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain
offering; [68]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [69]one
young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [70]one
male goat for a purification offering;* [71]and for the sacrifice of well-being,
two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This
was the offering of Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai.

72 On the eleventh day Pagiel son of Ochran, the leader of the
Asherites:* [73]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty
shekels, one silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel
of the sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain
offering; [74]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [75]one
young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [76]one
male goat for a purification offering;* [77]and for the sacrifice of well-being,
two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This
was the offering of Pagiel son of Ochran.

78 On the twelfth day Ahira son of Enan, the leader of the Naphtalites:*
[79]his offering was one silver plate weighing one hundred thirty shekels, one
silver basin weighing seventy shekels, according to the shekel of the
sanctuary, both of them full of choice flour mixed with oil for a grain
offering; [80]one golden dish weighing ten shekels, full of incense; [81]one
young bull, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; [82]one
male goat for a purification offering;* [83]and for the sacrifice of well-being,
two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old. This
was the offering of Ahira son of Enan.

84 This was the dedication offering for the altar, at the time when it was
anointed, from the leaders of Israel: twelve silver plates, twelve silver
basins, twelve golden dishes,* [85]each silver plate weighing one hundred
thirty shekels and each basin seventy, all the silver of the vessels two
thousand four hundred shekels according to the shekel of the sanctuary,

[86]the twelve golden dishes, full of incense, weighing ten shekels apiece according to the shekel of the sanctuary, all the gold of the dishes being one hundred twenty shekels; [87]all the livestock for the burnt offering twelve bulls, twelve rams, twelve male lambs a year old, with their grain offering; and twelve male goats for a purification offering;* [88]and all the livestock for the sacrifice of well-being twenty-four bulls, sixty rams, sixty male goats, and sixty male lambs a year old. This was the dedication offering for the altar, after it was anointed.

89 When Moses went into the tent of meeting to speak with the LORD,[m] he would hear the voice speaking to him from above the cover that was on the ark of the covenant from between the two cherubim; thus it spoke to him.[n,*]

Numbers 8

THE SEVEN LAMPS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to Aaron and say to him: When you set up the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light in front of the lampstand."* [3]Aaron did so; he set up its lamps in front of the lampstand, as the LORD had commanded Moses. [4]Now this was how the lampstand was made, out of hammered work of gold. From its base to its flowers, it was hammered work; according to the pattern that the LORD had shown Moses, so he made the lampstand.*

CONSECRATION AND SERVICE OF THE LEVITES

5 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [6]"Take the Levites from among the Israelites and cleanse them. [7]Thus you shall do to them, to cleanse them: sprinkle the water of purification on them; have them shave their whole body with a razor and wash their clothes and so cleanse themselves.* [8]Then let them take a young bull and its grain offering of choice flour mixed with oil, and you shall take another young bull for a purification offering.* [9]You shall bring the Levites before the tent of meeting and assemble the whole congregation of the Israelites.* [10]When you bring the Levites before the LORD, the Israelites shall lay their hands on the Levites, [11]and Aaron shall present the Levites before the LORD as an elevation offering from the Israelites, that they may do the service of the LORD. [12]The Levites shall lay their hands on the heads of the bulls, and he shall offer the one for a purification offering and the other for a burnt offering to the LORD, to make atonement for the Levites.* [13]Then you shall have the Levites stand before Aaron and his sons, and you shall present them as an elevation offering to the LORD.

14 "Thus you shall separate the Levites from among the other Israelites, and the Levites shall be mine.* [15]Thereafter the Levites may go in to do service at the tent of meeting, once you have cleansed them and presented them as an elevation offering.* [16]For they are unreservedly given to me from among the Israelites; I have taken them for myself, in place of all that

open the womb, the firstborn of all the Israelites.* 17For all the firstborn among the Israelites are mine, both human and animal. On the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I consecrated them for myself, 18but I have taken the Levites in place of all the firstborn among the Israelites. 19Moreover, I have given the Levites as a gift to Aaron and his sons from among the Israelites, to do the service for the Israelites at the tent of meeting and to make atonement for the Israelites, in order that there may be no plague among the Israelites for coming too close to the sanctuary."*

20 Moses and Aaron and the whole congregation of the Israelites did with the Levites accordingly; the Israelites did with the Levites just as the LORD had commanded Moses concerning them. 21The Levites purified themselves from sin and washed their clothes; then Aaron presented them as an elevation offering before the LORD, and Aaron made atonement for them to cleanse them.* 22Thereafter the Levites went in to do their service in the tent of meeting in attendance on Aaron and his sons. As the LORD had commanded Moses concerning the Levites, so they did with them.

23 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 24"This applies to the Levites: from twenty-five years old and up they shall begin to do duty in the service of the tent of meeting;* 25and from the age of fifty years they shall retire from the duty of the service and serve no more. 26They may assist their brothers in the tent of meeting in carrying out their duties, but they shall perform no service. Thus you shall do with the Levites in assigning their duties."

Numbers 9

THE PASSOVER AT SINAI

1 The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of
the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,* 2"Let
the Israelites keep the Passover at its appointed time.* 3On the fourteenth
day of this month, at twilight,[o] you shall keep it at its appointed time;
according to all its statutes and all its regulations you shall keep it." 4So
Moses told the Israelites that they should keep the Passover. 5They kept the
Passover in the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, at twilight,[p]
in the wilderness of Sinai. Just as the LORD had commanded Moses, so the
Israelites did.* 6Now there were certain people who were unclean through
touching a corpse, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day.
They came before Moses and Aaron on that day* 7and said to him,
"Although we are unclean through touching a corpse, why must we be kept
from presenting the LORD's offering at its appointed time among the
Israelites?" 8Moses said to them, "Wait, so that I may hear what the LORD
will command concerning you."*

9 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 10"Speak to the Israelites, saying:
Anyone of you or your descendants who is unclean through touching a
corpse or is away on a journey shall still keep the Passover to the LORD. 11In
the second month on the fourteenth day, at twilight,[q] they shall keep it; they
shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.* 12They shall leave none
of it until morning nor break a bone of it; according to all the statute for the
Passover they shall keep it.* 13But anyone who is clean and is not on a
journey and yet refrains from keeping the Passover shall be cut off from the
people for not presenting the LORD's offering at its appointed time; such a
one shall bear the consequences for the sin.* 14Any alien residing among
you who wishes to keep the Passover to the LORD shall do so according to
the statute of the Passover and according to its regulation; you shall have
one statute for both the resident alien and the native of the land."*

THE CLOUD AND THE FIRE

15 On the day the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the
tabernacle, the tent of the covenant, and from evening until morning it was
over the tabernacle, having the appearance of fire.* 16It was always so: the
cloud covered it by day[r] and the appearance of fire by night. 17Whenever
the cloud lifted from over the tent, then the Israelites would set out, and in
the place where the cloud settled down, there the Israelites would camp.*
18At the command of the LORD the Israelites would set out, and at the
command of the LORD they would camp. As long as the cloud rested over
the tabernacle, they would remain in camp.* 19Even when the cloud
continued over the tabernacle many days, the Israelites would keep the
charge of the LORD and would not set out.* 20Sometimes the cloud would
remain a few days over the tabernacle, and according to the command of
the LORD they would remain in camp; then according to the command of the
LORD they would set out. 21Sometimes the cloud would remain from
evening until morning, and when the cloud lifted in the morning, they
would set out, or if it continued for a day and a night, when the cloud lifted
they would set out. 22Whether it was two days or a month or a longer time
that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, resting upon it, the Israelites
would remain in camp and would not set out, but when it lifted they would
set out.* 23At the command of the LORD they would camp, and at the
command of the LORD they would set out. They kept the charge of the LORD,
at the command of the LORD by Moses.

Numbers 10

THE SILVER TRUMPETS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Make two silver trumpets; you shall
make them of hammered work, and you shall use them for summoning the
congregation and for breaking camp. [3]When both are blown, the whole
congregation shall assemble before you at the entrance of the tent of
meeting.* [4]But if only one is blown, then the leaders, the heads of the tribes
of Israel, shall assemble before you. [5]When you blow an alarm, the camps
on the east side shall set out;* [6]when you blow a second alarm, the camps
on the south side shall set out. An alarm is to be blown whenever they are to
set out.* [7]But when the assembly is to be gathered, you shall blow, but you
shall not sound an alarm. [8]The sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the
trumpets; this shall be a perpetual institution for you throughout your
generations.* [9]When you go to war in your land against the adversary who
oppresses you, you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, so that you may
be remembered before the LORD your God and be saved from your
enemies.* [10]Also on your days of rejoicing, at your appointed festivals, and
at the beginnings of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your
burnt offerings and over your sacrifices of well-being; they shall serve as a
reminder on your behalf before the LORD your God: I am the LORD your
God."*

DEPARTURE FROM SINAI

11 In the second year, in the second month, on the twentieth day of the
month, the cloud lifted from over the tabernacle of the covenant.* [12]Then
the Israelites set out by stages from the wilderness of Sinai, and the cloud
settled down in the wilderness of Paran. [13]They set out for the first time at
the command of the LORD by Moses.* [14]The standard of the camp of Judah
set out first, company by company, and over the whole company was
Nahshon son of Amminadab.* [15]Over the company of the tribe of Issachar
was Nethanel son of Zuar, [16]and over the company of the tribe of Zebulun
was Eliab son of Helon.

17 Then the tabernacle was taken down, and the Gershonites and the
Merarites, who carried the tabernacle, set out.* [18]Next the standard of the
camp of Reuben set out, company by company, and over the whole
company was Elizur son of Shedeur.* [19]Over the company of the tribe of
Simeon was Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai, [20]and over the company of the
tribe of Gad was Eliasaph son of Deuel.

21 Then the Kohathites, who carried the holy things, set out, and the
tabernacle was set up before their arrival.* [22]Next the standard of the camp
of Ephraim set out, company by company, and over the whole company
was Elishama son of Ammihud.* [23]Over the company of the tribe of
Manasseh was Gamaliel son of Pedahzur, [24]and over the company of the
tribe of Benjamin was Abidan son of Gideoni.

25 Then the standard of the camp of Dan, acting as the rear guard of all
the camps, set out, company by company, and over the whole company was
Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai.* [26]Over the company of the tribe of Asher
was Pagiel son of Ochran, [27]and over the company of the tribe of Naphtali
was Ahira son of Enan. [28]This was the order of march of the Israelites,
company by company, when they set out.

29 Moses said to Hobab son of Reuel the Midianite, Moses's father-in-
law, "We are setting out for the place of which the LORD said, 'I will give it
to you'; come with us, and we will treat you well, for the LORD has
promised good to Israel."* [30]But he said to him, "I will not go, but I will go
back to my own land and to my kindred." [31]He said, "Do not leave us, for
you know where we should camp in the wilderness, and you will serve as
eyes for us. [32]Moreover, if you go with us, whatever good the LORD does for
us, the same we will do for you."*

33 So they set out from the mount of the LORD three days' journey with
the ark of the covenant of the LORD going before them three days' journey,
to seek out a resting place for them,* [34]the cloud of the LORD being over
them by day when they set out from the camp.*

35 Whenever the ark set out, Moses would say,

"Arise, O LORD, let your enemies be scattered
and your foes flee before you."*

[36]And whenever it came to rest, he would say,

“Return, O LORD, to the ten thousand thousands of Israel.”[s]

Numbers 11

COMPLAINING IN THE DESERT

1 Now when the people complained in the hearing of the LORD about their misfortunes, the LORD heard it, and his anger was kindled. Then the fire of the LORD burned against them and consumed some outlying parts of the camp.* [2]But the people cried out to Moses, and Moses prayed to the LORD, and the fire abated.* [3]So that place was called Taberah,[t] because the fire of the LORD burned against them.

4 The camp followers with them had a strong craving, and the Israelites also wept again and said, "If only we had meat to eat!* [5]We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic,* [6]but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."*

7 Now the manna was like coriander seed, and its color was like the color of gum resin.* [8]The people went around and gathered it, ground it in mills or beat it in mortars, then boiled it in pots and made cakes of it, and the taste of it was like the taste of cakes baked with oil. [9]When the dew fell on the camp in the night, the manna would fall with it.*

10 Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased.* [11]So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? [12]Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom as a wet nurse carries a nursing child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'?* [13]Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me, saying, 'Give us meat to eat!'* [14]I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me.* [15]If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."*

THE SEVENTY ELDERS

16 So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of
Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over
them; bring them to the tent of meeting and have them take their place there
with you.* [17]I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take
some of the spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the
burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by
yourself.* [18]And say to the people, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow,
and you shall eat meat, for you have wailed in the hearing of the LORD,
saying, "If only we had meat to eat! Surely it was better for us in Egypt."
Therefore the LORD will give you meat, and you shall eat.* [19]You shall eat
not only one day, or two days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days,*
[20]but for a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes
loathsome to you—because you have rejected the LORD who is among you
and have wailed before him, saying, "Why did we ever leave Egypt?" ' "
[21]But Moses said, "The people I am with number six hundred thousand on
foot, and you say, 'I will give them meat, that they may eat for a whole
month'! [22]Are there enough flocks and herds to slaughter for them? Are
there enough fish in the sea to catch for them?"* [23]The LORD said to Moses,
"Is the LORD's power limited?[u] Now you shall see whether my word will
come true for you or not."*

24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD, and he
gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the
tent.* [25]Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took
some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and
when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so
again.*

26 Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad and the other
named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those
registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, so they prophesied in the
camp.* [27]And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are
prophesying in the camp." [28]And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses,
one of his chosen men,[v] said, "My lord Moses, stop them!"* [29]But Moses
said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people
were prophets and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"* [30]And
Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

THE QUAILS

31 Then a wind went out from the LORD, and it brought quails from the sea and let them fall beside the camp, about a day's journey on this side and a day's journey on the other side, all around the camp, about two cubits deep on the ground.* 32So the people worked all that day and night and all the next day gathering the quails; the least anyone gathered was ten homers, and they spread them out for themselves all around the camp. 33But while the meat was still between their teeth, before it was consumed, the anger of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD struck the people with a very great plague.* 34So that place was called Kibroth-hattaavah,[w] because there they buried the people who had the craving.* 35From Kibroth-hattaavah the people journeyed to Hazeroth.*

Numbers 12

AARON AND MIRIAM JEALOUS OF MOSES

1 While they were at Hazeroth, Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses
because of the Cushite woman whom he had married (for he had indeed
married a Cushite woman),* 2and they said, "Has the LORD spoken only
through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard
it.* 3Now the man Moses was very humble, more so than anyone else on the
face of the earth.* 4Suddenly the LORD said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam,
"Come out, you three, to the tent of meeting." So the three of them came
out. 5Then the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the
entrance of the tent and called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came
forward.* 6And he said, "Hear my words:

When there are prophets among you,
I the LORD make myself known to them in visions;
I speak to them in dreams.*
7Not so with my servant Moses;
he is faithful in all my house.*
8With him I speak face to face—clearly, not in riddles,
and he beholds the form of the LORD.

"Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"* 9And
the anger of the LORD was kindled against them, and he departed.

10 When the cloud went away from over the tent, Miriam's skin had
become diseased, as white as snow. And Aaron turned toward Miriam and
saw that she was diseased.* 11Then Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord, do
not punish us[x] for a sin that we have so foolishly committed.* 12Do not let
her be like one stillborn, whose flesh is half consumed when it comes out of
its mother's womb." 13And Moses cried to the LORD, saying, "O God,
please heal her." 14But the LORD said to Moses, "If her father had but spit in
her face, would she not bear her shame for seven days? Let her be shut out
of the camp for seven days, and after that she may be brought in again."*

[15]So Miriam was shut out of the camp for seven days, and the people did not set out on the march until Miriam had been brought in again. [16]After that the people set out from Hazeroth and camped in the wilderness of Paran.

Numbers 13

SPIES SENT INTO CANAAN

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites; from each of their ancestral tribes you shall send a man, every one a leader among them."* [3]So Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran, according to the command of the LORD, all of them leading men among the Israelites. [4]These were their names: from the tribe of Reuben, Shammua son of Zaccur; [5]from the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat son of Hori; [6]from the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of Jephunneh; [7]from the tribe of Issachar, Igal son of Joseph; [8]from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Nun;* [9]from the tribe of Benjamin, Palti son of Raphu; [10]from the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel son of Sodi; [11]from the tribe of Joseph (that is, from the tribe of Manasseh), Gaddi son of Susi; [12]from the tribe of Dan, Ammiel son of Gemalli; [13]from the tribe of Asher, Sethur son of Michael; [14]from the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi son of Vophsi; [15]from the tribe of Gad, Geuel son of Machi. [16]These were the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses changed the name of Hoshea son of Nun to Joshua.*

17 Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan and said to them, "Go up there into the Negeb, and go up into the hill country,* [18]and see what the land is like and whether the people who live in it are strong or weak, whether they are few or many, [19]and whether the land they live in is good or bad, and whether the towns that they live in are unwalled or fortified, [20]and whether the land is rich or poor, and whether there are trees in it or not. Be bold, and bring some of the fruit of the land." Now it was the season of the first ripe grapes.*

21 So they went up and spied out the land from the wilderness of Zin to Rehob, near Lebo-hamath. [22]They went up into the Negeb and came to Hebron, and Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, the Anakites, were there. (Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)* [23]And they came to the Wadi Eshcol and cut down from there a branch with a single cluster of grapes, and they carried it on a pole between two of them. They also

brought some pomegranates and figs. [24]That place was called the Wadi Eshcol[y] because of the cluster that the Israelites cut down from there.

THE REPORT OF THE SPIES

25 At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. [26]And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the Israelites in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation and showed them the fruit of the land.* [27]And they reported to him and said, "We came to the land to which you sent us; it flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.* [28]Yet the people who live in the land are strong, and the towns are fortified and very large, and besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there.* [29]The Amalekites live in the land of the Negeb; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites live in the hill country, and the Canaanites live by the sea and along the Jordan."*

30 But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it."* [31]Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against this people, for they are stronger than we."* [32]So they brought to the Israelites an unfavorable report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land that we have gone through as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great size.* [33]There we saw the Nephilim (the Anakites come from the Nephilim), and to ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them."*

Numbers 14

THE PEOPLE REBEL

1 Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that
night. [2]And all the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron; the
whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of
Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness![*] [3]Why is the LORD
bringing us into this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones
will become plunder; would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?" [4]So
they said to one another, "Let us choose a captain and go back to Egypt."

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the
congregation of the Israelites.[*] [6]And Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of
Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their
clothes [7]and said to all the congregation of the Israelites, "The land that we
went through as spies is an exceedingly good land.[*] [8]If the LORD is pleased
with us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows
with milk and honey.[*] [9]Only, do not rebel against the LORD, and do not fear
the people of the land, for they are no more than bread for us; their
protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear
them."[*] [10]But the whole congregation threatened to stone them.

Then the glory of the LORD appeared at the tent of meeting to all the
Israelites.[*] [11]And the LORD said to Moses, "How long will this people
despise me? And how long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all
the signs that I have done among them?[*] [12]I will strike them with pestilence
and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier
than they."[*]

MOSES INTERCEDES FOR THE PEOPLE

13 But Moses said to the LORD, "Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for in
your might you brought up this people from among them,[*] [14]and they will
tell the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that you, O LORD, are in
the midst of this people, for you, O LORD, are seen face to face, and your
cloud stands over them and you go in front of them, in a pillar of cloud by

day and in a pillar of fire by night.* 15Now if you kill this people as one,
then the nations who have heard about you will say, 16'It is because the
LORD was not able to bring this people into the land he swore to give them
that he has slaughtered them in the wilderness.'* 17And now, therefore, let
the power of the LORD be great in the way that you promised when you
spoke, saying,

18'The LORD is slow to anger
and abounding in steadfast love,
forgiving iniquity and transgression,
but by no means clearing the guilty,
visiting the iniquity of the parents
upon the children
to the third and the fourth generation.'*

19"Forgive the iniquity of this people according to the greatness of your
steadfast love, just as you have pardoned this people, from Egypt even until
now."*

20 Then the LORD said, "I do forgive, just as you have asked;* 21nevertheless, as I live and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of
the LORD,* 22none of the people who have seen my glory and the signs that I
did in Egypt and in the wilderness and yet have tested me these ten times
and have not obeyed my voice 23shall see the land that I swore to give to
their ancestors; none of those who despised me shall see it. 24But my
servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me
wholeheartedly, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his
descendants shall possess it.* 25Now, since the Amalekites and the
Canaanites live in the valleys, turn tomorrow and set out for the wilderness
by the way to the Red Sea."z,*

AN ATTEMPTED INVASION IS REPULSED

26 And the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, 27"How long
shall this wicked congregation complain against me? I have heard the
complaints of the Israelites, which they complain against me.* 28Say to
them, 'As I live,' says the LORD, 'I will do to you the very things I heard

you say:* 29your dead bodies shall fall in this very wilderness, and of all your number included in the census from twenty years old and up who have complained against me,* 30not one of you shall come into the land in which I swore to settle you, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.* 31But your little ones, who you said would become plunder, I will bring in, and they shall know the land that you have despised.* 32But as for you, your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness.* 33And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness for forty years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness.* 34According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for every day a year, you shall bear your iniquity, forty years, and you shall know my displeasure.'* 35I the LORD have spoken; surely I will do thus to all this wicked congregation gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall come to a full end, and there they shall die."*

36 And the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report about the land,* 37the men who brought an unfavorable report about the land died by a plague before the LORD. 38But Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh alone remained alive, of those men who went to spy out the land.*

39 When Moses told these words to all the Israelites, the people mourned greatly.* 40They rose early in the morning and went up to the heights of the hill country, saying, "Here we are. We will go up to the place that the LORD has promised, for we have sinned."* 41But Moses said, "Why do you continue to transgress the command of the LORD? That will not succeed. 42Do not go up, for the LORD is not with you; do not let yourselves be struck down before your enemies.* 43For the Amalekites and the Canaanites will confront you there, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have turned back from following the LORD, the LORD will not be with you." 44But they presumed to go up to the heights of the hill country, even though the ark of the covenant of the LORD and Moses had not left the camp.* 45Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and defeated them, pursuing them as far as Hormah.*

Numbers 15

VARIOUS OFFERINGS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you come into the land you are to inhabit, which I am giving you,* [3]and you make an offering by fire[a] to the LORD from the herd or from the flock—whether a burnt offering or a sacrifice, to fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering or at your appointed festivals—to make a pleasing odor for the LORD,* [4]then whoever presents such an offering to the LORD shall present also a grain offering, one-tenth of an ephah of choice flour, mixed with one-fourth of a hin of oil.* [5]Moreover, you shall offer one-fourth of a hin of wine as a drink offering with the burnt offering or the sacrifice, for each lamb.* [6]For a ram, you shall offer a grain offering, two-tenths of an ephah of choice flour mixed with one-third of a hin of oil,* [7]and as a drink offering you shall offer one-third of a hin of wine, a pleasing odor to the LORD. [8]When you offer a bull as a burnt offering or a sacrifice, to fulfill a vow or as an offering of well-being to the LORD,* [9]then you shall present with the bull a grain offering, three-tenths of an ephah of choice flour, mixed with half a hin of oil,* [10]and you shall present as a drink offering half a hin of wine, as an offering by fire,[b] a pleasing odor to the LORD.

11 "Thus it shall be done for each ox or ram or for each of the male lambs or the kids. [12]According to the number that you offer, so you shall do with each and every one. [13]Every native Israelite shall do these things in this way, in presenting an offering by fire,[c] a pleasing odor to the LORD. [14]An alien who lives with you or who takes up permanent residence among you and wishes to offer an offering by fire,[d] a pleasing odor to the LORD, shall do as you do. [15]As for the assembly, there shall be for both you and the resident alien a single statute, a perpetual statute throughout your generations; you and the alien shall be alike before the LORD.* [16]You and the alien who resides with you shall have the same law and the same ordinance."

17 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [18]"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: After you come into the land to which I am bringing you,*

19 whenever you eat of the bread of the land you shall present a donation to
the LORD.* 20 From your first batch of dough you shall present a loaf as a
donation; you shall present it just as you present a donation from the
threshing floor.* 21 Throughout your generations you shall give to the LORD a
donation from the first of your batch of dough.

22 "But if you unintentionally fail to observe all these commandments
that the LORD has spoken to Moses* — 23 everything that the LORD has
commanded you by Moses, from the day the LORD gave commandment and
thereafter, throughout your generations — 24 then if it was done
unintentionally without the knowledge[e] of the congregation, the whole
congregation shall offer one young bull for a burnt offering, a pleasing odor
to the LORD, together with its grain offering and its drink offering, according
to the ordinance, and one male goat for a purification offering.* 25 The priest
shall make atonement for all the congregation of the Israelites, and they
shall be forgiven; it was unintentional, and they have brought their offering,
an offering by fire[f] to the LORD, and their purification offering before the
LORD, for their error.* 26 All the congregation of the Israelites shall be
forgiven, as well as the aliens residing among you, because the whole
people was involved in the error.

27 "An individual who sins unintentionally shall present a female goat a
year old for a purification offering.* 28 And the priest shall make atonement
before the LORD for the one who commits an error, when it is unintentional,
to make atonement for the person, who then shall be forgiven.* 29 For both
the native among the Israelites and the alien residing among you, you shall
have the same law for anyone who acts in error.* 30 But whoever acts high-
handedly, whether native-born or an alien, affronts the LORD and shall be
cut off from among the people. 31 Because of having despised the word of
the LORD and broken his commandment, such a person shall be utterly cut
off and bear the guilt."*

PENALTY FOR VIOLATING THE SABBATH

32 When the Israelites were in the wilderness, they found a man
gathering sticks on the Sabbath day.* 33 Those who found him gathering
sticks brought him to Moses, Aaron, and the whole congregation. 34 They

put him in custody because it was not clear what should be done to him.* 35Then the LORD said to Moses, "The man shall be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him outside the camp."* 36The whole congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him to death, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

FRINGES ON GARMENTS

37 The LORD said to Moses, 38"Speak to the Israelites, and tell them to make fringes on the corners of their garments throughout their generations and to put a blue cord on the fringe at each corner.* 39You have the fringe so that, when you see it, you will remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them and not follow the lust of your own heart and your own eyes.* 40So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and you shall be holy to your God.* 41I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the LORD your God."

Numbers 16

REVOLT OF KORAH, DATHAN, AND ABIRAM

1 Now Korah son of Izhar son of Kohath son of Levi, along with Dathan
and Abiram sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth son[g] of Reuben, took* [2]two
hundred fifty Israelite men, leaders of the congregation, chosen from the
assembly, well-known men, and they confronted Moses.* [3]They assembled
against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, "You have gone too far!
All the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among
them. So why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the
LORD?"* [4]When Moses heard it, he fell on his face.* [5]Then he spoke to
Korah and all his congregation, saying, "In the morning the LORD will make
known who is his and who is holy and who will be allowed to approach
him; the one whom he will choose he will allow to approach him.* [6]Do this:
take censers, Korah and all your[h] congregation, [7]and tomorrow put fire in
them, and lay incense on them before the LORD, and the man whom the
LORD chooses shall be the holy one. You Levites have gone too far!" [8]Then
Moses said to Korah, "Hear now, you Levites! [9]Is it too little for you that
the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel to allow
you to approach him in order to perform the duties of the LORD's tabernacle
and to stand before the congregation and serve them?* [10]He has allowed
you to approach him, and all your brother Levites with you, yet you seek
the priesthood as well! [11]Therefore you and all your congregation have
gathered together against the LORD. What is Aaron that you rail against
him?"*

12 Moses sent for Dathan and Abiram sons of Eliab, but they said, "We
will not come! [13]Is it too little that you have brought us up out of a land
flowing with milk and honey to kill us in the wilderness, that you must also
lord it over us?* [14]It is clear you have not brought us into a land flowing
with milk and honey or given us an inheritance of fields and vineyards.
Would you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come!"*

15 Moses was very angry and said to the LORD, "Pay no attention to their
offering. I have not taken one donkey from them, and I have not harmed

any one of them."* 16And Moses said to Korah, "As for you and all your congregation, be present tomorrow before the LORD, you and they and Aaron,* 17and let each one of you take his censer and put incense on it and each one of you present his censer before the LORD, two hundred fifty censers, you also, and Aaron, each his censer." 18So each man took his censer, and they put fire in the censers and laid incense on them, and they stood at the entrance of the tent of meeting with Moses and Aaron. 19Then Korah assembled the whole congregation against them at the entrance of the tent of meeting. And the glory of the LORD appeared to the whole congregation.*

20 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, 21"Separate yourselves from this congregation, so that I may consume them in a moment."* 22They fell on their faces and said, "O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one person sin and you become angry with the whole congregation?"*

23 And the LORD spoke to Moses: 24"Speak to the congregation, saying: Get away from the dwellings of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram." 25So Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram; the elders of Israel followed him. 26He spoke to the congregation, saying, "Turn away from the tents of these wicked men and touch nothing of theirs, or you will be swept away for all their sins."* 27So they got away from the dwellings of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the entrances of their tents, together with their wives, their children, and their little ones. 28And Moses said, "This is how you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works; it has not been of my own accord:* 29If these people die a natural death or if a natural fate comes on them, then the LORD has not sent me. 30But if the LORD creates something new and the ground opens its mouth and swallows them up, with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into Sheol, then you shall know that these men have despised the LORD."*

31 As soon as he finished speaking all these words, the ground under them was split apart.* 32The earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, along with their households—everyone who belonged to Korah and all their goods.* 33So they with all that belonged to them went down alive into Sheol; the earth closed over them, and they perished from the midst of the

assembly. 34All Israel around them fled at their outcry, for they said, "The earth will swallow us, too!" 35And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the two hundred fifty men offering the incense.*

36 [i]Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 37"Tell Eleazar son of Aaron the priest to take the censers out of the blaze, then scatter the fire far and wide. 38For the censers of these sinners have become holy at the cost of their lives. Make them into hammered plates as a covering for the altar, for they presented them before the LORD and they became holy. Thus they shall be a sign to the Israelites."* 39So Eleazar the priest took the bronze censers that had been presented by those who were burned, and they were hammered out as a covering for the altar—40a reminder to the Israelites that no outsider, who is not of the descendants of Aaron, shall approach to offer incense before the LORD, so as not to become like Korah and his congregation, just as the LORD had said to him through Moses.*

41 On the next day, however, the whole congregation of the Israelites rebelled against Moses and against Aaron, saying, "You have killed the people of the LORD."* 42And when the congregation had assembled against them, Moses and Aaron turned toward the tent of meeting; the cloud had covered it, and the glory of the LORD appeared.* 43Then Moses and Aaron came to the front of the tent of meeting, 44and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 45"Get away from this congregation, so that I may consume them in a moment." And they fell on their faces.* 46Moses said to Aaron, "Take your censer, put fire on it from the altar and lay incense on it and carry it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them. For wrath has gone out from the LORD; the plague has begun."* 47So Aaron took it as Moses had ordered and ran into the middle of the assembly, where the plague had already begun among the people. He put on the incense and made atonement for the people.* 48He stood between the dead and the living, and the plague was stopped.* 49Those who died by the plague were fourteen thousand seven hundred, besides those who died in the affair of Korah.* 50When the plague was stopped, Aaron returned to Moses at the entrance of the tent of meeting.

Numbers 17

THE BUDDING OF AARON'S ROD

17 [j]The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Speak to the Israelites, and get twelve staffs from them, one for each ancestral house, from all the leaders of their ancestral houses. Write each man's name on his staff, [3]and write Aaron's name on the staff of Levi. For there shall be one staff for the head of each ancestral house. [4]Place them in the tent of meeting before the covenant, where I meet with you.* [5]And the staff of the man whom I choose shall sprout; thus I will put a stop to the complaints of the Israelites that they continually make against you."* [6]Moses spoke to the Israelites, and all their leaders gave him staffs, one for each leader, according to their ancestral houses, twelve staffs; and the staff of Aaron was among theirs. [7]So Moses placed the staffs before the LORD in the tent of the covenant.*

8 When Moses went into the tent of the covenant on the next day, the staff of Aaron for the house of Levi had sprouted. It put forth buds, produced blossoms, and bore ripe almonds. [9]Then Moses brought out all the staffs from before the LORD to all the Israelites, and they looked, and each man took his staff. [10]And the LORD said to Moses, "Put back the staff of Aaron before the covenant, to be kept as a warning to rebels, so that you may make an end of their complaints against me, or else they will die."* [11]Moses did so; just as the LORD commanded him, so he did.

12 The Israelites said to Moses, "We are perishing; we are lost; all of us are lost! [13]Everyone who approaches the tabernacle of the LORD will die. Are we all to perish?"*

Numbers 18

RESPONSIBILITY OF PRIESTS AND LEVITES

1 The LORD said to Aaron, "You and your sons and your ancestral house
with you shall bear responsibility for offenses connected with the sanctuary,
while you and your sons alone shall bear responsibility for offenses
connected with the priesthood.* 2So bring with you also your brothers of the
tribe of Levi, your ancestral tribe, in order that they may be joined to you
and serve you while you and your sons with you are in front of the tent of
the covenant.* 3They shall perform duties for you and for the whole tent.
But they must not approach either the utensils of the sanctuary or the altar,
or else both they and you will die.* 4They are attached to you in order to
perform the duties of the tent of meeting, for all the service of the tent; no
outsider shall approach you.* 5You yourselves shall perform the duties of
the sanctuary and the duties of the altar, so that wrath may never again
come upon the Israelites.* 6It is I who now take your brother Levites from
among the Israelites; they are now yours as a gift, dedicated to the LORD, to
perform the service of the tent of meeting.* 7But you and your sons with
you shall diligently perform your priestly duties in all that concerns the altar
and the area behind the curtain. I give your priesthood as a gift;[k] any
outsider who approaches shall be put to death."*

THE PRIESTS' PORTION

8 The LORD spoke to Aaron, "I have given you charge of the offerings
made to me, all the holy gifts of the Israelites; I have given them to you and
your sons as a priestly portion due you in perpetuity.* 9This shall be yours
from the most holy things, reserved from the fire: every offering of theirs
that they render to me as a most holy thing, whether grain offering,
purification offering, or guilt offering, shall belong to you and your sons.*
10As a most holy thing you shall eat it; every male may eat it; it shall be
holy to you.* 11This also is yours: I have given to you, together with your
sons and daughters, as a perpetual due, whatever is set aside from the gifts
of all the elevation offerings of the Israelites; everyone who is clean in your

house may eat them.* 12All the best of the oil and all the best of the wine
and of the grain, the choice produce that they give to the LORD, I have given
to you.* 13The first fruits of all that is in their land that they bring to the
LORD shall be yours; everyone who is clean in your house may eat of it.*
14Every devoted thing in Israel shall be yours.* 15The first issue of the
womb of all creatures, human and animal, that is offered to the LORD shall
be yours, but the firstborn of human beings you shall redeem, and the
firstborn of unclean animals you shall redeem.* 16Their redemption price,
reckoned from one month of age, you shall fix at five shekels of silver,
according to the shekel of the sanctuary (that is, twenty gerahs).* 17But the
firstborn of a cow or the firstborn of a sheep or the firstborn of a goat you
shall not redeem; they are holy. You shall dash their blood on the altar and
turn their fat into smoke as an offering by fire[l] for a pleasing odor to the
LORD,* 18but their flesh shall be yours, just as the breast that is elevated and
as the right thigh are yours. 19All the holy offerings that the Israelites
present to the LORD I have given to you, together with your sons and
daughters, as a perpetual due; it is a covenant of salt forever before the
LORD for you and your descendants as well."* 20Then the LORD said to
Aaron, "You shall have no allotment in their land, nor shall you have any
share among them; I am your share and your possession among the
Israelites.*

21 "To the Levites I have given every tithe in Israel for a possession in
return for the service that they perform, the service in the tent of meeting.*
22From now on the Israelites shall no longer approach the tent of meeting,
or else they will incur guilt and die.* 23But the Levites shall perform the
service of the tent of meeting, and they shall bear responsibility for their
own offenses; it shall be a perpetual statute throughout your generations.
But among the Israelites they shall have no allotment,* 24because I have
given to the Levites as their portion the tithe of the Israelites, which they set
apart as an offering to the LORD. Therefore I have said of them that they
shall have no allotment among the Israelites."

25 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 26"You shall say to the Levites:
When you receive from the Israelites the tithe that I have given you from
them for your portion, you shall set apart an offering from it to the LORD, a
tithe of the tithe.* 27It shall be reckoned to you as your gift, the same as the

grain of the threshing floor and the fullness of the winepress. [28]Thus you also shall set apart an offering to the LORD from all the tithes that you receive from the Israelites, and from them you shall give the LORD's offering to the priest Aaron.* [29]Out of all the gifts to you, you shall set apart every offering due to the LORD; the best of all of them is the part to be consecrated. [30]Say also to them: When you have set apart the best of it, then the rest shall be reckoned to the Levites as produce of the threshing floor and as produce of the winepress. [31]You may eat it in any place, you and your households, for it is your payment for your service in the tent of meeting. [32]You shall incur no guilt by reason of it, when you have offered the best of it. But you shall not profane the holy gifts of the Israelites, on pain of death."*

Numbers 19

CEREMONY OF THE RED HEIFER

1 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, [2]"This is a statute of the law
that the LORD has commanded: Tell the Israelites to bring you a red heifer
without defect, in which there is no blemish and on which no yoke has been
laid.* [3]You shall give it to the priest Eleazar, and it shall be taken outside
the camp and slaughtered in his presence.* [4]The priest Eleazar shall take
some of its blood with his finger and sprinkle it seven times toward the
front of the tent of meeting.* [5]Then the heifer shall be burned in his sight;
its skin, its flesh, and its blood, with its entrails,[m] shall be burned. [6]The
priest shall take cedarwood, hyssop, and crimson material and throw them
into the fire in which the heifer is burning.* [7]Then the priest shall wash his
clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the
camp, but the priest shall remain unclean until evening.* [8]The one who
burns the heifer[n] shall wash his clothes in water and bathe his body in
water; he shall remain unclean until evening. [9]Then someone who is clean
shall gather up the ashes of the heifer and deposit them outside the camp in
a clean place, and they shall be kept for the congregation of the Israelites
for the water for cleansing. It is a purification offering.* [10]The one who
gathers the ashes of the heifer shall wash his clothes and be unclean until
evening.

"This shall be a perpetual statute for the Israelites and for the alien
residing among them. [11]Those who touch the dead body of any human
being shall be unclean seven days.* [12]They shall purify themselves with the
water on the third day and on the seventh day and so be clean, but if they do
not purify themselves on the third day and on the seventh day, they will not
become clean.* [13]All who touch a corpse, the body of a human being who
has died, and do not purify themselves defile the tabernacle of the LORD;
such persons shall be cut off from Israel. Since water for cleansing was not
dashed on them, they remain unclean; their uncleanness is still on them.*

14 "This is the law when someone dies in a tent: everyone who comes
into the tent and everyone who is in the tent shall be unclean seven days.

[15]And every open vessel with no cover fastened on it is unclean. [16]Whoever in the open field touches one who has been killed by a sword or who has died naturally,[o] or a human bone, or a grave shall be unclean seven days.* [17]For the unclean they shall take some ashes of the burnt purification offering, and running water shall be added in a vessel;* [18]then a clean person shall take hyssop, dip it in the water, and sprinkle it on the tent, on all the furnishings, on the persons who were there, and on whoever touched the bone, the slain, the corpse, or the grave. [19]The clean person shall sprinkle the unclean ones on the third day and on the seventh day, thus purifying them on the seventh day. Then they shall wash their clothes and bathe themselves in water, and at evening they shall be clean.* [20]Any who are unclean but do not purify themselves, those persons shall be cut off from the assembly, for they have defiled the sanctuary of the LORD. Since the water for cleansing has not been dashed on them, they are unclean.*

21 "It shall be a perpetual statute for them. The one who sprinkles the water for cleansing shall wash his clothes, and whoever touches the water for cleansing shall be unclean until evening. [22]Whatever the unclean person touches shall be unclean, and anyone who touches it shall be unclean until evening."*

Numbers 20

THE WATERS OF MERIBAH

1 The Israelites, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in
the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh. Miriam died there and was
buried there.*

2 Now there was no water for the congregation, so they gathered together
against Moses and against Aaron.* 3The people quarreled with Moses and
said, "Would that we had died when our kindred died before the LORD!*
4Why have you brought the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness for us
and our livestock to die here?* 5Why have you brought us up out of Egypt
to bring us to this wretched place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or
pomegranates, and there is no water to drink." 6Then Moses and Aaron
went away from the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting; they
fell on their faces, and the glory of the LORD appeared to them.* 7The LORD
spoke to Moses, saying, 8"Take the staff, and assemble the congregation,
you and your brother Aaron, and command the rock before their eyes to
yield its water. Thus you shall bring water out of the rock for them; thus
you shall provide drink for the congregation and their livestock."*

9 So Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as he had commanded
him. 10Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock,
and he said to them, "Listen, you rebels; shall we bring water for you out of
this rock?"* 11Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with
his staff; water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their
livestock drank.* 12But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you
did not trust in me, to show my holiness before the eyes of the Israelites,
therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given
them."* 13These are the waters of Meribah,[p] where the Israelites quarreled
with the LORD and through which he showed himself to be holy.*

PASSAGE THROUGH EDOM REFUSED

14 Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom, "Thus says
your brother Israel: You know all the adversity that has befallen us,* 15how
our ancestors went down to Egypt, and we lived in Egypt a long time, and
the Egyptians oppressed us and our ancestors,* 16and when we cried to the
LORD, he heard our voice and sent an angel and brought us out of Egypt,
and here we are in Kadesh, a town on the edge of your territory.* 17Now let
us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or vineyard or
drink water from any well; we will go along the King's Highway, not
turning aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through
your territory."

18 But Edom said to him, "You shall not pass through, or we will come
out with the sword against you." 19The Israelites said to him, "We will stay
on the highway, and if we drink of your water, we and our livestock, then
we will pay for it. It is only a small matter; just let us pass through on
foot."* 20But he said, "You shall not pass through." And Edom came out
against them with a large force, heavily armed. 21Thus Edom refused to
give Israel passage through their territory, so Israel turned away from
them.*

THE DEATH OF AARON

22 They set out from Kadesh, and the Israelites, the whole congregation,
came to Mount Hor.* 23Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron at Mount
Hor, on the border of the land of Edom, 24"Let Aaron be gathered to his
people. For he shall not enter the land that I have given to the Israelites,
because you rebelled against my command at the waters of Meribah.*
25Take Aaron and his son Eleazar, and bring them up Mount Hor;* 26strip
Aaron of his vestments, and put them on his son Eleazar. But Aaron shall be
gathered to his people[q] and shall die there." 27Moses did as the LORD had
commanded; they went up Mount Hor in the sight of the whole
congregation. 28Moses stripped Aaron of his vestments and put them on his
son Eleazar, and Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. Moses and
Eleazar came down from the mountain.* 29When all the congregation saw
that Aaron had died, all the house of Israel mourned for Aaron thirty days.

Numbers 21

THE BRONZE SERPENT

1 When the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who lived in the Negeb, heard that
Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel and took
some of them captive.* [2]Then Israel made a vow to the LORD and said, "If
you will indeed give this people into our hands, then we will utterly destroy
their towns." [3]The LORD listened to the voice of Israel and handed over the
Canaanites, and they utterly destroyed them and their towns; so the place
was called Hormah.[r]

4 From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea,[s] to go around
the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way.* [5]The
people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up
out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and
we detest this miserable food."* [6]Then the LORD sent poisonous[t] serpents
among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.*
[7]The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against
the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from
us." So Moses prayed for the people.* [8]And the LORD said to Moses, "Make
a poisonous[u] serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall
look at it and live." [9]So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a
pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the
serpent of bronze and live.*

THE JOURNEY TO MOAB

10 The Israelites set out and camped in Oboth.* [11]They set out from
Oboth and camped at Iye-abarim, in the wilderness bordering Moab toward
the sunrise.* [12]From there they set out and camped in the Wadi Zered.*
[13]From there they set out and camped on the other side of the Arnon, in[v] the
wilderness that extends from the boundary of the Amorites, for the Arnon is
the boundary of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites. [14]Wherefore it is
said in the Book of the Wars of the LORD,

"Waheb in Suphah and the wadis.
The Arnon [15]and the slopes of the wadis
that extend to the seat of Ar
and lie along the border of Moab."[w,*]

16 From there they continued to Beer;[x] that is the well of which the LORD said to Moses, "Gather the people together, and I will give them water." [17]Then Israel sang this song:

"Spring up, O well!—Sing to it!—
[18]the well that the leaders sank,
that the nobles of the people dug,
with the scepter, with the staff."

From the wilderness to Mattanah, [19]from Mattanah to Nahaliel, from Nahaliel to Bamoth, [20]and from Bamoth to the valley lying in the region of Moab by the top of Pisgah that overlooks the wasteland.[y]

KING SIHON DEFEATED

21 Then Israel sent messengers to King Sihon of the Amorites, saying,[*] [22]"Let me pass through your land; we will not turn aside into field or vineyard; we will not drink the water of any well; we will go by the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory."[*] [23]But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass through his territory. Sihon gathered all his people together and went out against Israel to the wilderness; he came to Jahaz and fought against Israel.[*] [24]Israel put him to the sword and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, as far as to the Ammonites, for the boundary of the Ammonites was strong.[*] [25]Israel took all these towns, and Israel settled in all the towns of the Amorites, in Heshbon, and in all its villages. [26]For Heshbon was the city of King Sihon of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab and captured all his land as far as the Arnon. [27]Therefore the singers say,

"Come to Heshbon; let it be built;
let the city of Sihon be established.
[28]For fire came out from Heshbon,

flame from the city of Sihon.
It devoured Ar of Moab
and swallowed up[z] the heights of the Arnon.*
29 Woe to you, O Moab!
You are undone, O people of Chemosh!
He has made his sons fugitives
and his daughters captives
to an Amorite king, Sihon.*
30 So their posterity perished
from Heshbon[a] to Dibon,
and we laid waste until fire spread to Medeba."[b,*]

31 Thus Israel settled in the land of the Amorites. 32 Moses sent to spy out Jazer, and they captured its villages and dispossessed the Amorites who were there.*

KING OG DEFEATED

33 Then they turned and went up the road to Bashan, and King Og of Bashan came out against them, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei.* 34 But the LORD said to Moses, "Do not be afraid of him, for I have given him into your hand, with all his people and his land. You shall do to him as you did to King Sihon of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon."* 35 So they killed him, his sons, and all his people, until there was no survivor left, and they took possession of his land.

Numbers 22

BALAK SUMMONS BALAAM TO CURSE ISRAEL

1 The Israelites set out and camped in the plains of Moab across the Jordan
from Jericho.* [2]Now Balak son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the
Amorites. [3]Moab was in great dread of the people, because they were so
numerous; Moab was overcome with fear of the Israelites.* [4]And Moab said
to the elders of Midian, "This horde will now lick up all that is around us,
as an ox licks up the grass of the field." Now Balak son of Zippor was king
of Moab at that time.* [5]He sent messengers to Balaam son of Beor at
Pethor, which is on the Euphrates,[c] in the land of Amaw,[d] to summon him,
saying, "A people has come out of Egypt; they have spread over the face of
the earth, and they have settled next to me.* [6]Come now, curse this people
for me, since they are stronger than I; perhaps I shall be able to defeat them
and drive them from the land, for I know that whomever you bless is
blessed, and whomever you curse is cursed."*

7 So the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the fees
for divination in their hand, and they came to Balaam and gave him Balak's
message.* [8]He said to them, "Stay here tonight, and I will bring back word
to you, just as the LORD speaks to me"; so the officials of Moab stayed with
Balaam.* [9]God came to Balaam and said, "Who are these men with you?"
[10]Balaam said to God, "King Balak son of Zippor of Moab has sent me this
message: [11]'Look, a people has come[e] out of Egypt and has spread over the
face of the earth; now come, curse them for me; perhaps I shall be able to
fight against them and drive them out.' " [12]God said to Balaam, "You shall
not go with them; you shall not curse the people, for they are blessed."*
[13]So Balaam rose in the morning and said to the officials of Balak, "Go to
your own land, for the LORD has refused to let me go with you." [14]So the
officials of Moab rose and went to Balak and said, "Balaam refuses to come
with us."

15 Once again Balak sent officials, more numerous and more
distinguished than these. [16]They came to Balaam and said to him, "Thus
says Balak son of Zippor: Do not let anything hinder you from coming to

me, [17]for I will surely do you great honor, and whatever you say to me I will do; come, curse this people for me."* [18]But Balaam replied to the servants of Balak, "Although Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the command of the LORD my God, to do less or more.* [19]You also stay here overnight, so that I may learn what more the LORD may say to me." [20]That night God came to Balaam and said to him, "If the men have come to summon you, get up and go with them, but do only what I tell you to do."* [21]So Balaam got up in the morning, saddled his donkey, and went with the officials of Moab.*

BALAAM, THE DONKEY, AND THE ANGEL

22 God's anger was kindled because he was going, and the angel of the LORD took his stand in the road as his adversary. Now he was riding on the donkey, and his two servants were with him. [23]The donkey saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road, with a drawn sword in his hand, so the donkey turned off the road and went into the field, and Balaam struck the donkey, to turn it back onto the road.* [24]Then the angel of the LORD stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on either side.* [25]When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, it scraped against the wall and scraped Balaam's foot against the wall, so he struck it again. [26]Then the angel of the LORD went ahead and stood in a narrow place, where there was no way to turn either to the right or to the left. [27]When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, it lay down under Balaam, and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he struck the donkey with his staff. [28]Then the LORD opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"* [29]Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me! I wish I had a sword in my hand! I would kill you right now!"* [30]But the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I been in the habit of treating you this way?" And he said, "No."*

31 Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road, with his drawn sword in his hand, and he bowed down, falling on his face.* [32]The angel of the LORD said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? I have come out as an adversary because your way is perverse[f] before me. [33]The donkey saw me and turned

away from me these three times. If it had not turned away from me, surely just now I would have killed you and let it live." [34]Then Balaam said to the angel of the LORD, "I have sinned, for I did not know that you were standing in the road to oppose me. Now therefore, if it is displeasing to you, I will return home."* [35]The angel of the LORD said to Balaam, "Go with the men, but speak only what I tell you to speak." So Balaam went on with the officials of Balak.*

36 When Balak heard that Balaam had come, he went out to meet him at Ir-moab, on the boundary formed by the Arnon, at the farthest point of the boundary. [37]Balak said to Balaam, "Did I not send to summon you? Why did you not come to me? Am I not able to honor you?"* [38]Balaam said to Balak, "I have come to you now, but do I have power to say just anything? The word God puts in my mouth, that is what I must say."* [39]Then Balaam went with Balak, and they came to Kiriath-huzoth. [40]Balak sacrificed oxen and sheep and sent them to Balaam and to the officials who were with him.

BALAAM'S FIRST ORACLE

41 On the next day Balak took Balaam and brought him up to Bamoth-baal, and from there he could see part of the people of Israel.g,*

Numbers 23

1 Then Balaam said to Balak, "Build me seven altars here, and prepare
seven bulls and seven rams for me."* [2]Balak did as Balaam had said and
offered[h] a bull and a ram on each altar.* [3]Then Balaam said to Balak, "Stay
here beside your burnt offerings while I go aside. Perhaps the LORD will
come to meet me. Whatever he shows me I will tell you." And he went to a
bare height.*

4 Then God met Balaam, and Balaam[i] said to him, "I have arranged the
seven altars and have offered a bull and a ram on each altar."* [5]The LORD
put a word in Balaam's mouth and said, "Return to Balak, and this is what
you must say."* [6]So he returned to Balak,[j] who was standing beside his
burnt offerings with all the officials of Moab. [7]Then Balaam[k] uttered his
oracle, saying,

"Balak has brought me from Aram,
the king of Moab from the eastern mountains:
'Come, curse Jacob for me.
Come, denounce Israel!'*
[8]How can I curse whom God has not cursed?
How can I denounce those whom the LORD has not denounced?
*
[9]For from the top of the crags I see him;
from the hills I behold him.
Here is a people living alone
and not reckoning itself among the nations!*
[10]Who can count the dust of Jacob
or number the dust cloud[l] of Israel?
Let me die the death of the upright,
and let my end be like his!"*

11 Then Balak said to Balaam, "What have you done to me? I brought
you to curse my enemies, but now you have done nothing but bless them."*

12He answered, “Must I not take care to say what the LORD puts into my mouth?”*

BALAAM’S SECOND ORACLE

13 So Balak said to him, “Come with me to another place from which you may see them; you shall see only part of them and shall not see them all; then curse them for me from there.” 14So he took him to the field of Zophim, to the top of Pisgah. He built seven altars and offered a bull and a ram on each altar.* 15Balaam[m] said to Balak, “Stand here beside your burnt offerings, while I meet the LORD over there.” 16The LORD met Balaam, put a word into his mouth, and said, “Return to Balak, and this is what you shall say.”* 17When he came to him, he was standing beside his burnt offerings with the officials of Moab. Balak said to him, “What has the LORD said?” 18Then Balaam[n] uttered his oracle, saying,

“Rise, Balak, and hear;
listen to me, O son of Zippor:
19God is not a human being, that he should lie,
or a mortal, that he should change his mind.
Has he promised, and will he not do it?
Has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?*
20See, I received a command to bless;
he has blessed, and I cannot revoke it.*
21He has not beheld misfortune in Jacob,
nor has he seen trouble in Israel.
The LORD their God is with them,
acclaimed as a king among them.*
22God, who brings them out of Egypt,
is like the horns of a wild ox for them.*
23Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob,
no divination against Israel;
now it shall be said of Jacob and Israel,

‘See what God has done!’

[24]Look, a people rising up like a lioness
and rousing itself like a lion!
It does not lie down until it has eaten the prey
and drunk the blood of the slain.”*

25 Then Balak said to Balaam, “Do not curse them at all, and do not bless them at all.” [26]But Balaam answered Balak, “Did I not speak to you, saying, ‘Whatever the LORD says, that is what I must do’?”*

27 So Balak said to Balaam, “Come now, I will take you to another place; perhaps it will please God that you may curse them for me from there.”* [28]So Balak took Balaam to the top of Peor, which overlooks the wasteland.o [29]Balaam said to Balak, “Build me seven altars here, and prepare seven bulls and seven rams for me.”* [30]So Balak did as Balaam had said and offered a bull and a ram on each altar.

Numbers 24

BALAAM'S THIRD ORACLE

1 Now Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, so he did not go,
as at other times, to look for omens but set his face toward the wilderness.*
2Balaam looked up and saw Israel camping tribe by tribe. Then the spirit of
God came upon him,* 3and he uttered his oracle, saying,

"The oracle of Balaam son of Beor,
the oracle of the man whose eye is clear,p,*
4the oracle of one who hears the words of God,
who sees the vision of the Almighty,q
who falls down but with eyes uncovered:*
5How fair are your tents, O Jacob,
your encampments, O Israel!
6Like palm groves that stretch far away,
like gardens beside a river,
like aloes that the LORD has planted,
like cedar trees beside the waters.*
7Water shall flow from his buckets,
and his seed shall have abundant water;
his king shall be higher than Agag,
and his kingdom shall be exalted.*
8God, who brings him out of Egypt,
is like the horns of a wild ox for him;
he shall devour the nations that are his foes
and break their bones.
He shall strike with his arrows.r,*
9He crouched; he lay down like a lion
and like a lioness; who will rouse him up?

Blessed is everyone who blesses you,
and cursed is everyone who curses you."*

10 Then Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he struck his hands together. Balak said to Balaam, "I summoned you to curse my enemies, but instead you have blessed them these three times. 11Now be off with you! Go home! I said, 'I will reward you richly,' but the LORD has denied you any reward."* 12And Balaam said to Balak, "Did I not speak to your messengers whom you sent to me, saying, 13'If Balak should give me his house full of silver and gold, I would not be able to go beyond the word of the LORD, to do either good or bad of my own will; what the LORD says, that is what I will say'?* 14So now, I am going to my people; let me advise you what this people will do to your people in days to come."*

BALAAM'S FOURTH ORACLE

15 So he uttered his oracle, saying,
"The oracle of Balaam son of Beor,
the oracle of the man whose eye is clear,[s]
16the oracle of one who hears the words of God
and knows the knowledge of the Most High,[t]
who sees the vision of the Almighty,[u]
who falls down but with eyes uncovered:
17I see him but not now;
I behold him but not near—
a star shall come out of Jacob,
and a scepter shall rise out of Israel;
it shall crush the foreheads[v] of Moab
and the heads[w] of all the Shethites.*
18Edom will become a possession,
Seir a possession of its enemies,
while Israel does valiantly.*
19One out of Jacob shall rule

and destroy the survivors of Ir.”*

20 Then he looked on Amalek and uttered his oracle, saying,

“First among the nations was Amalek,

but its end is to perish forever.”*

21 Then he looked on the Kenite and uttered his oracle, saying,

“Enduring is your dwelling place,

and your nest is set in the rock,

[22]yet Kain is destined for burning.

How long shall Asshur take you away captive?”

23 Again he uttered his oracle, saying,

“Alas, who shall live when God does this?[x]

[24]But ships shall come from Kittim

and shall afflict Asshur and Eber,

and he also shall perish forever.”*

25 Then Balaam got up and went back to his place, and Balak also went his way.*

Numbers 25

WORSHIP OF BAAL OF PEOR

1 While Israel was staying at Shittim, the people began to have sexual
relations with the women of Moab.* [2]These invited the people to the
sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods.*
[3]Thus Israel yoked itself to the Baal of Peor, and the LORD's anger was
kindled against Israel.* [4]The LORD said to Moses, "Take all the chiefs of the
people and impale them in the sun before the LORD, in order that the fierce
anger of the LORD may turn away from Israel."* [5]And Moses said to the
judges of Israel, "Each of you shall kill any of your people who have yoked
themselves to the Baal of Peor."

6 Just then one of the Israelites came and brought a Midianite woman
into his family, in the sight of Moses and in the sight of the whole
congregation of the Israelites, while they were weeping at the entrance of
the tent of meeting. [7]When Phinehas son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest,
saw it, he got up and left the congregation. Taking a spear in his hand,* [8]he
went after the Israelite man into the tent and pierced the two of them, the
Israelite and the woman, through the belly. So the plague was stopped
among the Israelites. [9]Nevertheless those who died by the plague were
twenty-four thousand.*

10 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [11]"Phinehas son of Eleazar, son of
Aaron the priest, has turned back my wrath from the Israelites by
manifesting such zeal among them on my behalf that in my jealousy I did
not consume the Israelites.* [12]Therefore say, 'I hereby grant him my
covenant of peace.* [13]It shall be for him and for his descendants after him a
covenant of perpetual priesthood, because he was zealous for his God and
made atonement for the Israelites.' "*

14 The name of the slain Israelite man who was killed with the Midianite
woman was Zimri son of Salu, head of an ancestral house belonging to the
Simeonites. [15]The name of the Midianite woman who was killed was Cozbi
daughter of Zur, who was the head of a clan, an ancestral house in Midian.*

16 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [17]"Harass the Midianites, and
defeat them,* [18]for they have harassed you by the trickery with which they
deceived you in the affair of Peor, and in the affair of Cozbi, the daughter of
a leader of Midian, their sister; she was killed on the day of the plague that
resulted from Peor."*

Numbers 26

A CENSUS OF THE NEW GENERATION

1 After the plague the LORD said to Moses and to Eleazar[y] the priest, [2]"Take
a census of the whole congregation of the Israelites, from twenty years old
and up, by their ancestral houses, everyone in Israel able to go to war."*
[3]Moses and Eleazar the priest spoke with them in the plains of Moab by the
Jordan opposite Jericho, saying, [4]"Take a census of the people,[z] from
twenty years old and up," as the LORD commanded Moses.

The Israelites who came out of the land of Egypt were:

5 Reuben, the firstborn of Israel. The descendants of Reuben: of Hanoch,
the clan of the Hanochites; of Pallu, the clan of the Palluites;* [6]of Hezron,
the clan of the Hezronites; of Carmi, the clan of the Carmites. [7]These are
the clans of the Reubenites; the number of those enrolled was forty-three
thousand seven hundred thirty. [8]And the descendants of Pallu: Eliab. [9]The
descendants of Eliab: Nemuel, Dathan, and Abiram. These are the same
Dathan and Abiram, chosen from the congregation, who rebelled against
Moses and Aaron in the congregation of Korah, when they rebelled against
the LORD,* [10]and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up along
with Korah, when that congregation died, when the fire devoured two
hundred fifty men, and they became a warning.* [11]Notwithstanding, the
sons of Korah did not die.*

12 The descendants of Simeon by their clans: of Nemuel, the clan of the
Nemuelites; of Jamin, the clan of the Jaminites; of Jachin, the clan of the
Jachinites; [13]of Zerah, the clan of the Zerahites; of Shaul, the clan of the
Shaulites.[a] [14]These are the clans of the Simeonites: twenty-two thousand
two hundred.*

15 The descendants of Gad by their clans: of Zephon, the clan of the
Zephonites; of Haggi, the clan of the Haggites; of Shuni, the clan of the
Shunites;* [16]of Ozni, the clan of the Oznites; of Eri, the clan of the Erites;
[17]of Arod, the clan of the Arodites; of Areli, the clan of the Arelites.

[18]These are the clans of the descendants of Gad by the number of those enrolled: forty thousand five hundred.*

19 The sons of Judah: Er and Onan; Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. [20]The descendants of Judah by their clans were: of Shelah, the clan of the Shelanites; of Perez, the clan of the Perezites; of Zerah, the clan of the Zerahites. [21]The descendants of Perez were: of Hezron, the clan of the Hezronites; of Hamul, the clan of the Hamulites. [22]These are the clans of Judah by the number of those enrolled: seventy-six thousand five hundred.*

23 The descendants of Issachar by their clans: of Tola, the clan of the Tolaites; of Puvah, the clan of the Punites; [24]of Jashub, the clan of the Jashubites; of Shimron, the clan of the Shimronites.* [25]These are the clans of Issachar by the number of those enrolled: sixty-four thousand three hundred.*

26 The descendants of Zebulun by their clans: of Sered, the clan of the Seredites; of Elon, the clan of the Elonites; of Jahleel, the clan of the Jahleelites. [27]These are the clans of the Zebulunites by the number of those enrolled: sixty thousand five hundred.*

28 The sons of Joseph by their clans: Manasseh and Ephraim. [29]The descendants of Manasseh: of Machir, the clan of the Machirites; and Machir was the father of Gilead; of Gilead, the clan of the Gileadites. [30]These are the descendants of Gilead: of Iezer, the clan of the Iezerites; of Helek, the clan of the Helekites;* [31]and of Asriel, the clan of the Asrielites; and of Shechem, the clan of the Shechemites; [32]and of Shemida, the clan of the Shemidaites; and of Hepher, the clan of the Hepherites. [33]Now Zelophehad son of Hepher had no sons, only daughters, and the names of the daughters of Zelophehad were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. [34]These are the clans of Manasseh; the number of those enrolled was fifty-two thousand seven hundred.

35 These are the descendants of Ephraim according to their clans: of Shuthelah, the clan of the Shuthelahites; of Becher, the clan of the Becherites; of Tahan, the clan of the Tahanites.* [36]And these are the descendants of Shuthelah: of Eran, the clan of the Eranites. [37]These are the clans of the Ephraimites by the number of those enrolled: thirty-two thousand five hundred. These are the descendants of Joseph by their clans.*

38 The descendants of Benjamin by their clans: of Bela, the clan of the Belaites; of Ashbel, the clan of the Ashbelites; of Ahiram, the clan of the Ahiramites;* 39of Shephupham, the clan of the Shuphamites; of Hupham, the clan of the Huphamites.* 40And the sons of Bela were Ard and Naaman: of Ard, the clan of the Ardites; of Naaman, the clan of the Naamites.* 41These are the descendants of Benjamin by their clans; the number of those enrolled was forty-five thousand six hundred.*

42 These are the descendants of Dan by their clans: of Shuham, the clan of the Shuhamites. These are the clans of Dan by their clans.* 43All the clans of the Shuhamites by the number of those enrolled: sixty-four thousand four hundred.*

44 The descendants of Asher by their clans: of Imnah, the clan of the Imnites; of Ishvi, the clan of the Ishvites; of Beriah, the clan of the Beriites. 45Of the descendants of Beriah: of Heber, the clan of the Heberites; of Malchiel, the clan of the Malchielites. 46And the name of the daughter of Asher was Serah. 47These are the clans of the descendants of Asher by the number of those enrolled: fifty-three thousand four hundred.*

48 The descendants of Naphtali by their clans: of Jahzeel, the clan of the Jahzeelites; of Guni, the clan of the Gunites; 49of Jezer, the clan of the Jezerites; of Shillem, the clan of the Shillemites. 50These are the clans of Naphtali by their clans; the number of those enrolled was forty-five thousand four hundred.*

51 This was the number of the Israelites enrolled: six hundred and one thousand seven hundred thirty.

52 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 53"To these the land shall be apportioned for inheritance according to the number of names.* 54To a large tribe you shall give a large inheritance, and to a small tribe you shall give a small inheritance; every tribe shall be given its inheritance according to its enrollment.* 55But the land shall be apportioned by lot; according to the names of their ancestral tribes they shall inherit.* 56Their inheritance shall be apportioned according to lot between the larger and the smaller."

57 This is the enrollment of the Levites by their clans: of Gershon, the clan of the Gershonites; of Kohath, the clan of the Kohathites; of Merari, the clan of the Merarites. 58These are the clans of Levi: the clan of the

Libnites, the clan of the Hebronites, the clan of the Mahlites, the clan of the Mushites, the clan of the Korahites. Now Kohath was the father of Amram.
59 The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed daughter of Levi, who was
born to Levi in Egypt, and she bore to Amram: Aaron, Moses, and their
sister Miriam.* 60 To Aaron were born Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.*
61 But Nadab and Abihu died when they offered unholy fire before the
LORD.* 62 The number of those enrolled was twenty-three thousand, every
male one month old and up, for they were not enrolled among the Israelites
because there was no allotment given to them among the Israelites.*

63 These were those enrolled by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who
enrolled the Israelites in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.
64 Among these there was not one of those enrolled by Moses and Aaron the
priest, who had enrolled the Israelites in the wilderness of Sinai.* 65 For the
LORD had said of them, "They shall die in the wilderness." Not one of them
was left, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.*

Numbers 27

THE DAUGHTERS OF ZELOPHEHAD

1 Then the daughters of Zelophehad came forward. Zelophehad was son of
Hepher son of Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh, of the clans of
Manasseh, son of Joseph. The names of his daughters were Mahlah, Noah,
Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.[*] [2]They stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest,
the leaders, and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting,
saying, [3]"Our father died in the wilderness; he was not among the
congregation of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in
the congregation of Korah but died for his own sin, and he had no sons.[*]
[4]Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he
had no son? Give to us a possession among our father's brothers."[*]

5 Moses brought their case before the LORD.[*] [6]And the LORD spoke to
Moses, saying, [7]"The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they are
saying; you shall indeed let them possess an inheritance among their
father's brothers and pass the inheritance of their father on to them.[*] [8]You
shall also speak to the Israelites, saying: If a man dies and has no son, then
you shall pass his inheritance on to his daughter. [9]If he has no daughter,
then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. [10]If he has no brothers,
then you shall give his inheritance to his father's brothers. [11]And if his
father has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to the nearest
kinsman of his clan, and he shall possess it. It shall be for the Israelites a
statute and ordinance, as the LORD commanded Moses."

JOSHUA APPOINTED MOSES'S SUCCESSOR

12 The LORD said to Moses, "Go up this mountain of the Abarim range,
and see the land that I have given to the Israelites.[*] [13]When you have seen
it, you also shall be gathered to your people, as your brother Aaron was,[*]
[14]because you rebelled against my word in the wilderness of Zin when the
congregation quarreled with me.[b] You did not show my holiness before
their eyes at the waters." (These are the waters of Meribath-kadesh in the

wilderness of Zin.)* 15Moses spoke to the LORD, saying, 16"Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, appoint someone over the congregation* 17who shall go out before them and come in before them, who shall lead them out and bring them in, so that the congregation of the LORD may not be like sheep without a shepherd."* 18So the LORD said to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him;* 19have him stand before Eleazar the priest and all the congregation and commission him in their sight.* 20You shall give him some of your authority, so that all the congregation of the Israelites may obey.* 21But he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the decision of the Urim before the LORD; at his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the Israelites with him, the whole congregation."* 22So Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation; 23he laid his hands on him and commissioned him, as the LORD had directed through Moses.

Numbers 28

DAILY OFFERINGS

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Command the Israelites, and say to
them: My offering, the food for my offerings by fire,[c] my pleasing odor, you
shall take care to offer to me at its appointed time.* [3]And you shall say to
them: This is the offering by fire[d] that you shall offer to the LORD: two male
lambs a year old without blemish, daily, as a regular offering.* [4]One lamb
you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at
twilight;[e] [5]also one-tenth of an ephah of choice flour for a grain offering,
mixed with one-fourth of a hin of beaten oil. [6]It is a regular burnt offering,
ordained at Mount Sinai for a pleasing odor, an offering by fire[f] to the LORD.
[7]Its drink offering shall be one-fourth of a hin for each lamb; in the
sanctuary you shall pour out a drink offering of strong drink to the LORD.*
[8]The other lamb you shall offer at twilight[g] with a grain offering and a drink
offering like the one in the morning; you shall offer it as an offering by
fire,[h] a pleasing odor to the LORD.

SABBATH OFFERINGS

9 "On the Sabbath day: two male lambs a year old without blemish and
two-tenths of an ephah of choice flour for a grain offering, mixed with oil,
and its drink offering—[10]this is the burnt offering for every Sabbath, in
addition to the regular burnt offering and its drink offering.*

MONTHLY OFFERINGS

11 "At the beginnings of your months you shall offer a burnt offering to
the LORD: two young bulls, one ram, seven male lambs a year old without
blemish;* [12]also three-tenths of an ephah of choice flour for a grain offering,
mixed with oil, for each bull; and two-tenths of choice flour for a grain
offering, mixed with oil, for the one ram;* [13]and one-tenth of choice flour
mixed with oil as a grain offering for each lamb—a burnt offering of
pleasing odor, an offering by fire[i] to the LORD. [14]Their drink offerings shall

be half a hin of wine for a bull, one-third of a hin for a ram, and one-fourth of a hin for a lamb. This is the burnt offering of every month throughout the months of the year. 15And there shall be one male goat for a purification offering to the LORD; it shall be offered in addition to the regular burnt offering and its drink offering.*

OFFERINGS AT PASSOVER

16 "On the fourteenth day of the first month there shall be a Passover offering to the LORD.* 17And on the fifteenth day of this month is a festival; seven days shall unleavened bread be eaten.* 18On the first day there shall be a holy convocation. You shall not work at your occupations.* 19You shall offer an offering by fire,[j] a burnt offering to the LORD: two young bulls, one ram, and seven male lambs a year old; see that they are without blemish. 20Their grain offering shall be of choice flour mixed with oil: three-tenths of an ephah shall you offer for a bull and two-tenths for a ram; 21one-tenth shall you offer for each of the seven lambs; 22also one male goat for a purification offering, to make atonement for you. 23You shall offer these in addition to the burnt offering of the morning, which belongs to the regular burnt offering.* 24In the same way you shall offer daily, for seven days, the food of an offering by fire,[k] a pleasing odor to the LORD; it shall be offered in addition to the regular burnt offering and its drink offering. 25And on the seventh day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations.*

OFFERINGS AT THE FESTIVAL OF WEEKS

26 "On the day of the first fruits, when you offer a grain offering of new grain to the LORD at your Festival of Weeks, you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations.* 27You shall offer a burnt offering, a pleasing odor to the LORD: two young bulls, one ram, seven male lambs a year old. 28Their grain offering shall be of choice flour mixed with oil: three-tenths of an ephah for each bull, two-tenths for the one ram, 29one-tenth for each of the seven lambs, 30with one male goat, to make atonement for you. 31In addition to the regular burnt offering with its grain

offering, you shall offer them and their drink offering. They shall be without blemish.*

Numbers 29

OFFERINGS AT THE FESTIVAL OF TRUMPETS

1 "On the first day of the seventh month you shall have a holy convocation;
you shall not work at your occupations. It is a day for you to blow the
trumpets,* [2]and you shall offer a burnt offering, a pleasing odor to the LORD:
one young bull, one ram, seven male lambs a year old without blemish.
[3]Their grain offering shall be of choice flour mixed with oil: three-tenths of
an ephah for a bull, two-tenths for a ram, [4]and one-tenth for each of the
seven lambs, [5]with one male goat for a purification offering, to make
atonement for you. [6]These are in addition to the burnt offering of the new
moon and its grain offering, and the regular burnt offering and its grain
offering, and their drink offerings, according to the ordinance for them, a
pleasing odor, an offering by fire[l] to the LORD.*

OFFERINGS ON THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

7 "On the tenth day of this seventh month you shall have a holy
convocation and humble yourselves;[m] you shall do no work.* [8]You shall
offer a burnt offering to the LORD, a pleasing odor: one young bull, one ram,
seven male lambs a year old. They shall be without blemish. [9]Their grain
offering shall be of choice flour mixed with oil, three-tenths of an ephah for
the bull, two-tenths for the one ram, [10]one-tenth for each of the seven
lambs, [11]with one male goat for a purification offering, in addition to the
purification offering of atonement, and the regular burnt offering and its
grain offering, and their drink offerings.*

OFFERINGS AT THE FESTIVAL OF BOOTHS

12 "On the fifteenth day of the seventh month you shall have a holy
convocation; you shall not work at your occupations. You shall celebrate a
festival to the LORD seven days.* [13]You shall offer a burnt offering, an
offering by fire,[n] a pleasing odor to the LORD: thirteen young bulls, two
rams, fourteen male lambs a year old. They shall be without blemish.

[14]Their grain offering shall be of choice flour mixed with oil, three-tenths of
an ephah for each of the thirteen bulls, two-tenths for each of the two rams,
[15]and one-tenth for each of the fourteen lambs; [16]also one male goat for a
purification offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering, its grain
offering, and its drink offering.*

17 "On the second day: twelve young bulls, two rams, fourteen male
lambs a year old without blemish, [18]with the grain offering and the drink
offerings for the bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, as prescribed in
accordance with their number;* [19]also one male goat for a purification
offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering and its grain offering and
their drink offerings.

20 "On the third day: eleven bulls, two rams, fourteen male lambs a year
old without blemish, [21]with the grain offering and the drink offerings for the
bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, as prescribed in accordance with their
number; [22]also one male goat for a purification offering, in addition to the
regular burnt offering and its grain offering and its drink offering.*

23 "On the fourth day: ten bulls, two rams, fourteen male lambs a year
old without blemish, [24]with the grain offering and the drink offerings for the
bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, as prescribed in accordance with their
number; [25]also one male goat for a purification offering, in addition to the
regular burnt offering, its grain offering, and its drink offering.

26 "On the fifth day: nine bulls, two rams, fourteen male lambs a year old
without blemish, [27]with the grain offering and the drink offerings for the
bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, as prescribed in accordance with their
number; [28]also one male goat for a purification offering, in addition to the
regular burnt offering and its grain offering and its drink offering.*

29 "On the sixth day: eight bulls, two rams, fourteen male lambs a year
old without blemish, [30]with the grain offering and the drink offerings for the
bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, as prescribed in accordance with their
number; [31]also one male goat for a purification offering, in addition to the
regular burnt offering, its grain offering, and its drink offerings.*

32 "On the seventh day: seven bulls, two rams, fourteen male lambs a
year old without blemish, [33]with the grain offering and the drink offerings
for the bulls, for the rams, and for the lambs, as prescribed in accordance

with their number; [34]also one male goat for a purification offering, besides the regular burnt offering, its grain offering, and its drink offering.

35 "On the eighth day you shall have a solemn assembly; you shall not work at your occupations.* [36]You shall offer a burnt offering, an offering by fire,[o] a pleasing odor to the LORD: one bull, one ram, seven male lambs a year old without blemish, [37]and the grain offering and the drink offerings for the bull, for the ram, and for the lambs, as prescribed in accordance with their number; [38]also one male goat for a purification offering, in addition to the regular burnt offering and its grain offering and its drink offering.

39 "These you shall offer to the LORD at your appointed festivals, in addition to your votive offerings and your freewill offerings, as your burnt offerings, your grain offerings, your drink offerings, and your offerings of well-being."*

40 [p]So Moses told the Israelites everything just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Numbers 30

VOWS MADE BY WOMEN

1 Then Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the Israelites, saying, "This is what the LORD has commanded. [2]When a man makes a vow to the LORD or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.*

3 "When a woman makes a vow to the LORD or binds herself by a pledge while within her father's house, in her youth, [4]and her father hears of her vow or her pledge by which she has bound herself and says nothing to her, then all her vows shall stand, and any pledge by which she has bound herself shall stand. [5]But if her father overrules her at the time that he hears of it, no vow of hers and no pledge by which she has bound herself shall stand, and the LORD will forgive her because her father overruled her.*

6 "If she marries, while obligated by her vows or any thoughtless utterance of her lips by which she has bound herself,* [7]and her husband hears of it and says nothing to her at the time that he hears, then her vows shall stand, and her pledges by which she has bound herself shall stand. [8]But if, at the time that her husband hears of it, he overrules her, then he shall nullify the vow by which she was obligated or the thoughtless utterance of her lips by which she bound herself, and the LORD will forgive her.* [9](But every vow of a widow or of a divorced woman, by which she has bound herself, shall be binding upon her.) [10]And if she made a vow in her husband's house or bound herself by a pledge with an oath [11]and her husband heard it and said nothing to her and did not overrule her, then all her vows shall stand, and any pledge by which she bound herself shall stand. [12]But if her husband nullifies them at the time that he hears them, then whatever proceeds out of her lips concerning her vows or concerning her pledge shall not stand. Her husband has nullified them, and the LORD will forgive her.* [13]Any vow or any binding oath to humble herself,[q] her husband may allow to stand or her husband may nullify. [14]But if her husband says nothing to her from day to day,[r] then he validates all her vows or all her pledges by which she is obligated; he has validated them because

he said nothing to her at the time that he heard of them. [15]But if he nullifies them some time after he has heard of them, then he shall bear her guilt."*

16 These are the statutes that the LORD commanded Moses concerning a husband and his wife and a father and his daughter while she is still young and in her father's house.*

Numbers 31

WAR AGAINST MIDIAN

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Avenge the Israelites on the
Midianites; afterward you shall be gathered to your people."* [3]So Moses
spoke to the people, saying, "Arm some of your number for the war, so that
they may go against Midian, to execute the LORD's vengeance on Midian.
[4]You shall send a thousand from each of the tribes of Israel to the war." [5]So
out of the thousands of Israel, a thousand from each tribe were conscripted,
twelve thousand armed for battle. [6]Moses sent them to the war, a thousand
from each tribe, along with Phinehas son of Eleazar the priest,[s] with the
vessels of the sanctuary and the trumpets for sounding the alarm in his
hand.* [7]They did battle against Midian, as the LORD had commanded
Moses, and killed every male. [8]They killed the kings of Midian: Evi,
Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba, the five kings of Midian, in addition to others
who were slain by them, and they also killed Balaam son of Beor with the
sword.* [9]The Israelites took the women of Midian and their little ones
captive, and they plundered all their cattle, their flocks, and all their goods.
[10]All their towns where they had settled, and all their encampments, they
burned, [11]but they took all the spoil and all the plunder, both people and
animals.* [12]Then they brought the captives and the plunder and the spoil to
Moses, to Eleazar the priest, and to the congregation of the Israelites, at the
camp on the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho.

RETURN FROM THE WAR

13 Moses, Eleazar the priest, and all the leaders of the congregation went
to meet them outside the camp. [14]Moses became angry with the officers of
the army, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds,
who had come from service in the war. [15]Moses said to them, "Have you
allowed all the women to live? [16]These women here, on Balaam's advice,
made the Israelites act treacherously against the LORD in the affair of Peor,
so that the plague came among the congregation of the LORD.* [17]Now
therefore, kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman who

has known a man by sleeping with him.* 18But all the young girls who have not known a man by sleeping with him, keep alive for yourselves. 19Camp outside the camp seven days, whoever of you has killed any person or touched a corpse; purify yourselves, you and your captives, on the third and on the seventh day. 20You shall purify every garment, every article of skin, everything made of goats' hair, and every article of wood."

21 Eleazar the priest said to the troops who had gone to battle, "This is the statute of the law that the LORD has commanded Moses: 22gold, silver, bronze, iron, tin, and lead—23everything that can withstand fire, you shall pass through fire, and it shall be clean. Nevertheless, it shall also be purified with the water for purification, and whatever cannot withstand fire, you shall pass through the water.* 24You must wash your clothes on the seventh day, and you shall be clean; afterward you may come into the camp."*

DISPOSITION OF CAPTIVES AND PLUNDER

25 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 26"You and Eleazar the priest and the heads of the ancestral houses of the congregation make an inventory of the plunder captured, both human and animal. 27Divide the plunder into two parts, between the warriors who went out to battle and all the congregation. 28From the share of the warriors who went out to battle, set aside as tribute for the LORD one item out of every five hundred, whether persons, oxen, donkeys, or sheep.* 29Take it from their half and give it to Eleazar the priest as an offering to the LORD. 30But from the Israelites' half you shall take one out of every fifty, whether persons, oxen, donkeys, or sheep—all the animals—and give them to the Levites, who perform the duties of the tabernacle of the LORD."*

31 Then Moses and Eleazar the priest did as the LORD had commanded Moses.

32 The plunder remaining from the spoils that the troops had taken totaled six hundred seventy-five thousand sheep,* 33seventy-two thousand oxen, 34sixty-one thousand donkeys, 35and thirty-two thousand persons in all, women who had not known a man by sleeping with him.

36 The half-share, the portion of those who had gone out to war, was in number three hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred sheep, 37and the

LORD's tribute of sheep was six hundred seventy-five.* 38The oxen were thirty-six thousand, of which the LORD's tribute was seventy-two. 39The donkeys were thirty thousand five hundred, of which the LORD's tribute was sixty-one. 40The persons were sixteen thousand, of which the LORD's tribute was thirty-two persons. 41Moses gave the tribute, the offering for the LORD, to Eleazar the priest, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

42 As for the Israelites' half, which Moses separated from that of the troops, 43the congregation's half was three hundred thirty-seven thousand five hundred sheep, 44thirty-six thousand oxen, 45thirty thousand five hundred donkeys, 46and sixteen thousand persons. 47From the Israelites' half Moses took one of every fifty, both of persons and of animals, and gave them to the Levites, who perform the duties of the tabernacle of the LORD, as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

48 Then the officers who were over the thousands of the army, the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, approached Moses 49and said to Moses, "Your servants have counted the warriors who are under our command, and not one of us is missing. 50And we have brought the LORD's offering, what each of us found, articles of gold, armlets and bracelets, signet rings, earrings, and pendants, to make atonement for ourselves before the LORD."* 51Moses and Eleazar the priest received the gold from them, all in the form of crafted articles. 52And all the gold of the offering that they offered to the LORD, from the commanders of thousands and the commanders of hundreds, was sixteen thousand seven hundred fifty shekels. 53(The troops had all taken plunder for themselves.)* 54So Moses and Eleazar the priest received the gold from the commanders of thousands and of hundreds and brought it into the tent of meeting as a memorial for the Israelites before the LORD.*

Numbers 32

CONQUEST AND DIVISION OF TRANSJORDAN

1 Now the Reubenites and the Gadites owned a very great number of cattle.
When they saw that the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead was a good
place for cattle,* 2the Gadites and the Reubenites came and spoke to Moses,
to Eleazar the priest, and to the leaders of the congregation, saying,
3"Ataroth, Dibon, Jazer, Nimrah, Heshbon, Elealeh, Sebam, Nebo, and
Beon—4the land that the LORD subdued before the congregation of Israel—
is a land for cattle, and your servants have cattle." 5They continued, "If we
have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a
possession; do not make us cross the Jordan."

6 But Moses said to the Gadites and to the Reubenites, "Shall your
brothers go to war while you sit here? 7Why will you discourage the hearts
of the Israelites from going over into the land that the LORD has given them?
* 8Your fathers did this, when I sent them from Kadesh-barnea to see the
land.* 9When they went up to the Wadi Eshcol and saw the land, they
discouraged the hearts of the Israelites from going into the land that the
LORD had given them. 10The LORD's anger was kindled on that day, and he
swore, saying,* 11'Surely none of the people who came up out of Egypt,
from twenty years old and up, shall see the land that I swore to give to
Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, because they have not unreservedly
followed me*—12none except Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and
Joshua son of Nun, for they have unreservedly followed the LORD.'* 13And
the LORD's anger was kindled against Israel, and he made them wander in
the wilderness for forty years, until all the generation that had done evil in
the sight of the LORD had disappeared.* 14And now you, a brood of sinners,
have risen in place of your fathers, to increase the LORD's fierce anger
against Israel! 15If you turn away from following him, he will again
abandon them in the wilderness, and you will destroy all this people."*

16 Then they came up to him and said, "We will build sheepfolds here
for our flocks and towns for our little ones, 17but we will take up arms as a
vanguard[t] before the Israelites, until we have brought them to their place.

Meanwhile our little ones will stay in the fortified towns because of the inhabitants of the land.* 18We will not return to our homes until all the Israelites have obtained their inheritance.* 19We will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan and beyond, because our inheritance has come to us on this side of the Jordan to the east."*

20 So Moses said to them, "If you do this—if you take up arms to go before the LORD for the war* 21and all those of you who bear arms cross the Jordan before the LORD, until he has driven out his enemies from before him 22and the land is subdued before the LORD—then after that you may return and be free of obligation to the LORD and to Israel, and this land shall be your possession before the LORD.* 23But if you do not do this, you have sinned against the LORD, and be sure your sin will find you out. 24Build towns for your little ones and folds for your flocks, but do what you have promised."*

25 Then the Gadites and the Reubenites said to Moses, "Your servants will do as my lord commands. 26Our little ones, our wives, our flocks, and all our livestock shall remain there in the towns of Gilead,* 27but your servants will cross over, everyone armed for war, to do battle for the LORD, just as my lord orders."*

28 So Moses gave command concerning them to Eleazar the priest, to Joshua son of Nun, and to the heads of the ancestral houses of the Israelite tribes.* 29And Moses said to them, "If the Gadites and the Reubenites, everyone armed for battle before the LORD, will cross over the Jordan with you and the land shall be subdued before you, then you shall give them the land of Gilead for a possession,* 30but if they will not cross over with you armed, they shall have possessions among you in the land of Canaan." 31The Gadites and the Reubenites answered, saying, "As the LORD has spoken to your servants, so we will do. 32We will cross over armed before the LORD into the land of Canaan, but the possession of our inheritance shall remain with us on this side of[u] the Jordan."

33 Moses gave to them—to the Gadites and to the Reubenites and to the half-tribe of Manasseh son of Joseph—the kingdom of King Sihon of the Amorites and the kingdom of King Og of Bashan, the land and its towns, with the territories of the surrounding towns.* 34And the Gadites rebuilt Dibon, Ataroth, Aroer, 35Atroth-shophan, Jazer, Jogbehah, 36Beth-nimrah,

and Beth-haran, fortified cities, and folds for sheep. 37And the Reubenites
rebuilt Heshbon, Elealeh, Kiriathaim, 38Nebo, and Baal-meon (some names
being changed), and Sibmah, and they gave names to the towns that they
rebuilt. 39The descendants of Machir son of Manasseh went to Gilead,
captured it, and dispossessed the Amorites who were there, 40so Moses
gave Gilead to Machir son of Manasseh, and he settled there. 41Jair son of
Manasseh went and captured their villages and renamed them Havvoth-
jair.[v],[*] 42And Nobah went and captured Kenath and its villages and renamed
it Nobah after himself.

Numbers 33

THE STAGES OF ISRAEL'S JOURNEY FROM EGYPT

1 These are the stages by which the Israelites went out of the land of Egypt
in military formation under the leadership of Moses and Aaron.* 2Moses
wrote down their starting points, stage by stage, by command of the LORD,
and these are their stages according to their starting places. 3They set out
from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on
the day after the Passover the Israelites went out boldly in the sight of all
the Egyptians,* 4while the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn, whom
the LORD had struck down among them. The LORD executed judgments even
against their gods.*

5 So the Israelites set out from Rameses and camped at Succoth. 6They
set out from Succoth and camped at Etham, which is on the edge of the
wilderness.* 7They set out from Etham and turned back to Pi-hahiroth,
which faces Baal-zephon, and they camped before Migdol.* 8They set out
from Pi-hahiroth,[w] passed through the sea into the wilderness, went a three
days' journey in the wilderness of Etham, and camped at Marah.* 9They set
out from Marah and came to Elim; at Elim there were twelve springs of
water and seventy palm trees, and they camped there.* 10They set out from
Elim and camped by the Red Sea.[x] 11They set out from the Red Sea[y] and
camped in the wilderness of Sin.* 12They set out from the wilderness of Sin
and camped at Dophkah. 13They set out from Dophkah and camped at
Alush. 14They set out from Alush and camped at Rephidim, where there
was no water for the people to drink.* 15They set out from Rephidim and
camped in the wilderness of Sinai.* 16They set out from the wilderness of
Sinai and camped at Kibroth-hattaavah.* 17They set out from Kibroth-
hattaavah and camped at Hazeroth.* 18They set out from Hazeroth and
camped at Rithmah. 19They set out from Rithmah and camped at Rimmon-
perez. 20They set out from Rimmon-perez and camped at Libnah.* 21They
set out from Libnah and camped at Rissah. 22They set out from Rissah and
camped at Kehelathah. 23They set out from Kehelathah and camped at
Mount Shepher. 24They set out from Mount Shepher and camped at

Haradah. [25]They set out from Haradah and camped at Makheloth. [26]They set out from Makheloth and camped at Tahath. [27]They set out from Tahath and camped at Terah. [28]They set out from Terah and camped at Mithkah. [29]They set out from Mithkah and camped at Hashmonah. [30]They set out from Hashmonah and camped at Moseroth.* [31]They set out from Moseroth and camped at Bene-jaakan. [32]They set out from Bene-jaakan and camped at Hor-haggidgad. [33]They set out from Hor-haggidgad and camped at Jotbathah.* [34]They set out from Jotbathah and camped at Abronah. [35]They set out from Abronah and camped at Ezion-geber.* [36]They set out from Ezion-geber and camped in the wilderness of Zin (that is, Kadesh).* [37]They set out from Kadesh and camped at Mount Hor, on the edge of the land of Edom.*

38 Aaron the priest went up Mount Hor at the command of the LORD and died there in the fortieth year after the Israelites had come out of the land of Egypt, on the first day of the fifth month.* [39]Aaron was one hundred twenty-three years old when he died on Mount Hor.

40 The Canaanite, the king of Arad, who lived in the Negeb in the land of Canaan, heard of the coming of the Israelites.*

41 They set out from Mount Hor and camped at Zalmonah. [42]They set out from Zalmonah and camped at Punon. [43]They set out from Punon and camped at Oboth.* [44]They set out from Oboth and camped at Iye-abarim, in the territory of Moab.* [45]They set out from Iyim and camped at Dibon-gad. [46]They set out from Dibon-gad and camped at Almon-diblathaim. [47]They set out from Almon-diblathaim and camped in the mountains of Abarim, before Nebo.* [48]They set out from the mountains of Abarim and camped in the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho;* [49]they camped by the Jordan from Beth-jeshimoth as far as Abel-shittim in the plains of Moab.*

DIRECTIONS FOR THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

50 In the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho, the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [51]"Speak to the Israelites, and say to them: When you cross over the Jordan into the land of Canaan, [52]you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, destroy all their figured stones, destroy all their cast images, and demolish all their high places.* [53]You shall

take possession of the land and settle in it, for I have given you the land to possess. 54You shall apportion the land by lot according to your clans; to a large one you shall give a large inheritance, and to a small one you shall give a small inheritance; the inheritance shall belong to the person on whom the lot falls; according to your ancestral tribes you shall apportion it.* 55But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then those whom you let remain shall be as barbs in your eyes and thorns in your sides; they shall trouble you in the land where you are settling.* 56And I will do to you as I thought to do to them."

Numbers 34

THE BOUNDARIES OF THE LAND

1 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [2]"Command the Israelites, and say to them: When you enter the land of Canaan (this is the land that shall fall to you for an inheritance, the land of Canaan, defined by its boundaries),* [3]your south sector shall extend from the wilderness of Zin along the side of Edom. Your southern boundary shall begin from the end of the Dead Sea[z] on the east;* [4]your boundary shall turn south of the ascent of Akrabbim and cross to Zin, and its outer limit shall be south of Kadesh-barnea; then it shall go on to Hazar-addar and cross to Azmon; [5]the boundary shall turn from Azmon to the Wadi of Egypt, and its termination shall be at the Sea.*

6 "For the western boundary, you shall have the Great Sea and its[a] coast; this shall be your western boundary.

7 "This shall be your northern boundary: from the Great Sea you shall mark out your line to Mount Hor;* [8]from Mount Hor you shall mark it out to Lebo-hamath, and the outer limit of the boundary shall be at Zedad;* [9]then the boundary shall extend to Ziphron, and its end shall be at Hazar-enan; this shall be your northern boundary.

10 "You shall mark out your eastern boundary from Hazar-enan to Shepham, [11]and the boundary shall continue down from Shepham to Riblah on the east side of Ain, and the boundary shall go down and reach the eastern slope of the sea of Chinnereth,* [12]and the boundary shall go down to the Jordan, and its end shall be at the Dead Sea.[b] This shall be your land with its boundaries all around."

13 Moses commanded the Israelites, saying, "This is the land that you shall apportion by lot, which the LORD has commanded to give to the nine tribes and to the half-tribe,* [14]for the tribe of the Reubenites by their ancestral houses and the tribe of the Gadites by their ancestral houses have taken their inheritance and also the half-tribe of Manasseh;* [15]the two tribes and the half-tribe have taken their inheritance beyond the Jordan at Jericho eastward, toward the sunrise."

TRIBAL LEADERS

16 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [17]"These are the names of the men
who shall apportion the land to you for inheritance: the priest Eleazar and
Joshua son of Nun.* [18]You shall take one leader of every tribe to apportion
the land for inheritance.* [19]These are the names of the men: Of the tribe of
Judah, Caleb son of Jephunneh. [20]Of the tribe of the Simeonites, Shemuel
son of Ammihud. [21]Of the tribe of Benjamin, Elidad son of Chislon. [22]Of
the tribe of the Danites a leader, Bukki son of Jogli. [23]Of the Josephites: of
the tribe of the Manassites a leader, Hanniel son of Ephod, [24]and of the tribe
of the Ephraimites a leader, Kemuel son of Shiphtan. [25]Of the tribe of the
Zebulunites a leader, Eli-zaphan son of Parnach. [26]Of the tribe of the
Issacharites a leader, Paltiel son of Azzan. [27]And of the tribe of the
Asherites a leader, Ahihud son of Shelomi. [28]Of the tribe of the Naphtalites
a leader, Pedahel son of Ammihud. [29]These were the ones whom the LORD
commanded to apportion the inheritance for the Israelites in the land of
Canaan."

Numbers 35

CITIES FOR THE LEVITES

1 In the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho, the LORD spoke to
Moses, saying, [2]"Command the Israelites to give, from the inheritance that
they possess, towns for the Levites to live in; you shall also give to the
Levites pasturelands surrounding the towns.* [3]The towns shall be theirs to
live in, and their pasturelands shall be for their cattle, for their livestock,
and for all their animals. [4]The pasture lands of the towns, which you shall
give to the Levites, shall reach from the wall of the town outward a
thousand cubits all around. [5]You shall measure, outside the town, for the
east side two thousand cubits, for the south side two thousand cubits, for the
west side two thousand cubits, and for the north side two thousand cubits,
with the town in the middle; this shall belong to them as pastureland for
their towns.

6 "The towns that you give to the Levites shall include the six cities of
refuge, where you shall permit a slayer to flee, and in addition to them you
shall give forty-two towns.* [7]The towns that you give to the Levites shall
total forty-eight, with their pasturelands. [8]And as for the towns that you
shall give from the possession of the Israelites, from the larger tribes you
shall take many, and from the smaller tribes you shall take few; each, in
proportion to the inheritance that it obtains, shall give of its towns to the
Levites."*

CITIES OF REFUGE

9 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [10]"Speak to the Israelites and say to
them: When you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan, [11]then you shall
select cities to be cities of refuge for you, so that a slayer who kills a person
without intent may flee there.* [12]The cities shall be for you a refuge from
the avenger, so that the slayer may not die until there is a trial before the
congregation.*

13 "The cities that you designate shall be six cities of refuge for you:
[14]you shall designate three cities beyond the Jordan, and three cities in the

land of Canaan, to be cities of refuge. [15]These six cities shall serve as refuge for the Israelites, for the resident or transient alien among them, so that anyone who kills a person without intent may flee there.*

CONCERNING MURDER AND BLOOD REVENGE

16 "But anyone who strikes another with an iron object, and death ensues, is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death.* [17]Or anyone who strikes another with a stone in hand that could cause death, and death ensues, is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death. [18]Or anyone who strikes another with a weapon of wood in hand that could cause death, and death ensues, is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death. [19]The avenger of blood is the one who shall put the murderer to death; when they meet, the avenger of blood shall execute the sentence.* [20]Likewise, if someone pushes another from hatred or hurls something at another, lying in wait, and death ensues, [21]or in enmity strikes another with the hand, and death ensues, then the one who struck the blow shall be put to death; that person is a murderer; the avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death when they meet.

22 "But if someone pushes another suddenly without enmity or hurls any object without lying in wait,* [23]or, while handling any stone that could cause death, unintentionally[c] drops it on another and death ensues, though they were not enemies and no harm was intended, [24]then the congregation shall judge between the slayer and the avenger of blood, in accordance with these ordinances,* [25]and the congregation shall rescue the slayer from the avenger of blood. Then the congregation shall send the slayer back to the original city of refuge. The slayer shall live in it until the death of the high priest who was anointed with the holy oil. [26]But if the slayer shall at any time go outside the bounds of the original city of refuge [27]and is found by the avenger of blood outside the bounds of the city of refuge and is killed by the avenger, no bloodguilt shall be incurred. [28]For the slayer must remain in the city of refuge until the death of the high priest, but after the death of the high priest the slayer may return to his property.

29 "These things shall be a statute and ordinance for you throughout your generations wherever you live.

30 “If anyone kills another, the murderer shall be put to death on the
evidence of witnesses, but no one shall be put to death on the testimony of a
single witness.* 31Moreover you shall accept no ransom for the life of a
murderer who is subject to the death penalty; a murderer must be put to
death. 32Nor shall you accept ransom for one who has fled to a city of
refuge, enabling the fugitive to return to live in the land before the death of
the high priest. 33You shall not pollute the land in which you live, for blood
pollutes the land, and no expiation can be made for the land for the blood
that is shed in it, except by the blood of the one who shed it.* 34You shall
not defile the land in which you live, in which I also dwell, for I the LORD
dwell among the Israelites.”*

Numbers 36

MARRIAGE OF FEMALE HEIRS

1 The heads of the ancestral houses of the clans of the descendants of
Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh, of the Josephite clans, came
forward and spoke in the presence of Moses and the leaders, the heads of
the ancestral houses of the Israelites;* 2they said, "The LORD commanded
my lord to give the land for inheritance by lot to the Israelites, and my lord
was commanded by the LORD to give the inheritance of our brother
Zelophehad to his daughters.* 3But if they are married into another Israelite
tribe, then their inheritance will be taken from the inheritance of our
ancestors and added to the inheritance of the tribe into which they marry, so
it will be taken away from the allotted portion of our inheritance. 4And
when the Jubilee of the Israelites comes, then their inheritance will be
added to the inheritance of the tribe into which they have married, and their
inheritance will be taken from the inheritance of our ancestral tribe."*

5 Then Moses commanded the Israelites according to the word of the
LORD, saying, "The descendants of the tribe of Joseph are right in what they
are saying. 6This is what the LORD commands concerning the daughters of
Zelophehad, saying: Let them marry whom they think best; only it must be
into a clan of their father's tribe that they are married,* 7so that no
inheritance of the Israelites shall be transferred from one tribe to another,
for all Israelites shall retain the inheritance of their ancestral tribes. 8Every
daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the Israelites shall
marry one from the clan of her father's tribe, so that all Israelites may
continue to possess their ancestral inheritance.* 9No inheritance shall be
transferred from one tribe to another, for each of the tribes of the Israelites
shall retain its own inheritance."

10 The daughters of Zelophehad did as the LORD had commanded Moses.
11Mahlah, Tirzah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad,
married sons of their father's brothers.* 12They were married into the clans
of the descendants of Manasseh son of Joseph, and their inheritance
remained in the tribe of their father's clan.

13 These are the commandments and the ordinances that the LORD commanded through Moses to the Israelites in the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho.*

Numbers 1

* **1.1** Ex 19.1; 40.2, 17
* **1.2** Ex 38.26; Num 26.2
* **1.4** v 16
* **1.14** Num 2.14
* **1.16** Num 16.2; 26.9
* **1.20** Num 26.5–7
* **1.22** Num 26.12–14
* **1.24** Num 26.15–18
* **1.26** Num 26.19–22
* **1.28** Num 26.23–25
* **1.30** Num 26.26, 27
* **1.32** Num 26.35–37
* **1.34** Num 26.28–34
* **1.36** Num 26.38–41
* **1.38** Num 26.42, 43
* **1.40** Num 26.44–47
* **1.42** Num 26.48–50
* **1.44** Num 26.64
* **1.46** Ex 12.37; 38.26; Num 2.32; 26.51
* **1.47** Num 2.33; 3; 4; 26.57
* **1.50** Num 3.25–37
* **1.51** Num 4.1–33
* **1.52** Num 2.2
* **1.53** v 50

Numbers 2

* **2.2** Num 1.52
* **2.3** Num 10.14
* **2.5** Num 1.8
* **2.9** Num 10.14
* **2.10** Num 1.5
* **2.12** Num 1.6

a **2.14** Heb mss Sam Vg: MT *Reuel*

* **2.14** Num 1.14
* **2.17** Num 1.53
* **2.20** Num 1.10
* **2.24** Num 10.22
* **2.25** Num 1.12

* **2.27** Num 1.13
* **2.31** Num 10.25
* **2.32** Ex 38.26; Num 1.46
* **2.33** Num 1.47

Numbers 3

* **3.2** Num 26.60
* **3.4** Num 26.61
* **3.6** Num 8.6–22; 18.1–7
* **3.9** Num 18.6
* **3.10** Ex 29.9; Num 1.51
* **3.12** v 41; Num 8.16; 18.6
* **3.13** Ex 13.2, 12, 15; Num 8.17
* **3.15** v 39
* **3.17** Ex 6.16–22
* **3.20** Gen 46.11
* **3.21** Ex 6.17
* **3.25** Ex 25.9; Num 4.24–26
* **3.27** 1 Chr 26.23
* **3.29** Ex 6.18
* **3.33** Ex 6.19
* **3.36** Num 4.29–32
* **3.38** vv 7, 8, 10; Num 18.5
* **3.39** Num 26.62
* **3.41** vv 12, 45
* **3.43** v 39
* **3.45** vv 12, 41
* **3.46** Ex 13.13; Num 18.15
* **3.47** Ex 30.13
* **3.50** vv 46–48

Numbers 4

* **4.3** vv 23, 30, 35; Num 8.24

b **4.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **4.6** v 25
* **4.7** Ex 25.23, 29, 30; Lev 24.5–9

c **4.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **4.9** Ex 25.31, 37, 38

d **4.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain

e **4.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **4.11** Ex 30.1, 3
f **4.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
g **4.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.15** Num 7.9; 2 Sam 6.6, 7
* **4.16** Ex 29.40; 30.23, 34; Lev 24.1–3
* **4.19** vv 4, 15
h **4.20** Heb *they*
* **4.23** v 3
i **4.25** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.25** Num 3.25, 26
* **4.27** Num 3.25, 26
* **4.30** v 3
* **4.31** Num 3.36, 37
* **4.33** v 28
* **4.34** v 2
* **4.37** Num 3.27
* **4.38** Gen 46.11
* **4.41** v 22
* **4.45** v 29
* **4.47** vv 3, 23, 30

Numbers 5

* **5.2** Lev 13.3, 46; 15.2; Num 19.11
* **5.3** Lev 26.11, 12; 2 Cor 6.16
* **5.6** Lev 6.2, 3
* **5.7** Lev 5.5; 6.5; 26.40
* **5.8** Lev 6.6, 7; 7.7
* **5.9** Lev 6.17, 18, 26; 7.6–14
* **5.10** Lev 10.13
* **5.12** Ex 20.14
* **5.13** Lev 18.20
* **5.15** Ezek 29.16
* **5.18** 1 Cor 11.6
j **5.21** Heb *makes your thigh fall and your belly distend*
* **5.21** Josh 6.26; 1 Sam 14.24; Neh 10.29
k **5.22** Heb *make the belly distend and the thigh fall*
* **5.22** Deut 27.15; Ps 109.18
* **5.25** Lev 8.27
l **5.27** Heb *make her belly distend and her thigh fall*
* **5.27** Jer 29.18; 42.18; Zech 8.13
* **5.29** vv 12, 19

Numbers 6

* **6.2** Judg 13.5; 16.17; Am 2.11, 12
* **6.5** 1 Sam 1.11
* **6.6** Lev 21.1–3; Num 19.11–22
* **6.10** Lev 5.7
* **6.12** Lev 5.6
* **6.13** Acts 21.26
* **6.14** Lev 14.10; Num 15.27
* **6.15** Num 15.1–7
* **6.18** v 9; Acts 21.24
* **6.23** 1 Chr 23.13
* **6.24** Deut 28.3–6
* **6.25** Gen 43.29; Ps 80.3, 7, 19; 119.135
* **6.26** Ps 4.6; 44.3; Jn 14.27
* **6.27** Deut 28.10; 2 Chr 7.14

Numbers 7

* **7.1** Ex 40.18
* **7.2** Num 1.5–16
* **7.7** Num 4.25
* **7.8** Num 4.28, 31, 33
* **7.9** Num 4.5–15
* **7.10** 2 Chr 7.9
* **7.13** Num 3.47
* **7.14** Ex 30.34
* **7.17** Lev 3.1
* **7.18** Num 1.8
* **7.23** v 18
* **7.24** Num 1.9
* **7.29** Lev 7.32
* **7.30** Num 1.5
* **7.34** Heb 10.7
* **7.36** Num 1.6
* **7.40** v 34
* **7.42** Num 1.14
* **7.46** v 34
* **7.48** Num 1.10
* **7.52** Heb 10.4
* **7.54** Num 1.10
* **7.58** v 52

* **7.60** Num 1.11
* **7.64** v 52
* **7.66** Num 1.12
* **7.70** Heb 10.4
* **7.72** Num 1.13
* **7.76** v 70
* **7.78** Num 1.15
* **7.82** v 70
* **7.84** vv 1, 10
* **7.87** Gen 8.20

m **7.89** Heb *him*

n **7.89** Or *and he would speak to him*

* **7.89** Ex 25.21, 22; 33.9, 11

Numbers 8

* **8.2** Ex 25.37; Lev 24.2, 4
* **8.4** Ex 25.18, 31–40
* **8.7** v 21; Lev 14.8, 9; Num 19.9, 17, 18
* **8.8** Lev 2.1
* **8.9** Lev 8.3
* **8.12** Ex 29.10
* **8.14** Num 3.12, 45
* **8.15** vv 11, 13
* **8.16** Num 3.12, 45
* **8.19** Num 1.53
* **8.21** vv 7, 11, 12
* **8.24** Num 4.3

Numbers 9

* **9.1** Num 1.1
* **9.2** Ex 12.6

o **9.3** Heb *between the two evenings*

p **9.5** Heb *between the two evenings*

* **9.5** Josh 5.10
* **9.6** Num 19.11–22
* **9.8** Ex 18.15; Num 27.5

q **9.11** Heb *between the two evenings*

* **9.11** Ex 12.8
* **9.12** Ex 12.10, 43, 46; Jn 19.36
* **9.13** v 7; Ex 12.15

* **9.14** Ex 12.48, 49
* **9.15** Ex 13.21; 40.34, 38; Neh 9.12, 19; Ps 78.14
r **9.16** Gk Syr Vg: Heb lacks *by day*
* **9.17** Ex 40.36–38; Num 10.11, 12
* **9.18** 1 Cor 10.1
* **9.19** Num 1.53; 3.8
* **9.22** Ex 40.36, 37

Numbers 10

* **10.3** Jer 4.5
* **10.5** v 14
* **10.6** v 18
* **10.8** Num 31.6
* **10.9** Num 31.6; Judg 2.18; Ps 106.4
* **10.10** Lev 23.24; Num 29.1; Ps 81.3–5
* **10.11** Num 9.17
* **10.13** Deut 1.6
* **10.14** Num 2.3–9
* **10.17** Num 4.21–32
* **10.18** Num 2.10–16
* **10.21** Num 4.4–20
* **10.22** Num 2.18–24
* **10.25** Num 2.25–31; Josh 6.9, 13
* **10.29** Gen 12.7; 32.12; Ex 2.18; 3.8; Judg 4.11
* **10.32** Lev 19.34; Ps 22.27–31
* **10.33** v 12; Deut 1.33; Isa 11.10
* **10.34** Num 9.15–23
* **10.35** Deut 7.10; 32.41; Ps 68.1, 2
s **10.36** Meaning of Heb uncertain

Numbers 11

* **11.1** Lev 10.2; Num 14.2; 16.11, 35; 17.5
* **11.2** Num 21.7
t **11.3** That is, *burning*
* **11.4** Ex 12.38; Ps 78.18; 1 Cor 10.6
* **11.5** Ex 16.3
* **11.6** Num 21.5
* **11.7** Ex 16.14, 31
* **11.9** Ex 16.13, 14
* **11.10** Ps 78.21

* **11.12** Gen 26.3; Ex 13.5; Isa 40.11; 49.23
* **11.13** vv 21, 22; Jn 6.5–9
* **11.14** Ex 18.18
* **11.15** 1 Kings 19.4; Jon 4.3
* **11.16** Ex 24.1, 9; Deut 16.18
* **11.17** v 25; Ex 19.20; 1 Sam 10.6; 2 Kings 2.15
* **11.18** v 5; Ex 16.7; 19.10; Acts 7.39
* **11.19** Num 21.5; Ps 78.29; 106.15
* **11.22** Mt 15.33
u **11.23** Heb *LORD's hand too short?*
* **11.23** Num 23.19; Isa 50.2; 59.1
* **11.24** v 16
* **11.25** v 17; Num 12.5; 1 Sam 10.5, 6, 10; Acts 2.17, 18
* **11.26** 1 Sam 10.6; 20.26
v **11.28** Or *of Moses from his youth*
* **11.28** Mk 9.38–40
* **11.29** 1 Cor 14.5
* **11.31** Ex 16.13; Ps 78.26–28; 105.40
* **11.33** Ps 78.30, 31; 106.15
w **11.34** That is, *graves of craving*
* **11.34** Deut 9.22
* **11.35** Num 33.17

Numbers 12

* **12.1** Ex 2.21
* **12.2** Num 16.3
* **12.3** Mt 11.29
* **12.5** Num 11.25; 16.19
* **12.6** Gen 31.10, 11; 46.2; 1 Kings 3.5
* **12.7** Ps 105.26; Heb 3.2, 5
* **12.8** Ex 33.11, 19; Deut 34.10
* **12.10** Deut 24.9; 2 Kings 5.27; 15.5
x **12.11** Heb *do not lay sin upon us*
* **12.11** 2 Sam 24.10
* **12.14** Lev 13.46; Num 5.2, 3

Numbers 13

* **13.2** Deut 1.22
* **13.8** v 16
* **13.16** v 8

* **13.17** v 21
* **13.20** Deut 1.24, 25; 31.6, 23
* **13.22** vv 28, 33; Josh 15.13, 14; Ps 78.12
y **13.24** That is, *cluster*
* **13.26** v 3; Num 20.1, 16; 32.8
* **13.27** Ex 3.8; Deut 1.25
* **13.28** Deut 1.28
* **13.29** Num 14.43
* **13.30** Num 14.6, 24
* **13.31** Deut 1.28
* **13.32** Num 14.36; Ps 106.24; Am 2.9
* **13.33** Deut 1.28; 9.2

Numbers 14

* **14.2** Num 11.1, 5
* **14.5** Num 16.4, 22
* **14.7** Num 13.27; Deut 1.25
* **14.8** Num 13.27; Deut 10.15
* **14.9** Deut 7.18; 9.7, 23, 24; 20.1, 3, 4
* **14.10** Ex 16.10; 17.4; Lev 9.23
* **14.11** Deut 9.7, 8; Ps 78.22; 106.24
* **14.12** Ex 32.10
* **14.13** Ps 106.23
* **14.14** Ex 13.21; 15.14; Josh 2.9, 10
* **14.16** Deut 9.28
* **14.18** Ex 20.5; 34.6, 7; Ps 103.8
* **14.19** Ex 34.9; Ps 78.38; 106.45
* **14.20** Ps 106.23
* **14.21** Ps 72.19
* **14.24** vv 7–9; Num 32.12; Josh 14.6–15
z **14.25** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **14.25** Deut 1.40
* **14.27** Ex 16.12; Num 11.1
* **14.28** vv 2, 21; Deut 1.35
* **14.29** Num 1.45; 26.64
* **14.30** v 24; Deut 1.36
* **14.31** Deut 1.39; Ps 106.24
* **14.32** 1 Cor 10.5
* **14.33** Num 32.13; Ps 107.40
* **14.34** Num 13.25; Ps 95.10
* **14.35** Num 23.19; 26.65

* **14.36** Num 13.32
* **14.38** Josh 14.6
* **14.39** Ex 33.4
* **14.40** Deut 1.41
* **14.42** Deut 1.42
* **14.44** Deut 1.43
* **14.45** Num 21.3; Deut 1.44

Numbers 15

* **15.2** v 18
a **15.3** Or *a gift*
* **15.3** Lev 23.1–44
* **15.4** Ex 29.40; Lev 2.1; 6.14; 14.10; 23.13; Num 28.5
* **15.5** Num 28.7, 14
* **15.6** Num 28.12, 14
* **15.8** Lev 7.11
* **15.9** Num 28.12, 14
b **15.10** Or *a gift*
c **15.13** Or *a gift*
d **15.14** Or *a gift*
* **15.15** v 29; Num 9.14
* **15.18** v 2
* **15.19** Josh 5.11, 12
* **15.20** Lev 2.14; Deut 26.2, 10
* **15.22** Lev 4.2
e **15.24** Heb *far from the eyes*
* **15.24** vv 8–10; Lev 4.13
f **15.25** Or *a gift*
* **15.25** Lev 4.20
* **15.27** Lev 4.27, 28
* **15.28** Lev 4.35
* **15.29** v 15
* **15.31** Lev 5.1; 2 Sam 12.9; Ezek 18.20
* **15.32** Ex 31.14, 15; 35.2, 3
* **15.34** Lev 24.12
* **15.35** Ex 31.14, 15; Lev 24.14; Acts 7.58
* **15.38** Deut 22.12; Mt 23.5
* **15.39** Deut 4.23; Ps 73.27
* **15.40** Lev 11.44; Rom 12.1; Col 1.22; 1 Pet 1.15, 16

Numbers 16

g **16.1** Heb mss Sam Q ms Gk: Heb *descendants*
* **16.1** Ex 6.21; Jude 11
* **16.2** Num 26.9
* **16.3** Ex 19.6; Num 14.14; Ps 106.16
* **16.4** Num 14.5
* **16.5** Lev 10.3; Num 17.5, 8; Ps 65.4
h **16.6** Heb *his*
* **16.9** Num 3.6, 9; 8.14
* **16.11** Ex 16.7, 8; 1 Cor 10.10
* **16.13** Ex 2.14; Num 11.4–6; Acts 7.27, 35
* **16.14** Lev 20.24
* **16.15** Gen 4.4, 5; 1 Sam 12.3
* **16.16** vv 6, 7
* **16.19** v 42; Ex 16.7, 10; Lev 9.6, 23; Num 14.10
* **16.21** v 45; Ex 32.10, 12
* **16.22** v 45; Num 14.5
* **16.26** Gen 19.12, 14
* **16.28** Ex 3.12; Num 24.13; Jn 5.36; 6.38
* **16.30** v 33; Ps 55.15
* **16.31** Num 26.10
* **16.32** Num 26.11
* **16.35** Num 11.1–3; 26.10
i **16.36** 17.1 in Heb
* **16.38** Num 26.10; Prov 20.2
* **16.40** Num 3.10; 2 Chr 26.18
* **16.41** v 3
* **16.42** v 19; Ex 40.34; Num 20.6
* **16.45** vv 21, 24
* **16.46** Num 8.19; Ps 106.29
* **16.47** Num 25.7, 8, 13
* **16.48** Ps 106.30
* **16.49** vv 32, 35

Numbers 17

j **17.1** 17.16 in Heb
* **17.4** Ex 25.22; 29.42, 43
* **17.5** Num 16.5, 11
* **17.7** Num 18.2; Acts 7.44
* **17.10** v 5; Heb 9.4

* **17.13** Num 1.51, 53

Numbers 18

* **18.1** Ex 28.38
* **18.2** Num 3.5–10
* **18.3** Num 3.25; 4.15; 31.36
* **18.4** Num 3.10
* **18.5** Num 16.46
* **18.6** Num 3.9, 12, 45

k **18.7** Heb *as a service of gift*

* **18.7** Num 3.10; Heb 9.3, 6
* **18.8** Ex 29.29; 40.13, 15; Lev 6.16, 18; 7.6, 32
* **18.9** Lev 2.2, 3; 6.25, 26; 7.7; 10.12, 13
* **18.10** Lev 6.16, 26
* **18.11** Ex 29.27; Lev 22.1–16
* **18.12** Ex 22.29; 23.19; Deut 18.4; Neh 10.35
* **18.13** Ex 22.29; 23.19; 34.26
* **18.14** Lev 27.28
* **18.15** Ex 13.2, 13; Lev 27.26
* **18.16** Lev 27.6

l **18.17** Or *a gift*

* **18.17** Lev 3.2, 5
* **18.19** v 11; 2 Chr 13.5
* **18.20** Deut 10.9; 12.12; 14.27, 29; Josh 13.33; Ezek 44.28
* **18.21** Lev 27.30–33
* **18.22** Num 1.51
* **18.23** vv 1, 20; Num 3.7
* **18.26** Neh 10.38
* **18.28** Ex 29.27
* **18.32** Lev 19.8; 22.2, 15, 16

Numbers 19

* **19.2** Deut 21.3
* **19.3** Lev 4.12, 21; 16.27
* **19.4** Lev 4.6; Heb 9.13

m **19.5** Or *dung*

* **19.6** Lev 14.4, 6
* **19.7** Lev 11.25; 16.26, 28; 22.6

n **19.8** Heb *it*

* **19.9** vv 13, 20, 21; Heb 9.13

* **19.11** Lev 21.1; Num 5.2; Acts 21.26, 27
* **19.12** v 19; Num 31.19
* **19.13** vv 9, 20; Lev 7.20; 15.31; 22.3; Num 8.7
o **19.16** Heb lacks *naturally*
* **19.16** v 11
* **19.17** v 9
* **19.19** Heb 10.22
* **19.20** v 13
* **19.22** Hag 2.13, 14

Numbers 20

* **20.1** Num 33.36
* **20.2** Ex 17.1
* **20.3** Ex 17.2; Num 14.2, 3; 16.31–35
* **20.4** Ex 17.3
* **20.6** Num 14.5, 10
* **20.8** Ex 17.5; Neh 9.15; Isa 43.20; 48.21
* **20.10** Ps 106.32, 33
* **20.11** Ps 78.16; Isa 48.21; 1 Cor 10.4
* **20.12** Lev 10.3; Num 27.14; Deut 1.37; 3.26, 27
p **20.13** That is, *quarrel*
* **20.13** Deut 33.8; Ps 95.8
* **20.14** Deut 2.4
* **20.15** Gen 46.6; Ex 12.40; Deut 26.6; Acts 7.15, 19
* **20.16** Ex 2.23; 14.19
* **20.19** Deut 2.6, 28
* **20.21** Deut 2.8; Judg 11.17
* **20.22** Num 21.4; 33.37
* **20.24** v 12; Gen 25.8
* **20.25** Num 33.38; Deut 32.50
q **20.26** Heb lacks *to his people*
* **20.28** Num 33.38; Deut 10.6

Numbers 21

* **21.1** Num 13.21; 33.40; Judg 1.16
r **21.3** That is, *destruction*
s **21.4** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **21.4** Num 20.22
* **21.5** Ex 16.3; 17.3; Num 11.6; Ps 78.19
t **21.6** Or *fiery*

* **21.6** Deut 8.15; 1 Cor 10.9
* **21.7** Ps 78.34
u **21.8** Or *fiery*
* **21.9** 2 Kings 18.4; Jn 3.14, 15
* **21.10** Num 33.43
* **21.11** Num 33.44
* **21.12** Deut 2.13
v **21.13** Gk: Heb *which is in*
w **21.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **21.15** v 28; Deut 2.18, 29
x **21.16** That is, *well*
y **21.20** Or *Jeshimon*
* **21.21** Deut 2.26, 27
* **21.22** Num 20.16, 17
* **21.23** Num 20.21; Deut 2.32
* **21.24** Deut 2.33; Josh 12.1, 2; Ps 135.10, 11
z **21.28** Gk: Heb *and the lords of*
* **21.28** Deut 2.9, 18; Isa 15.1; Jer 48.45, 46
* **21.29** Judg 11.24; 1 Kings 11.7, 33; 2 Kings 23.13; Jer 48.7, 13
a **21.30** Gk: Heb *we have shot at them; Heshbon has perished*
b **21.30** Compare Sam Gk: Meaning of MT uncertain
* **21.30** Num 32.3, 34; Jer 48.18, 22
* **21.32** Num 32.1; Jer 48.32
* **21.33** Deut 3.1–7; Josh 13.12
* **21.34** v 24; Deut 3.2

Numbers 22

* **22.1** Num 33.48
* **22.3** Ex 15.15
* **22.4** Num 31.1–3, 8
c **22.5** Heb *the river*
d **22.5** Or *land of his kinsfolk*
* **22.5** Num 23.7; Deut 23.4; Josh 24.9
* **22.6** v 17; Num 23.7
* **22.7** Num 23.23; 24.1
* **22.8** v 19
e **22.11** Heb ms Sam Q ms Gk: MT *The people that is coming*
* **22.12** Num 23.20
* **22.17** v 6
* **22.18** Num 24.13; 1 Kings 22.14; 2 Chr 18.13
* **22.20** v 35; Num 23.12, 26; 24.13

* **22.21** 2 Pet 2.15
* **22.23** 2 Pet 2.16
* **22.24** Judg 6.12
* **22.28** 2 Pet 2.16
* **22.29** Prov 12.10
* **22.30** 2 Pet 2.16
* **22.31** Josh 5.13–15
f **22.32** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.34** Num 14.40; 1 Sam 15.24, 30; 2 Sam 12.13
* **22.35** v 20
* **22.37** v 17; Num 24.11
* **22.38** v 18; Num 23.26; 24.13
g **22.41** Heb lacks *of Israel*
* **22.41** Deut 12.2

Numbers 23

* **23.1** v 29
h **23.2** Heb mss Gk: MT reads *Balak and Balaam offered*
* **23.2** vv 14, 30
* **23.3** v 15
i **23.4** Heb *he*
* **23.4** v 16
* **23.5** v 16; Num 22.35; Deut 18.18; Jer 1.9
j **23.6** Heb *him*
k **23.7** Heb *he*
* **23.7** v 18; Num 22.6; 24.3, 15, 23; Job 27.1; 29.1; Ps 78.2
* **23.8** Num 22.12
* **23.9** Ex 33.16; Deut 32.8; 33.28
l **23.10** Or *fourth part*
* **23.10** Gen 13.16; Ps 116.15
* **23.11** Num 24.10
* **23.12** Num 22.20, 38
* **23.14** vv 1, 2
m **23.15** Heb *he*
* **23.16** Num 22.20
n **23.18** Heb *he*
* **23.19** 1 Sam 15.29; Mal 3.6; Rom 11.29; Titus 1.2; Jas 1.17
* **23.20** Isa 43.13
* **23.21** Ex 29.45, 46; Ps 32.2, 5; 89.15; Isa 40.2; Rom 4.7, 8
* **23.22** Num 24.8
* **23.24** Gen 49.9, 27

* **23.26** v 12; Num 22.38
* **23.27** v 13
o **23.28** Or *overlooks Jeshimon*
* **23.29** v 1

Numbers 24

* **24.1** Num 23.3, 15
* **24.2** Num 11.25, 26; 1 Sam 10.10; 2 Chr 15.1
p **24.3** Or *closed* or *open*
* **24.3** Num 23.7, 18
q **24.4** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **24.4** Num 12.6; 22.20
* **24.6** Ps 1.3; 104.16
* **24.7** v 20; 1 Sam 15.8, 9; 2 Sam 5.12; 1 Chr 14.2
r **24.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **24.8** Num 23.22, 24; Ps 2.9; 45.5; Jer 50.9, 17
* **24.9** Gen 12.3; 27.29; 49.9
* **24.11** Num 22.17, 37
* **24.13** Num 22.18, 20
* **24.14** Gen 49.1; Dan 2.28; Mic 6.5
s **24.15** Or *closed* or *open*
t **24.16** Or *of Elyon*
u **24.16** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
v **24.17** Or *borderlands*
w **24.17** Or *territory*
* **24.17** Gen 49.10; Mt 2.2; Rev 1.7
* **24.18** 2 Sam 8.14
* **24.19** Gen 49.10; Mic 5.2
* **24.20** Ex 17.8, 14, 16
x **24.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **24.24** v 20; Gen 10.4, 21
* **24.25** Num 31.8

Numbers 25

* **25.1** Num 31.16; Mic 6.5; 1 Cor 10.8; Rev 2.14
* **25.2** Ex 20.5; 34.15; 1 Cor 10.20
* **25.3** Ps 106.28, 29; Hos 9.10
* **25.4** Deut 4.3
* **25.7** Ps 106.30
* **25.9** Deut 4.3; 1 Cor 10.8

* **25.11** Ex 20.5; Deut 32.16, 21; Ps 106.30
* **25.12** Isa 54.10; Mal 2.4, 5
* **25.13** Ex 40.15; Num 16.46; Heb 2.17
* **25.15** Num 31.8
* **25.17** Num 31.2
* **25.18** Num 31.16

Numbers 26

y **26.1** Gk OL: Heb *Eleazar son of Aaron*
* **26.2** Ex 30.12; 38.25, 26; Num 1.2
z **26.4** Heb lacks *take a census of the people*
* **26.5** Ex 6.14
* **26.9** Num 16.1, 2
* **26.10** Num 16.32, 35, 38
* **26.11** Deut 24.16
a **26.13** Or *Saul . . . Saulites*
* **26.14** Gen 46.10
* **26.15** Gen 46.16
* **26.18** Num 1.25
* **26.22** Num 1.27
* **26.24** Gen 46.13
* **26.25** Gen 30.18
* **26.27** Num 1.31
* **26.30** Num 27.1; 36.1; Josh 17.2
* **26.35** 1 Chr 7.20
* **26.37** Num 1.33
* **26.38** Gen 46.21
* **26.39** Gen 46.21
* **26.40** 1 Chr 8.3
* **26.41** Num 1.37
* **26.42** Gen 46.23
* **26.43** Num 1.39
* **26.47** Num 1.41
* **26.50** Num 1.43
* **26.53** Josh 11.23; 14.1
* **26.54** Num 33.54
* **26.55** Num 33.54; 34.13
* **26.59** Ex 6.20
* **26.60** Num 3.2
* **26.61** Lev 10.1, 2; Num 3.4
* **26.62** Num 1.47; 18.20, 23, 24

* **26.64** Deut 2.14, 15
* **26.65** Num 14.28–30; 1 Cor 10.5, 6

Numbers 27

* **27.1** Num 26.33; 36.1
* **27.3** Num 16.1, 2; 26.33, 64, 65
* **27.4** Josh 17.4
* **27.5** Num 9.8
* **27.7** Num 36.2
* **27.12** Num 33.47; Deut 32.49
* **27.13** Num 31.2

b **27.14** Heb lacks *with me*

* **27.14** Ex 17.7; Num 20.12
* **27.16** Num 16.22
* **27.17** Deut 31.2; Mt 9.36; Mk 6.34
* **27.18** Num 11.25–29; Deut 34.9
* **27.19** Deut 31.3, 7, 8, 23
* **27.20** Josh 1.16, 17
* **27.21** Ex 28.30

Numbers 28

c **28.2** Or *my gifts*

* **28.2** Lev 3.11

d **28.3** Or *the gift*

* **28.3** Ex 29.38

e **28.4** Heb *between the two evenings*

f **28.6** Or *a gift*

* **28.7** Ex 29.42

g **28.8** Heb *between the two evenings*

h **28.8** Or *a gift*

* **28.10** v 3
* **28.11** Num 10.10; Ezek 45.17; 46.6
* **28.12** Num 15.4–12

i **28.13** Or *a gift*

* **28.15** v 3
* **28.16** Ex 12.6, 18; Lev 23.5; Deut 16.1
* **28.17** Lev 23.6
* **28.18** Ex 12.16; Lev 23.7

j **28.19** Or *a gift*

* **28.23** v 3

k **28.24** Or *a gift*
* **28.25** Ex 12.16
* **28.26** Ex 23.16; 34.22; Lev 23.10, 15; Deut 16.10
* **28.31** vv 3, 19

Numbers 29

* **29.1** Ex 23.16; 34.22; Lev 23.24
l **29.6** Or *a gift*
* **29.6** Num 28.3, 11
m **29.7** Or *fast*
* **29.7** Lev 16.29–34; 23.26–32
* **29.11** Lev 16.3, 5; Num 28.3
* **29.12** Lev 23.33–35
n **29.13** Or *a gift*
* **29.16** v 11
* **29.18** vv 3, 4, 9, 10; Num 15.12; 28.7, 14
* **29.22** Num 28.15
* **29.28** Num 15.24
* **29.31** v 22; Gen 8.20
* **29.35** Lev 23.36
o **29.36** Or *a gift*
* **29.39** Lev 7.11, 16; 23.2; 1 Chr 23.31; 2 Chr 31.3
p **29.40** 30.1 in Heb

Numbers 30

* **30.2** Deut 23.21; Mt 5.33
* **30.5** Eccl 5.4
* **30.6** Ps 56.12
* **30.8** Gen 3.16
* **30.12** Eph 5.22
q **30.13** Or *to fast*
r **30.14** Or *from that day to the next*
* **30.15** Col 3.18
* **30.16** Ex 15.26

Numbers 31

* **31.2** Num 25.1, 16, 17; 27.13
s **31.6** Gk: Heb adds *to the war*
* **31.6** Num 10.9
* **31.8** v 16; Josh 13.21, 22

* **31.11** Deut 20.14
* **31.16** Num 24.14; 25.1–9; 2 Pet 2.15; Rev 2.14
* **31.17** Judg 21.11
* **31.23** Num 19.9, 17
* **31.24** Lev 11.25
* **31.28** Num 18.21–30
* **31.30** Num 3.7, 25; 18.3, 4
* **31.32** Gen 49.27; Ex 15.9
* **31.37** vv 38, 41
* **31.41** vv 21, 28; Num 5.9
* **31.47** v 30
* **31.50** Ex 30.12, 16
* **31.53** v 32; Deut 20.14
* **31.54** Ex 30.16

Numbers 32

* **32.1** v 36; Ex 12.38; Num 21.32
* **32.7** Num 13.27–14.4
* **32.8** Num 13.3, 26
* **32.10** Num 14.11, 21; Deut 1.34
* **32.11** Num 14.28–30; Deut 1.35
* **32.12** Num 14.24; Deut 1.36
* **32.13** Num 14.33–35; 26.64, 65
* **32.15** Deut 30.17, 18

t **32.17** Gk: Heb *hurrying*

* **32.17** Josh 4.12, 13
* **32.18** Josh 22.1–4
* **32.19** v 33
* **32.20** Deut 3.18
* **32.22** Deut 3.12–20
* **32.24** vv 16, 34
* **32.26** Josh 1.14
* **32.27** Josh 4.12
* **32.28** Josh 1.13
* **32.29** v 19

u **32.32** Heb *beyond*

* **32.33** Num 21.24, 33, 35; Deut 3.12–17; Josh 12.1–6

v **32.41** That is, *the villages of Jair*

* **32.41** Judg 10.4

Numbers 33

* **33.1** Ps 77.20; Mic 6.4
* **33.3** Ex 12.37; 14.8
* **33.4** Ex 12.12
* **33.6** Ex 13.20
* **33.7** Ex 14.2, 9

w **33.8** Heb mss Sam Syr OL Vg: MT *from before Hahiroth*

* **33.8** Ex 14.22
* **33.9** Ex 15.27

x **33.10** Or *Sea of Reeds*

y **33.11** Or *Sea of Reeds*

* **33.11** Ex 16.1
* **33.14** Ex 17.1
* **33.15** Ex 19.1
* **33.16** Num 11.34
* **33.17** Num 11.35
* **33.20** Josh 10.29
* **33.30** Deut 10.6
* **33.33** Deut 10.7
* **33.35** Deut 2.8
* **33.36** Num 20.1
* **33.37** Num 20.16, 22; 21.4
* **33.38** Num 20.25, 28; Deut 10.6
* **33.40** Num 21.1
* **33.43** Num 21.10
* **33.44** Num 21.11
* **33.47** Num 27.12
* **33.48** Num 22.1
* **33.49** Num 25.1
* **33.52** Ex 23.24, 33; 34.13; Deut 7.2, 5; 12.3; Josh 11.12
* **33.54** Num 26.53–55
* **33.55** Josh 23.13; Ps 106.34, 36

Numbers 34

* **34.2** Gen 17.8; Deut 1.7; Ps 78.55; Ezek 47.15

z **34.3** Heb *Salt Sea*

* **34.3** Josh 15.1–3
* **34.5** Gen 15.18; Josh 15.4, 47

a **34.6** Syr: Heb lacks *its*

* **34.7** Ezek 47.15–17

* **34.8** Num 13.21
* **34.11** Deut 3.17; Josh 11.2; 2 Kings 23.33
b **34.12** Heb *Salt Sea*
* **34.13** Josh 14.1, 2
* **34.14** Num 32.33; Josh 14.2, 3
* **34.17** Josh 14.1
* **34.18** Num 1.4, 16

Numbers 35

* **35.2** Lev 25.32–34; Josh 14.3, 4
* **35.6** Josh 20.7–9; 21.3, 13, 21, 27, 32, 36, 38
* **35.8** Lev 25.32–34; Num 26.54; Josh 21.1–42
* **35.11** Ex 21.13; Deut 19.1–13
* **35.12** Josh 20.2–6
* **35.15** v 11
* **35.16** Ex 21.12, 14; Lev 24.17
* **35.19** vv 21, 24, 27
* **35.22** v 11; Ex 21.13
c **35.23** Heb *without seeing*
* **35.24** v 12
* **35.30** v 16; Deut 17.6; 19.15; Mt 18.16; 2 Cor 13.1; Heb 10.28
* **35.33** Gen 9.6; Ps 106.38
* **35.34** Ex 29.45, 46; Lev 18.25

Numbers 36

* **36.1** Num 26.29; 27.1
* **36.2** Num 26.55; 27.1, 7; 33.54
* **36.4** Lev 25.10
* **36.6** v 12
* **36.8** 1 Chr 23.22
* **36.11** Num 27.1
* **36.13** Lev 26.46; 27.34; Num 22.1

Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy 1

EVENTS AT HOREB RECALLED

1 These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan—in
the wilderness, on the plain opposite Suph, between Paran and Tophel,
Laban, Hazeroth, and Di-zahab. [2](By the way of Mount Seir it takes eleven
days to reach Kadesh-barnea from Horeb.) [3]In the fortieth year, on the first
day of the eleventh month, Moses spoke to the Israelites just as the LORD
had commanded him to speak to them.* [4]This was after he had defeated
King Sihon of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, and King Og of
Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth in Edrei.* [5]Beyond the Jordan in the land
of Moab, Moses undertook to expound this law as follows:

6 "The LORD our God spoke to us at Horeb, saying, 'You have stayed
long enough at this mountain.* [7]Resume your journey, and go into the hill
country of the Amorites as well as into the neighboring regions—the
Arabah, the hill country, the Shephelah, the Negeb,[a] and the seacoast—the
land of the Canaanites and the Lebanon, as far as the great river, the River
Euphrates. [8]See, I have set the land before you; go in and take possession of
the land that the LORD swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to
Jacob, to give to them and to their descendants after them.'*

APPOINTMENT OF TRIBAL LEADERS

9 "At that time I said to you, 'I am unable by myself to bear you.* [10]The
LORD your God has multiplied you, so that today you are as numerous as the
stars of heaven.* [11]May the LORD, the God of your ancestors, increase you a
thousand times more and bless you, as he has promised you!* [12]But how
can I bear the heavy burden of your disputes all by myself? [13]Choose for
each of your tribes individuals who are wise, discerning, and reputable, and
I will make them your leaders.'* [14]You answered me, 'The plan you have
proposed is a good one.' [15]So I took the leaders of your tribes, wise and

reputable individuals, and installed them as leaders over you, commanders of thousands, commanders of hundreds, commanders of fifties, commanders of tens, and officials, throughout your tribes.* 16I charged your judges at that time: 'Give the members of your community a fair hearing and judge rightly between one person and another, whether kin or resident alien.* 17You must not be partial in judging: hear out the small and the great alike; you shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God's. Any case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it.'* 18So I charged you at that time with all the things that you should do.

ISRAEL'S REFUSAL TO ENTER THE LAND

19 "Then, just as the LORD our God had ordered us, we set out from Horeb and went through all that great and terrible wilderness that you saw, on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, until we reached Kadesh-barnea.* 20I said to you, 'You have reached the hill country of the Amorites, which the LORD our God is giving us. 21See, the LORD your God has given the land to you; go up, take possession, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you; do not fear or be dismayed.'*

22 "All of you came to me and said, 'Let us send men ahead of us to explore the land for us and bring back a report to us regarding the route by which we should go up and the cities we will come to.' 23The plan seemed good to me, and I selected twelve of you, one from each tribe.* 24They set out and went up into the hill country, and when they reached the Wadi Eshcol they spied it out* 25and gathered some of the land's produce, which they brought down to us. They brought back a report to us and said, 'It is a good land that the LORD our God is giving us.'*

26 "But you were unwilling to go up. You rebelled against the command of the LORD your God;* 27you grumbled in your tents and said, 'It is because the LORD hates us that he has brought us out of the land of Egypt, to hand us over to the Amorites to destroy us.* 28Where are we headed? Our kindred have made our hearts melt by reporting, "The people are stronger and taller than we; the cities are large and fortified up to heaven! We actually saw there the offspring of the Anakim!" '* 29I said to you, 'Have no dread or fear of them. 30The LORD your God, who goes before you, is the one who will fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt before your very eyes*

[31]and in the wilderness, where you saw how the LORD your God carried you, just as one carries a child, all the way that you traveled until you reached this place.* [32]But in spite of this, you have no trust in the LORD your God,* [33]who goes before you on the way to seek out a place for you to camp, in fire by night, and in the cloud by day, to show you the route you should take.'*

THE PENALTY FOR ISRAEL'S REBELLION

34 "When the LORD heard your words, he was wrathful and swore,* [35]'Not one of these—not one of this evil generation—shall see the good land that I swore to give to your ancestors, [36]except Caleb son of Jephunneh. He shall see it, and to him and to his descendants I will give the land on which he set foot, because of his complete fidelity to the LORD.' [37]Even with me the LORD was angry on your account, saying, 'You also shall not enter there.* [38]Joshua son of Nun, your assistant, shall enter there; encourage him, for he is the one who will secure Israel's possession of it.* [39]And as for your little ones who you thought would become plunder, your children who today do not yet know right from wrong, they shall enter there; to them I will give it, and they shall take possession of it.* [40]But as for you, journey back into the wilderness, in the direction of the Red Sea.'[b,*]

41 "You answered me, 'We have sinned against the LORD! We are ready to go up and fight, just as the LORD our God commanded us.' So all of you strapped on your battle gear and thought it easy to go up into the hill country.* [42]The LORD said to me, 'Say to them: "Do not go up, and do not fight, for I am not in the midst of you; otherwise you will be defeated by your enemies." '* [43]Although I told you, you would not listen. You rebelled against the command of the LORD and presumptuously went up into the hill country.* [44]The Amorites who lived in that hill country then came out against you and chased you as bees do. They beat you down in Seir as far as Hormah.* [45]When you returned and wept before the LORD, the LORD would neither heed your voice nor pay you any attention.

THE DESERT YEARS

46 “After you had stayed at Kadesh as many days as you did,

Deuteronomy 2

1 “we journeyed back into the wilderness, in the direction of the Red Sea,[c]
as the LORD had told me, and skirted Mount Seir for many days.* 2Then the
LORD said to me, 3‘You have been skirting this hill country long enough.
Head north, 4and charge the people as follows: “You are about to pass
through the territory of your kindred, the descendants of Esau, who live in
Seir. They will be afraid of you, so be very careful* 5not to engage in battle
with them, for I will not give you even so much as a foot’s length of their
land, since I have given Mount Seir to Esau as a possession.* 6You shall
purchase food from them for money, so that you may eat, and you shall also
buy water from them for money, so that you may drink. 7Surely the LORD
your God has blessed you in all your undertakings; he knows your going
through this great wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has
been with you; you have lacked nothing.” ’* 8So we passed by our kin, the
descendants of Esau who live in Seir, leaving behind the route of the
Arabah and leaving behind Elath and Ezion-geber.

“When we had headed out along the route of the wilderness of Moab,*
9the LORD said to me, ‘Do not harass Moab or engage them in battle, for I
will not give you any of its land as a possession, since I have given Ar as a
possession to the descendants of Lot.’* 10(The Emim—a large and
numerous people, as tall as the Anakim—had formerly inhabited it.* 11Like
the Anakim, they are usually reckoned as Rephaim, though the Moabites
call them Emim. 12Moreover, the Horim had formerly inhabited Seir, but
the descendants of Esau dispossessed them, destroying them and settling in
their place, as Israel has done in the land that the LORD gave them as a
possession.)* 13‘Now then, proceed to cross over the Wadi Zered.’

“So we crossed over the Wadi Zered. 14And the length of time we had
traveled from Kadesh-barnea until we crossed the Wadi Zered was thirty-
eight years, until the entire generation of warriors had perished from the
camp, as the LORD had sworn concerning them.* 15Indeed, the LORD’s own
hand was against them, to root them out from the camp, until all had
perished.*

16 "Just as soon as all the warriors had died off from among the people,
17 the LORD spoke to me, saying, 18 'Today you are going to cross the
boundary of Moab at Ar. 19 When you approach the frontier of the
Ammonites, do not harass them or engage them in battle, for I will not give
the land of the Ammonites to you as a possession, because I have given it to
the descendants of Lot.'* 20 (It also is usually reckoned as a land of
Rephaim. Rephaim formerly inhabited it, though the Ammonites call them
Zamzummim, 21 a strong and numerous people, as tall as the Anakim. But
the LORD destroyed them from before the Ammonites[d] so that they could
dispossess them and settle in their place.* 22 He did the same for the
descendants of Esau, who live in Seir, by destroying the Horites before
them so that they could dispossess them and settle in their place even to this
day.* 23 As for the Avvim, who had lived in settlements in the vicinity of
Gaza, the Caphtorim, who came from Caphtor, destroyed them and settled
in their place.)* 24 'Proceed on your journey and cross the Wadi Arnon. See,
I have handed over to you King Sihon the Amorite of Heshbon, and his
land. Begin to take possession by engaging him in battle.* 25 This day I will
begin to put the dread and fear of you upon the peoples everywhere under
heaven; when they hear report of you, they will tremble and be in anguish
because of you.'*

DEFEAT OF KING SIHON

26 "So I sent messengers from the wilderness of Kedemoth to King
Sihon of Heshbon with the following terms of peace:* 27 'If you let me pass
through your land, I will travel only along the road; I will turn aside neither
to the right nor to the left.* 28 You shall sell me food for money, so that I
may eat, and supply me water for money, so that I may drink. Only allow
me to pass through on foot*—29 just as the descendants of Esau who live in
Seir have done for me and likewise the Moabites who live in Ar—until I
cross the Jordan into the land that the LORD our God is giving us.' 30 But
King Sihon of Heshbon was not willing to let us pass through, for the LORD
your God had hardened his spirit and made his heart defiant in order to hand
him over to you, as he has now done.*

31 "The LORD said to me, 'See, I have begun to give Sihon and his land
over to you. Begin now to take possession of his land.'* 32 So when Sihon

came out against us, he and all his people for battle at Jahaz,* 33the LORD our God gave him over to us, and we struck him down, along with his offspring and all his people. 34At that time we captured all his towns, and in each town we utterly destroyed men, women, and children. We left not a single survivor.* 35Only the livestock we kept as spoil for ourselves, as well as the plunder of the towns that we had captured. 36From Aroer on the edge of the Wadi Arnon (including the town that is in the wadi itself) as far as Gilead, there was no citadel too high for us. The LORD our God gave everything to us.* 37You did not encroach, however, on the land of the Ammonites, avoiding the whole upper region of the Wadi Jabbok as well as the towns of the hill country, just as[e] the LORD our God had charged.*

Deuteronomy 3

DEFEAT OF KING OG

1 "When we headed up the road to Bashan, King Og of Bashan came out
against us, he and all his people, for battle at Edrei.* 2The LORD said to me,
'Do not fear him, for I have handed him over to you, along with his people
and his land. Do to him as you did to King Sihon of the Amorites, who
reigned in Heshbon.'* 3So the LORD our God also handed over to us King
Og of Bashan and all his people. We struck him down until not a single
survivor was left.* 4At that time we captured all his towns; there was no
citadel that we did not take from them: sixty towns, the whole region of
Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan.* 5All these were fortress towns with
high walls, double gates, and bars, besides a great many villages. 6And we
utterly destroyed them, as we had done to King Sihon of Heshbon, in each
city utterly destroying men, women, and children.* 7But all the livestock
and the plunder of the towns we kept as spoil for ourselves.

8 "So at that time we took from the two kings of the Amorites the land
beyond the Jordan, from the Wadi Arnon to Mount Hermon 9(the Sidonians
call Hermon Sirion, while the Amorites call it Senir),* 10all the towns of the
tableland, the whole of Gilead, and all of Bashan, as far as Salecah and
Edrei, towns of Og's kingdom in Bashan. 11(Now only King Og of Bashan
was left of the remnant of the Rephaim. In fact, his bed, an iron bed, can
still be seen in Rabbah of the Ammonites. By the common cubit it is nine
cubits long and four cubits wide.)* 12As for the land that we took possession
of at that time, I gave to the Reubenites and Gadites the territory north of
Aroer[f] that is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon, as well as half the hill country
of Gilead with its towns,* 13and I gave to the half-tribe of Manasseh the rest
of Gilead and all of Bashan, Og's kingdom. (The whole region of Argob: all
that portion of Bashan used to be called a land of Rephaim; 14Jair the
Manassite acquired the whole region of Argob as far as the border of the
Geshurites and the Maacathites, and he named them—that is, Bashan—after
himself, Havvoth-jair,[g] as it is to this day.)* 15To Machir I gave Gilead.*
16And to the Reubenites and the Gadites I gave the territory from Gilead as

far as the Wadi Arnon, with the middle of the wadi as a boundary, and up to the Jabbok, the wadi being boundary of the Ammonites; [17]the Arabah also, with the Jordan and its banks, from Chinnereth down to the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea,[h] with the lower slopes of Pisgah on the east.*

18 "At that time, I charged you as follows: 'Although the LORD your God has given you this land to occupy, all your troops shall cross over armed as the vanguard of your Israelite kin.* [19]Only your wives, your children, and your livestock—I know that you have much livestock—shall stay behind in the towns that I have given to you. [20]When the LORD gives rest to your kindred, as to you, and they also have occupied the land that the LORD your God is giving them beyond the Jordan, then each of you may return to the property that I have given to you.'* [21]And I charged Joshua as well at that time, saying: 'Your own eyes have seen everything that the LORD your God has done to these two kings; so the LORD will do to all the kingdoms into which you are about to cross. [22]Do not fear them, for it is the LORD your God who fights for you.'*

MOSES VIEWS CANAAN FROM PISGAH

23 "At that time, too, I entreated the LORD, saying, [24]'O Lord GOD, you have only begun to show your servant your greatness and your might. What god in heaven or on earth can perform deeds and mighty acts like yours?* [25]Let me cross over to see the good land beyond the Jordan, that good hill country and the Lebanon.' [26]But the LORD was angry with me on your account and would not heed me. The LORD said to me, 'Enough from you! Never speak to me of this matter again!* [27]Go up to the top of Pisgah and look around you to the west, to the north, to the south, and to the east. Look well, for you shall not cross over this Jordan.* [28]But charge Joshua and encourage and strengthen him, because it is he who shall cross over at the head of this people and who shall secure their possession of the land that you will see.'* [29]So we remained in the valley opposite Beth-peor.*

Deuteronomy 4

MOSES COMMANDS OBEDIENCE

1 "So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am
teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land
that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you.* 2You must neither
add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but
keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging
you.* 3You have seen for yourselves what the LORD did with regard to the
Baal of Peor, how the LORD your God destroyed from among you everyone
who followed the Baal of Peor,* 4while those of you who held fast to the
LORD your God are all alive today.

5 "See, just as the LORD my God has charged me, I now teach you
statutes and ordinances for you to observe in the land that you are about to
enter and occupy. 6You must observe them and perform them, for this will
show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all
these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning
people!'* 7For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD
our God is whenever we call to him?* 8And what other great nation has
statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you
today?

9 "But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the
things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the
days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's
children*—10how you once stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, when
the LORD said to me, 'Assemble the people for me, and I will let them hear
my words, so that they may learn to fear me as long as they live on the earth
and may teach their children so';* 11you approached and stood at the foot of
the mountain while the mountain was blazing up to the very heavens,
shrouded in dark clouds.* 12Then the LORD spoke to you out of the fire. You
heard the sound of words but saw no form; there was only a voice.* 13He
declared to you his covenant, which he charged you to observe, that is, the
ten commandments,[i] and he wrote them on two stone tablets.* 14And the

LORD charged me at that time to teach you statutes and ordinances for you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy.

15 "Since you saw no form when the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the fire, watch yourselves closely, [16]so that you do not act corruptly by making an idol for yourselves in the form of any figure: the likeness of male or female,* [17]the likeness of any animal that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, [18]the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of any fish that is in the water under the earth. [19]And when you look up to the heavens and see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, do not be led astray and bow down to them and serve them, things that the LORD your God has allotted to all the peoples everywhere under heaven.* [20]But the LORD has taken you and brought you out of the iron smelter, out of Egypt, to become a people of his very own possession, as you are now.*

21 "The LORD was angry with me because of you, and he vowed that I should not cross the Jordan and that I should not enter the good land that the LORD your God is giving for your possession.* [22]For I am going to die in this land without crossing over the Jordan, but you are going to cross over to take possession of that good land.* [23]So be careful, lest you forget the covenant that the LORD your God made with you and make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything that the LORD your God has forbidden you.* [24]For the LORD your God is a devouring fire, a jealous God.*

25 "When you have had children and children's children and become complacent in the land, if you act corruptly by making an idol in the form of anything, thus doing what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God and provoking him to anger,* [26]I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that you will soon utterly perish from the land that you are crossing the Jordan to occupy; you will not live long on it but will be utterly destroyed.* [27]The LORD will scatter you among the peoples; only a few of you will be left among the nations where the LORD will lead you.* [28]There you will serve gods made by human hands, objects of wood and stone that neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.* [29]From there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find him if you search after him with all your heart and soul.* [30]In your distress, when all these things have happened to you in time to come, you will return to the LORD your God and heed him.

31 Because the LORD your God is a merciful God, he will neither abandon
you nor destroy you; he will not forget the covenant with your ancestors
that he swore to them.*

32 "For ask now about former ages, long before your own, ever since the
day that God created human beings on the earth; ask from one end of
heaven to the other: Has anything so great as this ever happened, or has its
like ever been heard of?* 33 Has any people ever heard the voice of a god
speaking out of a fire, as you have heard, and lived?* 34 Or has any god ever
attempted to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another
nation, by trials, by signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an
outstretched arm, and by terrifying displays of power, as the LORD your God
did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?* 35 To you it was shown so that
you would acknowledge that the LORD is God; there is no other besides
him.* 36 From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth
he showed you his great fire, while you heard his words coming out of the
fire.* 37 And because he loved your ancestors, he chose their descendants
after them. He brought you out of Egypt with his own presence, by his great
power,* 38 driving out before you nations greater and mightier than
yourselves, to bring you in, giving you their land for a possession, as it is
still today.* 39 So acknowledge today and take to heart that the LORD is God
in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.* 40 Keep his
statutes and his commandments, which I am commanding you today for
your own well-being and that of your descendants after you, so that you
may long remain in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for all
time."*

CITIES OF REFUGE EAST OF THE JORDAN

41 Then Moses set apart on the east side of the Jordan three cities* 42 to
which a homicide could flee, someone who unintentionally kills another
person, the two not having been at enmity before; the homicide could flee to
one of these cities and live: 43 Bezer in the wilderness on the tableland
belonging to the Reubenites, Ramoth in Gilead belonging to the Gadites,
and Golan in Bashan belonging to the Manassites.

TRANSITION TO THE SECOND ADDRESS

44 This is the law that Moses set before the Israelites. [45]These are the
decrees and the statutes and ordinances that Moses spoke to the Israelites
when they had come out of Egypt, [46]beyond the Jordan in the valley
opposite Beth-peor, in the land of King Sihon of the Amorites, who reigned
at Heshbon, whom Moses and the Israelites defeated when they came out of
Egypt.* [47]They occupied his land and the land of King Og of Bashan, the
two kings of the Amorites on the eastern side of the Jordan: [48]from Aroer,
which is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon, as far as Mount Sirion[j] (that is,
Hermon),* [49]together with all the Arabah on the east side of the Jordan as
far as the Sea of the Arabah, under the slopes of Pisgah.

Deuteronomy 5

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1 Moses convened all Israel and said to them:

"Hear, O Israel, the statutes and ordinances that I am addressing to you
today; you shall learn them and observe them diligently. [2]The LORD our God
made a covenant with us at Horeb.* [3]Not with our ancestors did the LORD
make this covenant but with us, who are all of us here alive today. [4]The
LORD spoke with you face to face at the mountain, out of the fire.* [5](At that
time I was standing between the LORD and you to declare to you the word of
the LORD, for you were afraid because of the fire and did not go up the
mountain.) And he said:*

6 " 'I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery;* [7]you shall have no other gods before[k] me.

8 " 'You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of
anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in
the water under the earth. [9]You shall not bow down to them or serve them,
for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the
iniquity of parents to the third and fourth generation of those who reject
me* [10]but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation[l] of those who
love me and keep my commandments.*

11 " 'You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your
God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

12 " 'Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy, as the LORD your God
commanded you. [13]Six days you shall labor and do all your work. [14]But the
seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work
—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your
ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your
towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you.*
[15]Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your
God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched
arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath
day.*

16 “ ‘Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you, so that your days may be long and that it may go well with you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

17 “ ‘You shall not murder.[m]

18 “ ‘Neither shall you commit adultery.

19 “ ‘Neither shall you steal.

20 “ ‘Neither shall you bear false witness against your neighbor.

21 “ ‘Neither shall you covet your neighbor’s wife.

“ ‘Neither shall you desire your neighbor’s house, or field, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.’ ”*

MOSES THE MEDIATOR OF GOD’S WILL

22 “These words the LORD spoke with a loud voice to your whole assembly at the mountain, out of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, and he added no more. He wrote them on two stone tablets and gave them to me.* 23When you heard the voice out of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, you approached me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders, 24and you said, ‘Look, the LORD our God has shown us his glory and greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the fire. We have seen this day that God may speak to someone and the person may still live.* 25But now why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of the LORD our God any longer, we shall die.* 26For who is there of all flesh that has heard the voice of the living God speaking out of the fire, as we have, and lived?* 27Go near, you yourself, and hear all that the LORD our God will say. Then tell us everything that the LORD our God tells you, and we will listen and do it.’

28 “The LORD heard your words when you spoke to me, and the LORD said to me, ‘I have heard the words of this people, which they have spoken to you; they are right in all that they have spoken.* 29If only they had such a mind as this, to fear me and to keep all my commandments always, so that it might go well with them and with their children forever!* 30Go say to them, “Return to your tents.” 31But you, stand here by me, and I will tell you all the commandments, the statutes and the ordinances, that you shall

teach them, so that they may do them in the land that I am giving them to possess.’* 32You must therefore be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn to the right or to the left.* 33You must follow exactly the path that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land that you are to possess.*

Deuteronomy 6

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

1 "Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that
the LORD your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you
are about to cross into and occupy, [2]so that you and your children and your
children's children may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life and
keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so
that your days may be long.* [3]Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them
diligently, so that it may go well with you and so that you may multiply
greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your
ancestors, has promised you.*

4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.[n,*] [5]You shall
love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with
all your might.* [6]Keep these words that I am commanding you today in
your heart. [7]Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are
at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.*
[8]Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem[o] on your
forehead,* [9]and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your
gates.*

CAUTION AGAINST DISOBEDIENCE

10 "When the LORD your God has brought you into the land that he swore
to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—a land
with fine, large cities that you did not build,* [11]houses filled with all sorts of
goods that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards
and olive groves that you did not plant—and when you have eaten your
fill,* [12]take care that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of the
land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. [13]The LORD your God you shall
fear, him you shall serve, and by his name alone you shall swear.* [14]Do not
follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who are all around you,
[15]because the LORD your God, who is present with you, is a jealous God.

The anger of the LORD your God would be kindled against you and he would destroy you from the face of the earth.*

16 "Do not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah.* 17You must diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God and his decrees and his statutes that he has commanded you.* 18Do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD, so that it may go well with you and so that you may go in and occupy the good land that the LORD swore to your ancestors,* 19thrusting out all your enemies from before you, as the LORD has promised.

20 "When your children ask you in time to come, 'What is the meaning of the decrees and the statutes and the ordinances that the LORD our God has commanded you?'* 21then you shall say to your children, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. 22The LORD displayed before our eyes great and awesome signs and wonders against Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household. 23He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he promised on oath to our ancestors. 24Then the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our lasting good, so as to keep us alive, as is now the case.* 25If we diligently observe this entire commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, we will be in the right.'*

Deuteronomy 7

A CHOSEN PEOPLE

1 "When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are about to
enter and occupy and he clears away many nations before you—the Hittites,
the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites,
and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than you*—
2and when the LORD your God gives them over to you and you defeat them,
then you must utterly destroy them. Make no covenant with them and show
them no mercy.* 3Do not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to
their sons or taking their daughters for your sons,* 4for that would turn
away your children from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger
of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you
quickly.* 5But this is how you must deal with them: break down their altars,
smash their pillars, cut down their sacred poles,[p] and burn their idols with
fire.* 6For you are a people holy to the LORD your God; the LORD your God
has chosen you out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured
possession.*

7 "It was not because you were more numerous than any other people
that the LORD set his heart on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of
all peoples.* 8It was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath that he
swore to your ancestors that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty
hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of
Pharaoh king of Egypt.* 9Know, therefore, that the LORD your God is God,
the faithful God who maintains covenant loyalty with those who love him
and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,* 10and who repays
in their own person those who reject him. He does not delay but repays in
their own person those who reject him. 11Therefore, observe diligently the
commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that I am commanding
you today.

BLESSINGS FOR OBEDIENCE

12 "If you heed these ordinances by diligently observing them, the LORD
your God will maintain with you the covenant loyalty that he swore to your
ancestors;* [13]he will love you, bless you, and multiply you; he will bless the
fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine
and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, in the
land that he swore to your ancestors to give you.* [14]You shall be the most
blessed of peoples, with neither sterility nor barrenness among you or your
livestock.* [15]The LORD will turn away from you every illness; all the dread
diseases of Egypt that you experienced, he will not inflict on you, but he
will lay them on all who hate you.* [16]You shall devour all the peoples that
the LORD your God is giving over to you, showing them no pity; you shall
not serve their gods, for that would be a snare to you.*

17 "If you say to yourself, 'These nations are more numerous than I; how
can I dispossess them?' [18]do not be afraid of them. Just remember what the
LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt,* [19]the great trials that your
eyes saw, the signs and wonders, the mighty hand and the outstretched arm
by which the LORD your God brought you out. The LORD your God will do
the same to all the peoples of whom you are afraid.* [20]Moreover, the LORD
your God will send swarms of hornets[q] against them until even the
survivors and the fugitives are destroyed.* [21]Have no dread of them, for the
LORD your God, who is present with you, is a great and awesome God.*
[22]The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by
little; you will not be able to make a quick end of them, otherwise the wild
animals would become too numerous for you.* [23]But the LORD your God
will give them over to you and throw them into great panic until they are
destroyed. [24]He will hand their kings over to you, and you shall blot out
their name from under heaven; no one will be able to stand against you until
you have destroyed them.* [25]The images of their gods you shall burn with
fire. Do not covet the silver or the gold that is on them and take it for
yourself, because you could be ensnared by it, for it is abhorrent to the LORD
your God.* [26]Do not bring an abhorrent thing into your house, or you will
be set apart for destruction like it. You must utterly detest and abhor it, for it
is set apart for destruction.

Deuteronomy 8

A WARNING NOT TO FORGET GOD IN PROSPERITY

1 "The entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently
observe, so that you may live and increase and go in and occupy the land
that the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors.* 2Remember the long
way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness,
in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart,
whether or not you would keep his commandments.* 3He humbled you by
letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you
nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that
one does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the
mouth of the LORD.* 4The clothes on your back did not wear out, and your
feet did not swell these forty years.* 5Know, then, in your heart that, as a
parent disciplines a child, so the LORD your God disciplines you.*
6Therefore keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in
his ways and by fearing him.* 7For the LORD your God is bringing you into
a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground
waters welling up in valleys and hills,* 8a land of wheat and barley, of vines
and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey, 9a land where
you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land
whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. 10You
shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has
given you.*

11 "Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God by failing to keep
his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes that I am commanding
you today. 12When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and
live in them 13and when your herds and flocks have multiplied and your
silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, 14then do
not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of
the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery,* 15who led you through the
great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous[r] snakes and
scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock.* 16He fed you in the

wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you and in the end to do you good.* 17Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.' 18But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.* 19If you do forget the LORD your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish.* 20Like the nations that the LORD is destroying before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 9

THE CONSEQUENCES OF REBELLING AGAINST GOD

1 “Hear, O Israel! You are about to cross the Jordan today, to go in and
dispossess nations larger and mightier than you, great cities, fortified to the
heavens,* 2a strong and tall people, the offspring of the Anakim, whom you
know. You have heard it said, ‘Who can stand up to the Anakim?’* 3Know,
then, today that the LORD your God is the one who crosses over before you
as a devouring fire; he will defeat them and subdue them before you, so that
you may dispossess and destroy them quickly, as the LORD has promised
you.*

4 “When the LORD your God thrusts them out before you, do not say to
yourself, ‘It is because of my righteousness that the LORD has brought me in
to occupy this land’; it is rather because of the wickedness of these nations
that the LORD is dispossessing them before you.* 5It is not because of your
righteousness or the uprightness of your heart that you are going in to
occupy their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD
your God is dispossessing them before you, in order to fulfill the promise
that the LORD made on oath to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to
Jacob.*

6 “Know, then, that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land
to occupy because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people.*
7Remember; do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath
in the wilderness; you have been rebellious against the LORD from the day
you came out of the land of Egypt until you came to this place.

8 “Even at Horeb you provoked the LORD to wrath, and the LORD was so
angry with you that he was ready to destroy you.* 9When I went up the
mountain to receive the stone tablets, the tablets of the covenant that the
LORD made with you, I remained on the mountain forty days and forty
nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water.* 10And the LORD gave me the
two stone tablets written with the finger of God; on them were all the words
that the LORD had spoken to you at the mountain out of the fire on the day of
the assembly.* 11At the end of forty days and forty nights the LORD gave me

the two stone tablets, the tablets of the covenant. 12Then the LORD said to me, 'Get up; go down quickly from here, for your people whom you have brought from Egypt have acted corruptly. They have been quick to turn from the way that I commanded them; they have cast an image for themselves.'* 13Furthermore, the LORD said to me, 'I have seen that this people is indeed a stubborn people.* 14Let me alone that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven, and I will make of you a nation mightier and more numerous than they.'*

15 "So I turned and went down from the mountain, while the mountain was ablaze; the two tablets of the covenant were in my two hands.* 16Then I saw that you had indeed sinned against the LORD your God, by casting for yourselves an image;[s] you had been quick to turn from the way that the LORD had commanded you.* 17So I took hold of the two tablets and flung them from my two hands, smashing them before your eyes. 18Then I lay prostrate before the LORD as before, forty days and forty nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water because of all the sin you had committed, provoking the LORD by doing what was evil in his sight.* 19For I was afraid that the anger that the LORD bore against you was so fierce that he would destroy you. But the LORD listened to me that time also.* 20The LORD was so angry with Aaron that he was ready to destroy him, but I interceded also on behalf of Aaron at that same time. 21Then I took the sinful thing you had made, the calf, and burned it with fire and crushed it, grinding it thoroughly, until it was reduced to dust, and I threw the dust into the stream that runs down the mountain.*

22 "At Taberah also, and at Massah, and at Kibroth-hattaavah, you provoked the LORD to wrath.* 23And when the LORD sent you from Kadesh-barnea, saying, 'Go up and occupy the land that I have given you,' you rebelled against the command of the LORD your God, neither trusting him nor obeying him. 24You have been rebellious against the LORD as long as he has[t] known you.*

25 "Throughout the forty days and forty nights that I lay prostrate before the LORD when the LORD intended to destroy you,* 26I prayed to the LORD and said, 'Lord GOD, do not destroy your people, your very own possession, whom you redeemed in your greatness, whom you brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand.* 27Remember your servants, Abraham, Isaac, and

Jacob; pay no attention to the stubbornness of this people, their wickedness and their sin, [28]lest the land from which you have brought us say, “Because the LORD was not able to bring them into the land that he promised them and because he hated them, he has brought them out to let them die in the wilderness.” [29]For they are your people, your very own possession, whom you brought out by your great power and by your outstretched arm.’*

Deuteronomy 10

THE SECOND PAIR OF TABLETS

1 "At that time the LORD said to me, 'Carve out two tablets of stone like the
former ones, and come up to me on the mountain, and make an ark of
wood.* 2I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets,
which you smashed, and you shall put them in the ark.'* 3So I made an ark
of acacia wood, cut two tablets of stone like the former ones, and went up
the mountain with the two tablets in my hand.* 4Then he wrote on the
tablets the same words as before, the ten commandments[u] that the LORD had
spoken to you on the mountain out of the fire on the day of the assembly,
and the LORD gave them to me.* 5So I turned and came down from the
mountain and put the tablets in the ark that I had made, and there they are,
as the LORD commanded me."*

6 (The Israelites journeyed from Beeroth-bene-jaakan[v] to Moserah. There
Aaron died, and there he was buried; his son Eleazar succeeded him as
priest.* 7From there they journeyed to Gudgodah, and from Gudgodah to
Jotbathah, a land with flowing streams.* 8At that time the LORD set apart the
tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before
the LORD to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.*
9Therefore Levi has no allotment or inheritance with his kindred; the LORD
is his inheritance, as the LORD your God promised him.)*

10 "I stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights, as I had done
the first time. And once again the LORD listened to me. The LORD was
unwilling to destroy you.* 11The LORD said to me, 'Get up, go on your
journey at the head of the people, that they may go in and occupy the land
that I swore to their ancestors to give them.'

THE ESSENCE OF THE LAW

12 "So now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you? Only
to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the
LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,* 13and to keep the

commandments of the LORD and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. 14Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the LORD your God, the earth with all that is in it,* 15yet the LORD set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today.* 16Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer.* 17For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe,* 18who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.* 19You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.* 20You shall fear the LORD your God; him you shall serve; to him you shall hold fast; and by his name you shall swear.* 21He is your praise; he is your God who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.* 22Your ancestors went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in heaven.*

Deuteronomy 11

REWARDS FOR OBEDIENCE

1 "You shall love the LORD your God, therefore, and keep his charge, his
decrees, his ordinances, and his commandments always.* 2Remember today
that it was not your children (who have not known or seen the discipline of
the LORD your God), but it is you who must acknowledge his greatness, his
mighty hand, and his outstretched arm,* 3his signs and his deeds that he did
in Egypt to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and to all his land; 4what he did to
the Egyptian army, to their horses and chariots, how he made the water of
the Red Sea[w] flow over them as they pursued you, so that the LORD has
destroyed them to this day;* 5what he did to you in the wilderness until you
came to this place; 6and what he did to Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab
son of Reuben, how in the midst of all Israel the earth opened its mouth and
swallowed them up, along with their households, their tents, and every
living being in their company;* 7for it is your own eyes that have seen every
great deed that the LORD did.

8 "Keep, then, the entire commandment that I am commanding you
today, so that you may have strength to go in and occupy the land that you
are crossing over to occupy* 9and so that you may live long in the land that
the LORD swore to your ancestors to give them and to their descendants, a
land flowing with milk and honey.* 10For the land that you are about to
enter to occupy is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come,
where you sow your seed and irrigate by foot like a vegetable garden. 11But
the land that you are crossing over to occupy is a land of hills and valleys
watered by rain from the sky,* 12a land that the LORD your God looks after.
The eyes of the LORD your God are always on it, from the beginning of the
year to the end of the year.

13 "If you will only heed his every commandment[x] that I am
commanding you today—loving the LORD your God and serving him with
all your heart and with all your soul*—14then he[y] will give the rain for your
land in its season, the early rain and the later rain, and you will gather in
your grain, your wine, and your oil,* 15and he[z] will give grass in your field

for your livestock, and you will eat your fill.* 16Take care, or you will be seduced into turning away, serving other gods and worshiping them,* 17for then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and he will shut up the heavens, so that there will be no rain, and the land will not yield its produce; then you will perish quickly off the good land that the LORD is giving you.*

18 "You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and fix them as an emblem on your forehead.* 19Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise up.* 20Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates,* 21so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the LORD swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

22 "If you will diligently observe this entire commandment that I am commanding you, loving the LORD your God, walking in all his ways, and holding fast to him,* 23then the LORD will drive out all these nations before you, and you will dispossess nations larger and mightier than you.* 24Every place on which you set foot shall be yours; your territory shall extend from the wilderness to the Lebanon and from the River, the River Euphrates, to the Western Sea.* 25No one will be able to stand against you; the LORD your God will put the fear and dread of you on all the land on which you set foot, as he promised you.*

26 "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse:* 27the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today;* 28and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God but turn from the way that I am commanding you today, to follow other gods that you have not known.*

29 "When the LORD your God has brought you into the land that you are entering to occupy, you shall set the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal.* 30As you know, they are beyond the Jordan, some distance to the west, in the land of the Canaanites who live in the Arabah, opposite Gilgal, beside the oak[a] of Moreh.*

31 "When you cross the Jordan to go in to occupy the land that the LORD your God is giving you and when you occupy it and live in it,* 32you must

diligently observe all the statutes and ordinances that I am setting before you today.

Deuteronomy 12

PAGAN SHRINES TO BE DESTROYED

1 "These are the statutes and ordinances that you must diligently observe in
the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has given you to occupy
all the days that you live on the earth.*

2 "You must demolish completely all the places where the nations whom
you are about to dispossess served their gods, on the mountain heights, on
the hills, and under every leafy tree. 3Break down their altars, smash their
pillars, burn their sacred poles[b] with fire, and cut down the idols of their
gods, and thus blot out their name from their places.* 4You shall not serve
the LORD your God in such ways. 5But you shall seek the place that the
LORD your God will choose out of all your tribes as his habitation to put his
name there. You shall go there,* 6bringing there your burnt offerings and
your sacrifices, your tithes and your donations, your votive gifts, your
freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and flocks. 7And you shall
eat there in the presence of the LORD your God, you and your households
together, rejoicing in all the undertakings in which the LORD your God has
blessed you.*

8 "You shall not act as we are acting here today, all of us according to our
own desires, 9for you have not yet come into the rest and the possession that
the LORD your God is giving you. 10When you cross over the Jordan and
live in the land that the LORD your God is allotting to you, and when he
gives you rest from your enemies all around so that you live in safety,*
11then you shall bring everything that I command you to the place that the
LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name: your burnt offerings
and your sacrifices, your tithes and your donations, and all your choice
votive gifts that you vow to the LORD.* 12And you shall rejoice before the
LORD your God, you together with your sons and your daughters, your male
and female slaves, and the Levites who reside in your towns (since they
have no allotment or inheritance with you).*

A PRESCRIBED PLACE OF WORSHIP

13 “Take care that you do not offer your burnt offerings at any place you
happen to see. [14]But only at the place that the LORD will choose in one of
your tribes—there you shall offer your burnt offerings, and there you shall
do everything I command you.*

15 “Yet whenever you desire you may slaughter and eat meat within any
of your towns, according to the blessing that the LORD your God has given
you; the unclean and the clean may eat of it, as they would of gazelle or
deer.* [16]The blood, however, you must not eat; you shall pour it out on the
ground like water.* [17]Nor may you eat within your towns the tithe of your
grain, your wine, and your oil, the firstlings of your herds and your flocks,
any of your votive gifts that you vow, your freewill offerings, or your
donations; [18]these you shall eat in the presence of the LORD your God at the
place that the LORD your God will choose, you together with your son and
your daughter, your male and female slaves, and the Levites resident in
your towns, rejoicing in the presence of the LORD your God in all your
undertakings.* [19]Take care that you do not neglect the Levite as long as you
live in your land.*

20 “When the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as he has promised
you, and you say, ‘I am going to eat some meat,’ because you wish to eat
meat, you may eat meat whenever you have the desire.* [21]If the place where
the LORD your God will choose to put his name is too far from you, and you
slaughter as I have commanded you any of your herd or flock that the LORD
has given you, then you may eat within your towns whenever you desire.
[22]Indeed, just as gazelle or deer is eaten, so you may eat it; the unclean and
the clean alike may eat it.* [23]Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for
the blood is the life, and you shall not eat the life with the meat.* [24]Do not
eat it; you shall pour it out on the ground like water. [25]Do not eat it, so that
it may go well with you and your children after you, because you do what is
right in the sight of the LORD.* [26]But the sacred donations that are due from
you and your votive gifts you shall bring to the place that the LORD will
choose.* [27]You shall present your burnt offerings, both the meat and the
blood, on the altar of the LORD your God; the blood of your other sacrifices
shall be poured out beside[c] the altar of the LORD your God, but the meat you
may eat.

28 "Be careful to obey all these words that I command you, so that it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, because you will be doing what is good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.*

WARNING AGAINST IDOLATRY

29 "When the LORD your God has cut off before you the nations whom you are about to enter to dispossess them, when you have dispossessed them and live in their land, [30]take care that you are not snared into imitating them, after they have been destroyed before you; do not inquire concerning their gods, saying, 'How did these nations serve their gods? I also want to do the same.' [31]You must not do the same for the LORD your God, because every abhorrent thing that the LORD hates they have done for their gods. They would even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.* [32d]You must diligently observe everything that I command you; do not add to it or take anything from it.*

Deuteronomy 13

1 [e]"If prophets or those who divine by dreams appear among you and show
you omens or portents,* [2]and the omens or the portents declared by them
take place, and they say, 'Let us follow other gods' (whom you have not
known) 'and let us serve them,'* [3]you must not heed the words of those
prophets or those who divine by dreams, for the LORD your God is testing
you, to know whether you indeed love the LORD your God with all your
heart and soul.* [4]The LORD your God you shall follow, him alone you shall
fear, his commandments you shall keep, his voice you shall obey, him you
shall serve, and to him you shall hold fast.* [5]But those prophets or those
who divine by dreams shall be put to death for having spoken treason
against the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt and
redeemed you from the house of slavery, to turn you from the way in which
the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil
from your midst.*

6 "If anyone secretly entices you—even if it is your brother, your father's
son or[f] your mother's son, or your own son or daughter, or the wife you
embrace, or your most intimate friend—saying, 'Let us go serve other
gods,' whom neither you nor your ancestors have known,* [7]any of the gods
of the peoples who are around you, whether near you or far away from you,
from one end of the earth to the other, [8]you must not yield to or heed any
such persons. Show them no pity or compassion, and do not shield them.
[9]But you shall surely kill them; your own hand shall be first against them to
execute them and afterward the hand of all the people.* [10]Stone them to
death for trying to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought
you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. [11]Then all Israel
shall hear and be afraid and never again do any such wickedness.*

12 "If you hear it said about one of the towns that the LORD your God is
giving you to live in, [13]that scoundrels from among you have gone out and
led the inhabitants of the town astray, saying, 'Let us go and serve other
gods,' whom you have not known,* [14]then you shall inquire and make a
thorough investigation. If the charge is established that such an abhorrent

thing has been done among you, [15]you shall put the inhabitants of that town to the sword, utterly destroying it and everything in it, even putting its livestock to the sword.* [16]All of its spoil you shall gather into its public square, then burn the town and all its spoil with fire as a whole burnt offering to the LORD your God. It shall remain a perpetual ruin, never to be rebuilt.* [17]Do not let anything devoted to destruction stick to your hand, so that the LORD may turn from his fierce anger and show you compassion, and in his compassion multiply you, as he swore to your ancestors,* [18]if you obey the voice of the LORD your God by keeping all his commandments that I am commanding you today, doing what is right in the sight of the LORD your God.*

Deuteronomy 14

PAGAN PRACTICES FORBIDDEN

1 "You are children of the LORD your God. You must not lacerate yourselves
or shave your forelocks for the dead.* 2For you are a people holy to the
LORD your God; it is you the LORD has chosen out of all the peoples on earth
to be his people, his treasured possession.*

CLEAN AND UNCLEAN FOODS

3 "You shall not eat any abhorrent thing. 4These are the animals you may
eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat,* 5the deer, the gazelle, the roebuck, the wild
goat, the ibex, the antelope, and the mountain sheep. 6Any animal that
divides the hoof and has the hoof cleft in two and chews the cud, among the
animals, you may eat. 7Yet of those that chew the cud or have the hoof cleft
you shall not eat these: the camel, the hare, and the rock badger because
they chew the cud but do not divide the hoof; they are unclean for you.
8And the pig, because it divides the hoof but does not chew the cud, is
unclean for you. You shall not eat their meat, and you shall not touch their
carcasses.*

9 "Of all that live in water you may eat these: whatever has fins and
scales you may eat.* 10And whatever does not have fins and scales you shall
not eat; it is unclean for you.

11 "You may eat any clean birds. 12But these are the ones that you shall
not eat: the eagle, the vulture, the osprey,* 13the buzzard, the kite of any
kind; 14every raven of any kind; 15the ostrich, the nighthawk, the sea gull,
the hawk of any kind; 16the little owl and the great owl, the water hen 17and
the desert owl,[g] the carrion vulture and the cormorant, 18the stork, the heron
of any kind, the hoopoe, and the bat.[h] 19And all winged insects are unclean
for you; they shall not be eaten.* 20You may eat any clean winged creature.

21 "You shall not eat anything that dies of itself; you may give it to aliens
residing in your towns for them to eat, or you may sell it to a foreigner. For
you are a people holy to the LORD your God.

"You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk.*

REGULATIONS CONCERNING TITHES

22 "Set apart a tithe of all the yield of your seed that is brought in yearly
from the field.* [23]In the presence of the LORD your God, in the place that he
will choose as a dwelling for his name, you shall eat the tithe of your grain,
your wine, and your oil, as well as the firstlings of your herd and flock, so
that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.* [24]But if, when the
LORD your God has blessed you, the distance is so great that you are unable
to transport it, because the place where the LORD your God will choose to
set his name is too far away from you,* [25]then you may turn it into money.
With the money secure in hand, go to the place that the LORD your God will
choose; [26]spend the money for whatever you wish: oxen, sheep, wine,
strong drink, or whatever you desire. And you shall eat there in the presence
of the LORD your God, you and your household rejoicing together.* [27]As for
the Levites resident in your towns, do not neglect them, because they have
no allotment or inheritance with you.*

28 "Every third year you shall bring out the full tithe of your produce for
that year and store it within your towns;* [29]the Levites, because they have
no allotment or inheritance with you, as well as the resident aliens, the
orphans, and the widows in your towns, may come and eat their fill so that
the LORD your God may bless you in all the work that you undertake.*

Deuteronomy 15

LAWS CONCERNING THE SABBATICAL YEAR

1 "Every seventh year you shall grant a remission of debts.* 2And this is the
manner of the remission: every creditor shall remit the claim that is held
against a neighbor, not exacting it,[i] because the LORD's remission has been
proclaimed. 3Of a foreigner you may exact it, but you must remit your
claim on whatever any member of your community owes you. 4There will,
however, be no one in need among you, because the LORD is sure to bless
you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you as a possession to
occupy, 5if only you will obey the LORD your God by diligently observing
this entire commandment that I command you today.* 6When the LORD your
God has blessed you, as he promised you, you will lend to many nations,
but you will not borrow; you will rule over many nations, but they will not
rule over you.*

7 "If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in
any of your towns within the land that the LORD your God is giving you, do
not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor.* 8You
should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need,
whatever it may be.* 9Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought,
thinking, 'The seventh year, the year of remission, is near,' and therefore
view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor[j]
might cry to the LORD against you, and you would incur guilt.* 10Give
liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the LORD
your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake.*
11Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore
command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your
land.'*

12 "If a member of your community, whether a Hebrew man or a Hebrew
woman, is sold[k] to you and works for you six years, in the seventh year you
shall set that person free.* 13And when you send a male slave[l] out from you
a free person, you shall not send him out empty-handed. 14Provide for him
liberally out of your flock, your threshing floor, and your winepress, thus

giving to him some of the bounty with which the LORD your God has blessed you. 15Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God redeemed you; for this reason I lay this command upon you today.* 16But if he says to you, 'I will not go out from you,' because he loves you and your household, since he is well off with you,* 17then you shall take an awl and thrust it through his earlobe into the door, and he shall be your slave forever.

"You shall do the same with regard to your female slave.

18 "Do not consider it a hardship when you send them out from you free persons, because for six years they have given you services worth the wages of hired laborers, and the LORD your God will bless you in all that you do.

THE FIRSTBORN OF LIVESTOCK

19 "Every firstling male born of your herd and flock you shall consecrate to the LORD your God; you shall not do work with your firstling ox nor shear the firstling of your flock.* 20You shall eat it, you together with your household, in the presence of the LORD your God year by year at the place that the LORD will choose.* 21But if it has any defect—any serious defect, such as lameness or blindness—you shall not sacrifice it to the LORD your God;* 22within your towns you may eat it, the unclean and the clean alike, as you would a gazelle or deer.* 23Its blood, however, you must not eat; you shall pour it out on the ground like water.*

Deuteronomy 16

THE PASSOVER REVIEWED

1 "Observe the month[m] of Abib by keeping the Passover to the LORD your
God, for in the month of Abib the LORD your God brought you out of Egypt
by night.* [2]You shall offer the Passover sacrifice to the LORD your God from
the flock and the herd, at the place that the LORD will choose as a dwelling
for his name.* [3]You must not eat with it anything leavened. For seven days
you shall eat unleavened bread with it—the bread of affliction—because
you came out of the land of Egypt in great haste, so that all the days of your
life you may remember the day of your departure from the land of Egypt.*
[4]No leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory for seven days, and
none of the meat of what you slaughter on the evening of the first day shall
remain until morning.* [5]You are not permitted to offer the Passover sacrifice
within any of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you. [6]But at the
place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name, only
there shall you offer the Passover sacrifice, in the evening at sunset, the
time of day when you departed from Egypt.* [7]You shall cook it and eat it at
the place that the LORD your God will choose; the next morning you may go
back to your tents.* [8]For six days you shall continue to eat unleavened
bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a solemn assembly for the LORD
your God, when you shall do no work.*

THE FESTIVAL OF WEEKS REVIEWED

9 "You shall count seven weeks; begin to count the seven weeks from the
time the sickle is first put to the standing grain.* [10]Then you shall keep the
Festival of Weeks to the LORD your God, contributing a freewill offering in
proportion to the blessing that you have received from the LORD your God.
[11]Rejoice before the LORD your God—you and your sons and your
daughters, your male and female slaves, the Levites resident in your towns,
as well as the strangers, the orphans, and the widows who are among you—
at the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.*

12 Remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and diligently observe these statutes.*

THE FESTIVAL OF BOOTHS REVIEWED

13 "You shall keep the Festival of Booths[n] for seven days, when you have gathered in the produce from your threshing floor and your winepress.* 14 Rejoice during your festival, you and your sons and your daughters, your male and female slaves, as well as the Levites, the strangers, the orphans, and the widows resident in your towns.* 15 Seven days you shall keep the festival to the LORD your God at the place that the LORD will choose, for the LORD your God will bless you in all your produce and in all your undertakings, and you shall surely celebrate.*

16 "Three times a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God at the place that he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, at the Festival of Weeks, and at the Festival of Booths.[o] They shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed;* 17 all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.

MUNICIPAL JUDGES AND OFFICERS

18 "You shall appoint judges and officials throughout your tribes, in all your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, and they shall render just decisions for the people.* 19 You must not distort justice; you must not show partiality; and you must not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.* 20 Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, so that you may live and occupy the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

FORBIDDEN FORMS OF WORSHIP

21 "You shall not plant any tree as a sacred pole[p] beside the altar that you make for the LORD your God,* 22 nor shall you set up a stone pillar—things that the LORD your God hates.

Deuteronomy 17

1 “You must not sacrifice to the LORD your God an ox or a sheep that has a defect, anything seriously wrong, for that is abhorrent to the LORD your God.*

2 “If there is found among you, in one of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, a man or woman who does what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God and transgresses his covenant* 3by going to serve other gods and worshiping them—whether the sun or the moon or any of the host of heaven, which I have forbidden—4and if it is reported to you or you hear of it, and you make a thorough inquiry, and the charge is proved true that such an abhorrent thing has occurred in Israel,* 5then you shall bring out to your gates that man or that woman who has committed this crime, and you shall stone the man or woman to death. 6On the evidence of two or three witnesses the death sentence shall be executed; a person must not be put to death on the evidence of only one witness.* 7The hands of the witnesses shall be the first raised against the person to execute the death penalty and afterward the hands of all the people. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.*

LEGAL DECISIONS BY PRIESTS AND JUDGES

8 “If a judicial decision is too difficult for you to make between one kind of bloodshed and another, one kind of legal right and another, or one kind of assault and another—any such matters of dispute in your towns—then you shall immediately go up to the place that the LORD your God will choose,* 9where you shall consult with the Levitical priests and the judge who is in office in those days; they shall announce to you the decision in the case.* 10Carry out exactly the decision that they announce to you from the place that the LORD will choose, diligently observing everything they instruct you. 11You must carry out the law that they interpret for you or the ruling that they announce to you; do not turn aside from the decision that they announce to you, either to the right or to the left.* 12As for anyone who presumes to disobey the priest appointed to minister there to the LORD your

God or the judge, that person shall die. So you shall purge the evil from Israel. 13All the people will hear and be afraid and will not act presumptuously again.*

LIMITATIONS OF ROYAL AUTHORITY

14 "When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,'* 15you may indeed set over you a king whom the LORD your God will choose. One of your own community you may set as king over you; you are not permitted to put a foreigner over you, who is not of your own community.* 16Even so, he must not acquire many horses for himself or return the people to Egypt in order to acquire more horses, since the LORD has said to you, 'You must never return that way again.'* 17And he must not acquire many wives for himself or else his heart will turn away; also silver and gold he must not acquire in great quantity for himself.* 18When he has taken the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests.* 19It shall remain with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, so that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, diligently observing all the words of this law and these statutes,* 20neither exalting himself above other members of the community nor turning aside from the commandment, either to the right or to the left, so that he and his descendants may reign long over his kingdom in Israel.*

Deuteronomy 18

PRIVILEGES OF PRIESTS AND LEVITES

1 "The Levitical priests, the whole tribe of Levi, shall have no allotment or
inheritance within Israel. They may eat the offerings by fire[q] that are the
LORD's portion,[r,*] [2]but they shall have no inheritance among the other
members of the community; the LORD is their inheritance, as he promised
them.

3 "This shall be the priests' due from the people, from those offering a
sacrifice, whether an ox or a sheep: they shall give to the priest the shoulder,
the two jowls, and the stomach.[*] [4]The first fruits of your grain, your wine,
and your oil, as well as the first of the fleece of your sheep, you shall give
him.[*] [5]For the LORD your God has chosen Levi[s] out of all your tribes to
stand and minister in the name of the LORD, him and his sons for all time.[*]

6 "If a Levite leaves any of your towns, from wherever he has been
residing in Israel, and comes to the place that the LORD will choose (and he
may come whenever he wishes), [7]then he may minister in the name of the
LORD his God, like all his fellow-Levites who stand to minister there before
the LORD. [8]They shall have equal portions to eat, even though they have
income from the sale of family possessions.[t,*]

CHILD-SACRIFICE, DIVINATION, AND MAGIC PROHIBITED

9 "When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you,
you must not learn to imitate the abhorrent practices of those nations.[*] [10]No
one shall be found among you who makes a son or daughter pass through
fire, or who practices divination, or is a soothsayer, or an augur, or a
sorcerer,[*] [11]or one who casts spells, or who consults ghosts or spirits, or
who seeks oracles from the dead. [12]For whoever does these things is
abhorrent to the LORD; it is because of such abhorrent practices that the
LORD your God is driving them out before you.[*] [13]You must remain
completely loyal to the LORD your God. [14]Although these nations that you

are about to dispossess do give heed to soothsayers and diviners, as for you, the LORD your God does not permit you to do so.

A NEW PROPHET LIKE MOSES

15 "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.[u,*] 16This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.'* 17Then the LORD replied to me, 'They are right in what they have said.* 18I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet,[v] who shall speak to them everything that I command.* 19Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet[w] shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.* 20But any prophet who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'* 21You may say to yourself, 'How can we recognize a word that the LORD has not spoken?' 22If a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD but the thing does not take place or prove true, it is a word that the LORD has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; do not be frightened by it.*

Deuteronomy 19

LAWS CONCERNING THE CITIES OF REFUGE

1 "When the LORD your God has cut off the nations whose land the LORD
your God is giving you and you have dispossessed them and settled in their
towns and in their houses,* 2you shall set apart three cities in the land that
the LORD your God is giving you to possess.* 3You shall calculate the
distances[x] and divide into three regions the land that the LORD your God
gives you as a possession, so that any homicide can flee to one of them.

4 "Now this is the case of a homicide who might flee there and live, that
is, someone who has killed another person unintentionally when the two
had not been at enmity before.* 5Suppose someone goes into the forest with
another to cut wood, and when one of them swings the ax to cut down a
tree, the head slips from the handle and strikes the other person, who then
dies; the killer may flee to one of these cities and live. 6But if the distance is
too great, the avenger of blood in hot anger might pursue and overtake and
put the killer to death, although a death sentence was not deserved, since the
two had not been at enmity before.* 7Therefore I command you: You shall
set apart three cities.

8 "If the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as he swore to your
ancestors—and he will give you all the land that he promised your
ancestors to give you, 9provided you diligently observe this entire
commandment that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God and
walking always in his ways—then you shall add three more cities to these
three,* 10so that the blood of an innocent person may not be shed in the land
that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, thereby bringing
bloodguilt upon you.*

11 "But if someone at enmity with another lies in wait and attacks and
takes the life of that person and flees into one of these cities, 12then the
elders of the killer's city shall send to have the culprit taken from there and
handed over to the avenger of blood to be put to death. 13Show no pity; you
shall purge the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, so that it may go well
with you.*

PROPERTY BOUNDARIES

14 "You must not move your neighbor's boundary marker, set up by former generations, on the property that will be allotted to you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.*

LAW CONCERNING WITNESSES

15 "A single witness shall not suffice to convict a person of any crime or wrongdoing in connection with any offense that may be committed. Only on the evidence of two or three witnesses shall a charge be sustained.* 16If a malicious witness comes forward to accuse someone of wrongdoing,* 17then both parties to the dispute shall appear before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who are in office in those days,* 18and the judges shall make a thorough inquiry. If the witness is a false witness, having testified falsely against another, 19then you shall do to the false witness just as the false witness had meant to do to the other. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.* 20The rest shall hear and be afraid, and a crime such as this shall never again be committed among you. 21Show no pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.*

Deuteronomy 20

RULES OF WARFARE

1 "When you go out to war against your enemies and see horses and
chariots, an army larger than your own, do not fear them, for the LORD your
God is with you, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.* 2Before you
engage in battle, the priest shall come forward and speak to the troops 3and
shall say to them, 'Hear, O Israel! Today you are drawing near to do battle
against your enemies. Do not lose heart or be afraid or panic or be in dread
of them,* 4for it is the LORD your God who goes with you, to fight for you
against your enemies, to give you victory.'* 5Then the officers shall address
the troops, saying, 'Has anyone built a new house but not dedicated it? He
should go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another dedicate it.
6Has anyone planted a vineyard but not yet enjoyed its fruit? He should go
back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another be first to enjoy its
fruit.* 7Has anyone become engaged to a woman but not yet married her?
He should go back to his house, lest he die in the battle and another marry
her.'* 8The officers shall continue to address the troops, saying, 'Is anyone
afraid or disheartened? He should go back to his house, or he might cause
the heart of his comrades to melt like his own.'* 9When the officers have
finished addressing the troops, then the commanders shall take charge of
them.

10 "When you draw near to a town to fight against it, offer it terms of
peace.* 11If it accepts your terms of peace and surrenders to you, then all the
people in it shall serve you at forced labor. 12But if it does not accept your
terms of peace and makes war against you, then you shall besiege it, 13and
when the LORD your God gives it into your hand, you shall put all its males
to the sword. 14You may, however, take as your plunder the women, the
children, livestock, and everything else in the town, all its spoil. You may
enjoy the spoil of your enemies, which the LORD your God has given you.*
15Thus you shall treat all the towns that are very far from you, which are not
towns of these nations here. 16But as for the towns of these peoples that the
LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, you must not let anything

that breathes remain alive.* 17Indeed, you shall annihilate them—the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites—just as the LORD your God has commanded, 18so that they may not teach you to do all the abhorrent things that they do for their gods and you thus sin against the LORD your God.*

19 "If you besiege a town for a long time, making war against it in order to take it, you must not destroy its trees by wielding an ax against them. Although you may take food from them, you must not cut them down. Are trees in the field human beings that they should come under siege from you? 20You may destroy only the trees that you know do not produce food; you may cut them down for use in building siegeworks against the town that makes war with you, until it falls.

Deuteronomy 21

LAW CONCERNING MURDER BY PERSONS UNKNOWN

1 "If, in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess, a body is found lying in open country, and it is not known who struck the person down,* 2then your elders and your judges shall come out to measure the distances to the towns that are near the body. 3The elders of the town nearest the body shall take a heifer that has never been worked, one that has not pulled in the yoke; 4the elders of that town shall bring the heifer down to a wadi with running water, which is neither plowed nor sown, and shall break the heifer's neck there in the wadi. 5Then the priests, the sons of Levi, shall come forward, for the LORD your God has chosen them to minister to him and to pronounce blessings in the name of the LORD, and by their decision all cases of dispute and assault shall be settled.* 6All the elders of that town nearest the body shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the wadi, 7and they shall declare, 'Our hands did not shed this blood, nor were we witnesses to it. 8Absolve, O LORD, your people Israel, whom you redeemed; do not let the guilt of innocent blood remain in the midst of your people Israel.' Then they will be absolved of bloodguilt.* 9So you shall purge the guilt of innocent blood from your midst, because you must do what is right in the sight of the LORD.*

FEMALE CAPTIVES

10 "When you go out to war against your enemies and the LORD your God hands them over to you and you take them captive, 11suppose you see among the captives a beautiful woman whom you desire and want to marry, 12and so you bring her home to your house: she shall shave her head, pare her nails,* 13discard her captive's garb, and remain in your house a full month mourning for her father and mother; after that you may go in to her and be her husband, and she shall be your wife. 14But if you are not satisfied with her, you shall let her go free and certainly not sell her for money. You must not treat her as a slave, since you have dishonored her.

THE RIGHT OF THE FIRSTBORN

15 "If a man has two wives, one of them loved and the other disliked, and
if both the loved and the disliked have borne him sons, the firstborn being
the son of the one who is disliked, [16]then on the day when he wills his
possessions to his sons, he is not permitted to treat the son of the loved as
the firstborn in preference to the son of the disliked, who is the firstborn.*
[17]He must acknowledge as firstborn the son of the one who is disliked,
giving him a double portion[y] of all that he has; since he is the first issue of
his virility, the right of the firstborn is his.*

REBELLIOUS CHILDREN

18 "If someone has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his
father and mother, who does not heed them when they discipline him,*
[19]then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to
the elders of his town at the gate of that place. [20]They shall say to the elders
of his town, 'This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious. He will not obey
us. He is a glutton and a drunkard.' [21]Then all the men of the town shall
stone him to death. So you shall purge the evil from your midst, and all
Israel will hear and be afraid.*

MISCELLANEOUS LAWS

22 "When someone is convicted of a crime punishable by death and is
executed and you hang him on a tree, [23]his corpse must not remain all night
upon the tree; you must bury him that same day, for anyone hung on a tree
is under God's curse. You must not defile the land that the LORD your God is
giving you for possession.*

Deuteronomy 22

1 “You shall not watch your neighbor’s ox or sheep straying away and
ignore them; you shall take them back to their owner.* [2]If the owner does
not reside near you or you do not know who the owner is, you shall bring it
to your own house, and it shall remain with you until the owner claims it;
then you shall return it. [3]You shall do the same with a neighbor’s donkey;
you shall do the same with a neighbor’s garment; and you shall do the same
with anything else that your neighbor loses and you find. You may not
withhold your help.

4 “You shall not see your neighbor’s donkey or ox fallen on the road and
ignore it; you shall help to lift it up.*

5 “A woman shall not wear a man’s apparel, nor shall a man put on a
woman’s garment, for whoever does such things is abhorrent to the LORD
your God.

6 “If you come on a bird’s nest, in any tree or on the ground, with
fledglings or eggs, with the mother sitting on the fledglings or on the eggs,
you shall not take the mother with the young.* [7]Let the mother go, taking
only the young for yourself, in order that it may go well with you and you
may live long.*

8 “When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof;
otherwise you might have bloodguilt on your house, if anyone should fall
from it.

9 “You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, or the whole
yield will be forbidden, both the crop that you have sown and the yield of
the vineyard itself.*

10 “You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey yoked together.

11 “You shall not wear clothes made of wool and linen woven together.*

12 “You shall make tassels on the four corners of the cloak with which
you cover yourself.*

LAWS CONCERNING SEXUAL RELATIONS

13 “Suppose a man marries a woman but after going in to her dislikes
her* [14]and makes up charges against her, slandering her by saying, ‘I
married this woman, but when I lay with her, I did not find evidence of her
virginity.’ [15]The father of the young woman and her mother shall then
submit the evidence of the young woman’s virginity to the elders of the city
at the gate.* [16]The father of the young woman shall say to the elders: ‘I
gave my daughter in marriage to this man, but he dislikes her, [17]and now he
has made up charges against her, saying, “I did not find evidence of your
daughter’s virginity.” But here is the evidence of my daughter’s virginity.’
Then they shall spread out the cloth before the elders of the town. [18]The
elders of that town shall take the man and punish him; [19]they shall fine him
one hundred shekels of silver (which they shall give to the young woman’s
father) because he has slandered a virgin of Israel. She shall remain his
wife; he shall not be permitted to divorce her as long as he lives.

20 “If, however, this charge is true, that evidence of the young woman’s
virginity was not found, [21]then they shall bring the young woman out to the
entrance of her father’s house, and the men of her town shall stone her to
death, because she committed a disgraceful act in Israel by prostituting
herself in her father’s house. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.*

22 “If a man is discovered lying with the wife of another man, both of
them shall die, the man who lay with the woman as well as the woman. So
you shall purge the evil from Israel.*

23 “If there is a young woman, a virgin already engaged to be married,
and a man meets her in the town and lies with her, [24]you shall bring both of
them to the gate of that town and stone them to death, the young woman
because she did not cry for help in the town and the man because he
violated his neighbor’s wife. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.*

25 “But if the man meets the engaged woman in the open country and the
man seizes her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her shall
die.* [26]You shall do nothing to the young woman; the young woman has not
committed an offense punishable by death, because this case is like that of
someone who attacks and murders a neighbor. [27]Since he found her in the
open country, the engaged woman may have cried for help, but there was no
one to rescue her.

28 “If a man meets a virgin who is not engaged and seizes her and lies with her, and they are discovered,* [29]the man who lay with her shall give fifty shekels of silver to the young woman’s father, and she shall become his wife. Because he violated her, he shall not be permitted to divorce her as long as he lives.

30 [z]“A man shall not marry his father’s wife, thereby violating his father’s rights.[a,*]

Deuteronomy 23

THOSE EXCLUDED FROM THE ASSEMBLY

1 "No one whose testicles are crushed or whose penis is cut off shall come into the assembly of the LORD.

2 "Those born of an illicit union shall not come into the assembly of the LORD. Even to the tenth generation, none of their descendants shall come into the assembly of the LORD.

3 "No Ammonite or Moabite shall come into the assembly of the LORD even to the tenth generation. None of their descendants shall come into the assembly of the LORD forever, [4]because they did not meet you with food and water on your journey out of Egypt and because they hired against you Balaam son of Beor, from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you. [5](Yet the LORD your God refused to heed Balaam; the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the LORD your God loved you.) [6]You shall never promote their welfare or their prosperity as long as you live.

7 "You shall not abhor any of the Edomites, for they are your kin. You shall not abhor any of the Egyptians, because you were an alien residing in their land. [8]The children of the third generation that are born to them may come into the assembly of the LORD.

SANITARY, RITUAL, AND HUMANITARIAN PRECEPTS

9 "When you are encamped against your enemies, you shall guard against every evil thing.

10 "If one of you becomes unclean because of a nocturnal emission, then he shall go outside the camp; he must not come within the camp. [11]When evening comes, he shall wash himself with water, and when the sun has set, he may come back into the camp.

12 "You shall have a designated area outside the camp to which you shall go. [13]With your tools you shall have a trowel; when you relieve yourself outside, you shall dig a hole with it and then cover up your excrement. [14]Because the LORD your God travels along with your camp, to save you

and to hand over your enemies to you, therefore your camp must be holy, so that he may not see anything indecent among you and turn away from you.

15 "You shall not return to their owners slaves who have escaped to you from their owners. [16]They shall reside with you, in your midst, in any place they choose in any one of your towns, wherever they please; you shall not oppress them.

17 "None of the daughters of Israel shall serve in an illicit shrine; none of the sons of Israel shall serve in an illicit shrine.* [18]You shall not bring the fee of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of the LORD your God in payment for any vow, for both of these are abhorrent to the LORD your God.

19 "You shall not charge interest on loans to another Israelite,[b] interest on money, interest on provisions, interest on anything that is lent.* [20]On loans to a foreigner you may charge interest, but on loans to another Israelite[c] you may not charge interest, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all your undertakings in the land that you are about to enter and possess.*

21 "If you make a vow to the LORD your God, do not postpone fulfilling it, for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and you would incur guilt.* [22]But if you refrain from vowing, you will not incur guilt. [23]Whatever your lips utter you must diligently perform, just as you have freely vowed to the LORD your God with your own mouth.

24 "If you go into your neighbor's vineyard, you may eat your fill of grapes, as many as you wish, but you shall not put any in a container.

25 "If you go into your neighbor's standing grain, you may pluck the ears with your hand, but you shall not put a sickle to your neighbor's standing grain.*

Deuteronomy 24

LAWS CONCERNING MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

1 "Suppose a man enters into marriage with a woman but she does not
please him because he finds something objectionable about her, so he writes
her a certificate of divorce, puts it in her hand, and sends her out of his
house; [2]she then leaves his house and goes off to become another man's
wife.* [3]Then suppose the second man dislikes her, writes her a certificate of
divorce, puts it in her hand, and sends her out of his house (or the second
man who married her dies): [4]her first husband, who sent her away, is not
permitted to take her again to be his wife after she has been defiled, for that
would be abhorrent to the LORD, and you shall not bring guilt on the land
that the LORD your God is giving you as a possession.*

MISCELLANEOUS LAWS

5 "When a man is newly married, he shall not go out with the army or be
charged with any related duty. He shall be free at home one year, to be
happy with the wife whom he has married.*

6 "No one shall take a mill or an upper millstone in pledge, for that
would be taking a life in pledge.

7 "If someone is caught kidnaping another Israelite, enslaving or selling
the Israelite, then that kidnaper shall die. So you shall purge the evil from
your midst.*

8 "Guard against an outbreak of a defiling skin disease by being very
careful; you shall carefully observe whatever the Levitical priests instruct
you, just as I have commanded them.* [9]Remember what the LORD your God
did to Miriam on your journey out of Egypt.*

10 "When you make your neighbor a loan of any kind, you shall not go
into the house to take the pledge. [11]You shall wait outside while the person
to whom you are making the loan brings the pledge out to you. [12]If the
person is poor, you shall not sleep in the garment given you as[d] the pledge.
[13]You shall give the pledge back by sunset, so that your neighbor may sleep

in the cloak and bless you, and it will be to your credit before the LORD your God.*

14 "You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy laborers, whether other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land in one of your towns.* 15You shall pay them their wages daily before sunset, because they are poor and their livelihood depends on them; otherwise they might cry to the LORD against you, and you would incur guilt.*

16 "Parents shall not be put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their parents; only for their own crimes may persons be put to death.*

17 "You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow's garment in pledge.* 18Remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this.*

19 "When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all your undertakings.* 20When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.*

21 "When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. 22Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.*

Deuteronomy 25

1 “Suppose two persons have a dispute and enter into litigation, and the
judges decide between them, declaring one to be in the right and the other
to be in the wrong.* [2]If the one in the wrong deserves to be flogged, the
judge shall make that person lie down and be beaten in his presence with
the number of lashes proportionate to the offense. [3]Forty lashes may be
given but not more; if more lashes than these are given, your neighbor will
be degraded in your sight.*

4 “You shall not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain.*

LEVIRATE MARRIAGE

5 “When brothers reside together and one of them dies and has no son,
the wife of the deceased shall not be married outside the family to a
stranger. Her husband’s brother shall go in to her, taking her in marriage
and performing the duty of a husband’s brother to her,* [6]and the firstborn
whom she bears shall succeed to the name of the deceased brother, so that
his name may not be blotted out of Israel.* [7]But if the man has no desire to
marry his brother’s widow, then his brother’s widow shall go up to the
elders at the gate and say, ‘My husband’s brother refuses to perpetuate his
brother’s name in Israel; he will not perform the duty of a husband’s brother
to me.’* [8]Then the elders of his town shall summon him and speak to him.
If he persists, saying, ‘I have no desire to marry her,’* [9]then his brother’s
wife shall go up to him in the presence of the elders, pull his sandal off his
foot, spit in his face, and declare, ‘This is what is done to the man who does
not build up his brother’s house.’* [10]Throughout Israel his family shall be
known as ‘the house of him whose sandal was pulled off.’

VARIOUS COMMANDS

11 “If men get into a fight with one another and the wife of one
intervenes to rescue her husband from the grip of his opponent by reaching
out and seizing his genitals, [12]you shall cut off her hand; show no pity.

13 “You shall not have in your bag two kinds of weights, large and small.* 14You shall not have in your house two kinds of measures, large and small. 15You shall have only a full and honest weight; you shall have only a full and honest measure, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. 16For all who do such things, all who act dishonestly, are abhorrent to the LORD your God.*

17 “Remember what Amalek did to you on your journey out of Egypt,* 18how he attacked you on the way, when you were faint and weary, and struck down all who lagged behind you; he did not fear God. 19Therefore when the LORD your God has given you rest from all your enemies on every hand, in the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven; do not forget.*

Deuteronomy 26

FIRST FRUITS AND TITHES

1 "When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, [2]you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.* [3]You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' [4]When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, [5]you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.* [6]When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us,* [7]we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.* [8]The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;* [9]and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.* [10]So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. [11]Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.*

12 "When you have finished paying all the tithe of your produce in the third year (which is the year of the tithe), giving it to the Levites, the aliens, the orphans, and the widows, so that they may eat their fill within your towns,* [13]then you shall say before the LORD your God, 'I have removed the sacred portion from the house, and I have given it to the Levites, the resident aliens, the orphans, and the widows, in accordance with your entire

commandment that you commanded me; I have neither transgressed nor forgotten any of your commandments:* 14I have not eaten of it while in mourning; I have not removed any of it while I was unclean; and I have not offered any of it to the dead. I have obeyed the LORD my God, doing just as you commanded me.* 15Look down from your holy habitation, from heaven, and bless your people Israel and the ground that you have given us, as you swore to our ancestors, a land flowing with milk and honey.'

CONCLUDING EXHORTATION

16 "This very day the LORD your God is commanding you to observe these statutes and ordinances, so observe them diligently with all your heart and with all your soul.* 17Today you have obtained the LORD's agreement: to be your God; and for you to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, his commandments, and his ordinances, and to obey him. 18Today the LORD has obtained your agreement: to be his treasured people, as he promised you, and to keep all his commandments;* 19for him to set you high above all nations that he has made, in praise and in fame and in honor; and for you to be a people holy to the LORD your God, as he promised."*

Deuteronomy 27

THE INSCRIBED STONES AND ALTAR ON MOUNT EBAL

1 Then Moses and the elders of Israel charged all the people as follows:
"Keep the entire commandment that I am commanding you today. [2]On the
day that you cross over the Jordan into the land that the LORD your God is
giving you, you shall set up large stones and cover them with plaster.* [3]You
shall write on them all the words of this law when you have crossed over, to
enter the land that the LORD your God is giving you, a land flowing with
milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you.* [4]So
when you have crossed over the Jordan, you shall set up these stones about
which I am commanding you today on Mount Ebal, and you shall cover
them with plaster. [5]And you shall build an altar there to the LORD your God,
an altar of stones on which you have not used an iron tool.* [6]You must build
the altar of the LORD your God of unhewn[e] stones. Then offer up burnt
offerings on it to the LORD your God; [7]make sacrifices of well-being, and
eat them there, rejoicing before the LORD your God. [8]You shall write on the
stones all the words of this law very clearly."

9 Then Moses and the Levitical priests spoke to all Israel, saying, "Keep
silence and hear, O Israel! This very day you have become the people of the
LORD your God.* [10]Therefore obey the LORD your God, observing his
commandments and his statutes that I am commanding you today."

TWELVE CURSES

11 The same day Moses charged the people as follows: [12]"When you
have crossed over the Jordan, these shall stand on Mount Gerizim to bless
the people: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin.* [13]And
these shall stand on Mount Ebal for the curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher,
Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali. [14]Then the Levites shall declare in a loud
voice to all the Israelites,

15 " 'Cursed be anyone who makes an idol or casts an image, anything
abhorrent to the LORD, the work of an artisan, and sets it up in secret.' All

the people shall respond, saying, ‘Amen!’*

16 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who dishonors father or mother.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

17 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who moves a neighbor’s boundary marker.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

18 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who misleads a blind person on the road.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

19 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who deprives an alien, an orphan, or a widow of justice.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

20 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who lies with his father’s wife, because he has violated his father’s rights.’[f] All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

21 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who lies with any animal.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

22 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who lies with his sister, whether the daughter of his father or the daughter of his mother.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

23 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who lies with his mother-in-law.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

24 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who strikes down a neighbor in secret.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

25 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who takes a bribe to shed innocent blood.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

26 “ ‘Cursed be anyone who does not uphold the words of this law by observing them.’ All the people shall say, ‘Amen!’*

Deuteronomy 28

BLESSINGS FOR OBEDIENCE

1 "If you will only obey the LORD your God, by diligently observing all his
commandments that I am commanding you today, the LORD your God will
set you high above all the nations of the earth;* 2all these blessings shall
come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the LORD your God:

3 "Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field.*

4 "Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb, the fruit of your ground, and
the fruit of your livestock, both the increase of your cattle and the issue of
your flock.*

5 "Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

6 "Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be
when you go out.

7 "The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated
before you; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you
seven ways.* 8The LORD will command the blessing upon you in your barns
and in all that you undertake; he will bless you in the land that the LORD
your God is giving you. 9The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as
he has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God
and walk in his ways.* 10All the peoples of the earth shall see that you are
called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you.* 11The
LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your womb, in the
fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your ground in the land that the
LORD swore to your ancestors to give you.* 12The LORD will open for you
his rich storehouse, the heavens, to give the rain of your land in its season
and to bless all your undertakings. You will lend to many nations, but you
will not borrow.* 13The LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you
shall be only at the top and not at the bottom—if you obey the
commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today by
diligently observing them, 14and if you do not turn aside from any of the
words that I am commanding you today, either to the right or to the left,
following other gods to serve them.*

WARNINGS AGAINST DISOBEDIENCE

15 "But if you will not obey the LORD your God by diligently observing
all his commandments and decrees that I am commanding you today, then
all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you:*

16 "Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field.

17 "Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

18 "Cursed shall be the fruit of your womb, the fruit of your ground, the
increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock.

19 "Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when
you go out.

20 "The LORD will send upon you disaster, panic, and frustration in
everything you attempt to do, until you are destroyed and perish quickly, on
account of the evil of your deeds with which you have forsaken me.* 21The
LORD will make the pestilence cling to you until it has consumed you off the
land that you are entering to possess.* 22The LORD will afflict you with
consumption, fever, inflammation, with fiery heat and drought,g and with
blight and mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish.* 23The sky over
your head shall be bronze and the earth under you iron.* 24The LORD will
change the rain of your land into powder, and only dust shall come down
upon you from the sky until you are destroyed.

25 "The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you
shall go out against them one way and flee before them seven ways. You
shall become an object of horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.* 26Your
corpses shall be food for every bird of the air and animal of the earth, and
there shall be no one to frighten them away.* 27The LORD will afflict you
with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, scurvy, and itch, of which you cannot
be healed.* 28The LORD will afflict you with madness, blindness, and
confusion of mind; 29you shall grope about at noon as blind people grope in
darkness, but you shall be unable to find your way, and you shall be
continually abused and robbed, without anyone to help.* 30You shall
become engaged to a woman, but another man shall lie with her. You shall
build a house but not live in it. You shall plant a vineyard but not enjoy its
fruit.* 31Your ox shall be butchered before your eyes, but you shall not eat
of it. Your donkey shall be stolen in front of you and shall not be restored to

you. Your sheep shall be given to your enemies without anyone to help you.
32 Your sons and daughters shall be given to another people while you look
on; you will strain your eyes looking for them all day but be powerless to
do anything.* 33 A people whom you do not know shall eat up the fruit of
your ground and of all your labors; you shall be continually abused and
crushed* 34 and driven mad by the sight that your eyes shall see. 35 The LORD
will strike you on the knees and on the legs with grievous boils of which
you cannot be healed, from the sole of your foot to the crown of your head.*
36 The LORD will bring you and the king whom you set over you to a nation
that neither you nor your ancestors have known, where you shall serve other
gods, of wood and stone.* 37 You shall become an object of horror, a
proverb, and a byword among all the peoples where the LORD will lead
you.*

38 "You shall carry much seed into the field but shall gather little in, for
the locust shall consume it.* 39 You shall plant vineyards and dress them, but
you shall neither drink the wine nor gather the grapes, for the worm shall
eat them. 40 You shall have olive trees throughout all your territory, but you
shall not anoint yourself with the oil, for your olives shall drop off. 41 You
shall have sons and daughters, but they shall not remain yours, for they
shall go into captivity.* 42 All your trees and the fruit of your ground the
cicada shall take over.* 43 Aliens residing among you shall ascend above you
higher and higher, while you shall descend lower and lower.* 44 They shall
lend to you, but you shall not lend to them; they shall be the head, and you
shall be the tail.*

45 "All these curses shall come upon you, pursuing and overtaking you
until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the LORD your God by
observing the commandments and the decrees that he commanded you.*
46 They shall be among you and your descendants as a sign and a portent
forever.

47 "Because you did not serve the LORD your God joyfully and with
gladness of heart for the abundance of everything,* 48 therefore you shall
serve your enemies whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger and
thirst, in nakedness and lack of everything. He will put an iron yoke on your
neck until he has destroyed you.* 49 The LORD will bring a nation from far
away, from the end of the earth, to swoop down on you like an eagle, a

nation whose language you do not understand,* 50a grim-faced nation showing no respect to the old or favor to the young. 51It shall consume the fruit of your livestock and the fruit of your ground until you are destroyed, leaving you neither grain, wine, and oil nor the increase of your cattle and the issue of your flock, until it has made you perish.* 52It shall besiege you in all your towns until your high and fortified walls, in which you trusted, come down throughout your land; it shall besiege you in all your towns throughout the land that the LORD your God has given you.* 53In the desperate straits to which the enemy siege reduces you, you will eat the fruit of your womb, the flesh of your own sons and daughters whom the LORD your God has given you.* 54Even the most refined and gentle of men among you will begrudge food to his own brother, to the wife whom he embraces, and to the last of his remaining children, 55giving to none of them any of the flesh of his children whom he is eating, because nothing else remains to him, in the desperate straits to which the enemy siege will reduce you in all your towns. 56She who is the most refined and gentle among you, so gentle and refined that she does not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground, will begrudge food to the husband whom she embraces, to her own son, and to her own daughter,* 57begrudging even the afterbirth that comes out from between her thighs and the children that she bears, because she is eating them in secret for lack of anything else, in the desperate straits to which the enemy siege will reduce you in your towns.

58 "If you do not diligently observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, fearing this glorious and awesome name, the LORD your God,* 59then the LORD will overwhelm both you and your offspring with severe and lasting afflictions and grievous and lasting maladies. 60He will bring back upon you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were in dread, and they shall cling to you.* 61Every other malady and affliction, even though not recorded in the book of this law, the LORD will inflict on you until you are destroyed.* 62Although once you were as numerous as the stars in heaven, you shall be left few in number because you did not obey the LORD your God.* 63And just as the LORD took delight in making you prosperous and numerous, so the LORD will take delight in bringing you to ruin and destruction; you shall be plucked off the land that you are entering to possess.* 64The LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other gods, of wood and

stone, which neither you nor your ancestors have known.* 65Among those
nations you shall find no ease, no resting place for the sole of your foot.
There the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and a
languishing spirit.* 66Your life shall hang in doubt before you; night and
day you shall be in dread, with no assurance of your life. 67In the morning
you shall say, 'If only it were evening!' and at evening you shall say, 'If
only it were morning!'—because of the dread that your heart shall feel and
the sights that your eyes shall see.* 68The LORD will bring you back in ships
to Egypt, by a route that I promised you would never see again, and there
you shall offer yourselves for sale to your enemies as male and female
slaves, but there will be no buyer."

Deuteronomy 29

1 [h]These are the words of the covenant that the LORD commanded Moses to make with the Israelites in the land of Moab, in addition to the covenant that he had made with them at Horeb.*

THE COVENANT RENEWED IN MOAB

2 [i]Moses summoned all Israel and said to them, "You have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land,* 3the great trials that your eyes saw, the signs, and those great wonders. 4But to this day the LORD has not given you a mind to understand or eyes to see or ears to hear.* 5I have led you forty years in the wilderness. The clothes on your back have not worn out, and the sandals on your feet have not worn out;* 6you have not eaten bread, and you have not drunk wine or strong drink—so that you may know that I am the LORD your God.* 7When you came to this place, King Sihon of Heshbon and King Og of Bashan came out against us for battle, but we defeated them.* 8We took their land and gave it as an inheritance to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh.* 9Therefore observe the words of this covenant and perform them, in order that you may succeed[j] in everything that you do.*

10 "You stand assembled today, all of you, before the LORD your God—the leaders of your tribes,[k] your elders, and your officials, all the men of Israel, 11your children, your women, and the aliens who are in your camp, both those who cut your wood and those who draw your water*—12to enter into the covenant of the LORD your God, sworn by an oath, which the LORD your God is making with you today, 13in order that he may establish you today as his people and that he may be your God, as he promised you and as he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.* 14I am making this covenant, sworn by an oath, not only with you 15who stand here with us today before the LORD our God but also with those who are not here with us today. 16You know how we lived in the land of Egypt and how

we came through the midst of the nations through which you passed. 17You have seen their detestable things, the filthy idols of wood and stone, of silver and gold, that were among them.* 18It may be that there is among you a man or woman or a family or tribe whose heart is already turning away from the LORD our God to serve the gods of those nations. It may be that there is among you a root sprouting poisonous and bitter growth.* 19All who hear the words of this oath and bless themselves, thinking in their hearts, 'We are safe even though we go our own stubborn ways' (thus sweeping away the moist with the dry)[l]—20the LORD will be unwilling to pardon them, for then the LORD's anger and passion will smoke against them. All the curses written in this book will descend on them, and the LORD will blot out their names from under heaven.* 21The LORD will single them out from all the tribes of Israel for calamity, in accordance with all the curses of the covenant written in this book of the law.* 22The next generation, your children who rise up after you, as well as the foreigner who comes from a distant country, will see the devastation of that land and the afflictions with which the LORD has afflicted it*—23all its soil burned out by sulfur and salt, nothing planted, nothing sprouting, unable to support any vegetation, like the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, which the LORD destroyed in his fierce anger*—24they and indeed all the nations will wonder, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this land? What caused this great display of anger?'* 25They will conclude, 'It is because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD, the God of their ancestors, which he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt. 26They turned and served other gods, worshiping them, gods whom they had not known and whom he had not allotted to them; 27so the anger of the LORD was kindled against that land, bringing on it every curse written in this book. 28The LORD uprooted them from their land in anger, fury, and great wrath and cast them into another land, as is now the case.'* 29The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the revealed things belong to us and to our children forever, to observe all the words of this law.

Deuteronomy 30

GOD'S FIDELITY ASSURED

1 "When all these things have happened to you, the blessings and the curses
that I have set before you, if you call them to mind among all the nations
where the LORD your God has driven you* [2]and return to the LORD your
God, and you and your children obey him with all your heart and with all
your soul, just as I am commanding you today,* [3]then the LORD your God
will return you from your captivity and have compassion on you, gathering
you again from all the peoples among whom the LORD your God has
scattered you.* [4]Even if you are exiled to the ends of the world,[m] from there
the LORD your God will gather you, and from there he will take you back.*
[5]The LORD your God will bring you into the land that your ancestors
possessed, and you will possess it; he will make you more prosperous and
numerous than your ancestors.

6 "Moreover, the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart
of your descendants, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your
heart and with all your soul, in order that you may live.* [7]The LORD your
God will put all these curses on your enemies and on the adversaries who
took advantage of you. [8]Then you shall again obey the LORD, observing all
his commandments that I am commanding you today, [9]and the LORD your
God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the
fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil.
For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted
in prospering your ancestors,* [10]when you obey the LORD your God by
observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of
the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with
all your soul.

EXHORTATION TO CHOOSE LIFE

11 "Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not
too hard for you, nor is it too far away.* [12]It is not in heaven, that you
should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we

may hear it and observe it?'* 13Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' 14No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

15 "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.* 16If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God[n] that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. 17But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, 18I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.* 19I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live,* 20loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."*

Deuteronomy 31

JOSHUA BECOMES MOSES'S SUCCESSOR

1 When Moses had finished speaking all[o] these words to all Israel, [2]he said
to them, "I am now one hundred twenty years old. I am no longer able to
get about, and the LORD has told me, 'You shall not cross over this Jordan.'*
[3]The LORD your God himself will cross over before you. He will destroy
these nations before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua also will
cross over before you, as the LORD promised.* [4]The LORD will do to them as
he did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when
he destroyed them. [5]The LORD will give them over to you, and you shall
deal with them in full accord with the command that I have given to you.*
[6]Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the LORD
your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."*

7 Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel,
"Be strong and bold, for you are the one who will go with this people into
the land that the LORD has sworn to their ancestors to give them, and you
will put them in possession of it.* [8]It is the LORD who goes before you. He
will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be
dismayed."*

THE LAW TO BE READ EVERY SEVENTH YEAR

9 Then Moses wrote down this law and gave it to the priests, the sons of
Levi, who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and to all the elders
of Israel.* [10]Moses commanded them, "Every seventh year, in the scheduled
year of remission, during the Festival of Booths,[p],* [11]when all Israel comes
to appear before the LORD your God at the place that he will choose, you
shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing.* [12]Assemble the people
—men, women, and children, as well as the aliens residing in your towns—
so that they may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God and to observe
diligently all the words of this law* [13]and so that their children, who have

not known it, may hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as you live in the land that you are crossing over the Jordan to possess."*

MOSES AND JOSHUA RECEIVE GOD'S CHARGE

14 The LORD said to Moses, "Your time to die is near; call Joshua and present yourselves in the tent of meeting, so that I may commission him." So Moses and Joshua went and presented themselves in the tent of meeting,* [15]and the LORD appeared at the tent in a pillar of cloud; the pillar of cloud stood at the entrance to the tent.*

16 The LORD said to Moses, "Soon you will lie down with your ancestors. Then this people will begin to prostitute themselves to the foreign gods in their midst, the gods of the land into which they are going; they will forsake me, breaking my covenant that I have made with them.* [17]My anger will be kindled against them on that day. I will forsake them and hide my face from them; they will become easy prey, and many terrible troubles will come upon them. On that day they will say, 'Have not these troubles come upon us because our God is not in our midst?'* [18]On that day I will surely hide my face on account of all the evil they have done by turning to other gods. [19]Now, therefore, write this song, and teach it to the Israelites; put it in their mouths, in order that this song may be a witness for me against the Israelites. [20]For when I have brought them into the land flowing with milk and honey, which I promised on oath to their ancestors, and they have eaten their fill and grown fat, they will turn to other gods and serve them, despising me and breaking my covenant.* [21]And when many terrible troubles come upon them, this song will confront them as a witness because it will not be lost from the mouths of their descendants. For I know what they are inclined to do even now, before I have brought them into the land that I promised them on oath."* [22]That very day Moses wrote this song and taught it to the Israelites.*

23 Then the LORD[q] commissioned Joshua son of Nun and said, "Be strong and bold, for you shall bring the Israelites into the land that I promised them; I will be with you."*

24 When Moses had finished writing down in a book the words of this law to the very end, [25]Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of

the covenant of the LORD, saying,* 26"Take this book of the law and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God; let it remain there as a witness against you.* 27For I know well how rebellious and stubborn you are. If you already have been so rebellious toward the LORD while I am still alive among you, how much more after my death!* 28Assemble to me all the elders of your tribes and your officials, so that I may recite these words in their hearing and call heaven and earth to witness against them.* 29For I know that after my death you will surely act corruptly, turning aside from the way that I have commanded you. In time to come trouble will befall you, because you will do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger through the work of your hands."*

THE SONG OF MOSES

30 Then Moses recited the words of this song, to the very end, in the hearing of the whole assembly of Israel:

Deuteronomy 32

[1]"Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak;
let the earth hear the words of my mouth.*
[2]May my teaching drop like the rain,
my speech condense like the dew,
like gentle rain on grass,
like showers on new growth.*
[3]For I will proclaim the name of the LORD,
ascribe greatness to our God!*

[4]The Rock, his work is perfect,
and all his ways are just.
A faithful God, without deceit,
just and upright is he;*
[5]yet his degenerate children have dealt falsely with him,[r]
a perverse and crooked generation.*
[6]Do you thus repay the LORD,
O foolish and senseless people?
Is not he your father who created you,
who made you and established you?*
[7]Remember the days of old;
consider the years long past;
ask your father, and he will inform you,
your elders, and they will tell you.*
[8]When the Most High[s] apportioned the nations,
when he divided humankind,
he fixed the boundaries of the peoples
according to the number of the gods;[t],*

9 the LORD's own portion was his people,
Jacob his allotted share.*

10 He sustained[u] him in a desert land,
in a howling wilderness waste;
he shielded him, cared for him,
guarded him as the apple of his eye.*
11 As an eagle stirs up its nest
and hovers over its young,
as it spreads its wings, takes them up,
and bears them aloft on its pinions,*
12 the LORD alone guided him;
no foreign god was with him.*
13 He set him atop the heights of the land
and fed him with[v] produce of the field;
he nursed him with honey from the crags,
with oil from flinty rock,*
14 curds from the herd, and milk from the flock,
with fat of lambs and rams,
Bashan bulls and goats,
together with the choicest wheat—
you drank fine wine from the blood of grapes.*
15 Jacob ate his fill;[w]
Jeshurun grew fat and kicked.
You grew fat, bloated, and gorged!
He abandoned God who made him
and scoffed at the Rock of his salvation.*
16 They made him jealous with strange gods;
with abhorrent things they provoked him.*
17 They sacrificed to demons, not God,

to deities they had never known,
to new ones recently arrived,
whom your ancestors had not feared.*
18 You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you;[x]
you forgot the God who gave you birth.*

19 The LORD saw it and was jealous;[y]
he spurned[z] his sons and daughters.*
20 He said, 'I will hide my face from them;
I will see what their end will be,
for they are a perverse generation,
children in whom there is no faithfulness.*
21 They made me jealous with what is no god,
provoked me with their idols.
So I will make them jealous with what is no people,
provoke them with a foolish nation.*
22 For a fire is kindled by my anger
and burns to the depths of Sheol;
it devours the earth and its increase
and sets on fire the foundations of the mountains.*
23 I will heap disasters upon them,
spend my arrows against them:*
24 wasting hunger,
burning consumption,
bitter pestilence.
The teeth of beasts I will send against them,
with venom of things crawling in the dust.*
25 In the street the sword shall bereave,
and in the chambers terror
for young man and woman alike,

nursing child and old gray head.*
26I said, "I will make an end of them[a]
and blot out the memory of them from humankind,"*
27but I feared provocation by the enemy,
for their adversaries might misunderstand
and say, "Our hand is triumphant;
it was not the LORD who did all this." '*

28They are a nation void of sense;
there is no understanding in them.
29If they were wise, they would understand this;
they would discern what their end would be.*
30How could one have routed a thousand
and two put a myriad to flight,
unless their Rock had sold them,
the LORD had given them up?*
31Indeed, their rock is not like our Rock;
our enemies are fools.[b,*]
32Their vine comes from the vinestock of Sodom,
from the vineyards of Gomorrah;
their grapes are grapes of poison;
their clusters are bitter;
33their wine is the poison of serpents,
the cruel venom of asps.*

34Is not this laid up in store with me,
sealed up in my treasuries,*
35for the day of vengeance[c] and recompense,
for the time when their foot shall slip?
Because the day of their calamity is at hand;

their doom comes swiftly.*

36Indeed, the LORD will vindicate his people,
have compassion on his servants,
when he sees that their power is gone,
neither bond nor free remaining.*
37Then he will say, 'Where are their gods,
the rock in which they took refuge,*
38who ate the fat of their sacrifices
and drank the wine of their libations?
Let them rise up and help you;
let them be your protection!

39See now that I, even I, am he;
there is no god besides me.
I kill, and I make alive;
I wound, and I heal;
and no one can deliver from my hand.*
40For I lift up my hand to heaven
and swear, As I live forever,
41when I whet my flashing sword
and my hand takes hold on judgment,
I will take vengeance on my adversaries
and will repay those who hate me.*
42I will make my arrows drunk with blood,
and my sword shall devour flesh—
with the blood of the slain and the captives,
from the long-haired enemy.'*

43Praise, O heavens,[d] his people;
worship him, all you gods![e]

For he will avenge the blood of his children[f]
and take vengeance on his adversaries;
he will repay those who hate him[g]
and cleanse the land for his people."[h,*]

44 Moses came and recited all the words of this song in the hearing of the people, he and Joshua[i] son of Nun. [45]When Moses had finished reciting all these words to all Israel, [46]he said to them, "Take to heart all the words that I am giving in witness against you today; give them as a command to your children, so that they may diligently observe all the words of this law.[*] [47]This is no trifling matter for you but rather your very life; through it you may live long in the land that you are crossing over the Jordan to possess."[*]

MOSES'S DEATH FORETOLD

48 On that very day the LORD addressed Moses as follows: [49]"Ascend this mountain of the Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab across from Jericho, and view the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites for a possession;[*] [50]you shall die there on the mountain that you ascend and shall be gathered to your kin, as your brother Aaron died on Mount Hor and was gathered to his kin, [51]because both of you broke faith with me among the Israelites at the waters of Meribath-kadesh in the wilderness of Zin, by failing to maintain my holiness among the Israelites.[*] [52]Although you may view the land from a distance, you shall not enter it, the land that I am giving to the Israelites."[*]

Deuteronomy 33

MOSES'S FINAL BLESSING ON ISRAEL

1 This is the blessing with which Moses, the man of God, blessed the Israelites before his death.* 2He said,

"The LORD came from Sinai
and dawned from Seir upon us;[j]
he shone forth from Mount Paran.
With him were myriads of holy ones,[k]
at his right, a host of his own.[l,*]
3Indeed, O favorite among[m] peoples,
all his holy ones were in your charge;
they marched at your heels,
accepted direction from you.*
4Moses charged us with the law
as a possession for the assembly of Jacob.*
5There arose a king in Jeshurun
when the leaders of the people assembled,
the united tribes of Israel.

6May Reuben live and not die out,
even though his numbers are few."

7And this he said of Judah,

"O LORD, give heed to Judah,
and bring him to his people;
strengthen his hands for him,[n]
and be a help against his adversaries."*

8And of Levi he said,

"Give to Levi[o] your Thummim
and your Urim to your loyal one,
whom you tested at Massah,
with whom you contended at the waters of Meribah,*
9who said of his father and mother,
'I regard them not';
he ignored his kin
and did not acknowledge his children.
For they observed your word
and kept your covenant.*
10They teach Jacob your ordinances
and Israel your law;
they place incense before you
and whole burnt offerings on your altar.*
11Bless, O LORD, his substance,
and accept the work of his hands;
crush the loins of his adversaries,
of those who hate him, so that they do not rise again."*

12Of Benjamin he said,
"The beloved of the LORD rests in safety—
the Most High[p] surrounds him all day long—
and he rests between his shoulders."

13And of Joseph he said,
"Blessed by the LORD be his land,
with the choice gifts of heaven above
and of the deep that lies beneath,*
14with the choice fruits of the sun
and the rich yield of the months,

15 with the finest produce of the ancient mountains
and the abundance of the everlasting hills,*
16 with the choice gifts of the earth and its fullness
and the favor of the one who dwells on Sinai.[q]
Let these come on the head of Joseph,
on the brow of the prince among his brothers.*
17 A firstborn[r] bull—majesty is his!
His horns are the horns of a wild ox;
with them he gores the peoples
all together to the ends of the earth;
such are the myriads of Ephraim,
such the thousands of Manasseh."*

18 And of Zebulun he said,
"Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out,
and Issachar, in your tents.*
19 They call peoples to the mountain;
there they offer the right sacrifices,
for they suck the affluence of the seas
and the hidden treasures of the sand."*

20 And of Gad he said,
"Blessed be the enlargement of Gad!
Like a lion he lives;
he tears at arm and scalp.*
21 He chose the best for himself,
for there a commander's allotment was reserved;
he came at the head of the people;
he executed the justice of the LORD
and his ordinances with Israel."*

[22]And of Dan he said,
"Dan is a lion's whelp
that leaps forth from Bashan."*

[23]And of Naphtali he said,
"O Naphtali, sated with favor,
full of the blessing of the LORD,
possess the west and the south."*

[24]And of Asher he said,
"Most blessed of sons be Asher;
may he be the favorite of his brothers,
and may he dip his foot in oil.*
[25]Your bars are iron and bronze,
and as your days, so is your strength.[s,*]

[26]There is none like God, O Jeshurun,
who rides through the heavens to your help,
majestic through the clouds.*
[27]He subdues the ancient gods,[t]
shatters[u] the forces of old;[v]
he drove out the enemy before you
and said, 'Destroy!'*
[28]So Israel lives in safety,
untroubled is Jacob's abode[w]
in a land of grain and wine,
where the heavens drop down dew.*
[29]Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you,
a people saved by the LORD,
the shield of your help
and the sword of your triumph!

Your enemies shall come fawning to you,
but you shall tread on their backs."*

Deuteronomy 34

MOSES DIES AND IS BURIED IN THE LAND OF MOAB

1 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top
of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole
land: Gilead as far as Dan, [2]all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and
Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, [3]the Negeb, and
the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as
Zoar. [4]The LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to
Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.'
I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there."*
[5]Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the
LORD's command.* [6]He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite
Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. [7]Moses was one
hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired, and his
vigor had not abated.* [8]The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab
thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

9 Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom because Moses had
laid his hands on him, and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had
commanded Moses.*

10 Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the
LORD knew face to face.* [11]He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders
that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and
all his servants and his entire land,* [12]and for all the mighty deeds and all
the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all
Israel.

Deuteronomy 1

* **1.3** Num 33.38
* **1.4** Num 21.24, 33
* **1.6** Ex 3.1; Num 10.11–13
a **1.7** Q ms Sam Vg: MT *and the Negeb*
* **1.8** Gen 12.7; 15.18; 17.7, 8; 26.4; 28.13
* **1.9** Ex 18.18
* **1.10** Gen 15.5; Deut 10.22
* **1.11** Gen 22.17; Ex 32.13
* **1.13** Ex 18.21
* **1.15** Ex 18.25
* **1.16** Lev 24.22; Deut 16.18
* **1.17** Ex 18.19–26; Lev 19.15; Jas 2.1
* **1.19** v 2; Num 13.26; Deut 8.15
* **1.21** Josh 1.9
* **1.23** Num 13.1–3
* **1.24** Num 13.22–24
* **1.25** Num 13.27
* **1.26** Num 14.1–4
* **1.27** Deut 9.28; Ps 106.25
* **1.28** Num 13.28, 31–33; Deut 9.1, 2
* **1.30** Ex 14.14; Deut 3.22
* **1.31** Deut 32.11, 12; Acts 13.18
* **1.32** Ps 106.24
* **1.33** Ex 13.21; Num 10.33
* **1.34** Num 14.22–30
* **1.37** Num 20.12; Deut 3.26; Ps 106.32
* **1.38** Num 14.30; Deut 3.28; 31.7
* **1.39** Num 14.3, 31
b **1.40** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **1.40** Num 14.25
* **1.41** Num 14.40
* **1.42** Num 14.42
* **1.43** Num 14.44, 45
* **1.44** Ps 118.12

Deuteronomy 2

c **2.1** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **2.1** Num 21.4

* **2.4** Num 20.14
* **2.5** Josh 24.4
* **2.7** Deut 8.2–4
* **2.8** Judg 11.18
* **2.9** v 18; Gen 19.36, 37; Num 21.28
* **2.10** Gen 14.5; Num 13.22, 33
* **2.12** v 22
* **2.14** Num 13.26; 14.29–35
* **2.15** Ps 106.26
* **2.19** v 9

d **2.21** Heb *before them*

* **2.21** v 10
* **2.22** v 12; Gen 36.8
* **2.23** Gen 10.14; Josh 13.3; Am 9.7
* **2.24** Judg 11.18
* **2.25** Ex 15.14, 15; Deut 11.25; Josh 2.9, 10
* **2.26** Deut 20.10
* **2.27** Num 21.21, 22
* **2.28** Num 20.19
* **2.30** Num 21.23
* **2.31** Deut 1.8
* **2.32** Num 21.23, 24
* **2.34** Deut 3.6; 7.2; 20.16
* **2.36** Deut 3.12; 4.48; Ps 44.3

e **2.37** Gk Tg: Heb *and all*

* **2.37** Num 21.24

Deuteronomy 3

* **3.1** Num 21.33–35
* **3.2** Num 21.34
* **3.3** Num 21.35
* **3.4** 1 Kings 4.13
* **3.6** Deut 2.24, 34
* **3.9** Ps 29.6
* **3.11** Gen 14.5; 2 Sam 12.26; Jer 49.2; Am 2.9

f **3.12** Heb *territory from Aroer*

* **3.12** Num 32.32–38; Deut 2.36; Josh 13.8–13

g **3.14** That is, *settlement of Jair*

* **3.14** Num 32.41; 1 Chr 2.22
* **3.15** Num 32.39

h **3.17** Heb *Salt Sea*

* **3.17** Num 34.11; Josh 13.27
* **3.18** Num 32.20
* **3.20** Josh 22.4
* **3.22** Deut 1.30
* **3.24** Ex 15.11; Ps 86.8
* **3.26** Deut 1.37; 31.2
* **3.27** Num 27.12
* **3.28** Num 27.18, 23; Deut 31.3, 7
* **3.29** Deut 4.46; 34.6

Deuteronomy 4

* **4.1** Deut 5.33; 8.1; 16.20; 30.16, 19
* **4.2** Deut 12.32; Josh 1.7; Rev 22.18, 19
* **4.3** Num 25.4; Ps 106.28, 29
* **4.6** Deut 30.19, 20; 32.46, 47
* **4.7** 2 Sam 7.23; Ps 46.1; Isa 55.6
* **4.9** Gen 18.19; Deut 6.7; 11.19; Ps 78.5, 6; Prov 4.23; Eph 6.4
* **4.10** Ex 19.9, 16
* **4.11** Ex 19.18; Heb 12.18, 19
* **4.12** Ex 20.22; Deut 5.4, 22
i **4.13** Heb *the ten words*
* **4.13** Ex 24.12; 31.18; 34.28; Deut 9.9, 11
* **4.16** Ex 20.4, 5; 32.7; Deut 5.8
* **4.19** Deut 17.3; 2 Kings 17.16; Rom 1.25
* **4.20** Deut 9.29; 1 Kings 8.51; Jer 11.4
* **4.21** Deut 1.37
* **4.22** Deut 3.25, 27
* **4.23** vv 9, 16; Ex 20.4, 5
* **4.24** Ex 24.17; Deut 6.15; 9.3; Heb 12.29
* **4.25** vv 16, 23; 2 Kings 17.17
* **4.26** Deut 30.18, 19
* **4.27** Deut 28.62, 64
* **4.28** Deut 28.64; 1 Sam 26.19; Ps 115.4, 5
* **4.29** Deut 30.1–3; 2 Chr 15.4; Isa 55.6, 7; Jer 29.12–14
* **4.31** 2 Chr 30.9; Ps 116.5
* **4.32** Gen 1.27; Deut 28.64; 32.7
* **4.33** Ex 20.22; Deut 5.24, 26
* **4.34** Ex 6.6; 7.3; 13.3; Deut 7.19; 26.8; 34.12
* **4.35** Deut 32.39; 1 Sam 2.2; Isa 45.5, 18; Mk 12.29
* **4.36** Ex 19.9, 19; Heb 12.18
* **4.37** Ex 13.3, 9, 14; Deut 10.15

* **4.38** Deut 7.1; 9.1, 4, 5
* **4.39** v 35; Josh 2.11
* **4.40** Lev 22.31; Deut 5.16, 29, 33; Eph 6.2, 3
* **4.41** Num 35.6
* **4.46** Num 21.21–25; Deut 3.29
j **4.48** Syr: Heb *Sion*
* **4.48** Deut 2.36; 3.12

Deuteronomy 5

* **5.2** Ex 19.5
* **5.4** Ex 19.9, 19; Deut 4.33, 36
* **5.5** Ex 20.18, 21
* **5.6** Ex 20.2–17
k **5.7** Or *besides*
* **5.9** Ex 34.7
l **5.10** Or *to thousands*
* **5.10** Jer 32.18
* **5.14** Gen 2.2; Ex 16.29, 30
* **5.15** Deut 4.34, 37; 15.15
m **5.17** Or *kill*
* **5.21** Rom 7.7; 13.9
* **5.22** Ex 31.18; Deut 4.13
* **5.24** Ex 19.19
* **5.25** Deut 18.16
* **5.26** Deut 4.33
* **5.28** Deut 18.17
* **5.29** Deut 4.40; Ps 81.13; Isa 48.18
* **5.31** Ex 24.12
* **5.32** Deut 17.20; 28.14; Josh 1.7; 23.6
* **5.33** Deut 4.40

Deuteronomy 6

* **6.2** Ex 20.20; Deut 10.12, 13
* **6.3** Gen 15.5; Ex 3.8; Deut 5.33
n **6.4** Or *The* LORD *our God is one* LORD, or *The* LORD *our God, the* LORD *is one*, or *The* LORD *is our God, the* LORD *is one*
* **6.4** Mk 12.29, 32; Jn 17.3; 1 Cor 8.4, 6
* **6.5** Deut 10.12; Mt 22.37; Lk 10.27
* **6.7** Deut 4.9; Eph 6.4
o **6.8** Or *as a frontlet*

* **6.8** Ex 13.9, 16; Deut 11.18
* **6.9** Deut 11.20
* **6.10** Deut 9.1; Josh 24.13
* **6.11** Deut 8.10
* **6.13** Deut 10.20
* **6.15** Deut 4.24
* **6.16** Ex 17.2, 7; Mt 4.7
* **6.17** Deut 11.22
* **6.18** Deut 4.40
* **6.20** Ex 13.14
* **6.24** Deut 10.12
* **6.25** Deut 24.13

Deuteronomy 7

* **7.1** Deut 31.3; Acts 13.19
* **7.2** Ex 23.32; Deut 13.8
* **7.3** Ex 34.15, 16
* **7.4** Deut 6.15

p **7.5** Or *Asherahs*

* **7.5** Ex 23.24
* **7.6** Ex 19.5, 6; Deut 14.2
* **7.7** Deut 10.22
* **7.8** Ex 13.3, 14; 32.13; Deut 10.15
* **7.9** Deut 4.35, 39; Neh 1.5
* **7.12** Lev 26.3; Deut 28.1; Ps 105.8, 9
* **7.13** Deut 28.4
* **7.14** Ex 23.26
* **7.15** Ex 15.26
* **7.16** v 2; Ex 23.33
* **7.18** Deut 31.6
* **7.19** Deut 4.34

q **7.20** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **7.20** Ex 23.28; Josh 24.12
* **7.21** Deut 10.17
* **7.22** Ex 23.29, 30
* **7.24** v 16
* **7.25** Josh 7.1, 21; Judg 8.27; 1 Chr 14.12

Deuteronomy 8

* **8.1** Deut 4.1

* **8.2** Deut 13.3; 29.5
* **8.3** Ex 16.2, 3, 12, 14, 35; Mt 4.4; Lk 4.4
* **8.4** Deut 29.5
* **8.5** Prov 3.12; Heb 12.5, 6
* **8.6** Deut 5.33
* **8.7** Deut 11.10–12
* **8.10** Deut 6.11, 12
* **8.14** Ps 106.21
r **8.15** Or *fiery*
* **8.15** Num 20.11; 21.6; Ps 78.15; 114.8
* **8.16** vv 2, 3; Ex 16.15
* **8.18** Prov 10.22; Hos 2.8
* **8.19** Deut 4.26; 30.18

Deuteronomy 9

* **9.1** Deut 11.31
* **9.2** Num 13.22, 28, 32, 33
* **9.3** Deut 4.24; 7.23, 24; 31.3
* **9.4** Lev 18.24, 25; Deut 8.17; 18.12
* **9.5** Gen 12.7
* **9.6** v 13; Ex 32.9; Deut 31.27
* **9.8** Ex 32.7–10
* **9.9** Ex 24.12, 15, 18
* **9.10** Ex 31.18; Deut 4.13
* **9.12** Ex 32.7, 8; Deut 31.29
* **9.13** v 6; Ex 32.9
* **9.14** Ex 32.10; Num 14.12; Deut 29.20
* **9.15** Ex 19.18; 32.15–19
s **9.16** Gk: Heb *image of a calf*
* **9.16** Ex 32.19
* **9.18** Ex 34.28
* **9.19** Ex 32.10–14
* **9.21** Ex 32.20
* **9.22** Ex 17.7; Num 11.3, 34
t **9.24** Sam Gk: MT *I have*
* **9.24** v 7; Deut 31.27
* **9.25** v 18
* **9.26** Ex 32.11–13
* **9.29** Deut 4.34

Deuteronomy 10

* **10.1** Ex 25.10; 34.1, 2
* **10.2** Ex 25.16, 21; Deut 4.13
* **10.3** Ex 34.4; 37.1
u **10.4** Heb *the ten words*
* **10.4** Ex 20.1
* **10.5** Ex 40.20
v **10.6** Or *the wells of the Bene-jaakan*
* **10.6** Num 33.30, 31, 38
* **10.7** Num 33.32–34
* **10.8** Num 3.6; 4.15; Deut 18.5; 21.5
* **10.9** Num 18.20, 24
* **10.10** Ex 33.17; Deut 9.18, 25
* **10.12** Deut 5.33; 6.5, 13; Mic 6.8
* **10.14** Ex 19.5; 1 Kings 8.27
* **10.15** Deut 4.37
* **10.16** Deut 9.6; Jer 4.4
* **10.17** Josh 22.22; Acts 10.34; Rev 19.16
* **10.18** Ps 68.5
* **10.19** Lev 19.34
* **10.20** Deut 11.22; Ps 63.11; Mt 4.10
* **10.21** Ex 15.2; Ps 106.21, 22
* **10.22** Gen 46.27; Deut 1.10

Deuteronomy 11

* **11.1** Deut 10.12; Zech 3.7
* **11.2** Deut 5.24; 8.5
w **11.4** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **11.4** Ex 14.27, 28
* **11.6** Num 16.31–33
* **11.8** Josh 1.6, 7
* **11.9** Ex 3.8; Deut 4.40; 9.5
* **11.11** Deut 8.7
x **11.13** Compare Gk: Heb *my commandments*
* **11.13** v 22; Deut 6.17; 10.12
y **11.14** Sam Gk Vg: MT *I*
* **11.14** Deut 28.12; Joel 2.23
z **11.15** Sam Gk Vg: MT *I*
* **11.15** Deut 6.11
* **11.16** Deut 8.19; 29.18

* **11.17** Deut 4.26; 6.15; 1 Kings 8.35
* **11.18** Deut 6.6, 8
* **11.19** Deut 4.9, 10; 6.7
* **11.20** Deut 6.9
* **11.22** Deut 6.17; 10.20
* **11.23** Deut 9.1, 5
* **11.24** Gen 15.18; Ex 23.31; Josh 1.3
* **11.25** Ex 23.27; Deut 7.24
* **11.26** Deut 30.1, 19
* **11.27** Deut 28.3
* **11.28** Deut 28.15
* **11.29** Deut 27.12; Josh 8.33

a **11.30** Gk Syr: Heb *oaks* or *terebinths*

* **11.30** Gen 12.6; Josh 4.19
* **11.31** Deut 9.1; Josh 1.11

Deuteronomy 12

* **12.1** Deut 4.9, 10

b **12.3** Or *Asherahs*

* **12.3** Deut 7.5
* **12.5** v 11
* **12.7** vv 12, 18; Deut 14.26
* **12.10** Deut 11.31
* **12.11** v 5
* **12.12** v 7; Deut 10.9
* **12.14** v 11
* **12.15** vv 20–23; Deut 14.5
* **12.16** Lev 17.10–12
* **12.18** vv 5, 7, 12
* **12.19** Deut 14.27
* **12.20** Gen 15.18
* **12.22** v 15
* **12.23** v 16; Lev 17.11, 14
* **12.25** Deut 4.40; 13.18
* **12.26** v 17

c **12.27** Or *on*

* **12.28** v 25; Deut 4.40
* **12.31** Deut 9.5; 18.10

d **12.32** 13.1 in Heb

* **12.32** Deut 4.2

Deuteronomy 13

e **13.1** 13.2 in Heb
* **13.1** Mt 24.24; Mk 13.22
* **13.2** vv 6, 13
* **13.3** Deut 8.2, 16
* **13.4** Deut 10.20; 2 Kings 23.3
* **13.5** Deut 17.7; 18.20
f **13.6** Sam Gk Compare Tg: MT lacks *your father's son or*
* **13.6** Deut 17.2–7; 29.18
* **13.9** Deut 17.5, 7
* **13.11** Deut 19.20
* **13.13** vv 2, 6; 1 Jn 2.19
* **13.15** Ex 22.20
* **13.16** Josh 6.24; 8.28
* **13.17** Num 25.4; Deut 7.13; 30.3
* **13.18** Deut 12.28

Deuteronomy 14

* **14.1** Lev 21.5; Rom 8.16
* **14.2** Deut 7.6
* **14.4** Lev 11.2–45; Acts 10.14
* **14.8** Lev 11.26, 27
* **14.9** Lev 11.9
* **14.12** Lev 11.13
g **14.17** Or *pelican*
h **14.18** Identification of several of the birds in 14.12–18 is uncertain
* **14.19** Lev 11.20
* **14.21** v 2; Ex 23.19; 34.26; Lev 17.15
* **14.22** Lev 27.30
* **14.23** Deut 4.10; 12.5–7
* **14.24** Deut 12.5, 21
* **14.26** Deut 12.7, 18
* **14.27** Num 18.20; Deut 12.12
* **14.28** Deut 26.12
* **14.29** v 27; Deut 15.10; 26.12

Deuteronomy 15

* **15.1** Deut 31.10
i **15.2** Q ms: MT adds *of a neighbor who is a member of the community*
* **15.5** Deut 28.1

* **15.6** Deut 28.12, 13
* **15.7** 1 Jn 3.17
* **15.8** Lev 25.35
j **15.9** Heb *he*
* **15.9** v 1; Deut 24.15
* **15.10** Deut 24.19; 2 Cor 9.5, 7
* **15.11** Mt 26.11; Mk 14.7; Jn 12.8
k **15.12** Or *sells himself or herself*
* **15.12** Ex 21.2; Lev 25.39
l **15.13** Heb *him*
* **15.15** Deut 5.15; 16.12
* **15.16** Ex 21.5, 6
* **15.19** Ex 13.2
* **15.20** Deut 12.5–7, 17
* **15.21** Lev 22.19–25
* **15.22** Deut 12.15, 22
* **15.23** Deut 12.16

Deuteronomy 16

m **16.1** Or *new moon*
* **16.1** Ex 12.2, 29, 42; 13.4
* **16.2** Deut 12.5, 26
* **16.3** Ex 12.8, 15
* **16.4** Ex 12.10; 13.7
* **16.6** Ex 12.6; Deut 12.5
* **16.7** Ex 12.8, 9
* **16.8** Ex 12.16
* **16.9** Ex 23.16; 34.22; Lev 23.15; Num 28.26
* **16.11** Deut 12.7, 12
* **16.12** Deut 15.15
n **16.13** Or *Tabernacles*
* **16.13** Ex 23.16; Lev 23.34
* **16.14** v 11
* **16.15** Lev 23.39
o **16.16** Or *Tabernacles*
* **16.16** Ex 23.14–17; 34.20, 23
* **16.18** Deut 1.16
* **16.19** Ex 23.8; Deut 1.17
p **16.21** Or *Asherah*
* **16.21** Ex 34.13; Deut 7.5

Deuteronomy 17

* **17.1** Deut 15.21; Mal 1.8, 13
* **17.2** Deut 13.6
* **17.4** Deut 13.12, 14
* **17.6** Num 35.30; Deut 19.15; Mt 18.16
* **17.7** Deut 13.5, 9
* **17.8** Deut 12.5
* **17.9** Deut 19.17; Ezek 44.24
* **17.11** Deut 25.1
* **17.13** Deut 13.11; 19.20
* **17.14** Deut 11.31; 1 Sam 8.5, 19, 20
* **17.15** Jer 30.21
* **17.16** 1 Kings 4.26; 10.26, 28; Isa 31.1; Ezek 17.15
* **17.17** 1 Kings 11.3, 4
* **17.18** Deut 31.24–26
* **17.19** Josh 1.8
* **17.20** Deut 5.32

Deuteronomy 18

q **18.1** Or *the gifts*
r **18.1** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **18.1** Deut 10.9; 1 Cor 9.13
* **18.3** Lev 7.30–34
* **18.4** Num 18.12
s **18.5** Heb *him*
* **18.5** Deut 10.8
t **18.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **18.8** Neh 12.44, 47
* **18.9** Deut 12.29–31
* **18.10** Lev 19.26, 31; Deut 12.31
* **18.12** Deut 9.4
u **18.15** Heb *him*
* **18.15** Jn 1.21; Acts 3.22; 7.37
* **18.16** Ex 20.19; Deut 5.23–27
* **18.17** Deut 5.28
v **18.18** Heb *in his mouth*
* **18.18** v 15; Isa 51.16; Jn 4.25, 26
w **18.19** Heb *he*
* **18.19** Acts 3.23
* **18.20** Deut 13.1, 2, 5

* **18.22** v 20; Jer 28.9

Deuteronomy 19

* **19.1** Deut 12.29
* **19.2** Num 35.10, 14
x **19.3** Or *prepare roads to them*
* **19.4** Num 35.13
* **19.6** Num 35.12
* **19.9** Josh 20.7, 8
* **19.10** Num 35.33; Deut 21.1–9
* **19.13** Deut 7.2
* **19.14** Deut 27.17
* **19.15** Num 35.30; Deut 17.6; Mt 18.16; 2 Cor 13.1
* **19.16** Ex 23.1; Ps 27.12
* **19.17** Deut 17.9
* **19.19** Prov 19.5, 9
* **19.21** v 13; Ex 21.23; Lev 24.20; Mt 5.38

Deuteronomy 20

* **20.1** Deut 31.6, 8
* **20.3** v 1; Josh 23.10
* **20.4** Deut 1.30
* **20.6** 1 Cor 9.7
* **20.7** Deut 24.5
* **20.8** Judg 7.3
* **20.10** Lk 14.31
* **20.14** Josh 8.2; 22.8
* **20.16** Deut 7.1, 2; Josh 11.14
* **20.18** Ex 23.33

Deuteronomy 21

* **21.1** Josh 1.6
* **21.5** Deut 17.8–11
* **21.8** Jon 1.8
* **21.9** Deut 19.13
* **21.12** Lev 14.8, 9; Num 6.9
* **21.16** 1 Chr 26.10
y **21.17** Heb *two-thirds*
* **21.17** Gen 49.3
* **21.18** Isa 30.1

* **21.21** Deut 13.5, 11
* **21.23** Josh 8.29; 10.26, 27; Jn 19.31; Gal 3.13

Deuteronomy 22

* **22.1** Ex 23.4
* **22.4** Ex 23.5
* **22.6** Lev 22.28
* **22.7** Deut 4.40
* **22.9** Lev 19.19
* **22.11** Lev 19.19
* **22.12** Num 15.37–41; Mt 23.5
* **22.13** Deut 24.1
* **22.15** vv 23ff
* **22.21** Deut 13.5; 23.17, 18
* **22.22** Lev 20.10; Jn 8.5
* **22.24** vv 21, 22
* **22.25** Jn 8.1–11
* **22.28** Ex 22.16, 17

z **22.30** 23.1 in Heb

a **22.30** Heb *uncovering his father's skirt*

* **22.30** Deut 27.20

Deuteronomy 23

* **23.17** Deut 22.21

b **23.19** Heb *to your brother*

* **23.19** Ex 22.25; Lev 25.36, 37

c **23.20** Heb *to your brother*

* **23.20** Deut 28.12
* **23.21** Num 30.2; Mt 5.33
* **23.25** Mt 12.1; Mk 2.23; Lk 6.1

Deuteronomy 24

* **24.2** Deut 22.13–21; Mt 5.31; 19.7; Mk 10.4
* **24.4** Jer 3.1
* **24.5** Deut 20.7
* **24.7** Ex 21.16
* **24.8** Lev 13.2; 14.2
* **24.9** Num 12.10

d **24.12** Heb lacks *the garment given you as*

* **24.13** Ex 22.26; Deut 6.25

* **24.14** Lev 25.35–43; Deut 15.7–18
* **24.15** Lev 19.13; Deut 15.9; Jas 5.4
* **24.16** 2 Kings 14.6; 2 Chr 25.4; Jer 31.29, 30; Ezek 18.20
* **24.17** Deut 1.17; 10.17; 16.19
* **24.18** Deut 16.12
* **24.19** Lev 19.9, 10; 23.22
* **24.20** Lev 19.10
* **24.22** v 18

Deuteronomy 25

* **25.1** Deut 1.16, 17; 19.17
* **25.3** 2 Cor 11.24
* **25.4** 1 Cor 9.9; 1 Tim 5.18
* **25.5** Mt 22.24; Mk 12.19; Lk 20.28
* **25.6** Gen 38.9; Ruth 4.10
* **25.7** Ruth 4.1, 2
* **25.8** Ruth 4.6
* **25.9** Ruth 4.7, 11
* **25.13** Lev 19.35–37
* **25.16** Prov 11.1
* **25.17** Ex 17.8
* **25.19** 1 Sam 15.2, 3

Deuteronomy 26

* **26.2** Ex 22.29; 23.16, 19; Num 18.13
* **26.5** Gen 43.1, 2; 45.7, 11; 46.27; Deut 10.22; Hos 12.12
* **26.6** Ex 1.11, 14
* **26.7** Ex 2.23–25
* **26.8** Deut 4.34
* **26.9** Ex 3.8
* **26.11** Deut 12.7
* **26.12** Deut 14.28, 29; Heb 7.5, 9, 10
* **26.13** Ps 119.141, 153, 176
* **26.14** Lev 7.20; Hos 9.4
* **26.16** Deut 4.29
* **26.18** Deut 7.6
* **26.19** Deut 7.6; 28.1; Ps 148.14

Deuteronomy 27

* **27.2** Josh 8.30–32

* **27.3** Deut 26.9
* **27.5** Ex 20.25; Josh 8.31
e **27.6** Heb *whole*
* **27.9** Deut 26.18
* **27.12** Josh 8.33–35
* **27.15** Ex 20.4, 23; 34.17
* **27.16** Ex 21.17; Lev 20.9
* **27.17** Deut 19.14
* **27.18** Lev 19.14
* **27.19** Deut 10.18; 24.17
f **27.20** Heb *uncovered his father's skirt*
* **27.20** Lev 18.8; Deut 22.30
* **27.21** Lev 18.23
* **27.22** Lev 18.9; 20.17
* **27.23** Lev 20.14
* **27.24** Lev 24.17; Num 35.31
* **27.25** Ex 23.7, 8
* **27.26** Deut 28.15; Gal 3.10

Deuteronomy 28

* **28.1** Deut 7.12–26; 26.19
* **28.3** Gen 39.5
* **28.4** Gen 49.25; Ps 107.38; Prov 10.22
* **28.7** Lev 26.7, 8
* **28.9** Deut 7.6
* **28.10** 2 Chr 7.14
* **28.11** Deut 30.9
* **28.12** Lev 26.4; Deut 15.6
* **28.14** Deut 5.32
* **28.15** Lev 26.14; Josh 23.15; Mal 2.2
* **28.20** Deut 4.26
* **28.21** Lev 26.25; Jer 24.10
g **28.22** Gk Syr Tg: MT *the sword*
* **28.22** Lev 26.16; Am 4.9
* **28.23** Lev 26.19
* **28.25** Lev 26.17, 37; Jer 15.4
* **28.26** Jer 7.33; 16.4; 34.20
* **28.27** vv 60, 61
* **28.29** Job 5.14; Isa 59.10
* **28.30** Jer 8.10; 12.13; Am 5.11
* **28.32** v 41

* **28.33** Jer 5.17
* **28.35** v 27
* **28.36** Deut 4.28; 2 Kings 17.4, 6; 24.12, 14; 25.7, 11
* **28.37** Ps 44.14; Jer 24.9
* **28.38** Mic 6.15
* **28.41** v 32
* **28.42** v 38
* **28.43** v 13
* **28.44** vv 12, 13
* **28.45** v 15
* **28.47** Deut 32.15
* **28.48** Jer 28.13, 14
* **28.49** Jer 5.15
* **28.51** v 33
* **28.52** Jer 10.17, 18; Zeph 1.15, 16
* **28.53** Lev 26.29; Jer 19.9; Lam 2.20
* **28.56** v 54
* **28.58** Ex 6.3
* **28.60** v 27
* **28.61** Deut 4.25, 26
* **28.62** Deut 4.27; 10.22
* **28.63** Jer 12.14; 45.4
* **28.64** Deut 4.27, 28
* **28.65** Lev 26.16, 36
* **28.67** v 34

Deuteronomy 29

h **29.1** 28.69 in Heb
* **29.1** Deut 5.2, 3
i **29.2** 29.1 in Heb
* **29.2** Ex 19.4
* **29.4** Isa 6.9, 10; Acts 28.26, 27; Eph 4.18
* **29.5** Deut 8.4
* **29.6** Deut 8.3
* **29.7** Num 21.21–24, 33–35; Deut 2.32; 3.1
* **29.8** Num 32.33; Deut 3.12, 13
j **29.9** Or *deal wisely*
* **29.9** Deut 4.6; Josh 1.7
k **29.10** Gk Syr: Heb *your leaders, your tribes*
* **29.11** Josh 9.21, 23, 27
* **29.13** Gen 17.7; Ex 6.7; Deut 28.9

* **29.17** Deut 28.36
* **29.18** Deut 11.16; Heb 12.15
l **29.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **29.20** Ex 32.33; Deut 9.14; Ps 74.1; 79.5
* **29.21** Mt 24.51
* **29.22** Jer 19.8
* **29.23** Gen 19.24; Isa 34.9; Jer 20.16
* **29.24** Jer 22.8, 9
* **29.28** 1 Kings 14.15; 2 Chr 7.20

Deuteronomy 30

* **30.1** vv 15, 19; Deut 11.26; 28.64; 29.28
* **30.2** Deut 4.29, 30
* **30.3** Jer 29.14; 32.37
m **30.4** Heb *of heaven*
* **30.4** Neh 1.9; Isa 43.6
* **30.6** Jer 32.39
* **30.9** Deut 28.11; Jer 32.41
* **30.11** Isa 45.19
* **30.12** Rom 10.6–8
* **30.15** vv 1, 19
n **30.16** Gk: Heb lacks *If you obey the commandments of the* LORD *your God*
* **30.18** Deut 4.26
* **30.19** v 1; Deut 4.26
* **30.20** Deut 6.5; 10.20; Ps 27.1; Jn 11.25

Deuteronomy 31

o **31.1** Q ms Gk: MT *Moses went and spoke*
* **31.2** Deut 3.27; 34.7
* **31.3** Deut 3.28; 9.3
* **31.5** Deut 7.2
* **31.6** Deut 1.29; 20.4; Josh 10.25; Heb 13.5
* **31.7** Deut 1.38; 3.28
* **31.8** v 6
* **31.9** v 25; Num 4.15
p **31.10** Or *Tabernacles*
* **31.10** Lev 23.34; Deut 15.1
* **31.11** Deut 16.16; Josh 8.34, 35
* **31.12** Deut 4.10
* **31.13** Deut 11.2; Ps 78.6, 7

* **31.14** v 23; Deut 32.49, 50
* **31.15** Ex 33.9
* **31.16** Judg 2.11, 12; 10.6, 13
* **31.17** Num 14.42; Deut 32.20; Judg 2.14; 6.13
* **31.20** v 16; Deut 6.10–12; 32.15–17
* **31.21** v 19; Hos 5.3
* **31.22** v 19
q **31.23** Heb *he*
* **31.23** v 7; Josh 1.6
* **31.25** v 9
* **31.26** v 19
* **31.27** Deut 9.6, 24
* **31.28** Deut 4.26
* **31.29** Deut 28.15; 32.5

Deuteronomy 32

* **32.1** Isa 1.2
* **32.2** Isa 55.10, 11
* **32.3** Ex 33.19; Deut 3.24
* **32.4** vv 15, 18, 30; Deut 7.9; Ps 92.15
r **32.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **32.5** Deut 31.29; Lk 9.41
* **32.6** Deut 1.31
* **32.7** Ex 13.14
s **32.8** Traditional rendering of Heb *Elyon*
t **32.8** Q ms Compare Gk Tg: MT *the Israelites*
* **32.8** Gen 11.8; Acts 17.26
* **32.9** 1 Kings 8.51, 53; Jer 10.16
u **32.10** Sam Gk Compare Tg: MT *found*
* **32.10** Jer 2.6; Zech 2.8
* **32.11** Ex 19.4; Isa 31.5
* **32.12** v 39
v **32.13** Sam Gk Syr Tg: MT *he ate*
* **32.13** Job 29.6; Isa 58.14
* **32.14** Ps 147.14
w **32.15** Q mss Sam Gk: MT lacks *Jacob ate his fill*
* **32.15** Deut 33.5, 26; Isa 1.4
* **32.16** Ps 78.58; 1 Cor 10.22
* **32.17** Deut 28.64; Judg 5.8; Ps 106.37
x **32.18** Or *that fathered you*
* **32.18** Ps 106.21; Isa 17.10

y **32.19** Q mss Gk: MT lacks *was jealous*
z **32.19** Cn: Heb *he spurned because of provocation*
* **32.19** Ps 106.40; Jer 44.21–23
* **32.20** v 5; Deut 31.17, 29
* **32.21** v 16; Rom 10.19
* **32.22** Jer 15.14
* **32.23** Deut 29.21; Ezek 5.16
* **32.24** v 33; Lev 26.22; Deut 28.22
* **32.25** 2 Chr 36.17; Ezek 7.15
a **32.26** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **32.26** Deut 4.27; Ps 34.16
* **32.27** Deut 9.26–28; Isa 10.13
* **32.29** Ps 81.13
* **32.30** v 4; Lev 26.7, 8
b **32.31** Gk: Heb *judges*
* **32.31** 1 Sam 2.2; 4.8
* **32.33** Ps 58.4
* **32.34** Hos 13.12
c **32.35** Sam Gk: MT *vengeance is mine*
* **32.35** Rom 12.19; Heb 10.30
* **32.36** Judg 2.18; Ps 106.45; 135.14; Joel 2.14
* **32.37** Jer 2.28
* **32.39** Ps 50.22; Isa 41.4
* **32.41** Ezek 21.9, 10
* **32.42** Jer 46.10
d **32.43** Q ms Gk: MT *nations*
e **32.43** Q ms Gk: MT lacks this line
f **32.43** Q ms Gk: MT *his servants*
g **32.43** Q ms Gk: MT lacks this line
h **32.43** Q ms Sam Gk Vg: MT *his land his people*
* **32.43** Ps 85.1; Rom 15.10; Rev 19.2
i **32.44** Sam Gk Syr Vg: MT *Hoshea*
* **32.46** Deut 6.6; Ezek 40.4
* **32.47** Deut 30.20
* **32.49** Num 27.12–14
* **32.51** Num 20.11–13; 27.14
* **32.52** Deut 1.37; 34.1–3

Deuteronomy 33

* **33.1** Josh 14.6
j **33.2** Gk Syr Vg Compare Tg: Heb *upon them*

k **33.2** Cn Compare Gk Sam Syr Vg: MT *He came from Ribeboth-kodesh,*
l **33.2** Cn Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **33.2** Dan 7.10; Hab 3.3; Acts 7.53; Gal 3.19; Rev 5.11
m **33.3** Or *O lover of the*
* **33.3** Deut 14.2; Hos 11.1
* **33.4** Ps 119.111; Jn 1.17
n **33.7** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **33.7** Gen 49.8–12
o **33.8** Q ms Gk: MT lacks *Give to Levi*
* **33.8** Ex 17.7; 28.30
* **33.9** Ex 32.26–29
* **33.10** Ex 30.7, 8; Deut 31.9–13; Ps 51.19
* **33.11** 2 Sam 24.23; Ps 20.3
p **33.12** Cn: Heb *above him*
* **33.13** Gen 27.28; 49.25
* **33.15** Gen 49.26
q **33.16** Cn: Heb *in the bush*
* **33.16** Ex 3.2, 4; Acts 7.30, 35
r **33.17** Q ms Gk Syr Vg: MT *His firstborn*
* **33.17** Num 23.22; Ps 44.5
* **33.18** Gen 49.13–15
* **33.19** Ps 4.5; Isa 2.3
* **33.20** Gen 49.19
* **33.21** Num 31; 32; Josh 4.12; 22.1–3
* **33.22** Gen 49.16
* **33.23** Gen 49.21
* **33.24** Gen 49.20; Job 29.6
s **33.25** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **33.25** Deut 4.40; 32.47
* **33.26** Ex 15.11; Ps 68.33, 34
t **33.27** Cn: Heb *The eternal God is a dwelling place*
u **33.27** Cn: Heb *from underneath*
v **33.27** Or *the everlasting arms*
* **33.27** Josh 24.18; Ps 90.1, 2
w **33.28** Or *fountain*
* **33.28** Gen 27.28; Num 23.9
* **33.29** Deut 32.13; 2 Sam 7.23; Ps 18.44; 144.15

Deuteronomy 34

* **34.4** Gen 12.7; 28.13
* **34.5** Josh 1.1, 2

* **34.7** Deut 31.2
* **34.9** Num 27.18, 23; Isa 11.2
* **34.10** Num 12.6, 8
* **34.11** Deut 4.34

Joshua

Joshua 1

GOD'S COMMISSION TO JOSHUA

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua
son of Nun, Moses's assistant, saying, [2]"My servant Moses is dead. Now
proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am
giving to them, to the Israelites.* [3]Every place that the sole of your foot will
tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses.* [4]From the
wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all
the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory.*
[5]No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was
with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you.* [6]Be
strong and courageous, for you shall lead this people to possess the land that I
swore to their ancestors to give them. [7]Only be strong and very courageous,
being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses
commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that
you may be successful wherever you go.* [8]This book of the law shall not
depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you
may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you
shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful.* [9]I hereby
command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."*

PREPARATIONS FOR THE INVASION

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, [11]"Pass through the
camp and command the people, 'Prepare your provisions, for in three days
you are to cross over this Jordan, to go in to take possession of the land that
the LORD your God gives you to possess.' "*

12 But to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh
Joshua said,* [13]"Remember the word that Moses the servant of the LORD
commanded you, saying, 'The LORD your God is providing you a place of rest

and will give you this land.'* 14Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land that Moses gave you beyond the Jordan. But all the warriors among you shall cross over armed before your kindred and shall help them, 15until the LORD gives rest to your kindred as well as to you, and they also take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them. Then you shall return to your own land and take possession of it, the land that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan to the east."*

16 They answered Joshua, "All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. 17Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you. Only may the LORD your God be with you, as he was with Moses!* 18Whoever rebels against your orders and disobeys your words, whatever you command, shall be put to death. Only be strong and courageous."

Joshua 2

SPIES SENT TO JERICHO

1 Then Joshua son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies,
saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went and entered the
house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and spent the night there.* [2]The
king of Jericho was told, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to search
out the land." [3]Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, "Bring out the
men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come to
search out the whole land." [4]But the woman took the two men and hid them.[a]
Then she said, "True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they
came from. [5]And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the men went
out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can
overtake them." [6]She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden
them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof.* [7]So the men
pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the
pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

8 Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof [9]and said to
the men, "I know that the LORD has given you the land and that dread of you
has fallen on us and that all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before
you.* [10]For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea[b]
before you when you came out of Egypt and what you did to the two kings of
the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you
utterly destroyed.* [11]As soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was
no courage left in any of us because of you. The LORD your God is indeed
God in heaven above and on earth below.* [12]Now then, since I have dealt
kindly with you, swear to me by the LORD that you in turn will deal kindly
with my family. Give me a sign of good faith* [13]that you will spare my father
and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them and deliver
our lives from death." [14]The men said to her, "Our life for yours! If you do
not tell this business of ours, then we will deal kindly and faithfully with you
when the LORD gives us the land."*

15 Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house
was on the outer side of the city wall and she resided within the wall itself.

16She said to them, “Go toward the hill country, so that the pursuers may not
come upon you. Hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers have
returned; then afterward you may go your way.”* 17The men said to her, “We
will be released from this oath that you have made us swear to you* 18if we
invade the land and you do not tie this crimson cord in the window through
which you let us down and you do not gather into your house your father and
mother, your brothers, and all your family.* 19If any of you go out of the
doors of your house into the street, they shall be responsible for their own
death, and we shall be innocent, but if a hand is laid upon any who are with
you in the house, we shall bear the responsibility for their death.* 20But if you
tell this business of ours, then we shall be released from this oath that you
made us swear to you.” 21She said, “According to your words, so be it.” She
sent them away, and they departed. Then she tied the crimson cord in the
window.

22 They departed and went into the hill country and stayed there three
days, until the pursuers returned. The pursuers had searched all along the way
and found nothing. 23Then the two men came down again from the hill
country. They crossed over, came to Joshua son of Nun, and told him all that
had happened to them. 24They said to Joshua, “Truly the LORD has given all
the land into our hands; moreover, all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear
before us.”*

Joshua 3

ISRAEL CROSSES THE JORDAN

1 Early in the morning Joshua rose and set out from Shittim with all the
Israelites, and they came to the Jordan. They camped there before crossing
over.* 2At the end of three days, the officers went through the camp* 3and
commanded the people, "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD
your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from
your place. Follow it,* 4so that you may know the way you should go, for you
have not passed this way before. Yet there shall be a space between you and
it, a distance of about two thousand cubits; do not come any nearer to it."
5Then Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD
will do wonders among you."* 6To the priests Joshua said, "Take up the ark
of the covenant, and pass on in front of the people." So they took up the ark
of the covenant and went in front of the people.

7 The LORD said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight
of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with
Moses.* 8You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of
the covenant, 'When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you
shall stand still in the Jordan.' "* 9Joshua then said to the Israelites, "Draw
near and hear the words of the LORD your God." 10Joshua said, "By this you
shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out
from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites,
Amorites, and Jebusites:* 11the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth
is going to pass before you into the Jordan. 12So now select twelve men from
the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe.* 13When the soles of the feet of the
priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, come to rest in
the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be
cut off; they shall stand in a single heap."*

14 When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the
priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. 15Now the
Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those
who bore the ark had come to the Jordan and the feet of the priests bearing
the ark were dipped in the edge of the water,* 16the waters flowing from

above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea,[c] were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho.[*]
[17]While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.[*]

Joshua 4

TWELVE STONES SET UP AT GILGAL

1 When the entire nation had finished crossing over the Jordan, the LORD said
to Joshua, [2]"Select twelve men from the people, one from each tribe,* [3]and
command them, 'Take twelve stones from here out of the middle of the
Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood, carry them over with
you, and lay them down in the place where you camp tonight.' "* [4]Then
Joshua summoned the twelve men whom he had appointed from the
Israelites, one from each tribe. [5]Joshua said to them, "Pass on before the ark
of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up
a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites,
[6]so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to
come, 'What do those stones mean to you?'* [7]then you shall tell them that the
waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the
LORD. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.
So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever."*

8 The Israelites did as Joshua commanded. They took up twelve stones out
of the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the
Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua, carried them over with them to the
place where they camped, and laid them down there.* [9](Joshua set up twelve
stones in the middle of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests
bearing the ark of the covenant had stood, and they are there to this day.)*

10 The priests who bore the ark remained standing in the middle of the
Jordan until everything was finished that the LORD had commanded Joshua to
tell the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua. The
people crossed over in haste. [11]As soon as all the people had finished crossing
over, the ark of the LORD and the priests crossed over to the front of the
people. [12]The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed
over armed before the Israelites, as Moses had ordered them.* [13]About forty
thousand armed for war crossed over before the LORD to the plains of Jericho
for battle.

14 On that day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel, and they
stood in awe of him, as they had stood in awe of Moses all the days of his

life.*

15 The LORD said to Joshua, [16]"Command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant to come up out of the Jordan." [17]Joshua therefore commanded the priests, "Come up out of the Jordan." [18]When the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD came up from the middle of the Jordan and the soles of the priests' feet touched dry ground, the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and overflowed all its banks, as before.*

19 The people came up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho.* [20]Those twelve stones that they had taken out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal,* [21]saying to the Israelites, "When your children ask their parents in time to come, 'What do these stones mean?'* [22]then you shall let your children know, 'Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.'* [23]For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you crossed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea,[d] which he dried up for us until we crossed over,* [24]so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty and so that you may fear the LORD your God forever."*

Joshua 5

THE NEW GENERATION CIRCUMCISED

1 [e]When all the kings of the Amorites beyond the Jordan to the west and all the kings of the Canaanites by the sea heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan for the Israelites until they had crossed over, their hearts melted, and there was no longer any spirit in them because of the Israelites.*

2 At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites a second time."* [3]So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath-haaraloth.[f] [4]This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the warriors, had died during the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt.* [5]Although all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people born on the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. [6]For the Israelites traveled forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the warriors who came out of Egypt, perished, not having listened to the voice of the LORD. To them the LORD swore that he would not let them see the land that he had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.* [7]So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised, for they were uncircumcised because they had not been circumcised on the way.

8 When the circumcising of all the nation was done, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. [9]The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal[g] to this day.

THE PASSOVER AT GILGAL

10 While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho.* [11]On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and roasted grain. [12]The manna ceased on the day they ate

the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.*

JOSHUA'S VISION

13 Once when Joshua was by Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you one of us or one of our adversaries?"* [14]He replied, "Neither, but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and he said to him, "What do you command your servant, my lord?"* [15]The commander of the army of the LORD said to Joshua, "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so.*

Joshua 6

JERICHO TAKEN AND DESTROYED

1 Now Jericho was shut up inside and out because of the Israelites; no one
came out, and no one went in. [2]The LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have handed
Jericho over to you, along with its king and soldiers.* [3]You shall march
around the city, all the warriors circling the city once. Thus you shall do for
six days, [4]with seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the
ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, the
priests blowing the trumpets.* [5]When they make a long blast with the ram's
horn, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall
shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and all
the people shall charge straight ahead." [6]So Joshua son of Nun summoned the
priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant and have seven
priests carry seven trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark of the LORD."
[7]To the people he said, "Go forward and march around the city; have the
armed men pass on before the ark of the LORD."*

8 As Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests carrying the
seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward, blowing the
trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the LORD following them. [9]And the
armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets; the rear guard
came after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually.* [10]To the people
Joshua gave this command: "You shall not shout or let your voice be heard,
nor shall you utter a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall
shout." [11]So the ark of the LORD went around the city, circling it once, and
they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp.

12 Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark
of the LORD. [13]The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns
before the ark of the LORD passed on, blowing the trumpets continually. The
armed men went before them, and the rear guard came after the ark of the
LORD, while the trumpets blew continually.* [14]On the second day they
marched around the city once and then returned to the camp. They did this for
six days.

15 On the seventh day they rose early, at dawn, and marched around the
city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they
marched around the city seven times. 16And at the seventh time, when the
priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the
LORD has given you the city. 17The city and all that is in it shall be devoted to
the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her
in her house shall live because she hid the messengers we sent.* 18As for you,
keep away from the things devoted to destruction, so as not to covet[h] and take
any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel an object for
destruction, bringing trouble upon it.* 19But all silver and gold and vessels of
bronze and iron are sacred to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the
LORD." 20So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the
people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall
fell down flat, so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured
it.* 21Then they devoted to destruction by the edge of the sword all in the city,
both men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, and donkeys.*

22 But to the two men who had spied out the land, Joshua said, "Go into
the prostitute's house, and bring the woman out of it and all who belong to
her, as you swore to her."* 23So the young men who had been spies went in
and brought Rahab out, along with her father, her mother, her brothers, and
all who belonged to her—they brought all her kindred out—and set them
outside the camp of Israel.* 24They burned down the city and everything in it;
only the silver and gold and the vessels of bronze and iron they put into the
treasury of the house of the LORD.* 25But Rahab the prostitute, with her
family and all who belonged to her, Joshua spared. Her family[i] has lived in
Israel ever since. For she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out
Jericho.*

26 Joshua then pronounced this oath, saying,

"Cursed before the LORD be anyone who tries
to build this city, Jericho!
At the cost of his firstborn he shall lay its foundation,
and at the cost of his youngest he shall set up its gates!"*

27 So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame was in all the land.*

Joshua 7

THE SIN OF ACHAN AND ITS PUNISHMENT

1 But the Israelites broke faith in regard to the devoted things: Achan son of
Carmi son of Zabdi son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the
devoted things, and the anger of the LORD burned against the Israelites.*

2 Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth-aven, east of
Bethel, and said to them, "Go up and spy out the land." And the men went up
and spied out Ai. 3Then they returned to Joshua and said to him, "Not all the
people need go up; about two or three thousand men should go up and attack
Ai. Since they are so few, do not make the whole people toil up there." 4So
about three thousand of the people went up there, and they fled before the
men of Ai.* 5The men of Ai killed about thirty-six of them, chasing them
from outside the gate as far as Shebarim and killing them on the slope. The
hearts of the people melted and turned to water.

6 Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the ground on his face before the
ark of the LORD until the evening, he and the elders of Israel, and they put
dust on their heads.* 7Joshua said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Why have you brought
this people across the Jordan at all, to hand us over to the Amorites so as to
destroy us? Would that we had been content to settle beyond the Jordan!*
8O Lord, what can I say, now that Israel has turned their backs to their
enemies! 9The Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it
and surround us and cut off our name from the earth. Then what will you do
for your great name?"*

10 The LORD said to Joshua, "Stand up! Why have you fallen on your face?
11Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I imposed on
them. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they
have acted deceitfully, and they have put them among their own belongings.*
12Therefore the Israelites are unable to stand before their enemies; they turn
their backs to their enemies because they have become a thing devoted for
destruction themselves. I will be with you no more unless you destroy the
devoted things from among you. 13Proceed to sanctify the people and say,
'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, for thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:
There are devoted things among you, O Israel; you will be unable to stand

before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from among you.* 14In the morning, therefore, you shall come forward tribe by tribe. The tribe that the LORD takes shall come near by clans, the clan that the LORD takes shall come near by households, and the household that the LORD takes shall come near one by one. 15And the one who is taken as having the devoted things shall be burned with fire, together with all that he has, for having transgressed the covenant of the LORD and for having done an outrageous thing in Israel.' "*

16 So Joshua rose early in the morning and brought Israel near tribe by tribe, and the tribe of Judah was taken. 17He brought near the clans of Judah, and the clan of the Zerahites was taken, and he brought near the clan of the Zerahites by households,[j] and Zabdi was taken.* 18And he brought near his household one by one, and Achan son of Carmi son of Zabdi son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. 19Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the LORD God of Israel and make confession to him. Tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me."* 20And Achan answered Joshua, "It is true; I am the one who sinned against the LORD God of Israel. This is what I did:* 21when I saw among the spoil a beautiful mantle from Shinar and two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, then I coveted them and took them. They now lie hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent, and there it was, hidden in his tent with the silver underneath. 23They took them out of the tent and brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites, and they spread them out before the LORD. 24Then Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan son of Zerah, with the silver, the mantle, and the bar of gold, with his sons and daughters, with his oxen, donkeys, and sheep, and his tent and all that he had, and they brought them up to the Valley of Achor.* 25Joshua said, "Why did you bring trouble on us? The LORD is bringing trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him to death; they burned them with fire, cast stones on them,* 26and raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his burning anger. Therefore that place to this day is called the Valley of Achor.[k,*]

Joshua 8

AI CAPTURED BY A STRATAGEM AND DESTROYED

1 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear or be dismayed; take all the
fighting men with you, and go up to Ai. See, I have handed over to you the
king of Ai with his people, his city, and his land.* [2]You shall do to Ai and its
king as you did to Jericho and its king, except that you may take its spoil and
plunder its livestock for yourselves. Set an ambush against the city, behind
it."*

3 So Joshua and all the fighting men set out to go up against Ai. Joshua
chose thirty thousand warriors and sent them out by night [4]with the
command, "You shall lie in ambush against the city, behind it; do not go very
far from the city, but all of you stay alert.* [5]I and all the people who are with
me will approach the city. When they come out against us, as before, we will
flee from them. [6]They will come out after us until we have drawn them away
from the city, for they will say, 'They are fleeing from us as before.' While
we flee from them, [7]you shall rise up from the ambush and seize the city, for
the LORD your God will give it into your hand. [8]And when you have taken the
city, you shall set the city on fire, doing as the LORD has ordered; see, I have
commanded you."* [9]So Joshua sent them out, and they went to the place of
ambush and lay between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai, but Joshua spent
that night with the people.[1]

10 In the morning Joshua rose early and mustered the people and went up,
with the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai.* [11]All the fighting men who
were with him went up and drew near before the city and camped on the
north side of Ai, with a ravine between them and Ai. [12]Taking about five
thousand men, he set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, to the west of
the city. [13]So they stationed the forces, the main encampment that was north
of the city and its rear guard west of the city, and Joshua went that night into
the valley. [14]When the king of Ai saw this, he and all his people, the
inhabitants of the city, hurried out early in the morning to the meeting place
facing the Arabah to meet Israel in battle, but he did not know that there was
an ambush against him behind the city.* [15]And Joshua and all Israel made a
pretense of being beaten before them and fled in the direction of the

wilderness. [16]So all the people who were in the city were called together to pursue them, and as they pursued Joshua they were drawn away from the city. [17]There was not a man left in Ai[m] who did not go out after Israel; they left the city open and pursued Israel.

18 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Stretch out the sword that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand." And Joshua stretched out the sword that was in his hand toward the city.* [19]As soon as he stretched out his hand, the troops in ambush rose quickly out of their place and rushed forward. They entered the city, took it, and at once set the city on fire.* [20]So when the men of Ai looked back, the smoke of the city was rising to the sky. They had no power to flee this way or that, for the people who fled to the wilderness turned back against the pursuers. [21]When Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city and that the smoke of the city was rising, then they turned back and struck down the men of Ai. [22]And the other Israelites came out from the city against them, so they were surrounded by Israelites, some on one side and some on the other, and Israel struck them down until no one was left who survived or escaped.* [23]But the king of Ai was taken alive and brought to Joshua.

24 When Israel had finished killing all the inhabitants of Ai in the open wilderness where they pursued them, and when all of them to the very last had fallen by the edge of the sword, all Israel returned to Ai and attacked it with the edge of the sword. [25]The total of those who fell that day, both men and women, was twelve thousand—all the people of Ai.* [26]For Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the sword until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai.* [27]Only the livestock and the spoil of that city Israel plundered for themselves, according to the word of the LORD that he had issued to Joshua.* [28]So Joshua burned Ai and made it forever a heap of ruins, as it is to this day.* [29]And he hanged the king of Ai on a tree until evening, and at sunset Joshua commanded, and they took his body down from the tree, threw it down at the entrance of the gate of the city, and raised over it a great heap of stones, which stands there to this day.*

JOSHUA RENEWS THE COVENANT

30 [n]Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel,* [31]just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the Israelites,

as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, “an altar of unhewn[o] stones,
on which no iron tool has been used,” and they offered on it burnt offerings to
the LORD and sacrificed offerings of well-being.* 32And there, in the presence
of the Israelites, Joshua[p] wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses that
he had written.* 33All Israel, alien as well as native-born, with their elders
and officers and their judges, stood on opposite sides of the ark in front of the
Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, half of them
in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses
the servant of the LORD had commanded earlier, that they should bless the
people of Israel.* 34And afterward he read all the words of the law, blessings
and curses, according to all that is written in the book of the law.* 35There
was not a word of all that Moses commanded that Joshua did not read before
all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the aliens
who resided among them.*

Joshua 9

THE GIBEONITES SAVE THEMSELVES BY TRICKERY

1 Now when all the kings who were beyond the Jordan in the hill country and
in the lowland all along the coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon—the
Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the
Jebusites—heard of this,* [2]they gathered together with one accord to fight
Joshua and Israel.

3 But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to
Jericho and to Ai,* [4]they on their part acted with cunning: they went and
prepared provisions[q] and took worn-out sacks for their donkeys and
wineskins, worn out and torn and mended, [5]with worn-out, patched sandals
on their feet and worn-out clothes, and all their provisions were dry and
moldy. [6]They went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the
Israelites, "We have come from a far country, so now make a treaty with us."*
[7]But the Israelites said to the Hivites, "Perhaps you live among us; then how
can we make a treaty with you?"* [8]They said to Joshua, "We are your
servants." And Joshua said to them, "Who are you? And where do you come
from?"* [9]They said to him, "Your servants have come from a very far country
because of the name of the LORD your God, for we have heard a report of
him, of all that he did in Egypt* [10]and of all that he did to the two kings of the
Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, King Sihon of Heshbon and King Og
of Bashan who lived in Ashtaroth.* [11]So our elders and all the inhabitants of
our country said to us, 'Take provisions in your hand for the journey; go to
meet them, and say to them, "We are your servants; come now, make a treaty
with us." ' [12]Here is our bread; it was still warm when we took it from our
houses as our food for the journey, on the day we set out to come to you, but
now, see, it is dry and moldy; [13]these wineskins were new when we filled
them, and see, they are burst, and these garments and sandals of ours are
worn out from the very long journey." [14]So the leaders[r] partook of their
provisions and did not ask direction from the LORD.* [15]And Joshua made
peace with them, guaranteeing their lives by a treaty, and the leaders of the
congregation swore an oath to them.*

16 But when three days had passed after they had made a treaty with them,
they heard that they were their neighbors and were living among them. [17]So
the Israelites set out and reached their cities on the third day. Now their cities
were Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim.* [18]But the Israelites
did not attack them because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to
them by the LORD, the God of Israel. Then all the congregation murmured
against the leaders.* [19]But all the leaders said to all the congregation, "We
have sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, and now we must not
touch them. [20]This is what we will do to them: we will let them live, so that
wrath may not come upon us, because of the oath that we swore to them."
[21]The leaders said to them, "Let them live." So they became woodcutters and
drawers of water for all the congregation, as the leaders had decided
concerning them.*

22 Joshua summoned them and said to them, "Why did you deceive us,
saying, 'We are very far from you,' while in fact you are living among us?*
[23]Now, therefore, you are cursed, and some of you shall always be slaves,
woodcutters and drawers of water for the house of my God."* [24]They
answered Joshua, "Because it was told to your servants for a certainty that the
LORD your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land
and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land before you, so we were in great
fear for our lives because of you and did this thing.* [25]And now we are in
your hand: do as it seems good and right in your sight to do to us."* [26]This is
what he did for them: he saved them from the Israelites, and they did not kill
them. [27]But on that day Joshua made them woodcutters and drawers of water
for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, to continue to this day, in
the place that he should choose.*

Joshua 10

THE SUN STANDS STILL

1 When King Adoni-zedek of Jerusalem heard how Joshua had taken Ai and
had utterly destroyed it, doing to Ai and its king as he had done to Jericho
and its king, and how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel
and were among them,* 2he[s] became greatly frightened, because Gibeon was
a large city, like one of the royal cities, and was larger than Ai, and all its men
were warriors. 3So King Adoni-zedek of Jerusalem sent a message to King
Hoham of Hebron, to King Piram of Jarmuth, to King Japhia of Lachish, and
to King Debir of Eglon, saying, 4"Come up and help me, and let us attack
Gibeon, for it has made peace with Joshua and with the Israelites."* 5Then
the five kings of the Amorites—the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron,
the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon—gathered
their forces and went up with all their armies and camped against Gibeon and
made war against it.*

6 And the Gibeonites sent to Joshua at the camp in Gilgal, saying, "Do not
abandon your servants; come up to us quickly and save us and help us, for all
the kings of the Amorites who live in the hill country are gathered against
us." 7So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and all the fighting force with him,
all the mighty warriors. 8The LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear them, for I
have handed them over to you; not one of them shall stand before you."* 9So
Joshua came upon them suddenly, having marched up all night from Gilgal.
10And the LORD threw them into a panic before Israel, who inflicted a
crushing blow on them at Gibeon, chased them by the way of the ascent of
Beth-horon, and struck them down as far as Azekah and Makkedah.* 11As
they fled before Israel, while they were going down the slope of Beth-horon,
the LORD threw down huge stones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and
they died; there were more who died because of the hailstones than the
Israelites killed with the sword.*

12 On the day when the LORD gave the Amorites over to the Israelites,
Joshua spoke to the LORD, and he said in the sight of Israel,

"Sun, stand still at Gibeon,
and Moon, in the valley of Aijalon."*

[13]And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped
until the nation took vengeance on their enemies.
Is this not written in the Book of Jashar? The sun stopped in midheaven and did not hurry to set for about a whole day.* [14]There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD heeded a human voice, for the LORD fought for Israel.*

15 Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.*

FIVE KINGS DEFEATED

16 Meanwhile, these five kings fled and hid themselves in the cave at Makkedah.* [17]And it was told Joshua, "The five kings have been found, hidden in the cave at Makkedah." [18]Joshua said, "Roll large stones against the mouth of the cave, and set men by it to guard them, [19]but do not stay there yourselves; pursue your enemies and attack them from the rear. Do not let them enter their towns, for the LORD your God has given them into your hand." [20]When Joshua and the Israelites had finished inflicting a very great blow on them, until they were wiped out, and when the survivors had entered into the fortified towns,* [21]all the people returned safe to Joshua in the camp at Makkedah; no one dared to speak[t] against any of the Israelites.*

22 Then Joshua said, "Open the mouth of the cave and bring those five kings out to me from the cave."* [23]They did so and brought the five kings out to him from the cave, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon. [24]When they brought the kings out to Joshua, Joshua summoned all the Israelites and said to the chiefs of the warriors who had gone with him, "Come near, put your feet on the necks of these kings." Then they came near and put their feet on their necks.* [25]And Joshua said to them, "Do not be afraid or dismayed; be strong and courageous, for thus the LORD will do to all the enemies against whom you fight."* [26]Afterward Joshua struck them down and put them to death, and he hung them on five trees. And they hung on the trees until evening.* [27]At sunset Joshua commanded, and they took them down from the trees and threw them into the cave where they had hidden themselves; they set large stones against the mouth of the cave that remain to this very day.*

28 Joshua took Makkedah on that day and struck it and its king with the edge of the sword; he utterly destroyed every person in it; he left no one

remaining. And he did to the king of Makkedah as he had done to the king of Jericho.*

29 Then Joshua passed on from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, to Libnah and fought against Libnah.* 30The LORD gave it also and its king into the hand of Israel, and he struck it with the edge of the sword, and every person in it; he left no one remaining in it, and he did to its king as he had done to the king of Jericho.

31 Next Joshua passed on from Libnah, and all Israel with him, to Lachish and laid siege to it and assaulted it.* 32The LORD gave Lachish into the hand of Israel, and he took it on the second day and struck it with the edge of the sword, and every person in it, as he had done to Libnah.

33 Then King Horam of Gezer came up to help Lachish, and Joshua struck him and his people, leaving him no survivors.

34 From Lachish Joshua passed on with all Israel to Eglon, and they laid siege to it and assaulted it, 35and they took it that day and struck it with the edge of the sword, and every person in it he utterly destroyed that day, as he had done to Lachish.

36 Then Joshua went up with all Israel from Eglon to Hebron; they assaulted it* 37and took it and struck it with the edge of the sword, and its king and its towns and every person in it; he left no one remaining, just as he had done to Eglon, and utterly destroyed it with every person in it.

38 Then Joshua, with all Israel, turned back to Debir and assaulted it,* 39and he took it with its king and all its towns; they struck them with the edge of the sword and utterly destroyed every person in it; he left no one remaining; just as he had done to Hebron and as he had done to Libnah and its king, so he did to Debir and its king.

40 So Joshua defeated the whole land, the hill country and the Negeb and the lowland and the slopes and all their kings; he left no one remaining but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel had commanded.* 41And Joshua defeated them from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza and all the country of Goshen, as far as Gibeon.* 42Joshua took all these kings and their land at one time because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.* 43Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.

Joshua 11

THE UNITED KINGS OF NORTHERN CANAAN DEFEATED

1 When King Jabin of Hazor heard of this, he sent to King Jobab of Madon,
to the king of Shimron, to the king of Achshaph,* [2]and to the kings who were
in the northern hill country, and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, and in the
lowland, and in Naphoth-dor on the west,* [3]to the Canaanites in the east and
the west, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, and the Jebusites in the hill
country, and the Hivites under Hermon in the land of Mizpah. [4]They came
out, with all their troops, a great army, in number like the sand on the
seashore, with very many horses and chariots.* [5]All these kings joined their
forces and came and camped together at the waters of Merom, to fight with
Israel.

6 And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them, for tomorrow at
this time I will hand over all of them, slain, to Israel; you shall hamstring
their horses and burn their chariots with fire."* [7]So Joshua came suddenly
upon them with all his fighting force, by the waters of Merom, and fell upon
them. [8]And the LORD handed them over to Israel, who attacked them and
chased them as far as Great Sidon and Misrephoth-maim and eastward as far
as the valley of Mizpeh. They struck them down until they had left no one
remaining.* [9]And Joshua did to them as the LORD had commanded him; he
hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.*

10 Joshua turned back at that time and took Hazor and struck its king down
with the sword. Before that time Hazor was the head of all those kingdoms.
[11]And they put to the sword all who were in it, utterly destroying them; there
was no one left who breathed, and he burned Hazor with fire.* [12]And all the
towns of those kings and all their kings, Joshua took and struck them with the
edge of the sword, utterly destroying them, as Moses the servant of the LORD
had commanded. [13]But Israel burned none of the towns that stood on mounds
except Hazor, which Joshua did burn. [14]All the spoil of these towns and the
livestock the Israelites plundered for themselves, but all the people they
struck down with the edge of the sword, until they had destroyed them, and
they did not leave any who breathed.* [15]As the LORD had commanded his

servant Moses, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did; he left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses.*

SUMMARY OF JOSHUA'S CONQUESTS

16 So Joshua took all that land: the hill country and all the Negeb and all the land of Goshen and the lowland and the Arabah and the hill country of Israel and its lowland,* 17from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, as far as Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He took all their kings, struck them down, and put them to death.* 18Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. 19There was not a town that made peace with the Israelites except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon; all were taken in battle.* 20For it was the LORD's doing to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle, in order that they might be utterly destroyed and might receive no mercy but be exterminated, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

21 At that time Joshua came and wiped out the Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel; Joshua utterly destroyed them with their towns.* 22None of the Anakim was left in the land of the Israelites; some remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod. 23So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses, and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war.*

Joshua 12

THE KINGS CONQUERED BY MOSES

1 Now these are the kings of the land whom the Israelites defeated, whose land they occupied beyond the Jordan toward the east, from the Wadi Arnon to Mount Hermon, with all the Arabah eastward:* 2King Sihon of the Amorites who lived at Heshbon and ruled from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon, and from the middle of the valley as far as the Wadi Jabbok, the boundary of the Ammonites, that is, half of Gilead,* 3and the Arabah to the Sea of Chinneroth eastward, and in the direction of Beth-jeshimoth, to the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea,[u] southward to the foot of the slopes of Pisgah;* 4and King Og[v] of Bashan, one of the last of the Rephaim, who lived at Ashtaroth and at Edrei* 5and ruled over Mount Hermon and Salecah and all Bashan to the boundary of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and over half of Gilead to the boundary of King Sihon of Heshbon.* 6Moses, the servant of the LORD, and the Israelites defeated them, and Moses the servant of the LORD gave their land for a possession to the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh.*

THE KINGS CONQUERED BY JOSHUA

7 The following are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the Israelites defeated on the west side of the Jordan, from Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir (and Joshua gave their land to the tribes of Israel as a possession according to their allotments,* 8in the hill country, in the lowland, in the Arabah, in the slopes, in the wilderness, and in the Negeb, the land of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites):*

9the king of Jericho	one
the king of Ai, which is next to Bethel	one*
10the king of Jerusalem	one
the king of Hebron	one

11 the king of Jarmuth	one
the king of Lachish	one
12 the king of Eglon	one
the king of Gezer	one*
13 the king of Debir	one
the king of Geder	one*
14 the king of Hormah	one
the king of Arad	one
15 the king of Libnah	one
the king of Adullam	one
16 the king of Makkedah	one
the king of Bethel	one
17 the king of Tappuah	one
the king of Hepher	one
18 the king of Aphek	one
the king of Lasharon	one
19 the king of Madon	one
the king of Hazor	one
20 the king of Shimron-meron	one
the king of Achshaph	one
21 the king of Taanach	one
the king of Megiddo	one
22 the king of Kedesh	one
the king of Jokneam in Carmel	one
23 the king of Dor in Naphath-dor	one

the king of Goiim in Galilee,[w]	one
24the king of Tirzah	one

thirty-one kings in all.*

Joshua 13

THE PARTS OF CANAAN STILL UNCONQUERED

1 Now Joshua was old and advanced in years, and the LORD said to him, "You
are old and advanced in years, and very much of the land still remains to be
possessed.* [2]This is the land that still remains: all the regions of the
Philistines, and all those of the Geshurites [3](from the Shihor, which is near
Egypt, northward to the boundary of Ekron, it is reckoned as Canaanite; there
are five rulers of the Philistines, those of Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath, and
Ekron), and those of the Avvim* [4]in the south; all the land of the Canaanites,
and Mearah that belongs to the Sidonians, to Aphek, to the boundary of the
Amorites, [5]and the land of the Gebalites, and all Lebanon, toward the east,
from Baal-gad below Mount Hermon to Lebo-hamath, [6]all the inhabitants of
the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, even all the Sidonians. I
will myself drive them out from before the Israelites; only allot the land to
Israel for an inheritance, as I have commanded you.* [7]Now, therefore, divide
this land for an inheritance to the nine tribes and the half-tribe of Manasseh."

THE TERRITORY EAST OF THE JORDAN

8 With the other half-tribe of Manasseh[x] the Reubenites and the Gadites
received their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond the Jordan
eastward, as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them:* [9]from Aroer, which
is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon, and the town that is in the middle of the
valley, and all the tableland from[y] Medeba as far as Dibon;* [10]and all the
cities of King Sihon of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, as far as the
boundary of the Ammonites;* [11]and Gilead, and the region of the Geshurites
and Maacathites, and all Mount Hermon, and all Bashan to Salecah; [12]all the
kingdom of Og in Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei (he alone
was left of the survivors of the Rephaim); these Moses had defeated and
driven out.* [13]Yet the Israelites did not drive out the Geshurites or the
Maacathites, but Geshur and Maacath live within Israel to this day.

14 To the tribe of Levi alone Moses gave no inheritance; the offerings by
fire[z] to the LORD God of Israel are their inheritance, as he said to them.*

THE TERRITORY OF REUBEN

15 Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of the Reubenites according to
their families. [16]Their territory was from Aroer, which is on the edge of the
Wadi Arnon, and the town that is in the middle of the valley, and all the
tableland by Medeba;* [17]with Heshbon, and all its towns that are in the
tableland; Dibon, and Bamoth-baal, and Beth-baal-meon, [18]and Jahaz, and
Kedemoth, and Mephaath, [19]and Kiriathaim, and Sibmah, and Zereth-shahar
on the hill of the valley, [20]and Beth-peor, and the slopes of Pisgah, and Beth-
jeshimoth, [21]that is, all the towns of the tableland, and all the kingdom of
King Sihon of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses defeated
with the leaders of Midian, Evi and Rekem and Zur and Hur and Reba, as
princes of Sihon, who lived in the land.* [22]Along with the rest of those they
put to death, the Israelites also put to the sword Balaam son of Beor, who
practiced divination.* [23]And the border of the Reubenites was the Jordan and
its banks. This was the inheritance of the Reubenites according to their
families, with their towns and villages.

THE TERRITORY OF GAD

24 Moses gave an inheritance also to the tribe of the Gadites, according to
their families. [25]Their territory was Jazer, and all the towns of Gilead, and
half the land of the Ammonites, to Aroer, which is near Rabbah,* [26]and from
Heshbon to Ramath-mizpeh and Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the
territory of Debir,[a] [27]and in the valley Beth-haram, Beth-nimrah, Succoth,
and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of King Sihon of Heshbon, the Jordan
and its banks, as far as the lower end of the Sea of Chinnereth, eastward
beyond the Jordan.* [28]This is the inheritance of the Gadites according to their
families, with their towns and villages.

THE TERRITORY OF THE HALF-TRIBE OF MANASSEH (EAST)

29 Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe of Manasseh; it was allotted
to the half-tribe of the Manassites according to their families. [30]Their territory
extended from Mahanaim, through all Bashan, the whole kingdom of King
Og of Bashan, and all the settlements of Jair, which are in Bashan, sixty
towns,* [31]and half of Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, the towns of the

kingdom of Og in Bashan; these were allotted to the people of Machir son of Manasseh according to their families, for half the Machirites.

32 These are the inheritances that Moses distributed in the plains of Moab, beyond the Jordan east of Jericho. [33]But to the tribe of Levi Moses gave no inheritance; the LORD God of Israel is their inheritance, as he said to them.*

Joshua 14

THE DISTRIBUTION OF TERRITORY WEST OF THE JORDAN

1 These are the inheritances that the Israelites received in the land of Canaan,
which the priest Eleazar, and Joshua son of Nun, and the heads of the families
of the tribes of the Israelites distributed to them.* 2Their inheritance was by
lot, as the LORD had commanded Moses for the nine and one-half tribes.* 3For
Moses had given an inheritance to the two and one-half tribes beyond the
Jordan, but to the Levites he gave no inheritance among them.* 4For the
people of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim, and no portion was
given to the Levites in the land but only towns to live in, with their
pasturelands for their flocks and herds.* 5The Israelites did as the LORD had
commanded Moses; they allotted the land.

HEBRON ALLOTTED TO CALEB

6 Then the people of Judah came to Joshua at Gilgal, and Caleb son of
Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You know what the LORD said to
Moses the man of God in Kadesh-barnea concerning you and me.* 7I was
forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh-
barnea to spy out the land, and I brought him an honest report.* 8But my
companions who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, yet I
wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God.* 9And Moses swore on that day,
saying, 'Surely the land on which your foot has trodden shall be an
inheritance for you and your children forever, because you have
wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God.'* 10And now, as you see, the
LORD has kept me alive, as he said, these forty-five years since the time that
the LORD spoke this word to Moses, while Israel was journeying through the
wilderness, and here I am today, eighty-five years old.* 11I am still as strong
today as I was on the day that Moses sent me; my strength now is as my
strength was then, for war and for going and coming. 12So now give me this
hill country of which the LORD spoke on that day, for you heard on that day
how the Anakim were there, with great fortified cities; it may be that the
LORD will be with me, and I will drive them out, as the LORD said."*

13 Then Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb son of Jephunneh
for an inheritance.[*] [14]So Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb son of
Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholeheartedly followed the
LORD, the God of Israel. [15]Now the name of Hebron formerly was Kiriath-
arba; Arba was[b] the greatest man among the Anakim. And the land had rest
from war.[*]

Joshua 15

THE TERRITORY OF JUDAH

1 The lot for the tribe of the people of Judah according to their families
reached southward to the boundary of Edom, to the wilderness of Zin at the
farthest south.* 2And their south boundary ran from the end of the Dead Sea,[c]
from the bay that faces southward; 3it goes out southward of the ascent of
Akrabbim, passes along to Zin, and goes up south of Kadesh-barnea, along
by Hezron, up to Addar, makes a turn to Karka,* 4passes along to Azmon,
goes out by the Wadi of Egypt, and comes to its end at the sea. This shall be
your south boundary.* 5And the east boundary is the Dead Sea,[d] to the mouth
of the Jordan. And the boundary on the north side runs from the bay of the
sea at the mouth of the Jordan; 6and the boundary goes up to Beth-hoglah and
passes along north of Beth-arabah; and the boundary goes up to the Stone of
Bohan, Reuben's son;* 7and the boundary goes up to Debir from the Valley of
Achor, and so northward, turning toward Gilgal, which is opposite the ascent
of Adummim, which is on the south side of the valley; and the boundary
passes along to the waters of En-shemesh, and ends at En-rogel;* 8then the
boundary goes up by the valley of the son of Hinnom at the southern slope of
the Jebusites (that is, Jerusalem); and the boundary goes up to the top of the
mountain that lies over against the valley of Hinnom, on the west, at the
northern end of the valley of Rephaim;* 9then the boundary extends from the
top of the mountain to the spring of the Waters of Nephtoah, and from there
to the towns of Mount Ephron; then the boundary bends around to Baalah
(that is, Kiriath-jearim);* 10and the boundary circles west of Baalah to Mount
Seir, passes along to the northern slope of Mount Jearim (that is, Chesalon),
and goes down to Beth-shemesh, and passes along by Timnah;* 11the
boundary goes out to the slope of the hill north of Ekron, then the boundary
bends around to Shikkeron, and passes along to Mount Baalah, and goes out
to Jabneel; then the boundary comes to an end at the sea. 12And the west
boundary is the Mediterranean with its coast. This is the boundary
surrounding the people of Judah according to their families.*

CALEB OCCUPIES HIS PORTION

13 But to Caleb son of Jephunneh, Joshua[e] gave a portion among the
people of Judah according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua,
Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron (Arba was the father of Anak).* [14]And Caleb
drove out from there the three sons of Anak: Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai,
the descendants of Anak.* [15]From there he went up against the inhabitants of
Debir; now the name of Debir formerly was Kiriath-sepher.* [16]And Caleb
said, "Whoever attacks Kiriath-sepher and takes it, to him I will give my
daughter Achsah as wife."* [17]Othniel son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb,
took it, and he gave him his daughter Achsah as wife. [18]When she came to
him, she urged him to ask her father for a field. As she dismounted from her
donkey, Caleb said to her, "What do you wish?"* [19]She said to him, "Give me
a present; since you have set me in the land of the Negeb, give me springs of
water as well." So Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

THE TOWNS OF JUDAH

20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Judah according to
their families. [21]The towns belonging to the tribe of the people of Judah in
the extreme south, toward the boundary of Edom, were Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur,
[22]Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah, [23]Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan, [24]Ziph, Telem,
Bealoth, [25]Hazor-hadattah, Kerioth-hezron (that is, Hazor), [26]Amam, Shema,
Moladah, [27]Hazar-gaddah, Heshmon, Beth-pelet, [28]Hazar-shual, Beer-sheba,
Biziothiah,* [29]Baalah, Iim, Ezem, [30]Eltolad, Chesil, Hormah, [31]Ziklag,
Madmannah, Sansannah,* [32]Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain, and Rimmon: in all,
twenty-nine towns, with their villages.

33 And in the lowland, Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah,* [34]Zanoah, En-gannim,
Tappuah, Enam, [35]Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah,* [36]Shaaraim,
Adithaim, Gederah, Gederothaim: fourteen towns with their villages.

37 Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal-gad, [38]Dilan, Mizpeh, Jokthe-el,* [39]Lachish,
Bozkath, Eglon,* [40]Cabbon, Lahmam, Chitlish, [41]Gederoth, Beth-dagon,
Naamah, and Makkedah: sixteen towns with their villages.

42 Libnah, Ether, Ashan, [43]Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib, [44]Keilah, Achzib, and
Mareshah: nine towns with their villages.

45 Ekron, with its towns and its villages; [46]from Ekron to the sea, all that
were near Ashdod, with their villages.

47 Ashdod, its towns and its villages; Gaza, its towns and its villages; to the Wadi of Egypt, and the Great Sea with its coast.*

48 And in the hill country, Shamir, Jattir, Socoh, [49]Dannah, Kiriath-sannah (that is, Debir), [50]Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim, [51]Goshen, Holon, and Giloh: eleven towns with their villages.*

52 Arab, Dumah, Eshan, [53]Janim, Beth-tappuah, Aphekah, [54]Humtah, Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron), and Zior: nine towns with their villages.

55 Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah, [56]Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah, [57]Kain, Gibeah, and Timnah: ten towns with their villages.

58 Halhul, Beth-zur, Gedor, [59]Maarath, Beth-anoth, and Eltekon: six towns with their villages.

60 Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim) and Rabbah: two towns with their villages.*

61 In the wilderness, Beth-arabah, Middin, Secacah, [62]Nibshan, the City of Salt, and En-gedi: six towns with their villages.

63 But the people of Judah could not drive out the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so the Jebusites live with the people of Judah in Jerusalem to this day.*

Joshua 16

THE TERRITORY OF EPHRAIM

1 The allotment of the Josephites went from the Jordan by Jericho, east of the
waters of Jericho, into the wilderness, going up from Jericho into the hill
country to Bethel;* [2]then going from Bethel to Luz, it passes along to
Ataroth, the territory of the Archites;* [3]then it goes down westward to the
territory of the Japhletites, as far as the territory of Lower Beth-horon, then to
Gezer, and it ends at the sea.*

4 The Josephites—Manasseh and Ephraim—received their inheritance.

5 The territory of the Ephraimites by their families was as follows: the
boundary of their inheritance on the east was Ataroth-addar as far as Upper
Beth-horon,* [6]and the boundary goes from there to the sea; on the north is
Michmethath; then on the east the boundary makes a turn toward Taanath-
shiloh and passes along beyond it on the east to Janoah,* [7]then it goes down
from Janoah to Ataroth and to Naarah and touches Jericho, ending at the
Jordan.* [8]From Tappuah the boundary goes westward to the Wadi Kanah and
ends at the sea. Such is the inheritance of the tribe of the Ephraimites by their
families,* [9]together with the towns that were set apart for the Ephraimites
within the inheritance of the Manassites, all those towns with their villages.
[10]They did not, however, drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, so the
Canaanites have lived within Ephraim to this day but have been made to do
forced labor.*

Joshua 17

THE OTHER HALF-TRIBE OF MANASSEH (WEST)

1 Then allotment was made to the tribe of Manasseh, for he was the firstborn
of Joseph. To Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead, were
allotted Gilead and Bashan, because he was a warrior.* [2]And allotments were
made to the rest of the tribe of Manasseh by their families, Abiezer, Helek,
Asriel, Shechem, Hepher, and Shemida; these were the male descendants of
Manasseh son of Joseph by their families.*

3 Now Zelophehad son of Hepher son of Gilead son of Machir son of
Manasseh had no sons but only daughters, and these are the names of his
daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.* [4]They came before
the priest Eleazar and Joshua son of Nun and the leaders and said, "The LORD
commanded Moses to give us an inheritance along with our male kin." So
according to the commandment of the LORD he gave them an inheritance
among the kinsmen of their father.* [5]Thus there fell to Manasseh ten portions,
besides the land of Gilead and Bashan, which is on the other side of the
Jordan, [6]because the daughters of Manasseh received an inheritance along
with his sons. The land of Gilead was allotted to the rest of the Manassites.*

7 The territory of Manasseh reached from Asher to Michmethath, which is
east of Shechem; then the boundary goes along southward to the inhabitants
of En-tappuah.* [8]The land of Tappuah belonged to Manasseh, but the town of
Tappuah on the boundary of Manasseh belonged to the Ephraimites.* [9]Then
the boundary went down to the Wadi Kanah. The towns here, to the south of
the wadi, among the towns of Manasseh, belong to Ephraim. Then the
boundary of Manasseh goes along the north side of the wadi and ends at the
sea.* [10]The land to the south is Ephraim's and that to the north is Manasseh's,
with the sea forming its boundary; on the north Asher is reached and on the
east Issachar. [11]Within Issachar and Asher, Manasseh had Beth-shean and its
villages, Ibleam and its villages, the inhabitants of Dor and its villages, the
inhabitants of En-dor and its villages, the inhabitants of Taanach and its
villages, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its villages (the third is
Naphath).[f,*] [12]Yet the Manassites could not take possession of those towns,
but the Canaanites continued to live in that land.* [13]But when the Israelites

grew strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor but did not utterly drive them out.*

THE TRIBE OF JOSEPH PROTESTS

14 The tribe of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, "Why have you given me but one lot and one portion as an inheritance, since we are a numerous people, whom all along the LORD has blessed?"* 15And Joshua said to them, "If you are a numerous people, go up to the forest and clear ground there for yourselves in the land of the Perizzites and the Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you." 16The tribe of Joseph said, "The hill country is not enough for us, yet all the Canaanites who live in the plain have chariots of iron, both those in Beth-shean and its villages and those in the Valley of Jezreel."* 17Then Joshua said to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh, "You are indeed a numerous people and have great power; you shall not have one lot only, 18but the hill country shall be yours, for though it is a forest, you shall clear it and possess it to its farthest borders, for you shall drive out the Canaanites, though they have chariots of iron and though they are strong."

Joshua 18

THE TERRITORIES OF THE REMAINING TRIBES

1 Then the whole congregation of the Israelites assembled at Shiloh and set
up the tent of meeting there. The land lay subdued before them.*

2 There remained among the Israelites seven tribes whose inheritance had
not yet been apportioned. 3So Joshua said to the Israelites, "How long will
you be slack about going in and taking possession of the land that the LORD,
the God of your ancestors, has given you?* 4Provide three men from each
tribe, and I will send them out that they may begin to go throughout the land,
writing a description of it with a view to their inheritances. Then come back
to me. 5They shall divide it into seven portions, Judah continuing in its
territory on the south and the house of Joseph in their territory on the north.*
6You shall write a description of the land in seven divisions and bring the
description here to me, and I will cast lots for you here before the LORD our
God. 7The Levites have no portion among you, for the priesthood of the LORD
is their heritage, and Gad and Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh have
received their inheritance beyond the Jordan eastward, which Moses the
servant of the LORD gave them."*

8 So the men started on their way, and Joshua charged those who went to
write the description of the land, saying, "Go throughout the land and write a
description of it and come back to me, and I will cast lots for you here before
the LORD in Shiloh."* 9So the men went and traversed the land and set down
in a book a description of it by towns in seven divisions; then they came back
to Joshua in the camp at Shiloh, 10and Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh
before the LORD, and there Joshua apportioned the land to the Israelites, to
each a portion.*

THE TERRITORY OF BENJAMIN

11 The lot of the tribe of Benjamin according to its families came up, and
the territory allotted to it fell between the tribe of Judah and the tribe of
Joseph. 12On the north side their boundary began at the Jordan; then the
boundary goes up to the slope of Jericho on the north, then up through the hill

country westward; and it ends at the wilderness of Beth-aven. 13From there
the boundary passes along southward in the direction of Luz, to the slope of
Luz (that is, Bethel), then the boundary goes down to Ataroth-addar, on the
mountain that lies south of Lower Beth-horon.* 14Then the boundary goes in
another direction, turning on the western side southward from the mountain
that lies to the south, opposite Beth-horon, and it ends at Kiriath-baal (that is,
Kiriath-jearim), a town belonging to the tribe of Judah. This forms the
western side.* 15The southern side begins at the outskirts of Kiriath-jearim on
the west,[g] and the boundary comes out at the spring of the Waters of
Nephtoah;* 16then the boundary goes down to the border of the mountain that
overlooks the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is at the north end of the
valley of Rephaim; and it then goes down the valley of Hinnom, south of the
slope of the Jebusites, and downward to En-rogel;* 17then it bends in a
northerly direction going on to En-shemesh, and from there goes to Geliloth,
which is opposite the ascent of Adummim; then it goes down to the Stone of
Bohan, Reuben's son; 18and passing on to the north of the slope of Beth-
arabah[h] it goes down to the Arabah; 19then the boundary passes on to the
north of the slope of Beth-hoglah; and the boundary ends at the northern bay
of the Dead Sea,[i] at the south end of the Jordan: this is the southern border.
20The Jordan forms its boundary on the eastern side. This is the inheritance of
the tribe of Benjamin, according to its families, boundary by boundary all
around.*

21 Now the towns of the tribe of Benjamin according to their families were
Jericho, Beth-hoglah, Emek-keziz, 22Beth-arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel,
23Avvim, Parah, Ophrah, 24Chephar-ammoni, Ophni, and Geba—twelve
towns with their villages; 25Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth, 26Mizpeh, Chephirah,
Mozah, 27Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah, 28Zela, Haeleph, Jebus[j] (that is, Jerusalem),
Gibeah,[k] and Kiriath-jearim[l]—fourteen towns with their villages. This is the
inheritance of the tribe of Benjamin according to its families.*

Joshua 19

THE TERRITORY OF SIMEON

1 The second lot came out for Simeon, for the tribe of Simeon, according to
its families; its inheritance lay within the inheritance of the tribe of Judah.* [2]It
had for its inheritance Beer-sheba, Sheba, Moladah, [3]Hazar-shual, Balah,
Ezem, [4]Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah, [5]Ziklag, Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susah,*
[6]Beth-lebaoth, and Sharuhen—thirteen towns with their villages; [7]Ain,
Rimmon, Ether, and Ashan—four towns with their villages; [8]together with all
the villages all around these towns as far as Baalath-beer, Ramah of the
Negeb. This was the inheritance of the tribe of Simeon according to its
families. [9]The inheritance of the tribe of Simeon formed part of the territory
of Judah; because the portion of the tribe of Judah was too large for them, the
tribe of Simeon obtained an inheritance within their inheritance.*

THE TERRITORY OF ZEBULUN

10 The third lot came up for the tribe of Zebulun, according to its families.
The boundary of its inheritance reached as far as Sarid; [11]then its boundary
goes up westward, and on to Maralah, and touches Dabbesheth, then the wadi
that is near Jokneam;* [12]from Sarid it goes in the other direction eastward
toward the sunrise to the boundary of Chisloth-tabor; from there it goes to
Daberath, then up to Japhia; [13]from there it passes along on the east toward
the sunrise to Gath-hepher, to Eth-kazin, and going on to Rimmon it bends
toward Neah; [14]then on the north the boundary makes a turn to Hannathon,
and it ends at the valley of Iphtah-el; [15]and Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah,
and Bethlehem—twelve towns with their villages.* [16]This is the inheritance
of the tribe of Zebulun, according to its families, these towns with their
villages.

THE TERRITORY OF ISSACHAR

17 The fourth lot came out for Issachar, for the tribe of Issachar, according
to its families.* [18]Its territory included Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem,
[19]Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath, [20]Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez, [21]Remeth, En-

gannim, En-haddah, Beth-pazzez; [22]the boundary also touches Tabor, Shahazumah, and Beth-shemesh, and its boundary ends at the Jordan—sixteen towns with their villages. [23]This is the inheritance of the tribe of Issachar, according to its families, the towns with their villages.

THE TERRITORY OF ASHER

24 The fifth lot came out for the tribe of Asher according to its families. [25]Its boundary included Helkath, Hali, Beten, Achshaph, [26]Allammelech, Amad, and Mishal; on the west it touches Carmel and Shihor-libnath, [27]then it turns eastward, goes to Beth-dagon, and touches Zebulun and the valley of Iphtah-el northward to Beth-emek and Neiel; then it continues in the north to Cabul, [28]Ebron, Rehob, Hammon, Kanah, as far as Great Sidon;* [29]then the boundary turns to Ramah, reaching to the fortified city of Tyre; then the boundary turns to Hosah, and it ends at the sea; Mahaleb,[m] Achzib, [30]Ummah, Aphek, and Rehob—twenty-two towns with their villages.* [31]This is the inheritance of the tribe of Asher according to its families, these towns with their villages.

THE TERRITORY OF NAPHTALI

32 The sixth lot came out for the tribe of Naphtali, for the tribe of Naphtali according to its families. [33]And its boundary ran from Heleph, from the oak in Zaanannim, and Adami-nekeb, and Jabneel, as far as Lakkum; and it ended at the Jordan; [34]then the boundary turns westward to Aznoth-tabor and goes from there to Hukkok, touching Zebulun at the south, and Asher on the west, and Judah on the east at the Jordan.* [35]The fortified towns are Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Chinnereth, [36]Adamah, Ramah, Hazor, [37]Kedesh, Edrei, En-hazor, [38]Iron, Migdal-el, Horem, Beth-anath, and Beth-shemesh—nineteen towns with their villages. [39]This is the inheritance of the tribe of Naphtali according to its families, the towns with their villages.

THE TERRITORY OF DAN

40 The seventh lot came out for the tribe of Dan according to its families. [41]The territory of its inheritance included Zorah, Eshtaol, Ir-shemesh, [42]Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah,* [43]Elon, Timnah, Ekron, [44]Eltekeh, Gibbethon,

Baalath, [45]Jehud, Bene-berak, Gath-rimmon, [46]Me-jarkon, and Rakkon at the border opposite Joppa. [47]When the territory of the Danites was lost to them, the Danites went up and fought against Leshem, and after capturing it and putting it to the sword, they took possession of it and settled in it, calling Leshem Dan, after their ancestor Dan.* [48]This is the inheritance of the tribe of Dan, according to their families, these towns with their villages.

JOSHUA'S INHERITANCE

49 When they had finished distributing the several territories of the land as inheritances, the Israelites gave an inheritance among them to Joshua son of Nun. [50]By command of the LORD they gave him the town that he asked for, Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim; he rebuilt the town and settled in it.*

51 These are the inheritances that the priest Eleazar and Joshua son of Nun and the heads of the families of the tribes of the Israelites distributed by lot at Shiloh before the LORD, at the entrance of the tent of meeting. So they finished dividing the land.*

Joshua 20

THE CITIES OF REFUGE

1 Then the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying, [2]"Say to the Israelites: Appoint the cities of refuge, of which I spoke to you through Moses,* [3]so that anyone who kills a person without intent or by mistake may flee there; they shall be for you a refuge from the avenger of blood. [4]The slayer shall flee to one of these cities and shall stand at the entrance of the gate of the city and explain the case to the elders of that city; then the fugitive shall be taken into the city and given a place and shall remain with them.* [5]And if the avenger of blood is in pursuit, they shall not give up the slayer because the neighbor was killed by mistake, there having been no enmity between them before.* [6]The slayer shall remain in that city until there is a trial before the congregation, until the death of the one who is high priest at the time; then the slayer may return home, to the town in which the deed was done."*

7 So they set apart Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali, and Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the hill country of Judah.* [8]And beyond the Jordan east of Jericho, they appointed Bezer in the wilderness on the tableland, from the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead, from the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan, from the tribe of Manasseh.* [9]These were the cities designated for all the Israelites and for the aliens residing among them, that anyone who killed a person without intent could flee there, so as not to die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until there was a trial before the congregation.*

Joshua 21

CITIES ALLOTTED TO THE LEVITES

1 Then the heads of the families of the Levites came to the priest Eleazar and
to Joshua son of Nun and to the heads of the families of the tribes of the
Israelites;* [2]they said to them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, "The LORD
commanded through Moses that we be given towns to live in, along with
their pasturelands for our livestock."* [3]So by command of the LORD the
Israelites gave to the Levites the following towns and pasturelands out of
their inheritance.

4 The lot came out for the families of the Kohathites. So those Levites who
were descendants of Aaron the priest received by lot thirteen towns from the
tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin.*

5 The rest of the Kohathites received by lot ten towns from the families of
the tribe of Ephraim, from the tribe of Dan, and from the half-tribe of
Manasseh.*

6 The Gershonites received by lot thirteen towns from the families of the
tribe of Issachar, from the tribe of Asher, from the tribe of Naphtali, and from
the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.*

7 The Merarites according to their families received twelve towns from the
tribe of Reuben, the tribe of Gad, and the tribe of Zebulun.*

8 These towns and their pasturelands the Israelites gave by lot to the
Levites, as the LORD had commanded through Moses.*

9 Out of the tribe of Judah and the tribe of Simeon they gave the following
towns mentioned by name, [10]which went to the descendants of Aaron, one of
the families of the Kohathites who belonged to the Levites, since the lot fell
to them first. [11]They gave them Kiriath-arba (Arba being the father of Anak),
that is, Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, along with the pasturelands
around it.* [12]But the fields of the town and its villages had been given to
Caleb son of Jephunneh as his holding.

13 To the descendants of Aaron the priest they gave Hebron, the city of
refuge for the slayer, with its pasturelands, Libnah with its pasturelands,*
[14]Jattir with its pasturelands, Eshtemoa with its pasturelands, [15]Holon with its

pasturelands, Debir with its pasturelands,* 16Ain with its pasturelands, Juttah with its pasturelands, and Beth-shemesh with its pasturelands—nine towns out of these two tribes.* 17Out of the tribe of Benjamin: Gibeon with its pasturelands, Geba with its pasturelands, 18Anathoth with its pasturelands, and Almon with its pasturelands—four towns.* 19The towns of the descendants of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen in all, with their pasturelands.

20 As to the rest of the Kohathites belonging to the Kohathite families of the Levites, the towns allotted to them were out of the tribe of Ephraim. 21To them were given Shechem, the city of refuge for the slayer, with its pasturelands in the hill country of Ephraim, Gezer with its pasturelands,* 22Kibzaim with its pasturelands, and Beth-horon with its pasturelands—four towns. 23Out of the tribe of Dan: Elteke with its pasturelands, Gibbethon with its pasturelands, 24Aijalon with its pasturelands, Gath-rimmon with its pasturelands—four towns. 25Out of the half-tribe of Manasseh: Taanach with its pasturelands, and Gath-rimmon with its pasturelands—two towns. 26The towns of the families of the rest of the Kohathites were ten in all, with their pasturelands.

27 To the Gershonites, one of the families of the Levites, were given out of the half-tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan with its pasturelands, the city of refuge for the slayer, and Beeshterah with its pasturelands—two towns.* 28Out of the tribe of Issachar: Kishion with its pasturelands, Daberath with its pasturelands, 29Jarmuth with its pasturelands, En-gannim with its pasturelands—four towns. 30Out of the tribe of Asher: Mishal with its pasturelands, Abdon with its pasturelands, 31Helkath with its pasturelands, and Rehob with its pasturelands—four towns. 32Out of the tribe of Naphtali: Kedesh in Galilee with its pasturelands, the city of refuge for the slayer, Hammoth-dor with its pasturelands, and Kartan with its pasturelands—three towns.* 33The towns of the several families of the Gershonites were in all thirteen, with their pasturelands.

34 To the rest of the Levites—the Merarite families—were given out of the tribe of Zebulun: Jokneam with its pasturelands, Kartah with its pasturelands,* 35Dimnah with its pasturelands, Nahalal with its pasturelands —four towns. 36Out of the tribe of Reuben: Bezer with its pasturelands, Jahzah with its pasturelands,* 37Kedemoth with its pasturelands, and Mephaath with its pasturelands—four towns. 38Out of the tribe of Gad:

Ramoth in Gilead with its pasturelands, the city of refuge for the slayer, Mahanaim with its pasturelands, [39]Heshbon with its pasturelands, Jazer with its pasturelands—four towns in all. [40]As for the towns of the several Merarite families, that is, the remainder of the families of the Levites, those allotted to them were twelve in all.

41 The towns of the Levites within the holdings of the Israelites were in all forty-eight towns with their pasturelands.* [42]Each of these towns had its pasturelands around it; so it was with all these towns.

43 Thus the LORD gave to Israel all the land that he swore to their ancestors that he would give them, and having taken possession of it, they settled there.* [44]And the LORD gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their ancestors; not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the LORD had given all their enemies into their hands.* [45]Not one of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.*

Joshua 22

THE EASTERN TRIBES RETURN TO THEIR TERRITORY

1 Then Joshua summoned the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of
Manasseh [2]and said to them, "You have observed all that Moses the servant
of the LORD commanded you and have obeyed me in all that I have
commanded you;* [3]you have not forsaken your kindred these many days,
down to this day, but have been careful to keep the charge of the LORD your
God. [4]And now the LORD your God has given rest to your kindred, as he
promised them; therefore turn and go to your tents in the land where your
possession lies, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other
side of the Jordan.* [5]Take good care to observe the commandment and
instruction that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the
LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to keep his commandments, and to
hold fast to him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul."*
[6]So Joshua blessed them and sent them away, and they went to their tents.

7 Now to the one half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses had given a
possession in Bashan, but to the other half Joshua had given a possession
beside their fellow Israelites in the land west of the Jordan. And when Joshua
sent them away to their tents and blessed them,* [8]he said to them, "Go back
to your tents with much wealth and with very much livestock, with silver,
gold, bronze, and iron, and with a great quantity of clothing; divide the spoil
of your enemies with your kindred." [9]So the Reubenites and the Gadites and
the half-tribe of Manasseh returned home, parting from the Israelites at
Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go to the land of Gilead, their own
land of which they had taken possession by command of the LORD through
Moses.*

A MEMORIAL ALTAR EAST OF THE JORDAN

10 When they came to the region[n] near the Jordan that lies in the land of
Canaan, the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh built
there an altar by the Jordan, an altar of great size. [11]The Israelites heard that
the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh had built an
altar opposite the land of Canaan, in the region[o] near the Jordan, across from

the Israelites.* 12And when the people of Israel heard of it, the whole assembly of the Israelites gathered at Shiloh to make war against them.*

13 Then the Israelites sent the priest Phinehas son of Eleazar to the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, in the land of Gilead,* 14and with him ten chiefs, one from each of the tribal families of Israel, every one of them the head of a family among the clans of Israel. 15They came to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, in the land of Gilead, and they said to them, 16"Thus says the whole congregation of the LORD: What is this treachery that you have committed against the God of Israel in turning away today from following the LORD, by building yourselves an altar today in rebellion against the LORD?* 17Have we not had enough of the sin at Peor, from which even yet we have not cleansed ourselves and for which a plague came upon the congregation of the LORD,* 18that you must turn away today from following the LORD? If you rebel against the LORD today, he will be angry with the whole congregation of Israel tomorrow. 19But now, if your land is unclean, cross over into the LORD's land, where the LORD's tabernacle now stands, and take for yourselves a possession among us; only do not rebel against the LORD or rebel against us[p] by building yourselves an altar other than the altar of the LORD our God.* 20Did not Achan son of Zerah break faith in the matter of the devoted things, and wrath fell upon all the congregation of Israel? And he did not perish alone for his iniquity!"*

21 Then the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh said in answer to the heads of the families of Israel, 22"The LORD, God of gods! The LORD, God of gods! He knows, and let Israel itself know! If it was in rebellion or in breach of faith toward the LORD, do not spare us today* 23for building an altar to turn away from following the LORD, or if we did so to offer burnt offerings or grain offerings or offerings of well-being on it, may the LORD himself take vengeance.* 24No! We did it from fear that in time to come your children might say to our children, 'What have you to do with the LORD, the God of Israel? 25For the LORD has made the Jordan a boundary between us and you, you Reubenites and Gadites; you have no portion in the LORD.' So your children might make our children cease to worship the LORD. 26Therefore we said, 'Let us now build an altar, not for burnt offering nor for sacrifice, 27but to be a witness between us and you and between the generations after us, that we do perform the service of the LORD in his

presence with our burnt offerings and sacrifices and offerings of well-being, so that your children may never say to our children in time to come, "You have no portion in the LORD." '* 28And we thought, 'If this should be said to us or to our descendants in time to come, we could say, "Look at this copy of the altar of the LORD that our ancestors made, not for burnt offerings nor for sacrifice, but to be a witness between us and you." 29Far be it from us that we should rebel against the LORD and turn away this day from following the LORD by building an altar for burnt offering, grain offering, or sacrifice other than the altar of the LORD our God that stands before his tabernacle!' "*

30 When the priest Phinehas and the chiefs of the congregation, the heads of the families of Israel who were with him, heard the words that the Reubenites and the Gadites and the Manassites spoke, they were satisfied. 31The priest Phinehas son of Eleazar said to the Reubenites and the Gadites and the Manassites, "Today we know that the LORD is among us, because you have not committed this treachery against the LORD; now you have saved the Israelites from the hand of the LORD."*

32 Then the priest Phinehas son of Eleazar and the chiefs returned from the Reubenites and the Gadites in the land of Gilead to the land of Canaan, to the Israelites, and brought back word to them. 33The report pleased the Israelites, and the Israelites blessed God and spoke no more of making war against them, to destroy the land where the Reubenites and the Gadites were settled.* 34The Reubenites and the Gadites called the altar Witness,q "for," they said, "it is a witness between us that the LORD is God."*

Joshua 23

JOSHUA EXHORTS THE PEOPLE

1 A long time afterward, when the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their
enemies all around and Joshua was old and well advanced in years,* 2Joshua
summoned all Israel, their elders and heads, their judges and officers, and
said to them, "I am now old and well advanced in years,* 3and you have seen
all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is
the LORD your God who has fought for you.* 4I have allotted to you as an
inheritance for your tribes those nations that remain, along with all the
nations that I have already cut off, from the Jordan to the Great Sea in the
west. 5The LORD your God will push them back before you and drive them
out of your sight, and you shall possess their land, as the LORD your God
promised you.* 6Therefore be very steadfast to observe and do all that is
written in the book of the law of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the
right nor to the left,* 7so that you may not be mixed with these nations left
here among you, or make mention of the names of their gods, or swear by
them, or serve them, or bow yourselves down to them,* 8but hold fast to the
LORD your God, as you have done to this day.* 9For the LORD has driven out
before you great and strong nations, and as for you, no one has been able to
withstand you to this day.* 10One of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is
the LORD your God who fights for you, as he promised you.* 11Be very
careful, therefore, to love the LORD your God. 12For if you turn back and join
the survivors of these nations left here among you and intermarry with them,
so that you marry their women and they yours,* 13know assuredly that the
LORD your God will not continue to drive out these nations before you, but
they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a scourge on your sides, and thorns in
your eyes, until you perish from this good land that the LORD your God has
given you.*

14 "And now I am about to go the way of all the earth, and you know in
your hearts and souls, all of you, that not one thing has failed of all the good
things that the LORD your God promised concerning you; all have come to
pass for you; not one of them has failed.* 15But just as all the good things that
the LORD your God promised concerning you have been fulfilled for you, so

the LORD will bring upon you all the bad things until he has destroyed you from this good land that the LORD your God has given you.* 16If you transgress the covenant of the LORD your God, which he enjoined on you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and you shall perish quickly from the good land that he has given to you."

Joshua 24

THE TRIBES RENEW THE COVENANT

1 Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the
elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented
themselves before God.* 2And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the
LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons
Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.*
3Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him
through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him
Isaac,* 4and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I gave Esau the hill country of
Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt.* 5Then I sent
Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt with what I did in its midst, and
afterward I brought you out.* 6When I brought your ancestors out of Egypt,
you came to the sea, and the Egyptians pursued your ancestors with chariots
and horsemen to the Red Sea.r,* 7When they cried out to the LORD, he put
darkness between you and the Egyptians and made the sea come upon them
and cover them, and your eyes saw what I did to Egypt. Afterward you lived
in the wilderness a long time. 8Then I brought you to the land of the
Amorites, who lived on the other side of the Jordan; they fought with you,
and I handed them over to you, and you took possession of their land, and I
destroyed them before you.* 9Then King Balak son of Zippor of Moab set out
to fight against Israel. He sent and invited Balaam son of Beor to curse you,*
10but I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he blessed you, so I rescued you
out of his hand. 11When you went over the Jordan and came to Jericho, the
citizens of Jericho fought against you, as well as the Amorites, the Perizzites,
the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites,
and I handed them over to you.* 12I sent swarms of hornetss ahead of you that
drove out before you the two kings of the Amorites; it was not by your sword
or by your bow.* 13I gave you a land on which you had not labored and towns
that you had not built, and you live in them; you eat the fruit of vineyards and
oliveyards that you did not plant.*

14 "Now, therefore, revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in
faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River

and in Egypt and serve the LORD.* 15Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."*

16 Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods, 17for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, 18and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins.* 20If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good."* 21And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" 22Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." 23He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel."* 24The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey."* 25So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.* 26Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak in the sanctuary of the LORD. 27Joshua said to all the people, "See, this stone shall be a witness against us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD that he spoke to us; therefore it shall be a witness against you if you deal falsely with your God."* 28So Joshua sent the people away to their inheritances.

DEATH OF JOSHUA AND ELEAZAR

29 After these things Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being one hundred ten years old.* 30They buried him in his own inheritance at Timnath-serah, which is in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.*

31 Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua and had known all the work that the LORD did for Israel.*

32 The bones of Joseph, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at Shechem, in the portion of ground that Jacob had bought from the children of Hamor, the father of Shechem, for one hundred pieces of money;t it became an inheritance of the descendants of Joseph.*

33 Eleazar son of Aaron died, and they buried him at Gibeah, the town of his son Phinehas, which had been given him in the hill country of Ephraim.*

Joshua 1

* **1.2** v 11; Num 12.7; Deut 34.5
* **1.3** Deut 11.24
* **1.4** Gen 15.18
* **1.5** Deut 7.24; 31.6–8
* **1.7** Deut 5.32; 28.14
* **1.8** Deut 17.8, 9; Ps 1.1–3
* **1.9** Deut 31.7, 8, 23; Jer 1.8
* **1.11** Joel 3.2
* **1.12** Num 32.20–22
* **1.13** Deut 3.18–20
* **1.15** Josh 22.1–4
* **1.17** vv 5, 9

Joshua 2

* **2.1** Num 25.1; Heb 11.31; Jas 2.25
a **2.4** Gk: Heb *him*
* **2.6** Jas 2.25
* **2.9** Ex 23.27; Deut 2.25
b **2.10** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **2.10** Ex 14.21; Num 21.24, 34, 35
* **2.11** Ex 15.14, 15; Deut 4.39; Josh 5.1
* **2.12** v 18
* **2.14** Judg 1.24
* **2.16** Jas 2.25
* **2.17** Gen 24.8
* **2.18** v 12; Josh 6.23
* **2.19** Ezek 33.4
* **2.24** v 9; Josh 6.2

Joshua 3

* **3.1** Josh 2.1
* **3.2** Josh 1.11
* **3.3** Deut 31.9
* **3.5** Ex 19.10, 14; Josh 7.13
* **3.7** Josh 1.5; 4.7
* **3.8** vv 3, 17
* **3.10** Deut 7.1

* **3.12** Josh 4.2
* **3.13** Ex 15.8; Ps 78.13
* **3.15** Josh 4.18
c **3.16** Heb *Salt Sea*
* **3.16** v 13; Ps 66.6; 74.15
* **3.17** Ex 14.29

Joshua 4

* **4.2** Josh 3.12
* **4.3** vv 19, 20
* **4.6** v 21; Ex 12.26; 13.14
* **4.7** Josh 3.13
* **4.8** vv 19, 20
* **4.9** Ex 28.21
* **4.12** Num 32.17
* **4.14** Josh 3.7
* **4.18** Josh 3.15
* **4.19** Josh 5.9
* **4.20** vv 3, 8
* **4.21** v 6
* **4.22** Josh 3.17
d **4.23** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **4.23** Ex 14.21
* **4.24** Ex 14.31; 1 Kings 8.42, 43; Ps 89.13

Joshua 5

e **5.1** Q ms places 8.30–35 before 5.1
* **5.1** Num 13.29; Josh 2.9–11
* **5.2** Ex 4.25
f **5.3** That is, *the hill of the foreskins*
* **5.4** Deut 2.16
* **5.6** Num 14.23; Deut 2.7, 14
g **5.9** In Heb *Gilgal* is related to the verb *rolled*
* **5.10** Ex 12.6, 18
* **5.12** Ex 16.35
* **5.13** Gen 18.2; 32.24; Num 22.31
* **5.14** Gen 17.3
* **5.15** Ex 3.5

Joshua 6

* **6.2** Deut 7.24; Josh 2.9, 24
* **6.4** Lev 25.9; Num 10.8
* **6.7** Ex 14.15
* **6.9** v 13; Isa 52.12
* **6.13** vv 4, 9
* **6.17** Lev 27.28; Josh 2.4
h **6.18** Gk: Heb *devote to destruction*
* **6.18** Josh 7.1, 25
* **6.20** v 5; Heb 11.30
* **6.21** Deut 7.2; 20.16
* **6.22** Josh 2.14; Heb 11.31
* **6.23** Josh 2.13
* **6.24** v 19
i **6.25** Heb *She*
* **6.25** Heb 11.31
* **6.26** 1 Kings 16.34
* **6.27** Josh 1.5; 9.1, 3

Joshua 7

* **7.1** Josh 6.17–19
* **7.4** Lev 26.17
* **7.6** Job 2.12; Rev 18.19
* **7.7** Ex 5.22
* **7.9** Ex 32.12; Deut 9.28
* **7.11** v 1; Josh 6.18, 19; Acts 5.1, 2
* **7.13** Josh 3.5; 6.18
* **7.15** v 11
j **7.17** Heb mss Syr: MT *one by one*
* **7.17** Num 26.20
* **7.19** Num 5.6, 7; 1 Sam 14.43; Jer 13.16; Jn 9.24
* **7.20** Josh 22.20; 1 Chr 2.7
* **7.24** Josh 15.7
* **7.25** Deut 17.5; Josh 6.18
k **7.26** That is, *trouble*
* **7.26** Deut 13.17; Isa 65.10; Hos 2.15

Joshua 8

* **8.1** Deut 1.21; 7.18; Josh 1.9; 6.2
* **8.2** v 27; Deut 20.14
* **8.4** Judg 20.20–32

* **8.8** v 2
l **8.9** Heb *among the people*
* **8.10** v 33
* **8.14** v 16; Judg 20.34
m **8.17** Gk: Heb adds *or Bethel*
* **8.18** v 26; Ex 14.16; 17.9–13
* **8.19** v 8
* **8.22** Deut 7.2
* **8.25** Deut 20.16–18
* **8.26** Ex 17.11, 12
* **8.27** v 2; Num 31.22
* **8.28** Deut 13.16
* **8.29** Deut 21.22, 23
n **8.30** Q ms places 8.30–35 before 5.1
* **8.30** Deut 27.2–8
o **8.31** Heb *whole*
* **8.31** Ex 20.24, 25; Deut 27.5, 6
p **8.32** Heb *he*
* **8.32** Deut 27.2, 8
* **8.33** Deut 27.11–14; 31.9, 12
* **8.34** Deut 31.11; Josh 1.8
* **8.35** Deut 31.12

Joshua 9

* **9.1** Josh 3.10
* **9.3** Josh 6.27; 10.2
q **9.4** Heb mss Gk Syr: Meaning of MT uncertain
* **9.6** Josh 5.10
* **9.7** v 1; Ex 23.32; Josh 11.19
* **9.8** Deut 20.11
* **9.9** vv 16, 17, 24; Deut 20.15; Josh 2.9, 10
* **9.10** Num 21.24, 33
r **9.14** Gk: Heb *men*
* **9.14** Num 27.21
* **9.15** Ex 23.32
* **9.17** Josh 18.25–28; Ezra 2.25
* **9.18** Ps 15.4; Eccl 5.2
* **9.21** v 15
* **9.22** vv 6, 9, 16, 17
* **9.23** vv 21, 27; Gen 9.25
* **9.24** Deut 7.1, 2

* **9.25** Gen 16.6
* **9.27** vv 21, 23; Deut 12.5

Joshua 10

* **10.1** Josh 6.21; 8.22, 26, 28; 9.15
s **10.2** Heb ms Syr ms Vg: MT *they*
* **10.4** v 1
* **10.5** Josh 9.2
* **10.8** Josh 1.5, 9; 11.6
* **10.10** Deut 7.23
* **10.11** Ps 18.13, 14; Isa 30.30
* **10.12** Hab 3.11
* **10.13** 2 Sam 1.18; Isa 38.8
* **10.14** v 42
* **10.15** v 43
* **10.16** v 5
* **10.20** Deut 20.16
t **10.21** Heb *moved his tongue*
* **10.21** Ex 11.7
* **10.22** Deut 7.24
* **10.24** Ps 110.5; Isa 26.5, 6; Mal 4.3
* **10.25** v 8
* **10.26** Josh 8.29
* **10.27** Deut 21.23; Josh 8.29
* **10.28** Deut 20.16; Josh 6.21
* **10.29** 1 Chr 6.57
* **10.31** 2 Kings 14.19
* **10.36** Josh 14.13; 15.13; Judg 1.10
* **10.38** Josh 15.15; Judg 1.11
* **10.40** Deut 1.7; 7.24; 20.16, 17
* **10.41** Josh 11.16; 15.51
* **10.42** v 14

Joshua 11

* **11.1** v 10
* **11.2** Josh 12.3ff
* **11.4** Judg 7.12
* **11.6** Josh 10.8; 2 Sam 8.4
* **11.8** Josh 13.6
* **11.9** v 6

* **11.11** Deut 20.16, 17
* **11.14** Num 31.11, 12
* **11.15** Ex 34.11, 12; Deut 7.2; Josh 1.7
* **11.16** v 2; Josh 10.40, 41
* **11.17** Deut 7.24; Josh 12.7
* **11.19** Josh 9.3, 7
* **11.20** Deut 2.30; 20.16, 17; Rom 9.18
* **11.21** Num 13.33; Deut 9.2
* **11.23** Num 34.2ff

Joshua 12

* **12.1** Deut 3.8, 9
* **12.2** Deut 2.33, 36
u **12.3** Heb *Salt Sea*
* **12.3** Josh 11.2; 13.20
v **12.4** Gk: Heb *the boundary of King Og*
* **12.4** Deut 3.11
* **12.5** Deut 3.8ff
* **12.6** Num 21.24, 33; 32.29, 33
* **12.7** Josh 11.17, 23
* **12.8** Josh 11.16
* **12.9** Josh 6.2; 8.29
* **12.12** Josh 10.33
* **12.13** Josh 10.38
w **12.23** Gk: Heb *Gilgal*
* **12.24** Deut 7.24

Joshua 13

* **13.1** Josh 14.10
* **13.3** Deut 2.23; Judg 3.3
* **13.6** Josh 11.8
x **13.8** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *With it*
* **13.8** Josh 12.1–6
y **13.9** Compare Gk: Heb lacks *from*
* **13.9** v 16
* **13.10** Num 21.24, 25
* **13.12** Num 21.24, 35; Deut 3.11
z **13.14** Or *the gifts*
* **13.14** Deut 8.1, 2
* **13.16** Josh 12.2

* **13.21** Num 31.8
* **13.22** Num 31.8
* **13.25** Num 21.32
a **13.26** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *Lidebir*
* **13.27** Num 34.11
* **13.30** Num 32.41
* **13.33** v 14; Num 18.20; Deut 10.9; 18.1, 2

Joshua 14

* **14.1** Num 34.17, 18
* **14.2** Num 26.55
* **14.3** Num 32.33; Josh 13.14
* **14.4** Gen 48.5
* **14.6** Num 13.6, 26, 30; 14.6, 24, 30
* **14.7** Num 13.6; 14.6
* **14.8** Num 13.31, 32; 14.24
* **14.9** Deut 1.36
* **14.10** Num 14.30
* **14.12** Num 13.33
* **14.13** vv 8, 9; Josh 22.6
b **14.15** Heb lacks *Arba was*
* **14.15** Josh 11.23

Joshua 15

* **15.1** Num 33.36; 34.3, 4
c **15.2** Heb *Salt Sea*
* **15.3** Num 34.4
* **15.4** Num 34.5
d **15.5** Heb *Salt Sea*
* **15.6** Josh 18.17, 19
* **15.7** Josh 7.24
* **15.8** v 63
* **15.9** Josh 18.15
* **15.10** Judg 14.1
* **15.12** v 47
e **15.13** Heb *he*
* **15.13** Josh 14.13–15
* **15.14** Num 13.22; Josh 11.21, 22
* **15.15** Josh 10.38
* **15.16** Judg 1.12, 13; 3.9

* **15.18** Judg 1.14
* **15.28** Gen 21.31
* **15.31** 1 Sam 27.6
* **15.33** Judg 13.25; 16.31
* **15.35** 1 Sam 22.1
* **15.38** 2 Kings 14.7
* **15.39** Josh 10.3; 2 Kings 14.19
* **15.47** v 4; Num 34.6
* **15.51** Josh 10.41; 11.16
* **15.60** Josh 18.14
* **15.63** Judg 1.21; 2 Sam 5.6

Joshua 16

* **16.1** Josh 18.12
* **16.2** Josh 18.13
* **16.3** Josh 18.13; 2 Chr 8.5
* **16.5** Josh 18.13
* **16.6** Josh 17.7
* **16.7** 1 Chr 7.28
* **16.8** Josh 17.8, 9
* **16.10** Josh 17.12; Judg 1.29; 1 Kings 9.16

Joshua 17

* **17.1** Gen 41.51; 50.23; Deut 3.15
* **17.2** Num 26.29–32
* **17.3** Num 26.33; 27.1–7
* **17.4** Num 27.5–7
* **17.6** Josh 13.30, 31
* **17.7** Josh 16.6
* **17.8** Josh 16.8
* **17.9** Josh 16.8, 9

f **17.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **17.11** 1 Chr 7.29
* **17.12** Judg 1.27, 28
* **17.13** Josh 16.10
* **17.14** Num 26.34, 37
* **17.16** Judg 1.19; 4.3

Joshua 18

* **18.1** Josh 19.51; Judg 18.31; Jer 7.12

* **18.3** Judg 18.9
* **18.5** Josh 15.1; 16.1, 4
* **18.7** Josh 13.8, 33
* **18.8** v 1; Judg 18.31
* **18.10** Josh 19.51
* **18.13** Gen 28.19; Josh 16.3
* **18.14** Josh 15.9
g **18.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **18.15** Josh 15.5–9
* **18.16** 2 Kings 23.10
h **18.18** Gk: Heb *to the slope over against the Arabah*
i **18.19** Heb *Salt Sea*
* **18.20** Josh 21.4, 17
j **18.28** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *the Jebusite*
k **18.28** Heb *Gibeath*
l **18.28** Gk: Heb *Kiriath*
* **18.28** Josh 15.8

Joshua 19

* **19.1** v 9
* **19.5** 1 Sam 30.1
* **19.9** v 1
* **19.11** Josh 21.34
* **19.15** Mic 5.2
* **19.17** 2 Sam 2.9
* **19.28** Josh 11.8
m **19.29** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *Mehebel*
* **19.30** Josh 21.31
* **19.34** Deut 33.23
* **19.42** Judg 1.35
* **19.47** Judg 18.27–31
* **19.50** Josh 24.30
* **19.51** Josh 14.1; 18.1, 10

Joshua 20

* **20.2** Num 35.6–34; Deut 4.41; 19.2
* **20.4** Ruth 4.1, 2
* **20.5** Num 35.12
* **20.6** Num 35.25
* **20.7** Josh 21.11, 32; 1 Chr 6.76; Lk 1.39

* **20.8** Josh 21.27, 36, 38
* **20.9** v 6; Num 35.15

Joshua 21

* **21.1** Num 35.1–8
* **21.2** Num 35.2
* **21.4** vv 8, 19
* **21.5** vv 20ff
* **21.6** vv 27ff
* **21.7** vv 34ff
* **21.8** v 3
* **21.11** Josh 15.13, 14; 1 Chr 6.55
* **21.13** Josh 15.42, 54; 20.7; 1 Chr 6.57
* **21.15** Josh 15.49, 51; 1 Chr 6.58
* **21.16** Josh 15.10, 55; 1 Chr 6.59
* **21.18** 1 Chr 6.60
* **21.21** Josh 20.7
* **21.27** v 6
* **21.32** Josh 20.7
* **21.34** v 7
* **21.36** Josh 20.8
* **21.41** Num 35.7
* **21.43** Gen 13.15; Deut 11.31
* **21.44** Deut 7.24; Josh 1.13; 11.23
* **21.45** Josh 23.14

Joshua 22

* **22.2** Num 32.20
* **22.4** Num 32.18; Deut 3.20
* **22.5** Deut 6.6, 17; 10.12
* **22.7** Num 32.33; Josh 17.5
* **22.9** Num 32.1, 26, 29

n **22.10** Or *to Geliloth*

o **22.11** Or *at Geliloth*

* **22.11** v 19
* **22.12** Josh 18.1
* **22.13** Num 25.7; Deut 13.14
* **22.16** v 11; Deut 12.13, 14
* **22.17** Num 25.1–9

p **22.19** Or *make rebels of us*

* **22.19** v 11
* **22.20** Josh 7.1–26
* **22.22** Deut 10.17; 1 Kings 8.39
* **22.23** Deut 18.19; 1 Sam 20.16
* **22.27** Josh 24.27
* **22.29** Deut 12.13, 14
* **22.31** Lev 26.11, 12; 2 Chr 15.2
* **22.33** 1 Chr 29.20
q **22.34** Heb mss Syr: MT lacks *Witness*
* **22.34** Josh 24.27

Joshua 23

* **23.1** Josh 13.1; 21.44
* **23.2** Josh 24.1
* **23.3** Josh 10.14, 42
* **23.5** Num 33.53
* **23.6** Deut 5.32; Josh 1.7
* **23.7** Ex 23.13, 33; Deut 7.2, 3; Ps 16.4
* **23.8** Deut 10.20
* **23.9** Deut 11.23; Josh 1.5
* **23.10** v 3; Lev 26.8; Deut 3.22
* **23.12** Ex 34.15, 16; Deut 7.3
* **23.13** Ex 23.33; Num 33.55; Judg 2.3
* **23.14** Josh 21.45; 1 Kings 2.2
* **23.15** Lev 26.16; Deut 28.15

Joshua 24

* **24.1** Josh 23.2
* **24.2** Gen 11.27–32
* **24.3** Gen 12.1; 15.5; 21.3
* **24.4** Gen 25.25, 26; 46.6, 7; Deut 2.5
* **24.5** Ex 3.10
r **24.6** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **24.6** Ex 12.51; 14.2–31
* **24.8** Num 21.21–35
* **24.9** Num 22.2, 5
* **24.11** Josh 3.16, 17; 6.1
s **24.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **24.12** Ex 23.28; Deut 7.20; Ps 44.3, 6
* **24.13** Deut 6.10, 11

* **24.14** Deut 10.12; 18.13; 2 Cor 1.12
* **24.15** Ruth 1.15; 1 Kings 18.21; Ezek 20.39
* **24.19** Ex 20.5; 23.21; Lev 19.2
* **24.20** Josh 23.15; 1 Chr 28.9
* **24.23** Judg 10.16
* **24.24** Ex 19.8; 24.3, 7; Deut 5.27
* **24.25** Ex 24.8
* **24.27** Josh 22.27
* **24.29** Judg 2.8
* **24.30** Josh 19.50
* **24.31** Judg 2.7

t **24.32** Heb *one hundred qesitah*

* **24.32** Gen 33.19; 50.24, 25; Ex 13.19
* **24.33** Josh 22.13

Judges

Judges 1

ISRAEL'S FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

1 After the death of Joshua, the Israelites inquired of the LORD, "Who shall
go up first for us against the Canaanites, to fight against them?"* [2]The LORD
said, "Judah shall go up. I hereby give the land into his hand." [3]Judah said
to his brother Simeon, "Come up with me into the territory allotted to me,
that we may fight against the Canaanites; then I, too, will go with you into
the territory allotted to you." So Simeon went with him.* [4]Then Judah went
up, and the LORD gave the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand, and
they defeated ten thousand of them at Bezek.* [5]They came upon Adoni-
bezek at Bezek and fought against him and defeated the Canaanites and the
Perizzites. [6]Adoni-bezek fled, but they pursued him and caught him and cut
off his thumbs and big toes. [7]Adoni-bezek said, "Seventy kings with their
thumbs and big toes cut off used to pick up scraps under my table; as I have
done, so God has paid me back." They brought him to Jerusalem, and he
died there.

8 Then the people of Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it. They
put it to the sword and set the city on fire.* [9]Afterward the people of Judah
went down to fight against the Canaanites who lived in the hill country, in
the Negeb, and in the lowland. [10]Judah went against the Canaanites who
lived in Hebron (the name of Hebron was formerly Kiriath-arba), and they
defeated Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai.*

11 From there they went against the inhabitants of Debir (the name of
Debir was formerly Kiriath-sepher). [12]Then Caleb said, "Whoever attacks
Kiriath-sepher and takes it, I will give him my daughter Achsah as wife."
[13]And Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother, took it, and he gave
him his daughter Achsah as wife.* [14]When she came to him, she urged him
to ask her father for a field. As she dismounted from her donkey, Caleb said
to her, "What do you wish?"* [15]She said to him, "Give me a blessing; since

you have set me in the land of the Negeb, give me also Gulloth-mayim."[a] So Caleb gave her Upper Gulloth and Lower Gulloth.

16 The descendants of Hobab[b] the Kenite, Moses's father-in-law, went up with the people of Judah from the city of palms into the wilderness of Judah, which lies in the Negeb near Arad. Then they went and settled with the Amalekites.[c,*] 17Judah went with his brother Simeon, and they defeated the Canaanites who inhabited Zephath and devoted it to destruction. So the city was called Hormah.[*] 18Judah took Gaza with its territory, Ashkelon with its territory, and Ekron with its territory. 19The LORD was with Judah, and he took possession of the hill country but could not drive out the inhabitants of the plain, because they had chariots of iron.[*] 20Hebron was given to Caleb, as Moses had said, and he drove out from it the three sons of Anak.[*] 21But the Benjaminites did not drive out the Jebusites who lived in Jerusalem; so the Jebusites have lived in Jerusalem among the Benjaminites to this day.[*]

22 The house of Joseph also went up against Bethel, and the LORD was with them. 23The house of Joseph sent out spies to Bethel (the name of the city was formerly Luz).[*] 24When the spies saw a man coming out of the city, they said to him, "Show us the way into the city, and we will deal kindly with you." 25So he showed them the way into the city, and they put the city to the sword, but they let the man and all his family go.[*] 26So the man went to the land of the Hittites and built a city and named it Luz; that is its name to this day.

27 Manasseh did not drive out the inhabitants of[d] Beth-shean and its villages, or Taanach and its villages, or the inhabitants of Dor and its villages, or the inhabitants of Ibleam and its villages, or the inhabitants of Megiddo and its villages, but the Canaanites continued to live in that land.[*] 28When Israel grew strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor but did not in fact drive them out.

29 And Ephraim did not drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, but the Canaanites lived among them in Gezer.[*]

30 Zebulun did not drive out the inhabitants of Kitron or the inhabitants of Nahalol, but the Canaanites lived among them and became subject to forced labor.

31 Asher did not drive out the inhabitants of Acco or the inhabitants of Sidon, or of Mahalab,[e] or of Achzib, or of Helbah, or of Aphik, or of Rehob,* [32]but the Asherites lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land, for they did not drive them out.

33 Naphtali did not drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh or the inhabitants of Beth-anath but lived among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land; nevertheless, the inhabitants of Beth-shemesh and of Beth-anath became subject to forced labor for them.

34 The Amorites pressed the Danites back into the hill country; they did not allow them to come down to the plain.* [35]The Amorites continued to live in Har-heres, in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim, but the hand of the house of Joseph rested heavily on them, and they became subject to forced labor. [36]The border of the Amorites ran from the ascent of Akrabbim, from Sela and upward.*

Judges 2

ISRAEL'S DISOBEDIENCE

1 Now the angel of the LORD went up from Gilgal to Bochim and said, "I
brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I had
promised to your ancestors. I said, 'I will never break my covenant with
you.* [2]For your part, do not make a covenant with the inhabitants of this
land; tear down their altars.' But you have not obeyed my command. See
what you have done!* [3]So now I say, I will not drive them out before you,
but they shall become adversaries[f] to you, and their gods shall be a snare to
you."* [4]When the angel of the LORD spoke these words to all the Israelites,
the people lifted up their voices and wept. [5]So they named that place
Bochim,[g] and there they sacrificed to the LORD.

DEATH OF JOSHUA

6 When Joshua dismissed the people, the Israelites all went to their own
inheritances to take possession of the land.* [7]The people served the LORD all
the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who
had seen all the great work that the LORD had done for Israel. [8]Joshua son of
Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of one hundred ten years. [9]So
they buried him within the bounds of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in
the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. [10]Moreover, that whole
generation was gathered to their ancestors, and another generation grew up
after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for
Israel.*

ISRAEL'S UNFAITHFULNESS

11 Then the Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and
served the Baals,* [12]and they abandoned the LORD, the God of their
ancestors, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; they followed
other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them
and bowed down to them, and they provoked the LORD to anger.* [13]They

abandoned the LORD and served Baal and the Astartes.* 14So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers who plundered them, and he sold them into the power of their enemies all around, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies.* 15Whenever they marched out, the hand of the LORD was against them to bring misfortune, as the LORD had warned them and sworn to them, and they were in great distress.

16 Then the LORD raised up judges who delivered them out of the power of those who plundered them.* 17Yet they did not listen even to their judges, for they lusted after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their ancestors had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the LORD; they did not follow their example.* 18Whenever the LORD raised up judges for them, the LORD was with the judge, and he delivered them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge, for the LORD would be moved to pity by their groaning because of those who persecuted and oppressed them. 19But whenever the judge died, they would relapse and behave worse than their ancestors, following other gods, serving them and bowing down to them. They would not drop any of their practices or their stubborn ways.* 20So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he said, "Because this nation has transgressed my covenant that I commanded their ancestors and have not obeyed my voice,* 21I will no longer drive out before them any of the nations that Joshua left when he died."* 22In order to test Israel, whether or not they would take care to walk in the way of the LORD as their ancestors did,* 23the LORD had left those nations, not driving them out at once, and had not handed them over to Joshua.

Judges 3

NATIONS REMAINING IN THE LAND

1 Now these are the nations that the LORD left to test all those in Israel who had no experience of war in Canaan* [2](it was only for successive generations of Israelites, to teach war to those who had no experience of it): [3]the five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites who lived on Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal-hermon as far as Lebo-hamath.* [4]They were for the testing of Israel, to know whether Israel would obey the commandments of the LORD that he commanded their ancestors by Moses.* [5]So the Israelites lived among the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, [6]and they took their daughters as wives for themselves, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they served their gods.*

OTHNIEL

7 The Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, forgetting the LORD their God and serving the Baals and the Asherahs.* [8]Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of King Cushan-rishathaim of Aram-naharaim, and the Israelites served Cushan-rishathaim eight years. [9]But when the Israelites cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for the Israelites who delivered them, Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.* [10]The spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel; he went out to war, and the LORD gave King Cushan-rishathaim of Aram into his hand, and his hand prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim.* [11]So the land had rest forty years. Then Othniel son of Kenaz died.

EHUD

12 The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD strengthened King Eglon of Moab against Israel, because they had done what was evil in the sight of the LORD.* [13]In alliance with the

Ammonites and the Amalekites, he went and defeated Israel, and they took possession of the city of palms.* 14So the Israelites served King Eglon of Moab eighteen years.

15 But when the Israelites cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up for them a deliverer, Ehud son of Gera, a Benjaminite, a left-handed man. The Israelites sent tribute by him to King Eglon of Moab.* 16Ehud made for himself a sword with two edges, a cubit in length, and he fastened it on his right thigh under his clothes. 17Then he presented the tribute to King Eglon of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man.* 18When Ehud had finished presenting the tribute, he sent the people who carried the tribute on their way. 19But he himself turned back at the sculptured stones near Gilgal and said, "I have a secret message for you, O king." So the king said,[h] "Silence!" and all his attendants went out from his presence. 20Ehud came to him, while he was sitting alone in his cool roof chamber, and said, "I have a message from God for you." So he rose from his seat. 21Then Ehud reached with his left hand, took the sword from his right thigh, and thrust it into Eglon's[i] belly; 22the hilt also went in after the blade, and the fat closed over the blade, for he did not draw the sword out of his belly, and the dirt[j] came out. 23Then Ehud went out into the vestibule[k] and closed the doors of the roof chamber on him and locked them.

24 After he had gone, the servants came. When they saw that the doors of the roof chamber were locked, they thought, "He must be relieving himself[l] in the cool chamber."* 25So they waited until they were embarrassed. When he still did not open the doors of the roof chamber, they took the key and opened them. There was their lord lying dead on the floor.*

26 Ehud escaped while they delayed and passed beyond the sculptured stones and escaped to Seirah. 27When he arrived, he sounded the trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went down with him from the hill country, having him at their head. 28He said to them, "Follow after me, for the LORD has given your enemies the Moabites into your hand." So they went down after him and seized the fords of the Jordan against the Moabites and allowed no one to cross over.* 29At that time they killed about ten thousand of the Moabites, all strong, able-bodied men; no one escaped. 30So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest eighty years.*

SHAMGAR

31 After him came Shamgar son of Anath, who killed six hundred of the Philistines with an oxgoad. He, too, delivered Israel.*

Judges 4

DEBORAH AND BARAK

1 The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud
died.* 2So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who
reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in
Harosheth-ha-goiim.* 3Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help, for
he had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly
twenty years.*

4 At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel.
5She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in
the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came up to her for judgment.
6She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali
and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Position
yourself at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and
the tribe of Zebulun.* 7I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to
meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will
give him into your hand.' "* 8Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I
will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go." 9And she said, "I will
surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not
lead to your glory, for the LORD will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman."
Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh.* 10Barak summoned
Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand warriors went up behind
him, and Deborah went up with him.*

11 Now Heber the Kenite had separated from the other Kenites,[m] that is,
the descendants of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses, and had encamped as
far away as Elon-bezaanannim, which is near Kedesh.*

12 When Sisera was told that Barak son of Abinoam had gone up to
Mount Tabor, 13Sisera called out all his chariots, nine hundred chariots of
iron, and all the troops who were with him, from Harosheth-ha-goiim to the
Wadi Kishon.* 14Then Deborah said to Barak, "Up! For this is the day on
which the LORD has given Sisera into your hand. Has not the LORD gone out
before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand

warriors following him.* 15And the LORD threw Sisera and all his chariots and all his army into a panic[n] before Barak; Sisera got down from his chariot and fled away on foot,* 16while Barak pursued the chariots and the army to Harosheth-ha-goiim. All the army of Sisera fell by the sword; not one was left.*

17 Now Sisera had fled away on foot to the tent of Jael wife of Heber the Kenite, for there was peace between King Jabin of Hazor and the clan of Heber the Kenite. 18Jael came out to meet Sisera and said to him, "Turn aside, my lord, turn aside to me; have no fear." So he turned aside to her into the tent, and she covered him with a rug. 19Then he said to her, "Please give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty." So she opened a skin of milk and gave him a drink and covered him.* 20He said to her, "Stand at the entrance of the tent, and if anybody comes and asks you, 'Is anyone here?' say, 'No.' " 21But Jael wife of Heber took a tent peg and took a hammer in her hand and went softly to him and drove the peg into his temple, until it went down into the ground—he was lying fast asleep from weariness—and he died.* 22Then, as Barak came in pursuit of Sisera, Jael went out to meet him and said to him, "Come, and I will show you the man whom you are seeking." So he went into her tent, and there was Sisera lying dead, with the tent peg in his temple.

23 So on that day God subdued King Jabin of Canaan before the Israelites. 24Then the hand of the Israelites bore harder and harder on King Jabin of Canaan, until they destroyed King Jabin of Canaan.

Judges 5

THE SONG OF DEBORAH

1 Then Deborah and Barak son of Abinoam sang on that day,*

2 "When locks are long in Israel,
when the people offer themselves willingly[o]—
bless the LORD!*

3 Hear, O kings; give ear, O princes;
to the LORD I will sing;
I will make melody to the LORD, the God of Israel.*

4 LORD, when you went out from Seir,
when you marched from the region of Edom,
the earth trembled,
and the heavens poured;
the clouds indeed poured water.*
5 The mountains quaked before the LORD, the One of Sinai,
before the LORD, the God of Israel.*

6 In the days of Shamgar son of Anath,
in the days of Jael, caravans ceased,
and travelers kept to the byways.*
7 The peasantry prospered in Israel;
they grew fat on plunder,
because[p] you arose, Deborah,
arose as a mother in Israel.
8 When new gods were chosen,
then war was in the gates.

Was shield or spear to be seen
among forty thousand in Israel?*
9My heart goes out to the commanders of Israel
who offered themselves willingly among the people.
Bless the LORD.

10Sing of it, you who ride on white donkeys,
you who sit on rich carpets,[q]
and you who walk by the way.
11To the sound of musicians[r] at the watering places,
there they repeat the triumphs of the LORD,
the triumphs of his peasantry in Israel.

Then down to the gates marched the people of the LORD.*
12Awake, awake, Deborah!
Awake, awake, utter a song!
Arise, Barak, lead away your captives,
O son of Abinoam.*
13Then down marched the remnant of the nobles;
the people of the LORD marched down for him[s] against the mighty.
14From Ephraim they set out[t] into the valley,[u]
following you, Benjamin, with your kin;
from Machir marched down the commanders,
and from Zebulun those who bear the marshal's staff;*
15the chiefs of Issachar came with Deborah,
and Issachar faithful to Barak;
into the valley they rushed out at his heels.
Among the clans of Reuben
there were great searchings of heart.*
16Why did you tarry among the sheepfolds,

to hear the piping for the flocks?
Among the clans of Reuben
there were great searchings of heart.*
17 Gilead stayed beyond the Jordan,
and Dan, why did he abide with the ships?
Asher sat still at the coast of the sea,
settling down by his landings.*
18 Zebulun is a people that scorned death;
Naphtali, too, on the heights of the field.*

19 The kings came; they fought;
then fought the kings of Canaan,
at Taanach, by the waters of Megiddo;
they got no spoils of silver.*
20 The stars fought from heaven;
from their courses they fought against Sisera.*
21 The torrent Kishon swept them away,
the onrushing torrent, the torrent Kishon.
March on, my soul, with might!*

22 Then loud beat the horses' hoofs
with the galloping, galloping of his steeds.

23 Curse Meroz, says the angel of the LORD;
curse bitterly its inhabitants,
because they did not come to the help of the LORD,
to the help of the LORD against the mighty.

24 Most blessed of women be Jael,
the wife of Heber the Kenite,
of tent-dwelling women most blessed.*

[25]Water he asked, milk she gave;
she brought him curds in a lordly bowl.*
[26]She put her hand to the tent peg
and her right hand to the workers' mallet;
she struck Sisera a blow;
she crushed his head;
she shattered and pierced his temple.*
[27]Between her feet he sank, he fell,
he lay still;
between her feet he sank, he fell;
where he sank, there he fell dead.

[28]Out of the window she peered;
the mother of Sisera gazed[v] through the lattice:
'Why is his chariot so long in coming?
Why tarry the hoofbeats of his chariots?'*
[29]Her wisest ladies make answer;
indeed, she answers the question herself:
[30]'Are they not finding and dividing the spoil?
A woman or two for every man;
spoil of dyed stuffs for Sisera,
spoil of dyed stuffs embroidered,
two pieces of dyed work embroidered for my neck as spoil?'*

[31]So perish all your enemies, O LORD!
But may your friends be like the sun as it rises in its might."

And the land had rest forty years.*

Judges 6

THE MIDIANITE OPPRESSION

1 The Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD
gave them into the hand of Midian seven years.* [2]The hand of Midian
prevailed over Israel, and because of Midian the Israelites provided for
themselves hiding places in the mountains, caves and strongholds. [3]For
whenever the Israelites put in seed, the Midianites and the Amalekites and
the people of the east would come up against them.* [4]They would encamp
against them and destroy the produce of the land, as far as the neighborhood
of Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel, nor any sheep or ox or donkey.*
[5]For they and their livestock would come up, and they would even bring
their tents, as thick as locusts; neither they nor their camels could be
counted, so they wasted the land as they came in.* [6]Thus Israel was greatly
impoverished because of Midian, and the Israelites cried out to the LORD for
help.*

[[**7** When the Israelites cried to the LORD on account of the Midianites,
[8]the LORD sent a prophet to the Israelites, and he said to them, "Thus says
the LORD, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of
the house of slavery,* [9]and I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians
and from the hand of all who oppressed you and drove them out before you
and gave you their land,* [10]and I said to you, 'I am the LORD your God; you
shall not pay reverence to the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live.'
But you have not given heed to my voice."[w]]]

THE CALL OF GIDEON

11 Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the oak at Ophrah,
which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, as his son Gideon was beating out
wheat in the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.* [12]The angel of the
LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, you mighty
warrior."* [13]Gideon answered him, "But sir, if the LORD is with us, why then
has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our
ancestors recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from

Egypt?' But now the LORD has cast us off and given us into the hand of Midian."* 14Then the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian; I hereby commission you."* 15He responded, "But sir, how can I deliver Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."* 16The LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike down the Midianites, every one of them."* 17Then he said to him, "If now I have found favor with you, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me.* 18Do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you." And he said, "I will stay until you return."

19 So Gideon went into his house and prepared a kid and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour; the meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot and brought them to him under the oak and presented them.* 20The angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes and put them on this rock and pour out the broth." And he did so.* 21Then the angel of the LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes, and fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes, and the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight.* 22Then Gideon perceived that it was the angel of the LORD, and Gideon said, "Help me, Lord GOD! For I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face."* 23But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you; do not fear; you shall not die." 24Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, "The LORD is peace." To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

25 That night the LORD said to him, "Take your father's bull, the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that belongs to your father and cut down the sacred pole[x] that is beside it* 26and build an altar to the LORD your God on the top of the stronghold here, in proper order;[y] then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the sacred pole[z] that you cut down." 27So Gideon took ten of his servants and did as the LORD had told him, but because he was too afraid of his family and the townspeople to do it by day, he did it by night.

GIDEON DESTROYS THE ALTAR OF BAAL

28 When the townspeople rose early in the morning, the altar of Baal was
broken down, and the sacred pole[a] beside it was cut down, and the second
bull was offered on the altar that had been built.* [29]So they said to one
another, "Who has done this?" After searching and inquiring, they were
told, "Gideon son of Joash did it." [30]Then the townspeople said to Joash,
"Bring out your son so that he may die, for he has pulled down the altar of
Baal and cut down the sacred pole[b] beside it." [31]But Joash said to all who
were arrayed against him, "Will you contend for Baal? Or will you defend
his cause? Whoever contends for him shall be put to death by morning. If
he is a god, let him contend for himself, because his altar has been pulled
down." [32]Therefore on that day Gideon[c] was called Jerubbaal, that is to say,
"Let Baal contend against him," because he pulled down his altar.*

33 Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the east
came together, and they crossed over and encamped in the Valley of
Jezreel.* [34]But the spirit of the LORD took possession of Gideon, and he
sounded the trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called out to follow him.*
[35]He sent messengers throughout all Manasseh, and they, too, were called
out to follow him. He also sent messengers to Asher, Zebulun, and
Naphtali, and they went up to meet them.

THE SIGN OF THE FLEECE

36 Then Gideon said to God, "In order to see whether you will deliver
Israel by my hand, as you have said, [37]I am going to lay a fleece of wool on
the threshing floor; if there is dew on the fleece alone, and it is dry on all the
ground, then I shall know that you will deliver Israel by my hand, as you
have said."* [38]And it was so. When he rose early next morning and
squeezed the fleece, he wrung enough dew from the fleece to fill a bowl
with water. [39]Then Gideon said to God, "Do not let your anger burn against
me, but let me speak one more time; let me, please, make trial with the
fleece just once more; let it be dry only on the fleece, and on all the ground
let there be dew."* [40]And God did so that night. It was dry on the fleece
only, and on all the ground there was dew.

Judges 7

GIDEON SURPRISES AND ROUTS THE MIDIANITES

1 Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the troops who were with him
rose early and encamped beside the spring of Harod, and the camp of
Midian was north of them, below[d] the hill of Moreh, in the valley.*

2 The LORD said to Gideon, "The troops with you are too many for me to
give the Midianites into their hand. Israel would only take the credit away
from me, saying, 'My own hand has delivered me.'* 3Now, therefore,
proclaim this in the hearing of the troops, 'Whoever is fearful and
trembling, let him return home.' " Thus Gideon sifted them out;[e] twenty-
two thousand returned, and ten thousand remained.*

4 Then the LORD said to Gideon, "The troops are still too many; take
them down to the water, and I will sift them out for you there. When I say,
'This one shall go with you,' he shall go with you, and when I say, 'This
one shall not go with you,' he shall not go."* 5So he brought the troops
down to the water, and the LORD said to Gideon, "All those who lap the
water with their tongues, as a dog laps, you shall put to one side; all those
who kneel down to drink, putting their hands to their mouths,[f] you shall put
to the other side." 6The number of those who lapped was three hundred, but
all the rest of the troops knelt down to drink water. 7Then the LORD said to
Gideon, "With the three hundred who lapped I will deliver you and give the
Midianites into your hand. Let all the others go to their homes."* 8So the
people took provisions in their hands and their trumpets, and he sent all the
rest of Israel back to their own tents but retained the three hundred. The
camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

9 That same night the LORD said to him, "Get up; attack the camp, for I
have given it into your hand.* 10But if you fear to attack, go down to the
camp with your servant Purah, 11and you shall hear what they say, and
afterward your hands shall be strengthened to attack the camp." Then he
went down with his servant Purah to the outposts of the armed men who
were in the camp.* 12The Midianites and the Amalekites and all the people
of the east lay along the valley as thick as locusts, and their camels were

without number, countless as the sand on the seashore.* 13When Gideon
arrived, there was a man telling a dream to his comrade, and he said, "I had
a dream, and in it a cake of barley bread tumbled into the camp of Midian
and came to the tent and struck it so that it fell; it turned upside down, and
the tent collapsed." 14And his comrade answered, "This is no other than the
sword of Gideon son of Joash, a man of Israel; into his hand God has given
Midian and all the army."*

15 When Gideon heard the telling of the dream and its interpretation, he
worshiped, and he returned to the camp of Israel and said, "Get up, for the
LORD has given the army of Midian into your hand."* 16After he divided the
three hundred men into three companies and put trumpets into the hands of
all of them and empty jars, with torches inside the jars, 17he said to them,
"Look at me, and do the same; when I come to the outskirts of the camp, do
as I do. 18When I blow the trumpet, I and all who are with me, then you also
blow the trumpets around the whole camp and shout, 'For the LORD and for
Gideon!' "*

19 So Gideon and the hundred who were with him came to the outskirts
of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, when they had just set the
watch, and they blew the trumpets and smashed the jars that were in their
hands. 20So the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the jars,
holding in their left hands the torches and in their right hands the trumpets
to blow, and they cried, "A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!"* 21Every
man stood in his place all around the camp, and all the men in camp ran;
they cried out and fled.* 22When they blew the three hundred trumpets, the
LORD set every man's sword against his fellow and against all the army, and
the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah,[g] as far as the border of
Abel-meholah, by Tabbath.* 23And the men of Israel were called out from
Naphtali and from Asher and from all Manasseh, and they pursued after the
Midianites.*

24 Then Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of
Ephraim, saying, "Come down against the Midianites and seize the waters
against them, as far as Beth-barah and the Jordan." So all the men of
Ephraim were called out, and they seized the waters as far as Beth-barah
and the Jordan.* 25They captured the two captains of Midian, Oreb and
Zeeb; they killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb, and Zeeb they killed at the

winepress of Zeeb, as they pursued the Midianites. They brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon beyond the Jordan.*

Judges 8

GIDEON'S TRIUMPH AND VENGEANCE

1 Then the Ephraimites said to him, "What have you done to us, not to call
us when you went to fight against the Midianites?" And they upbraided him
violently.* [2]So he said to them, "What have I done now in comparison with
you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of
Abiezer? [3]God has given into your hands the captains of Midian, Oreb and
Zeeb; what have I been able to do in comparison with you?" When he said
this, their anger against him subsided.*

4 Then Gideon came to the Jordan and crossed over, he and the three
hundred who were with him, exhausted but still pursuing. [5]So he said to the
people of Succoth, "Please give some loaves of bread to my followers, for
they are exhausted, and I am pursuing Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of
Midian."* [6]But the officials of Succoth said, "Do you already have in your
possession the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna, that we should give bread to
your army?"* [7]Gideon replied, "Well then, when the LORD has given Zebah
and Zalmunna into my hand, I will trample your flesh on the thorns of the
wilderness and on briers."* [8]From there he went up to Penuel and made the
same request of them, and the people of Penuel answered him as the people
of Succoth had answered.* [9]So he said to the people of Penuel, "When I
come back victorious, I will break down this tower."*

10 Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor with their army, about
fifteen thousand men, all who were left of all the army of the people of the
east, for one hundred twenty thousand men bearing arms had fallen. [11]So
Gideon went up by the caravan route east of Nobah and Jogbehah and
attacked the army, for the army was off its guard. [12]Zebah and Zalmunna
fled, and he pursued them and took the two kings of Midian, Zebah and
Zalmunna, and threw all the army into a panic.*

13 When Gideon son of Joash returned from the battle by the ascent of
Heres, [14]he caught a young man, one of the people of Succoth, and
questioned him, and he listed for him the officials and elders of Succoth,
seventy-seven people. [15]Then he came to the people of Succoth and said,

“Here are Zebah and Zalmunna, about whom you taunted me, saying, ‘Do you already have in your possession the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna, that we should give bread to your troops who are exhausted?’ ”* 16So he took the elders of the city, and he took thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he trampled[h] the people of Succoth.* 17He also broke down the tower of Penuel and killed the men of the city.*

18 Then he said to Zebah and Zalmunna, “What about the men whom you killed at Tabor?” They answered, “As you are, so were they, every one of them; they resembled the sons of a king.”* 19And he replied, “They were my brothers, the sons of my mother; as the LORD lives, if you had saved them alive, I would not kill you.” 20So he said to Jether his firstborn, “Go kill them!” But the boy did not draw his sword, for he was afraid, because he was still a boy. 21Then Zebah and Zalmunna said, “You come and kill us, for as the man is, so is his strength.” So Gideon went and killed Zebah and Zalmunna, and he took the crescents that were on the necks of their camels.*

GIDEON’S IDOLATRY

22 Then the Israelites said to Gideon, “Rule over us, you and your son and your grandson also, for you have delivered us out of the hand of Midian.” 23Gideon said to them, “I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the LORD will rule over you.”* 24Then Gideon said to them, “Let me make a request of you; each of you give me an earring he has taken as spoil.” (For the enemy[i] had golden earrings because they were Ishmaelites.) 25“We will willingly give them,” they answered. So they spread a garment, and each threw into it an earring he had taken as spoil. 26The weight of the golden earrings that he requested was one thousand seven hundred shekels of gold (apart from the crescents and the pendants and the purple garments worn by the kings of Midian and the collars that were on the necks of their camels). 27Gideon made an ephod of it and put it in his town, in Ophrah, and all Israel prostituted themselves to it there, and it became a snare to Gideon and to his family.* 28So Midian was subdued before the Israelites, and they lifted up their heads no more. So the land had rest forty years in the days of Gideon.*

DEATH OF GIDEON

29 Jerubbaal son of Joash went to live in his own house.* 30Now Gideon had seventy sons, his own offspring, for he had many wives.* 31His concubine who was in Shechem also bore him a son, and he named him Abimelech.* 32Then Gideon son of Joash died at a good old age and was buried in the tomb of his father Joash at Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

33 As soon as Gideon died, the Israelites relapsed and prostituted themselves with the Baals, making Baal-berith their god.* 34The Israelites did not remember the LORD their God, who had rescued them from the hand of all their enemies on every side,* 35and they did not exhibit loyalty to the house of Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) in return for all the good that he had done to Israel.

Judges 9

ABIMELECH ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH A MONARCHY

1 Now Abimelech son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother's
kinsfolk and said to them and to the whole clan of his mother's family,*
2"Say in the hearing of all the lords of Shechem, 'Which is better for you,
that all seventy of the sons of Jerubbaal rule over you or that one rule over
you?' Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh."* 3So his
mother's kinsfolk spoke all these words on his behalf in the hearing of all
the lords of Shechem, and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech, for
they said, "He is our brother." 4They gave him seventy pieces of silver out
of the temple of Baal-berith with which Abimelech hired worthless and
reckless fellows who followed him.* 5He went to his father's house at
Ophrah and killed his brothers the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men, on one
stone, but Jotham, the youngest son of Jerubbaal, survived, for he hid
himself.* 6Then all the lords of Shechem and all Beth-millo came together,
and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar[j] at
Shechem.

THE PARABLE OF THE TREES

7 When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on the top of Mount
Gerizim and cried aloud and said to them, "Listen to me, you lords of
Shechem, so that God may listen to you.*

8The trees once went out
to anoint a king over themselves.
So they said to the olive tree,
'Reign over us.'
9The olive tree answered them,
'Shall I stop producing my rich oil
by which gods and mortals are honored
and go to sway over the trees?'

10 Then the trees said to the fig tree,
‘You come and reign over us.’
11 But the fig tree answered them,
‘Shall I stop producing my sweetness
and my delicious fruit
and go to sway over the trees?’
12 Then the trees said to the vine,
‘You come and reign over us.’
13 But the vine said to them,
‘Shall I stop producing my wine
that cheers gods and mortals
and go to sway over the trees?’
14 So all the trees said to the bramble,
‘You come and reign over us.’
15 And the bramble said to the trees,
‘If in good faith you are anointing me king over you,
then come and take refuge in my shade,
but if not, let fire come out of the bramble
and devour the cedars of Lebanon.’*

16 “Now therefore, if you acted in good faith and honor when you made Abimelech king, and if you have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house and have done to him as his actions deserved* — 17 for my father fought for you and risked his life and rescued you from the hand of Midian, 18 but you have risen up against my father’s house this day and have killed his sons, seventy men on one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his slave woman, king over the lords of Shechem, because he is your kinsman* — 19 if, I say, you have acted in good faith and honor with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you,* 20 but if not, let fire come out from Abimelech and devour the lords of Shechem and Beth-millo, and let fire come out from the lords of Shechem and from Beth-millo and devour Abimelech.” 21 Then Jotham ran away and fled, going to Beer, where he remained for fear of his brother Abimelech.

THE DOWNFALL OF ABIMELECH

22 Abimelech ruled over Israel three years. [23]But God sent an evil spirit
between Abimelech and the lords of Shechem, and the lords of Shechem
dealt treacherously with Abimelech.* [24]This happened so that the violence
done to the seventy sons of Jerubbaal might be avenged[k] and their blood be
laid on their brother Abimelech, who killed them, and on the lords of
Shechem, who strengthened his hands to kill his brothers.* [25]So the lords of
Shechem set ambushes against him on the mountaintops. They robbed all
who passed by them along that way, and it was reported to Abimelech.

26 When Gaal son of Ebed moved into Shechem with his kinsfolk, the
lords of Shechem put confidence in him. [27]They went out into the field and
gathered the grapes from their vineyards, trod them, and celebrated. Then
they went into the temple of their god, ate and drank, and ridiculed
Abimelech.* [28]Gaal son of Ebed said, "Who is Abimelech, and who are we
of Shechem, that we should serve him? Did not the son of Jerubbaal and
Zebul his officer serve the men of Hamor father of Shechem? Why then
should we serve him?* [29]If only this people were under my command! Then
I would remove Abimelech; I would say[l] to him, 'Increase your army and
come out.' "*

30 When Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal son of Ebed,
his anger was kindled. [31]He sent messengers to Abimelech at Arumah,[m]
saying, "Look, Gaal son of Ebed and his kinsfolk have come to Shechem,
and they are stirring up[n] the city against you. [32]Now therefore, go by night,
you and the troops who are with you, and lie in wait in the fields. [33]Then
early in the morning, as soon as the sun rises, get up and rush on the city,
and when he and the troops who are with him come out against you, you
may deal with them as best you can."*

34 So Abimelech and all the troops with him got up by night and lay in
wait against Shechem in four companies. [35]When Gaal son of Ebed went
out and stood in the entrance of the gate of the city, Abimelech and the
troops with him rose from the ambush. [36]And when Gaal saw them, he said
to Zebul, "Look, people are coming down from the mountaintops!" And
Zebul said to him, "The shadows on the mountains look like people to you."
[37]Gaal spoke again and said, "Look, people are coming down from Tabbur-
erez, and one company is coming from the direction of Elon-meonenim."[o,*]

[38]Then Zebul said to him, “Where is your boast[p] now, you who said, ‘Who is Abimelech, that we should serve him?’ Are not these the troops you made light of? Go out now and fight with them.”* [39]So Gaal went out at the head of the lords of Shechem and fought with Abimelech.* [40]Abimelech chased him, and he fled before him. Many fell wounded, up to the entrance of the gate. [41]So Abimelech resided at Arumah, and Zebul drove out Gaal and his kinsfolk, so that they could not live on at Shechem.

42 On the following day the people went out into the fields. When Abimelech was told, [43]he took his troops and divided them into three companies and lay in wait in the fields. When he looked and saw the people coming out of the city, he rose against them and killed them. [44]Abimelech and the company that was[q] with him rushed forward and stood at the entrance of the gate of the city, while the two companies rushed on all who were in the fields and killed them. [45]Abimelech fought against the city all that day; he took the city and killed the people who were in it, and he razed the city and sowed it with salt.*

46 When all the lords of the Tower of Shechem heard of it, they entered the stronghold of the temple of El-berith.* [47]Abimelech was told that all the lords of the Tower of Shechem were gathered together. [48]So Abimelech went up to Mount Zalmon, he and all the troops who were with him. Abimelech took an ax in his hand, cut down a bundle of brushwood, and took it up and laid it on his shoulder. Then he said to the troops with him, “What you have seen me do, do quickly, as I have done.”* [49]So every one of the troops cut down a bundle and following Abimelech put it against the stronghold, and they set the stronghold on fire over them, so that all the people of the Tower of Shechem also died, about a thousand men and women.

50 Then Abimelech went to Thebez and encamped against Thebez and took it.* [51]But there was a strong tower within the city, and all the men and women and all the lords of the city fled to it and shut themselves in, and they went to the roof of the tower. [52]Abimelech came to the tower and fought against it and came near to the entrance of the tower to burn it with fire. [53]But a certain woman threw an upper millstone on Abimelech’s head and crushed his skull.* [54]Immediately he called to the young man who carried his armor and said to him, “Draw your sword and kill me, so people

will not say about me, ‘A woman killed him.’ ” So the young man thrust
him through, and he died. 55When the Israelites saw that Abimelech was
dead, they all went home. 56Thus God repaid Abimelech for the crime he
committed against his father in killing his seventy brothers;* 57and God also
made all the wickedness of the people of Shechem fall back on their heads,
and on them came the curse of Jotham son of Jerubbaal.*

Judges 10

TOLA AND JAIR

1 After Abimelech, Tola son of Puah son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, who
lived at Shamir in the hill country of Ephraim, rose to deliver Israel.* [2]He
judged Israel twenty-three years. Then he died and was buried at Shamir.

3 After him came Jair the Gileadite, who judged Israel twenty-two years.
[4]He had thirty sons who rode on thirty donkeys, and they had thirty towns,
which are in the land of Gilead and are called Havvoth-jair to this day.*
[5]Jair died and was buried in Kamon.

OPPRESSION BY THE AMMONITES

6 The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, serving
the Baals and the Astartes, the gods of Aram, the gods of Sidon, the gods of
Moab, the gods of the Ammonites, and the gods of the Philistines. Thus
they abandoned the LORD and did not worship him.* [7]So the anger of the
LORD was kindled against Israel, and he sold them into the hand of the
Philistines and into the hand of the Ammonites,* [8]and they crushed and
oppressed the Israelites that year. For eighteen years they oppressed all the
Israelites who were beyond the Jordan in the land of the Amorites, which is
in Gilead. [9]The Ammonites also crossed the Jordan to fight against Judah
and against Benjamin and against the house of Ephraim, so that Israel was
greatly distressed.

10 So the Israelites cried to the LORD, saying, "We have sinned against
you, because we have abandoned our God and have served the Baals."*
[11]And the LORD said to the Israelites, "Did I not deliver you[r] from the
Egyptians and from the Amorites, from the Ammonites and from the
Philistines?* [12]The Sidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites
oppressed you, and you cried to me, and I delivered you out of their hand.*
[13]Yet you have abandoned me and served other gods; therefore I will
deliver you no more. [14]Go and cry to the gods whom you have chosen; let
them deliver you in the time of your distress."* [15]And the Israelites said to

the LORD, “We have sinned; do to us whatever seems good to you, but deliver us this day!”* 16So they put away the foreign gods from among them and served the LORD, and he could no longer bear to see Israel suffer.*

17 Then the Ammonites were called to arms, and they encamped in Gilead, and the Israelites came together, and they encamped at Mizpah.* 18The commanders of the people of Gilead said to one another, “Who will begin the fight against the Ammonites? He shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead.”*

Judges 11

JEPHTHAH

1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite, the son of a prostitute, was a mighty warrior.
Gilead was the father of Jephthah.* 2Gilead's wife also bore him sons, and
when his wife's sons grew up, they drove Jephthah away, saying to him,
"You shall not inherit anything in our father's house, for you are the son of
another woman." 3Then Jephthah fled from his brothers and lived in the
land of Tob. Outlaws gathered around Jephthah and went raiding with him.*

4 After a time the Ammonites made war against Israel.* 5And when the
Ammonites made war against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to bring
Jephthah from the land of Tob. 6They said to Jephthah, "Come and be our
commander, so that we may fight with the Ammonites." 7But Jephthah said
to the elders of Gilead, "Are you not the very ones who rejected me and
drove me out of my father's house? So why do you come to me now when
you are in trouble?" 8The elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "Nevertheless,
we have now turned back to you, so that you may go with us and fight with
the Ammonites and become head over us, over all the inhabitants of
Gilead."* 9Jephthah said to the elders of Gilead, "If you bring me home
again to fight with the Ammonites and the LORD gives them over to me, I
will be your head." 10And the elders of Gilead said to Jephthah, "The LORD
will be witness between us; we will surely do as you say."* 11So Jephthah
went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and
commander over them, and Jephthah spoke all his words before the LORD at
Mizpah.*

12 Then Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the Ammonites and
said, "What is there between you and me, that you have come to me to fight
against my land?" 13The king of the Ammonites answered the messengers
of Jephthah, "Because Israel, on coming from Egypt, took away my land
from the Arnon to the Jabbok and to the Jordan; now, therefore, restore it
peaceably."* 14Once again Jephthah sent messengers to the king of the
Ammonites 15and said to him, "Thus says Jephthah: Israel did not take
away the land of Moab or the land of the Ammonites,* 16but when they

came up from Egypt, Israel went through the wilderness to the Red Sea[s] and came to Kadesh.* 17Israel then sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, 'Let us pass through your land,' but the king of Edom would not listen. They also sent to the king of Moab, but he would not consent. So Israel remained at Kadesh. 18Then they journeyed through the wilderness, went around the land of Edom and the land of Moab, arrived on the east side of the land of Moab, and camped on the other side of the Arnon. They did not enter the territory of Moab, for the Arnon was the boundary of Moab.* 19Israel then sent messengers to King Sihon of the Amorites, king of Heshbon, and Israel said to him, 'Let us pass through your land to our country.'* 20But Sihon did not trust Israel to pass through his territory, so Sihon gathered all his people together and encamped at Jahaz and fought with Israel.* 21Then the LORD, the God of Israel, gave Sihon and all his people into the hand of Israel, and they defeated them, so Israel occupied all the land of the Amorites, who inhabited that country.* 22They occupied all the territory of the Amorites from the Arnon to the Jabbok and from the wilderness to the Jordan.* 23So now the LORD, the God of Israel, has conquered the Amorites for the benefit of his people Israel. Do you intend to take their place? 24Should you not possess what your god Chemosh gives you to possess? And should we not be the ones to possess everything that the LORD our God has conquered for our benefit?* 25Now are you any better than King Balak son of Zippor of Moab? Did he ever enter into conflict with Israel, or did he ever go to war with them?* 26While Israel lived in Heshbon and its villages, and in Aroer and its villages, and in all the towns that are along the Arnon, three hundred years, why did you not recover them within that time?* 27It is not I who have sinned against you, but you are the one who does me wrong by making war on me. Let the LORD, who is judge, decide today for the Israelites or for the Ammonites."* 28But the king of the Ammonites did not heed the message that Jephthah sent him.

JEPHTHAH'S VOW

29 Then the spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh. He passed on to Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed on to the Ammonites.* 30And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD and said, "If you will give the Ammonites into my hand,

31then whatever[t] comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return victorious from the Ammonites, shall be the LORD's, to be offered up by me as a burnt offering." 32So Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites to fight against them, and the LORD gave them into his hand. 33He inflicted a massive defeat on them from Aroer to the neighborhood of Minnith, twenty towns, and as far as Abel-keramim. So the Ammonites were subdued before the Israelites.*

JEPHTHAH'S DAUGHTER

34 Then Jephthah came to his home at Mizpah, and there was his daughter coming out to meet him with timbrels and with dancing. She was his only child; he had no son or daughter except her.* 35When he saw her, he tore his clothes and said, "Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low; you have become the cause of great trouble to me. For I have opened my mouth to the LORD, and I cannot take back my vow."* 36She said to him, "My father, if you have opened your mouth to the LORD, do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, now that the LORD has given you vengeance against your enemies, the Ammonites."* 37And she said to her father, "Let this thing be done for me: grant me two months, so that I may go and wander[u] on the mountains and bewail my virginity, my companions and I." 38"Go," he said, and he sent her away for two months. So she departed, she and her companions, and bewailed her virginity on the mountains. 39At the end of two months, she returned to her father, who did with her according to the vow he had made. She had never slept with a man. So there arose an Israelite custom that 40for four days every year the daughters of Israel would go out to lament the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite.

Judges 12

INTERTRIBAL DISSENSION

1 The men of Ephraim were called to arms, and they crossed to Zaphon and
said to Jephthah, "Why did you cross over to fight against the Ammonites
and did not call us to go with you? We will burn your house down over
you!"* [2]Jephthah said to them, "My people and I were engaged in conflict
with the Ammonites who oppressed us[v] severely. But when I called you,
you did not deliver me from their hand. [3]When I saw that you would not
deliver me, I took my life in my hand and crossed over against the
Ammonites, and the LORD gave them into my hand. Why then have you
come up to me this day, to fight against me?"* [4]Then Jephthah gathered all
the men of Gilead and fought with Ephraim, and the men of Gilead defeated
Ephraim, because they said, "You are fugitives from Ephraim, you
Gileadites, in the heart of Ephraim and Manasseh."[w],* [5]Then the Gileadites
took the fords of the Jordan against the Ephraimites. Whenever one of the
fugitives of Ephraim said, "Let me go over," the men of Gilead would say
to him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" When he said, "No,"* [6]they said to him,
"Then say Shibboleth," and he said, "Sibboleth," for he could not
pronounce it right. Then they seized him and killed him at the fords of the
Jordan. Forty-two thousand of the Ephraimites fell at that time.

7 Jephthah judged Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died and
was buried in his town in Gilead.[x],*

IBZAN, ELON, AND ABDON

8 After him Ibzan of Bethlehem judged Israel. [9]He had thirty sons. He
gave his thirty daughters in marriage outside his clan and brought in thirty
young women from outside for his sons. He judged Israel seven years.
[10]Then Ibzan died and was buried at Bethlehem.

11 After him Elon the Zebulunite judged Israel, and he judged Israel ten
years. [12]Then Elon the Zebulunite died and was buried at Aijalon in the
land of Zebulun.

13 After him Abdon son of Hillel the Pirathonite judged Israel. [14]He had forty sons and thirty grandsons who rode on seventy donkeys; he judged Israel eight years.* [15]Then Abdon son of Hillel the Pirathonite died and was buried at Pirathon in the land of Ephraim, in the hill country of the Amalekites.

Judges 13

THE BIRTH OF SAMSON

1 The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the
LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines forty years.*

2 There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose
name was Manoah. His wife was barren, having borne no children.* 3And
the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Although
you are barren, having borne no children, you shall conceive and bear a
son.* 4Now be careful not to drink wine or strong drink or to eat anything
unclean,* 5for you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor is to come on his
head, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth. It is he who shall
begin to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines."* 6Then the woman
came and told her husband, "A man of God came to me, and his appearance
was like that of an angel[y] of God, most awe-inspiring; I did not ask him
where he came from, and he did not tell me his name,* 7but he said to me,
'You shall conceive and bear a son. So then, drink no wine or strong drink
and eat nothing unclean, for the boy shall be a nazirite to God from birth to
the day of his death.' "

8 Then Manoah entreated the LORD and said, "O my Lord, I pray, let the
man of God whom you sent come to us again and teach us what we are to
do concerning the boy who will be born."* 9God listened to Manoah, and
the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field, but her
husband Manoah was not with her. 10So the woman ran quickly and told her
husband, "The man who came to me the other day has appeared to me."
11Manoah got up and followed his wife and came to the man and said to
him, "Are you the man who spoke to this woman?" And he said, "I am."
12Then Manoah said, "Now when your words come true, what is to be the
boy's rule of life; what is he to do?" 13The angel of the LORD said to
Manoah, "Let the woman give heed to all that I said to her.* 14She may not
eat of anything that comes from the vine. She is not to drink wine or strong
drink or eat any unclean thing. She is to observe everything that I
commanded her."*

15 Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, "Allow us to detain you and
prepare a kid for you."* [16]The angel of the LORD said to Manoah, "If you
detain me, I will not eat your food, but if you want to prepare a burnt
offering, then offer it to the LORD." (For Manoah did not know that he was
the angel of the LORD.)* [17]Then Manoah said to the angel of the LORD,
"What is your name, so that we may honor you when your words come
true?"* [18]But the angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask my
name? It is too wonderful."*

19 So Manoah took the kid with the grain offering and offered it on the
rock to the LORD, to him who works[z] wonders.[a,*] [20]When the flame went up
toward heaven from the altar, the angel of the LORD ascended in the flame of
the altar while Manoah and his wife looked on, and they fell on their faces
to the ground.* [21]The angel of the LORD did not appear again to Manoah and
his wife. Then Manoah realized that it was the angel of the LORD.* [22]And
Manoah said to his wife, "We shall surely die, for we have seen God."*
[23]But his wife said to him, "If the LORD had meant to kill us, he would not
have accepted a burnt offering and a grain offering at our hands or shown us
all these things or[b] announced to us such things as these."

24 The woman bore a son and named him Samson. The boy grew, and
the LORD blessed him.* [25]The spirit of the LORD began to stir him in
Mahaneh-dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.*

Judges 14

SAMSON'S MARRIAGE

1 Once Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw a Philistine
woman. [2]Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw a
Philistine woman at Timnah; now get her for me as my wife."* [3]But his
father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among your kin or
among all our[c] people, that you must go to take a wife from the
uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me,
because she pleases me." [4]His father and mother did not know that this was
from the LORD, for he was seeking a pretext to act against the Philistines. At
that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.*

5 Then Samson went down with his father and mother to Timnah. When
he came to the vineyards of Timnah, suddenly a young lion roared at him.
[6]The spirit of the LORD rushed on him, and he tore the lion apart barehanded
as one might tear apart a kid. But he did not tell his father or his mother
what he had done.* [7]Then he went down and talked with the woman, and
she pleased Samson.* [8]After a while he returned to marry her, and he turned
aside to see the carcass of the lion, and there was a swarm of bees in the
body of the lion and honey. [9]He scraped it out into his hands and went on,
eating as he went. When he came to his father and mother, he gave some to
them, and they ate it. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey
from the carcass of the lion.

10 His father went down to the woman, and Samson made a feast there,
as the young men were accustomed to do. [11]When the people saw him, they
brought thirty companions to be with him. [12]Samson said to them, "Let me
now put a riddle to you. If you can explain it to me within the seven days of
the feast and find it out, then I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty
festal garments.* [13]But if you cannot explain it to me, then you shall give
me thirty linen garments and thirty festal garments." So they said to him,
"Ask your riddle; let us hear it." [14]He said to them,

"Out of the eater came something to eat.
Out of the strong came something sweet."

But for three days they could not explain the riddle.

15 On the fourth[d] day they said to Samson's wife, "Coax your husband to explain the riddle to us, or we will burn you and your father's house with fire. Have you invited us here to impoverish us?"* [16]So Samson's wife wept before him, saying, "You hate me; you do not really love me. You have asked a riddle of my people, but you have not explained it to me." He said to her, "Look, I have not told my father or my mother. Why should I tell you?" [17]She wept before him the seven days that their feast lasted, and because she nagged him, on the seventh day he told her. Then she explained the riddle to her people. [18]The men of the town said to him on the seventh day before the sun went down,

"What is sweeter than honey?
What is stronger than a lion?"

And he said to them,

"If you had not plowed with my heifer,
you would not have found out my riddle."*

[19]Then the spirit of the LORD rushed on him, and he went down to Ashkelon. He killed thirty men of the town, took their spoil, and gave the festal garments to those who had explained the riddle. In hot anger he went back to his father's house.* [20]And Samson's wife was given to his companion, who had been his best man.*

Judges 15

SAMSON DEFEATS THE PHILISTINES

1 After a while, at the time of the wheat harvest, Samson went to visit his
wife, bringing along a kid. He said, "I want to go into my wife's room." But
her father would not allow him to go in. [2]Her father said, "I was sure that
you had rejected her, so I gave her to your companion. Is not her younger
sister prettier than she? Why not take her instead?"* [3]Samson said to them,
"This time, when I do mischief to the Philistines, I will be without blame."
[4]So Samson went and caught three hundred foxes and took some torches,
and he turned the foxes[e] tail to tail and put a torch between each pair of
tails. [5]When he had set fire to the torches, he let the foxes go into the
standing grain of the Philistines and burned up the shocks and the standing
grain, as well as the vineyards and[f] olive groves. [6]Then the Philistines
asked, "Who has done this?" And they said, "Samson, the son-in-law of the
Timnite, because he has taken Samson's wife and given her to his
companion." So the Philistines came up and burned her and her father.*
[7]Samson said to them, "If this is what you do, I swear I will not stop until I
have taken revenge on you." [8]He struck them down hip and thigh with a
massive defeat, and he went down and stayed in the cleft of the rock of
Etam.

9 Then the Philistines came up and encamped in Judah and made a raid
on Lehi.* [10]The men of Judah said, "Why have you come up against us?"
They said, "We have come up to bind Samson, to do to him as he did to us."
[11]Then three thousand men of Judah went down to the cleft of the rock of
Etam, and they said to Samson, "Do you not know that the Philistines are
rulers over us? What then have you done to us?" He replied, "As they did to
me, so I have done to them."* [12]They said to him, "We have come down to
bind you, so that we may give you into the hands of the Philistines."
Samson answered them, "Swear to me that you yourselves will not attack
me." [13]They said to him, "No, we will only bind you and give you into their
hands; we will not kill you." So they bound him with two new ropes and
brought him up from the rock.

14 When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him, and the spirit of the LORD rushed on him, and the ropes that were on his arms became like flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands.* [15]Then he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, reached down and took it, and with it he killed a thousand men.* [16]And Samson said,

"With the jawbone of a donkey,
heaps upon heaps,
with the jawbone of a donkey
I have slain a thousand men."

[17]When he had finished speaking, he threw away the jawbone, and that place was called Ramath-lehi.[g]

18 By then he was very thirsty, and he called on the LORD, saying, "You have granted this great victory by the hand of your servant. Am I now to die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?"* [19]So God split open the hollow place that is at Lehi, and water came from it. When he drank, his spirit returned, and he revived. Therefore it was named En-hakkore,[h] which is at Lehi to this day.* [20]And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.*

Judges 16

SAMSON AND DELILAH

1 Once Samson went to Gaza, where he saw a prostitute and went in to her.
2 The Gazites were told,[i] "Samson has come here." So they circled around
and lay in wait for him all night at the city gate. They kept quiet all night,
thinking, "Let us wait[j] until the light of the morning; then we will kill
him."* 3 But Samson lay only until midnight. Then at midnight he rose up,
took hold of the doors of the city gate and the two posts, pulled them up,
bar and all, put them on his shoulders, and carried them to the top of the hill
that is in front of Hebron.

4 After this he fell in love with a woman in the valley of Sorek whose
name was Delilah. 5 The lords of the Philistines came to her and said to her,
"Coax him, and find out what makes his strength so great and how we may
overpower him, so that we may bind him in order to subdue him, and we
will each give you eleven hundred pieces of silver."* 6 So Delilah said to
Samson, "Please tell me what makes your strength so great and how you
could be bound, so that one could subdue you." 7 Samson said to her, "If
they bind me with seven fresh bowstrings that are not dried out, then I shall
become weak and be like anyone else." 8 Then the lords of the Philistines
brought her seven fresh bowstrings that had not dried out, and she bound
him with them. 9 While men were lying in wait in an inner chamber, she said
to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" But he snapped the
bowstrings as a strand of fiber snaps when it touches the fire. So the secret
of his strength was not known.

10 Then Delilah said to Samson, "You have mocked me and told me lies;
please tell me how you could be bound."* 11 He said to her, "If they bind me
with new ropes that have not been used, then I shall become weak and be
like anyone else." 12 So Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them
and said to him, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" (The men lying in
wait were in an inner chamber.) But he snapped the ropes off his arms like a
thread.

13 Then Delilah said to Samson, "Until now you have mocked me and
told me lies; tell me how you could be bound." He said to her, "If you
weave the seven locks of my head with the web and make it tight with the
pin, then I shall become weak and be like anyone else."* [14]So while he
slept, Delilah took the seven locks of his head and wove them into the web[k]
and made them tight with the pin. Then she said to him, "The Philistines are
upon you, Samson!" But he awoke from his sleep and pulled away the pin,
the loom, and the web.

15 Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when your
heart is not with me? You have mocked me three times now and have not
told me what makes your strength so great."* [16]Finally, after she had
nagged him with her words day after day and pestered him, he was tired to
death. [17]So he told her his whole secret and said to her, "A razor has never
come upon my head, for I have been a nazirite to God from my mother's
womb. If my head were shaved, then my strength would leave me; I would
become weak and be like anyone else."*

18 When Delilah realized that he had told her his whole secret, she sent
and called the lords of the Philistines, saying, "This time come up, for he
has told his whole secret to me." Then the lords of the Philistines came up
to her and brought the money in their hands. [19]She let him fall asleep on her
lap, and she called a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head.
He began to weaken,[l] and his strength left him.* [20]Then she said, "The
Philistines are upon you, Samson!" When he awoke from his sleep, he
thought, "I will go out as at other times and shake myself free." But he did
not know that the LORD had left him.* [21]So the Philistines seized him and
gouged out his eyes. They brought him down to Gaza and bound him with
bronze shackles, and he ground at the mill in the prison. [22]But the hair of
his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

SAMSON'S DEATH

23 Now the lords of the Philistines gathered to offer a great sacrifice to
their god Dagon and to rejoice, for they said, "Our god has given Samson
our enemy into our hand."* [24]When the people saw him, they praised their
god, for they said, "Our god has given our enemy into our hand, the ravager
of our country, who has killed many of us."* [25]And when their hearts were

merry, they said, “Call Samson, and let him entertain us.” So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them. They made him stand between the pillars,* 26and Samson said to the attendant who held him by the hand, “Let me feel the pillars on which the house rests, so that I may lean against them.” 27Now the house was full of men and women; all the lords of the Philistines were there, and on the roof there were about three thousand men and women who looked on while Samson performed.*

28 Then Samson called to the LORD and said, “Lord GOD, remember me and strengthen me only this once, O God, so that with this one act of revenge I may pay back the Philistines for my two eyes.”m,* 29And Samson grasped the two middle pillars on which the house rested, and he leaned his weight against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other. 30Then Samson said, “Let me die with the Philistines.” He strained with all his might, and the house fell on the lords and all the people who were in it. So those he killed at his death were more than those he had killed during his life. 31Then his kindred and all his family came down and took him and brought him up and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol in the tomb of his father Manoah. He had judged Israel twenty years.*

Judges 17

MICAH AND THE LEVITE

1 There was a man in the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Micah.
2 He said to his mother, "The eleven hundred pieces of silver that were taken
from you, about which you uttered a curse and even spoke it in my hearing
—that silver is in my possession; I took it, but now I will return it to you."[n]
And his mother said, "May my son be blessed by the LORD!" 3 Then he
returned the eleven hundred pieces of silver to his mother, and his mother
said, "I consecrate the silver to the LORD from my hand for my son, to make
an idol of cast metal."* 4 So when he returned the money to his mother, his
mother took two hundred pieces of silver and gave it to the silversmith, who
made it into an idol of cast metal, and it was in the house of Micah. 5 This
man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and teraphim and installed
one of his sons, who became his priest.* 6 In those days there was no king in
Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.*

7 Now there was a young man of Bethlehem in Judah, of the clan of
Judah. He was a Levite residing there.* 8 This man left the town of
Bethlehem in Judah to live wherever he could find a place. He came to the
house of Micah in the hill country of Ephraim to carry on his work.[o] 9 Micah
said to him, "From where do you come?" He replied, "I am a Levite of
Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to live wherever I can find a place."
10 Then Micah said to him, "Stay with me, and be to me a father and a
priest, and I will give you ten pieces of silver a year, a set of clothes, and
your living."[p,*] 11 The Levite agreed to stay with the man, and the young
man became to him like one of his sons. 12 So Micah installed the Levite,
and the young man became his priest and was in the house of Micah.*
13 Then Micah said, "Now I know that the LORD will prosper me because the
Levite has become my priest."

Judges 18

THE MIGRATION OF DAN

1 In those days there was no king in Israel. And in those days the tribe of
the Danites was seeking for itself a territory to live in, for until then no
territory among the tribes of Israel had been allotted to them.* [2]So the
Danites sent five valiant men from the whole number of their clan, from
Zorah and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land and to explore it, and they said
to them, "Go, explore the land." When they came to the hill country of
Ephraim, to the house of Micah, they stayed there.* [3]While they were at
Micah's house, they recognized the voice of the young Levite, so they went
over and asked him, "Who brought you here? What are you doing in this
place? What is your business here?" [4]He said to them, "Micah did such and
such for me, and he hired me, and I have become his priest."* [5]Then they
said to him, "Inquire of God that we may know whether the mission we are
undertaking will succeed."* [6]The priest replied, "Go in peace. The mission
you are on is under the eye of the LORD."*

7 The five men went on, and when they came to Laish, they observed the
people who were there living securely, after the manner of the Sidonians,
quiet and unsuspecting, lacking[q] nothing on earth, and possessing wealth.[r]
Furthermore, they were far from the Sidonians and had no dealings with
Aram.[s,*] [8]When they came to their kinsfolk at Zorah and Eshtaol, they said
to them, "What do you report?"* [9]They said, "Come, let us go up against
them, for we have seen the land, and it is very good. Will you do nothing?
Do not be slow to go, but enter in and possess the land.* [10]When you go,
you will come to an unsuspecting people. The land is broad—God has
indeed given it into your hands—a place where there is no lack of anything
on earth."*

11 Six hundred men of the Danite clan, armed with weapons of war, set
out from Zorah and Eshtaol [12]and went up and encamped at Kiriath-jearim
in Judah. On this account that place is called Mahaneh-dan[t] to this day; it is
west of Kiriath-jearim.* [13]From there they passed on to the hill country of
Ephraim and came to the house of Micah.*

14 Then the five men who had gone to spy out the land (that is, Laish)
said to their comrades, "Do you know that in these buildings there are an
ephod, teraphim, and an idol of cast metal? Now, therefore, consider what
you will do."* 15So they turned in that direction and came to the house of
the young Levite at the home of Micah and greeted him. 16While the six
hundred men of the Danites, armed with their weapons of war, stood by the
entrance of the gate,* 17the five men who had gone to spy out the land
proceeded to enter and take the idol of cast metal, the ephod, and the
teraphim.[u] The priest was standing by the entrance of the gate with the six
hundred men armed with weapons of war.* 18When the men went into
Micah's house and took the idol of cast metal, the ephod, and the teraphim,
the priest said to them, "What are you doing?" 19They said to him, "Keep
quiet! Put your hand over your mouth, and come with us, and be to us a
father and a priest. Is it better for you to be priest to the house of one person
or to be priest to a tribe and clan in Israel?"* 20Then the priest accepted the
offer. He took the ephod, the teraphim, and the idol and went along with the
people.

21 So they resumed their journey, putting the little ones, the livestock,
and the goods in front of them. 22When they were some distance from the
home of Micah, the men who were in the houses near Micah's house were
called out, and they overtook the Danites. 23They shouted to the Danites,
who turned around and said to Micah, "What is the matter that you come
with such a company?" 24He replied, "You take my gods that I made and
the priest and go away, and what have I left? How then can you ask me,
'What is the matter?' "* 25And the Danites said to him, "You had better not
let your voice be heard among us, or else hot-tempered fellows will attack
you, and you will lose your life and the lives of your household." 26Then
the Danites went their way. When Micah saw that they were too strong for
him, he turned and went back to his home.

THE DANITES SETTLE IN LAISH

27 The Danites, having taken what Micah had made and the priest who
belonged to him, came to Laish, to a people quiet and unsuspecting, put
them to the sword, and burned down the city.* 28There was no deliverer
because it was far from Sidon, and they had no dealings with Aram.[v] It was

in the valley that belongs to Beth-rehob. They rebuilt the city and lived in it.* 29They named the city Dan after their ancestor Dan, who was born to Israel, but the name of the city was formerly Laish.* 30Then the Danites set up the idol for themselves. Jonathan son of Gershom son of Moses[w] and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the time the land went into captivity.* 31So they maintained as their own Micah's idol that he had made, as long as the house of God was at Shiloh.*

Judges 19

THE LEVITE'S CONCUBINE

1 In those days, when there was no king in Israel, a certain Levite residing
in the remote parts of the hill country of Ephraim took to himself a
concubine from Bethlehem in Judah.* [2]But his concubine became angry
with[x] him, and she went away from him to her father's house at Bethlehem
in Judah and was there some four months. [3]Then her husband set out after
her, to speak tenderly to her and bring her back. He had with him his
servant and a couple of donkeys. When he reached[y] her father's house, the
young woman's father saw him and came with joy to meet him.* [4]His
father-in-law, the young woman's father, made him stay, and he remained
with him three days; so they ate and drank, and he[z] stayed there. [5]On the
fourth day they got up early in the morning, and he prepared to go, but the
young woman's father said to his son-in-law, "Fortify yourself with a bit of
food, and after that you may go."* [6]So the two men sat and ate and drank
together, and the young woman's father said to the man, "Why not spend
the night and enjoy yourself?"* [7]When the man got up to go, his father-in-
law kept urging him until he spent the night there again. [8]On the fifth day he
got up early in the morning to leave, and the young woman's father said,
"Fortify yourself and linger until the day declines." So the two of them ate.
[9]When the man with his concubine and his servant got up to leave, his
father-in-law, the young woman's father, said to him, "Look, the day has
worn on until it is almost evening. Spend the night. See, the day has drawn
to a close. Spend the night here and enjoy yourself. Tomorrow you can get
up early in the morning for your journey and go home."

10 But the man would not spend the night; he got up and departed and
arrived opposite Jebus (that is, Jerusalem). He had with him a couple of
saddled donkeys, and his concubine was with him.* [11]When they were near
Jebus, the day was far spent, and the servant said to his master, "Come now,
let us turn aside to this city of the Jebusites and spend the night in it."*
[12]But his master said to him, "We will not turn aside into a city of
foreigners, who do not belong to the people of Israel, but we will continue

on to Gibeah."* 13Then he said to his servant, "Come, let us try to reach one of these places and spend the night at Gibeah or at Ramah." 14So they passed on and went their way, and the sun went down on them near Gibeah, which belongs to Benjamin. 15They turned aside there, to go in and spend the night at Gibeah. He went in and sat down in the open square of the city, but no one took them in to spend the night.*

16 Then at evening there was an old man coming from his work in the field. The man was from the hill country of Ephraim, and he was residing in Gibeah. (The people of the place were Benjaminites.)* 17When the old man looked up and saw the wayfarer in the open square of the city, he said, "Where are you going, and where do you come from?" 18He answered him, "We are passing from Bethlehem in Judah to the remote parts of the hill country of Ephraim, from which I come. I went to Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to my home.[a] Nobody has offered to take me in.* 19We have straw and fodder for our donkeys, with bread and wine for me and the woman and the young man along with us. Your servants need nothing more." 20The old man said, "Peace be to you. I will care for all your wants; only do not spend the night in the square." 21So he brought him into his house and fed the donkeys; they washed their feet and ate and drank.*

GIBEAH'S CRIME

22 While they were enjoying themselves, the men of the city, a perverse lot, surrounded the house and started pounding on the door. They said to the old man, the master of the house, "Bring out the man who came into your house, so that we may have intercourse with him."* 23And the man, the master of the house, went out to them and said to them, "No, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. Since this man is my guest, do not do this vile thing.* 24Here are my virgin daughter and his concubine; let me bring them out now. Ravish them and do whatever you want to them, but against this man do not do such a vile thing."* 25But the men would not listen to him. So the man seized his concubine and put her out to them. They wantonly raped her and abused her all through the night until the morning. And as the dawn began to break, they let her go. 26As morning appeared, the woman came and fell down at the door of the man's house where her master was, until it was light.

27 In the morning her master got up, opened the doors of the house, and
when he went out to go on his way, there was the woman, his concubine,
lying at the door of the house, with her hands on the threshold. [28]"Get up,"
he said to her, "we are going." But there was no answer. Then he put her on
the donkey, and the man set out for his home.* [29]When he had entered his
house, he took a knife, and grasping his concubine he cut her into twelve
pieces, limb by limb, and sent her throughout all the territory of Israel.*
[30]Then he commanded the men whom he sent, saying, "Thus shall you say
to all the Israelites: Has such a thing ever happened[b] since the day that the
Israelites came up from the land of Egypt until this day? Consider it, take
counsel, and speak out."*

Judges 20

THE OTHER TRIBES ATTACK BENJAMIN

1 Then all the Israelites came out, from Dan to Beer-sheba, including the land of Gilead, and the congregation assembled in one body before the LORD at Mizpah.* [2]The chiefs of all the people, of all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, four hundred thousand foot soldiers bearing arms. [3](Now the Benjaminites heard that the Israelites had gone up to Mizpah.) And the Israelites said, "Tell us, how did this criminal act come about?" [4]The Levite, the husband of the woman who was murdered, answered, "I came to Gibeah that belongs to Benjamin, I and my concubine, to spend the night.* [5]The lords of Gibeah rose up against me and surrounded the house at night. They intended to kill me, and they raped my concubine until she died.* [6]Then I took my concubine and cut her into pieces and sent her throughout the whole extent of Israel's territory, for they have committed a vile outrage in Israel.* [7]So now, you Israelites, all of you, give your advice and counsel here."*

8 All the people got up as one, saying, "We will not any of us go to our tents, nor will any of us return to our houses. [9]But now this is what we will do to Gibeah: we will go up[c] against it by lot. [10]We will take ten men of a hundred throughout all the tribes of Israel, and a hundred of a thousand, and a thousand of ten thousand, to bring provisions for the troops who will go to repay[d] Gibeah of Benjamin for all the disgrace that they have done in Israel." [11]So all the men of Israel gathered against the city, united as one.

12 The tribes of Israel sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, "What crime is this that has been committed among you?* [13]Now then, hand over those scoundrels in Gibeah so that we may put them to death and purge the evil from Israel." But the Benjaminites would not listen to their kinsfolk, the Israelites.* [14]The Benjaminites came together out of the towns to Gibeah, to go out to battle against the Israelites. [15]On that day the Benjaminites mustered twenty-six thousand armed men from their towns, besides the inhabitants of Gibeah, who mustered seven hundred picked men. [16]Of all this force, there were seven hundred picked men who were

left-handed; every one could sling a stone at a hair and not miss. [17]And the Israelites, apart from Benjamin, mustered four hundred thousand armed men, all of them warriors.

18 The Israelites proceeded to go up to Bethel, where they inquired of God, "Which of us shall go up first to battle against the Benjaminites?" And the LORD answered, "Judah shall go up first."*

19 Then the Israelites got up in the morning and encamped against Gibeah. [20]The Israelites went out to battle against Benjamin, and the Israelites drew up the battle line against them at Gibeah. [21]The Benjaminites came out of Gibeah and struck down on that day twenty-two thousand of the Israelites.* [23e]The Israelites went up and wept before the LORD until the evening, and they inquired of the LORD, "Shall we again draw near to battle against our kinsfolk the Benjaminites?" And the LORD said, "Go up against them."* [22]The Israelites strengthened themselves and again formed the battle line in the same place where they had formed it on the first day.

24 So the Israelites advanced against the Benjaminites the second day. [25]Benjamin moved out against them from Gibeah the second day and struck down eighteen thousand of the Israelites, all of them armed men.* [26]Then all the Israelites, the whole army, went back to Bethel and wept, sitting there before the LORD; they fasted that day until evening. Then they offered burnt offerings and sacrifices of well-being before the LORD.* [27]And the Israelites inquired of the LORD (for the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days,* [28]and Phinehas son of Eleazar, son of Aaron, ministered before it in those days), saying, "Shall we go out once more to battle against our kinsfolk the Benjaminites, or shall we desist?" The LORD answered, "Go up, for tomorrow I will give them into your hand."*

29 So Israel stationed men in ambush around Gibeah.* [30]Then the Israelites went up against the Benjaminites on the third day and set themselves in array against Gibeah as before. [31]When the Benjaminites went out against the army, they were drawn away from the city. As before, they began to inflict casualties on the troops along the main roads, one of which goes up to Bethel and the other to Gibeah, as well as in the open country, killing about thirty men of Israel.* [32]The Benjaminites thought, "They are being routed before us, as previously." But the Israelites said,

"Let us retreat and draw them away from the city toward the roads." [33]The main body of the Israelites drew back its battle line to Baal-tamar, while those Israelites who were in ambush rushed out of their place west[f] of Geba.* [34]There came against Gibeah ten thousand picked men out of all Israel, and the battle was fierce. But the Benjaminites did not realize that disaster was close upon them.*

35 The LORD defeated Benjamin before Israel, and the Israelites struck down twenty-five thousand one hundred men of Benjamin that day, all of them armed.

36 Then the Benjaminites saw that they were defeated.

The Israelites gave ground to Benjamin because they relied on the troops in ambush that they had stationed against Gibeah.* [37]The troops in ambush rushed quickly upon Gibeah. Then they put the whole city to the sword.* [38]Now the agreement between the main body of Israel and the men in ambush was that when they sent up a cloud of smoke out of the city* [39]the main body of Israel should turn in battle. But Benjamin had begun to inflict casualties on the Israelites, killing about thirty of them, so they thought, "Surely they are defeated before us, as in the first battle."* [40]But when the cloud, a column of smoke, began to rise out of the city, the Benjaminites looked behind them—and there was the whole city going up in smoke toward the sky!* [41]Then the main body of Israel turned, and the Benjaminites were dismayed, for they saw that disaster was close upon them. [42]Therefore they turned away from the Israelites in the direction of the wilderness, but the battle overtook them, and those who came out of the city[g] were striking them down in between.[h] [43]Surrounding the Benjaminites, they pursued them from Nohah[i] and trod them down as far as a place east of Gibeah. [44]Eighteen thousand Benjaminites fell, all of them courageous fighters. [45]When they turned and fled toward the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon, five thousand of them were cut down on the main roads, and they were pursued as far as Gidom, and two thousand of them were slain.* [46]So all who fell that day of Benjamin were twenty-five thousand arms-bearing men, all of them courageous fighters. [47]But six hundred turned and fled toward the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon and remained at the rock of Rimmon for four months.* [48]Meanwhile, the Israelites turned back against the Benjaminites and put them to the sword—

the city, the people, the animals, and all that remained. Also the remaining towns they set on fire.

Judges 21

THE BENJAMINITES SAVED FROM EXTINCTION

1 Now the Israelites had sworn at Mizpah, "No one of us shall give his
daughter in marriage to Benjamin."* [2]And the people came to Bethel and
sat there until evening before God, and they lifted up their voices and wept
bitterly.* [3]They said, "O LORD, the God of Israel, why has it come to pass
that today there should be one tribe lacking in Israel?" [4]On the next day, the
people got up early and built an altar there and offered burnt offerings and
sacrifices of well-being.* [5]Then the Israelites said, "Who out of all the tribes
of Israel did not come up in the assembly to the LORD?" For a solemn oath
had been taken concerning whoever did not come up to the LORD to Mizpah,
saying, "That one shall be put to death." [6]But the Israelites had compassion
for Benjamin their kin and said, "One tribe is cut off from Israel this day.
[7]What shall we do for wives for those who are left, since we have sworn by
the LORD that we will not give them any of our daughters as wives?"*

8 Then they said, "Is there anyone from the tribes of Israel who did not
come up to the LORD to Mizpah?" It turned out that no one from Jabesh-
gilead had come to the camp, to the assembly. [9]For when the roll was called
among the people, not one of the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead was there.
[10]So the congregation sent twelve thousand soldiers there and commanded
them, "Go, put the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead to the sword, including the
women and the little ones. [11]This is what you shall do; every male and
every woman who has lain with a male you shall devote to destruction."*
[12]And they found among the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead four hundred
young virgins who had never slept with a man and brought them to the
camp at Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan.

13 Then the whole congregation sent word to the Benjaminites who were
at the rock of Rimmon and proclaimed peace to them.* [14]Benjamin returned
at that time, and they gave them the women whom they had saved alive of
the women of Jabesh-gilead, but they did not suffice for them.

15 The people had compassion on Benjamin because the LORD had made
a breach in the tribes of Israel.* [16]So the elders of the congregation said,

“What shall we do for wives for those who are left, since there are no women left in Benjamin?” [17]And they said, “There must be heirs for the survivors of Benjamin, in order that a tribe may not be blotted out from Israel. [18]Yet we cannot give any of our daughters to them as wives.” For the Israelites had sworn, “Cursed be anyone who gives a wife to Benjamin.”* [19]So they said, “Look, the yearly festival of the LORD is taking place at Shiloh, which is north of Bethel, on the east of the highway that goes up from Bethel to Shechem and south of Lebonah.”* [20]And they instructed the Benjaminites, saying, “Go and lie in wait in the vineyards [21]and watch; when the young women of Shiloh come out to dance in the dances, then come out of the vineyards and each of you carry off a wife for himself from the young women of Shiloh and go to the land of Benjamin.* [22]Then if their fathers or their brothers come to complain to us, we will say to them, ‘Be generous and allow us to have them, because we did not capture in battle a wife for each man. But neither did you incur guilt by giving your daughters to them.’ ”* [23]The Benjaminites did so; they took wives for each of them from the dancers whom they abducted. Then they went and returned to their territory and rebuilt the towns and lived in them.* [24]So the Israelites departed from there at that time by tribes and families, and they went out from there to their own territories.

25 In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes.*

Judges 1

* **1.1** Num 27.21
* **1.3** v 17
* **1.4** Gen 13.7
* **1.8** v 21; Josh 15.63
* **1.10** Josh 15.13–19
* **1.13** Judg 3.9
* **1.14** Josh 15.18, 19

a **1.15** That is, *basins of water*

b **1.16** Gk: Heb lacks *Hobab*

c **1.16** OL: Heb *people*

* **1.16** Deut 34.3; Judg 3.13; 4.11, 17
* **1.17** v 3; Num 21.3
* **1.19** v 2; Josh 17.16, 18
* **1.20** v 10; Josh 14.9; 15.13, 14
* **1.21** Josh 15.63
* **1.23** Gen 28.19
* **1.25** Josh 6.25

d **1.27** Heb lacks *the inhabitants of*

* **1.27** Josh 17.11–13
* **1.29** Josh 16.10

e **1.31** Cn: Heb *Ahlab*

* **1.31** Judg 10.6
* **1.34** Ex 3.17
* **1.36** Josh 15.3

Judges 2

* **2.1** v 5; Gen 17.7; Ex 20.2; Deut 7.9; Judg 6.11
* **2.2** Ex 23.32; 34.12, 13

f **2.3** Gk OL Vg: Heb *sides*

* **2.3** Deut 7.16; Josh 23.13; Judg 3.6; Ps 106.36

g **2.5** That is, *weepers*

* **2.6** Josh 24.28–31
* **2.10** 1 Sam 2.12; 1 Chr 28.9; Gal 4.8
* **2.11** Judg 3.7, 12; 4.1; 6.1, 25; 8.33; 10.6
* **2.12** Deut 31.16
* **2.13** Judg 10.6
* **2.14** Deut 28.25; Judg 3.8; Ps 106.40–42
* **2.16** Ps 106.43–45; Acts 13.20

* **2.17** v 7
* **2.19** Judg 3.12; 4.1; 8.33
* **2.20** v 14; Josh 23.16
* **2.21** Josh 23.13
* **2.22** Judg 3.1, 4

Judges 3

* **3.1** Judg 2.21, 22
* **3.3** Josh 13.3
* **3.4** Deut 8.2; Judg 2.22
* **3.6** Ex 34.16; Deut 7.3, 4
* **3.7** Deut 4.9; Judg 2.11, 13
* **3.9** v 15; Judg 1.13
* **3.10** Num 11.25, 29; 24.2; Judg 6.34
* **3.12** Judg 2.11, 14
* **3.13** Judg 1.16
* **3.15** Ps 107.13
* **3.17** v 15

h **3.19** Heb *he said*

i **3.21** Heb *his*

j **3.22** Compare Tg Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain

k **3.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain

l **3.24** Heb *covering his feet*

* **3.24** 1 Sam 24.3
* **3.25** 2 Kings 2.17; 8.11
* **3.28** Judg 7.9, 15, 24; 12.5
* **3.30** v 11
* **3.31** Judg 5.6

Judges 4

* **4.1** Judg 2.19
* **4.2** vv 13, 16; Josh 11.1, 10; Ps 83.9
* **4.3** Judg 1.19
* **4.6** Heb 11.32
* **4.7** Ps 83.9
* **4.9** v 21
* **4.10** v 14; Judg 5.15, 18

m **4.11** Heb *from the Kain*

* **4.11** v 6; Judg 1.16
* **4.13** v 3

* **4.14** Deut 9.3
n **4.15** Heb adds *to the sword*
* **4.15** Josh 10.10
* **4.16** Ps 83.9
* **4.19** Judg 5.25
* **4.21** Judg 5.26

Judges 5

* **5.1** Ex 15.1
o **5.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.2** Deut 32.43
* **5.3** Ps 27.6
* **5.4** Deut 33.2; Ps 68.7–9
* **5.5** Ps 68.8; 97.5; Isa 64.1, 3
* **5.6** Judg 3.31; 4.17
p **5.7** Or *ceased in Israel, ceased until*
* **5.8** Deut 32.17
q **5.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
r **5.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.11** 1 Sam 12.7; Mic 6.5
* **5.12** Ps 57.8; 68.18
s **5.13** Gk mss: Heb *me*
t **5.14** Cn: Heb *From Ephraim their root*
u **5.14** Gk: Heb *in Amalek*
* **5.14** Num 32.39; Judg 3.13, 27
* **5.15** Judg 4.10
* **5.16** Num 32.1
* **5.17** Josh 13.24–28; 19.29, 46
* **5.18** Judg 4.6, 10
* **5.19** Josh 11.1, 2; Judg 1.27
* **5.20** Josh 10.11–14
* **5.21** Judg 4.7
* **5.24** Judg 4.17, 19–21
* **5.25** Judg 4.19
* **5.26** Judg 4.21
v **5.28** Gk Compare Tg: Heb *exclaimed*
* **5.28** Prov 7.6
* **5.30** Ex 15.9
* **5.31** Judg 3.11; Ps 19.4, 5; 68.2; 92.9

Judges 6

* **6.1** Num 25.15–18; 31.1–3; Judg 2.11, 19
* **6.3** Judg 3.13
* **6.4** Lev 26.16; Deut 28.30, 33, 51
* **6.5** Judg 7.12
* **6.6** Judg 3.15
* **6.8** Judg 2.1, 2
* **6.9** Ps 44.2, 3

w **6.10** Q ms lacks 6.7–10

* **6.11** Josh 17.2
* **6.12** Josh 1.5
* **6.13** 2 Chr 15.2; Ps 44.1
* **6.14** Judg 4.6; Heb 11.32, 34
* **6.15** Ex 3.11; 1 Sam 9.21
* **6.16** Ex 3.12; Josh 1.5
* **6.17** vv 36, 37; Isa 38.7, 8
* **6.19** Gen 18.6–8
* **6.20** Judg 13.19
* **6.21** Lev 9.24
* **6.22** Judg 13.21

x **6.25** Or *Asherah*

* **6.25** Ex 34.13; Deut 7.5

y **6.26** Meaning of Heb uncertain

z **6.26** Or *Asherah*

a **6.28** Or *Asherah*

* **6.28** 1 Kings 16.32

b **6.30** Or *Asherah*

c **6.32** Heb *he*

* **6.32** Judg 7.1; 1 Sam 12.11
* **6.33** v 3; Josh 17.16
* **6.34** Judg 3.10, 27; 1 Chr 12.18; 2 Chr 24.20
* **6.37** Ex 4.3–7
* **6.39** Gen 18.32

Judges 7

d **7.1** Heb *from*

* **7.1** Judg 6.32
* **7.2** Deut 8.17; Isa 10.13; 2 Cor 4.7

e **7.3** Cn: Heb *home, and depart from Mount Gilead'* "

* **7.3** Deut 20.8

* **7.4** 1 Sam 14.6
f **7.5** Heb places *putting their hands to their mouths* after *lapped* in 7.6
* **7.7** 1 Sam 14.6
* **7.9** Josh 2.24; 10.8; 11.6
* **7.11** vv 13–15
* **7.12** Josh 11.4; Judg 6.5; 8.10
* **7.14** v 20
* **7.15** 1 Sam 15.31
* **7.18** vv 14, 20
* **7.20** v 14
* **7.21** 2 Kings 7.7
g **7.22** Another reading is *Zeredah*
* **7.22** Josh 6.4, 16, 20; 1 Sam 14.20
* **7.23** Judg 6.35
* **7.24** Judg 3.27, 28
* **7.25** Judg 8.3, 4; Ps 83.11; Isa 10.26

Judges 8

* **8.1** Judg 12.1
* **8.3** Judg 7.24, 25
* **8.5** Gen 33.17
* **8.6** v 15
* **8.7** Judg 7.15
* **8.8** Gen 32.30, 31
* **8.9** v 17
* **8.12** Ps 83.11
* **8.15** v 6
h **8.16** Compare Gk: Heb *he taught*
* **8.16** v 7
* **8.17** v 9
* **8.18** Judg 4.6
* **8.21** v 26; Ps 83.11
* **8.23** 1 Sam 8.7; 10.19; 12.12
i **8.24** Heb *they*
* **8.27** Deut 7.16; Judg 17.5; Ps 106.39
* **8.28** Judg 5.31
* **8.29** Judg 7.1
* **8.30** Judg 9.2, 5
* **8.31** Judg 9.1
* **8.33** Judg 2.17, 19; 9.4, 46
* **8.34** Deut 4.9; Judg 3.7

Judges 9

* **9.1** Judg 8.31
* **9.2** Gen 29.14; Judg 8.30
* **9.4** Judg 8.33
* **9.5** v 2
j **9.6** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.7** Deut 11.29; 27.12; Jn 4.20
* **9.15** v 20; Isa 30.2
* **9.16** Judg 8.35
* **9.18** vv 5, 6; Judg 8.31
* **9.19** Judg 8.35
* **9.23** 1 Sam 16.14; 18.9, 10
k **9.24** Heb *might come*
* **9.24** vv 56, 57; Num 35.33; Deut 27.25
* **9.27** Judg 8.33
* **9.28** Gen 34.2, 6
l **9.29** Gk: Heb *and he said*
* **9.29** 2 Sam 15.4
m **9.31** Cn: Heb *Tormah*
n **9.31** Cn: Heb *are besieging*
* **9.33** 1 Sam 10.7
o **9.37** That is, *diviners' oak*
* **9.37** Ezek 38.12
p **9.38** Heb *mouth*
* **9.38** vv 28, 29
* **9.39** Gen 35.4
q **9.44** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *companies that were*
* **9.45** v 20; Deut 29.23
* **9.46** Judg 8.33
* **9.48** Ps 68.14
* **9.50** 2 Sam 11.21
* **9.53** v 50
* **9.56** v 24; Ps 94.23
* **9.57** v 20

Judges 10

* **10.1** Judg 2.16
* **10.4** Num 32.41
* **10.6** Deut 31.16, 17; 32.15; Judg 2.11, 13
* **10.7** Judg 2.14

* **10.10** 1 Sam 12.10
r **10.11** Heb lacks *Did I not deliver you*
* **10.11** Ex 14.30; Num 21.21, 24, 25
* **10.12** Judg 5.19; Ps 106.42, 43
* **10.14** Deut 32.37
* **10.15** 1 Sam 3.18
* **10.16** Deut 32.36; Josh 24.23; Ps 106.44, 45; Jer 18.7, 8
* **10.17** Judg 11.29
* **10.18** Judg 11.8, 11

Judges 11

* **11.1** Heb 11.32
* **11.3** 2 Sam 10.6, 8
* **11.4** Judg 10.9, 17
* **11.8** Judg 10.18
* **11.10** Jer 42.5
* **11.11** v 8; Judg 10.17
* **11.13** Num 21.24–26
* **11.15** Deut 2.9, 19
s **11.16** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **11.16** Num 14.25; 20.1, 14–21
* **11.18** Num 21.4; Deut 2.1–9
* **11.19** Num 21.21, 22; Deut 2.26, 27
* **11.20** Num 21.23; Deut 2.32
* **11.21** Num 21.24, 25; Deut 2.33, 34
* **11.22** Deut 2.36
* **11.24** Num 21.29; Josh 3.10; 1 Kings 11.7
* **11.25** Num 22.2; Josh 24.9
* **11.26** Num 21.25; Deut 2.36
* **11.27** Gen 16.5; 18.25; 31.53; 1 Sam 24.12, 15
* **11.29** Judg 3.10
t **11.31** Or *whoever*
* **11.33** Ezek 27.17
* **11.34** Ex 15.20; Judg 10.17; 1 Sam 18.6; Jer 31.4
* **11.35** Num 30.2; Eccl 5.2, 4, 5
* **11.36** Num 30.2; 2 Sam 18.19, 31; Lk 1.38
u **11.37** Cn: Heb *go down*

Judges 12

* **12.1** Judg 8.1

v **12.2** Gk OL Syr H: Heb lacks *who oppressed us*
* **12.3** 1 Sam 19.5; 28.21; Job 13.14
w **12.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain: Gk omits *because . . . Manasseh*
* **12.4** Judg 3.28; 7.24
* **12.5** Josh 22.11; Judg 3.28; 7.24
x **12.7** Gk: Heb *in the towns of Gilead*
* **12.7** Heb 11.32
* **12.14** Judg 5.10; 10.4

Judges 13

* **13.1** Judg 2.11; 1 Sam 12.9
* **13.2** Josh 19.41
* **13.3** vv 6, 8, 10; Judg 6.12
* **13.4** v 14; Num 6.2, 3
* **13.5** Num 6.2, 5; Lk 1.15
y **13.6** Or *the angel*
* **13.6** vv 17, 18; 1 Sam 2.27; Mt 28.3
* **13.8** vv 3, 7
* **13.13** vv 4, 11
* **13.14** Num 6.4
* **13.15** v 3
* **13.16** Judg 6.20
* **13.17** Gen 32.29
* **13.18** Isa 9.6
z **13.19** Gk Vg: Heb *and working*
a **13.19** Heb *wonders, while Manoah and his wife looked on*
* **13.19** Judg 6.20, 21
* **13.20** Lev 9.24
* **13.21** v 16
* **13.22** Deut 5.26; Judg 6.22
b **13.23** Gk OL Vg: Heb adds *now*
* **13.24** 1 Sam 3.19; Heb 11.32
* **13.25** Judg 3.10; 18.11

Judges 14

* **14.2** Gen 21.21; 34.4
c **14.3** Cn: Heb *my*
* **14.4** Josh 11.20; Judg 13.1
* **14.6** Judg 3.10; 13.25
* **14.7** v 3

* **14.12** Gen 29.27; 1 Kings 10.1; Ezek 17.2
d **14.15** Gk Syr: Heb *seventh*
* **14.15** Judg 15.6; 16.5
* **14.18** v 14
* **14.19** Judg 3.10
* **14.20** Judg 15.2; Jn 3.29

Judges 15

* **15.2** Judg 14.20
e **15.4** Heb *lacks the foxes*
f **15.5** Gk Tg Vg: Heb lacks *and*
* **15.6** Judg 14.15
* **15.9** v 19
* **15.11** Judg 13.1; 14.4
* **15.14** Judg 14.19; 1 Sam 11.6
* **15.15** Lev 26.8; Josh 23.10; Judg 3.31
g **15.17** That is, *hill of the jawbone*
* **15.18** Judg 16.28
h **15.19** That is, *spring of the one who called*
* **15.19** Gen 45.27; Isa 40.29
* **15.20** Judg 13.1; 16.31; Heb 11.32

Judges 16

i **16.2** Gk: Heb lacks *were told*
j **16.2** Heb lacks *Let us wait*
* **16.2** Ps 118.10–12
* **16.5** Judg 14.15
* **16.10** vv 13, 15
* **16.13** vv 10, 15
k **16.14** Compare Gk: Heb lacks *and make it tight . . . into the web*
* **16.15** Judg 14.16
* **16.17** Num 6.5; Judg 13.5; Mic 7.5
l **16.19** Gk: Heb *She began to torment him*
* **16.19** Prov 7.26, 27
* **16.20** Josh 7.12; 1 Sam 16.14; 18.12
* **16.23** 1 Sam 5.2
* **16.24** Dan 5.4
* **16.25** Judg 9.27
* **16.27** Deut 22.8
m **16.28** Or *so that I may be avenged upon the Philistines for one of my two eyes*

* **16.28** Judg 15.18; Jer 15.15
* **16.31** Judg 15.20

Judges 17

n **17.2** The words *but now I will return it to you* are transposed from the end of 17.3 in Heb
* **17.3** Ex 20.4, 23; Lev 19.4
* **17.5** Gen 31.19; Judg 8.27; 18.14, 24
* **17.6** Deut 12.8; Judg 18.1; 19.1
* **17.7** Judg 19.1; Ruth 1.1, 2; Mic 5.2; Mt 2.1
o **17.8** Or *Ephraim, continuing his journey*
p **17.10** Heb *living, and the Levite went*
* **17.10** Judg 18.19
* **17.12** v 5; Judg 13.25

Judges 18

* **18.1** Josh 19.47; Judg 17.6; 19.1
* **18.2** Josh 2.1; Judg 13.25; 17.1
* **18.4** Judg 17.10, 12
* **18.5** 1 Kings 22.5
* **18.6** 1 Kings 22.6
q **18.7** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
r **18.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
s **18.7** Gk: Heb *with anyone*
* **18.7** vv 27, 28; Josh 19.47
* **18.8** v 2
* **18.9** Num 13.30; 1 Kings 22.3
* **18.10** vv 7, 27; Deut 8.9
t **18.12** That is, *camp of Dan*
* **18.12** Judg 13.25
* **18.13** v 2
* **18.14** Judg 17.5
* **18.16** v 11
u **18.17** Gk: Heb *teraphim and the cast metal*
* **18.17** vv 2, 14
* **18.19** Judg 17.10; Job 21.5
* **18.24** Judg 17.5
* **18.27** vv 7, 10; Josh 19.47
v **18.28** Cn: Heb *with anyone*
* **18.28** v 7; 2 Sam 10.6
* **18.29** Josh 19.47

w **18.30** Another reading is *son of Manasseh*
* **18.30** Ex 2.22; Judg 17.3, 5
* **18.31** Josh 18.1

Judges 19

* **19.1** Judg 18.1
x **19.2** Gk OL: Heb *prostituted herself against*
y **19.3** Gk: Heb *she brought him to*
* **19.3** Gen 34.3; 50.21
z **19.4** Compare Gk: Heb *they*
* **19.5** v 8; Gen 18.5
* **19.6** vv 9, 22
* **19.10** 1 Chr 11.4, 5
* **19.11** Judg 1.21
* **19.12** Heb 11.13
* **19.15** Heb 13.2
* **19.16** v 14; Ps 104.23
a **19.18** Gk: Heb *to the house of the* LORD
* **19.18** Judg 18.31; 20.18
* **19.21** Gen 24.32, 33
* **19.22** Gen 19.4; Deut 13.13; Rom 1.26, 27
* **19.23** Gen 34.7; Deut 22.21; 2 Sam 13.12
* **19.24** Gen 19.8; Deut 21.14
* **19.28** Judg 20.5
* **19.29** 1 Sam 11.7
b **19.30** Compare Gk: Heb [30]*And all who saw it said, "Such a thing has not happened or been seen*
* **19.30** Judg 20.7

Judges 20

* **20.1** Judg 21.5; 1 Sam 7.5
* **20.4** Judg 19.15
* **20.5** Judg 19.22, 25, 26
* **20.6** Josh 7.15; Judg 19.29
* **20.7** Judg 19.30
c **20.9** Gk: Heb lacks *we will go up*
d **20.10** Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **20.12** Deut 13.14, 15
* **20.13** Judg 19.22
* **20.18** vv 23, 26, 27; Num 27.21
* **20.21** v 25

e **20.23** Verses 22 and 23 are transposed
* **20.23** v 18
* **20.25** v 21
* **20.26** v 23; Judg 21.2
* **20.27** Josh 18.1
* **20.28** Deut 18.5; Josh 24.33; Judg 7.9
* **20.29** Josh 8.4
* **20.31** Josh 8.16
f **20.33** Gk Vg: Heb *in the plain*
* **20.33** Josh 8.19
* **20.34** Josh 8.14
* **20.36** Josh 8.15
* **20.37** Josh 8.19
* **20.38** Josh 8.20
* **20.39** v 32
* **20.40** Josh 8.20
g **20.42** Compare Vg and Gk mss: Heb *cities*
h **20.42** Compare Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
i **20.43** Gk mss: Heb *pursued them at their resting place*
* **20.45** Judg 21.13
* **20.47** Judg 21.13

Judges 21

* **21.1** vv 7, 18
* **21.2** Judg 20.18, 26
* **21.4** 2 Sam 24.25
* **21.7** v 1
* **21.11** Num 31.17
* **21.13** Deut 20.10; Judg 20.47
* **21.15** v 6
* **21.18** v 1
* **21.19** Judg 18.31; 1 Sam 1.3
* **21.21** Ex 15.20; Judg 11.34
* **21.22** vv 1, 18
* **21.23** Judg 20.48
* **21.25** Judg 17.6; 18.1; 19.1

Ruth

Ruth 1

ELIMELECH'S FAMILY GOES TO MOAB

1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons.* 2The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon[a] and Chilion;[b] they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.* 3But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, 5both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

NAOMI AND HER MOABITE DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW

6 Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food.* 7So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. 8But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me.* 9The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud.* 10They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." 11But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters. Why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?* 12Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, 13would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from

marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me."* 14Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

15 So she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." 16But Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you,
to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people
and your God my God.*
17Where you die, I will die,
and there will I be buried.
May the LORD do thus to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!"

18When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.*

19 So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women said, "Is this Naomi?" 20She said to them,

"Call me no longer Naomi;[c]
call me Mara,[d]
for the Almighty[e] has dealt bitterly with me.*
21I went away full,
but the LORD has brought me back empty;
why call me Naomi
when the LORD has dealt harshly with[f] me
and the Almighty[g] has brought calamity upon me?"*

22 So Naomi returned together with Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, who came back with her from the country of Moab. They came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.*

Ruth 2

RUTH MEETS BOAZ

1 Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man
of the family of Elimelech whose name was Boaz.* 2And Ruth the Moabite
said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain
behind someone in whose sight I may find favor." She said to her, "Go, my
daughter."* 3So she went. She came and gleaned in the field behind the
reapers. As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz,
who was of the family of Elimelech. 4Just then Boaz came from Bethlehem.
He said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you." They answered, "The LORD
bless you."* 5Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the
reapers, "To whom does this young woman belong?" 6The young man who
was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman
who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab.* 7She said, 'Please,
let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the reapers.' So she
came, and she has been on her feet from early this morning until now
without resting even for a moment."h

8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean
in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women.
9Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped and follow behind them. I
have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the
vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn." 10Then she fell
prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found
favor in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a
foreigner?"* 11But Boaz answered her, "All that you have done for your
mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, how
you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people
that you did not know before.* 12May the LORD reward you for your deeds,
and may you have a full reward from the LORD, the God of Israel, under
whose wings you have come for refuge!"* 13Then she said, "May I continue
to find favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken
kindly to your servant, even though I am not one of your servants."

14 At mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come here and eat some of this bread
and dip your morsel in the sour wine.” So she sat beside the reapers, and he
heaped up for her some parched grain. She ate until she was satisfied, and
she had some left over.* 15When she got up to glean, Boaz instructed his
young men, “Let her glean even among the standing sheaves, and do not
reproach her. 16You must also pull out some handfuls for her from the
bundles and leave them for her to glean, and do not rebuke her.”

17 So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she
had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. 18She picked it up and
came into the town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gleaned.
Then she took out and gave her what was left over after she herself had
been satisfied.* 19Her mother-in-law said to her, “Where did you glean
today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice
of you.” So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked, saying,
“The name of the man with whom I worked today is Boaz.”* 20Then Naomi
said to her daughter-in-law, “Blessed be he by the LORD, whose kindness
has not forsaken the living or the dead!” Naomi also said to her, “The man
is a relative of ours, one of our nearest kin.”[i,*] 21Then Ruth the Moabite
said, “He even said to me, ‘Stay close by my young men until they have
finished all my harvest.’ ” 22Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, “It is
better, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, otherwise
someone might bother you in another field.” 23So she stayed close to the
young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat
harvests, and she lived with her mother-in-law.*

Ruth 3

RUTH AND BOAZ AT THE THRESHING FLOOR

1 Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, I need to seek some
security for you, so that it may be well with you.* [2]Now here is our kinsman
Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is
winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor.* [3]Now wash and anoint
yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor,
but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and
drinking.* [4]When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then go and
uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." [5]She said to
her, "All that you say I will do."

6 So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-
law had instructed her. [7]When Boaz had eaten and drunk and was in a
contented mood, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then
she came stealthily and uncovered his feet and lay down.* [8]At midnight the
man was startled and turned over, and there, lying at his feet, was a woman!
[9]He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant;
spread your cloak over your servant, for you are next-of-kin."[j,*] [10]He said,
"May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter; this last instance of your
loyalty is better than the first; you have not gone after young men, whether
poor or rich. [11]And now, my daughter, do not be afraid, I will do for you all
that you ask, for all the assembly of my people know that you are a worthy
woman.* [12]But now, though it is true that I am a near kinsman, there is
another kinsman more closely related than I.* [13]Remain this night, and in
the morning, if he will act as next-of-kin[k] for you, good; let him do it. But if
he is not willing to act as next-of-kin[l] for you, then, as the LORD lives, I will
act as next-of-kin[m] for you. Lie down until the morning."*

14 So she lay at his feet until morning but got up before one person could
recognize another, for he said, "It must not be known that the woman came
to the threshing floor." [15]Then he said, "Bring the cloak you are wearing
and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley
and put it on her back; then he went into the town. [16]She came to her

mother-in-law, who said, “How did things go with you,[n] my daughter?” Then she told her all that the man had done for her, [17]saying, “He gave me these six measures of barley, for he said, ‘Do not go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.’ ” [18]She replied, “Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today.”[*]

Ruth 4

THE MARRIAGE OF BOAZ AND RUTH

1 No sooner had Boaz gone up to the gate and sat down there than the next-
of-kin[o] of whom Boaz had spoken came passing by. So Boaz said, "Come
over;[p] sit down here." And he went over and sat down.[*] [2]Then Boaz took
ten men of the elders of the town and said, "Sit down here," so they sat
down. [3]He then said to the next-of-kin,[q] "Naomi, who has come back from
the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our
kinsman Elimelech.[*] [4]So I thought I would tell you of it and say: Buy it in
the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my
people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you[r] will not, tell me, so that
I may know; for there is no one prior to you to redeem it, and I come after
you." So he said, "I will redeem it."[*] [5]Then Boaz said, "The day you
acquire the field from the hand of Naomi, you are also acquiring Ruth[s] the
Moabite, the widow of the dead man, to maintain the dead man's name on
his inheritance."[*] [6]At this, the next-of-kin[t] said, "I cannot redeem it for
myself without damaging my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption
yourself, for I cannot redeem it."[*]

7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning
redeeming and exchanging to confirm a transaction: the one took off a
sandal and gave it to the other; this was the manner of attesting in Israel.[*]
[8]So when the next-of-kin[u] said to Boaz, "Acquire it for yourself," he took
off his sandal. [9]Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are
witnesses today that I have acquired from the hand of Naomi all that
belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon. [10]I
have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, to be my wife, to
maintain the dead man's name on his inheritance, in order that the name of
the dead may not be cut off from his kindred and from the gate of his native
place; today you are witnesses."[*] [11]Then all the people who were at the
gate, along with the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the
woman who is coming into your house like Rachel and Leah, who together
built up the house of Israel. May you produce children[v] in Ephrathah and

bestow a name in Bethlehem;* 12and, through the children that the LORD will give you by this young woman, may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah."*

THE GENEALOGY OF DAVID

13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son.* 14Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin,[w] and may his name be renowned in Israel!* 15He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him."* 16Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom and became his nurse. 17The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

18 Now these are the descendants of Perez: Perez became the father of Hezron,* 19Hezron of Ram, Ram of Amminadab, 20Amminadab of Nahshon, Nahshon of Salmon,[x] 21Salmon of Boaz, Boaz of Obed, 22Obed of Jesse, and Jesse of David.

Ruth 1

* **1.1** Judg 2.16
a **1.2** That is, *sickly*
b **1.2** That is, *frail*
* **1.2** Gen 35.19; Judg 3.30
* **1.6** Ex 4.31
* **1.8** v 5; Ruth 2.20
* **1.9** Ruth 3.1
* **1.11** Deut 25.5
* **1.13** Judg 2.15; Ps 32.4
* **1.16** Ruth 2.11, 12; 2 Kings 2.2, 4, 6
* **1.18** Acts 21.14
c **1.20** That is, *pleasant*
d **1.20** That is, *bitter*
e **1.20** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **1.20** Ex 6.3; Job 6.4
f **1.21** Or *has testified against*
g **1.21** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **1.21** Job 1.21
* **1.22** Ex 9.31, 32; Ruth 2.23

Ruth 2

* **2.1** Ruth 1.2; 3.2, 12; 4.21
* **2.2** v 7; Lev 19.9; Deut 24.19
* **2.4** Ps 129.7, 8; Lk 1.28
* **2.6** Ruth 1.22
h **2.7** Compare Gk Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **2.10** 1 Sam 25.23
* **2.11** Ruth 1.14, 16, 17
* **2.12** Ruth 1.16; 1 Sam 24.19; Ps 17.8
* **2.14** v 18
* **2.18** v 14
* **2.19** v 10
i **2.20** Or *one with the right to redeem*
* **2.20** Ruth 3.9, 10; 4.6; Prov 17.17
* **2.23** Deut 16.9

Ruth 3

* **3.1** Ruth 1.9
* **3.2** Deut 25.5–10; Ruth 2.8
* **3.3** 2 Sam 14.2
* **3.7** Judg 19.6, 9, 22; 2 Sam 13.28
j **3.9** Or *one with the right to redeem*
* **3.9** v 12; Ruth 2.20
* **3.11** Prov 12.4
* **3.12** v 9; Ruth 4.1
k **3.13** Or *one with the right to redeem*
l **3.13** Or *one with the right to redeem*
m **3.13** Or *one with the right to redeem*
* **3.13** Ruth 4.5
n **3.16** Or *"Who are you,*
* **3.18** Ps 37.3–5

Ruth 4

o **4.1** Or *one with the right to redeem*
p **4.1** Heb *Come over, so and so*
* **4.1** Ruth 3.12
q **4.3** Or *one with the right to redeem*
* **4.3** Lev 25.25
r **4.4** Heb mss Gk Syr Vg: MT *if he*
* **4.4** Lev 25.25; Jer 32.7, 8
s **4.5** OL Vg: Heb *from the hand of Naomi and from Ruth*
* **4.5** Deut 25.5, 6
t **4.6** Or *one with the right to redeem*
* **4.6** Ruth 3.12, 13
* **4.7** Deut 25.7, 9
u **4.8** Or *one with the right to redeem*
* **4.10** Deut 25.6
v **4.11** Or *wealth*
* **4.11** Ps 127.3
* **4.12** v 18; Gen 38.29
* **4.13** Gen 29.31; 33.5; Ruth 3.11
w **4.14** Or *one with the right to redeem*
* **4.14** Lk 1.58
* **4.15** Ruth 1.16, 17; 2.11, 12
* **4.18** Mt 1.3–6
x **4.20** Gk: Heb *Salmah*

1 Samuel

1 Samuel 1

SAMUEL'S BIRTH AND DEDICATION

1 There was a certain man of Ramathaim, a Zuphite[a] from the hill country
of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham son of Elihu son of
Tohu son of Zuph, an Ephraimite.* [2]He had two wives; the name of one was
Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but
Hannah had no children.*

3 Now this man used to go up year by year from his town to worship and
to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli,
Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD.* [4]On the day when Elkanah
sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons
and daughters,* [5]but to Hannah he gave a double portion[b] because he loved
her, though the LORD had closed her womb.* [6]Her rival used to provoke her
severely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb.* [7]So it went
on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used
to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. [8]Her husband
Elkanah said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why
is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"*

9 After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented
herself before the LORD.[c] Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside
the doorpost of the temple of the LORD.* [10]She was deeply distressed and
prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. [11]She made this vow: "O LORD of
hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant and remember me
and not forget your servant but will give to your servant a male child, then I
will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall
drink neither wine nor intoxicants,[d] and no razor shall touch his head."*

12 As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth.
[13]Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not
heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk.* [14]So Eli said to her, "How long

will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine."* 15But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD.* 16Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time." 17Then Eli answered, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him."* 18And she said, "Let your servant find favor in your sight." Then the woman went her way and ate and drank with her husband,[e] and her countenance was sad no longer.[f,*]

19 They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the LORD remembered her.* 20In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the LORD."*

21 The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow.* 22But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD and remain there forever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time."[g,*] 23Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the LORD establish your[h] word." So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him.* 24When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull,[i] an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh, and the child was young.* 25Then they slaughtered the bull and brought the child to Eli.* 26And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence praying to the LORD.* 27For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him.* 28Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD." And they worshiped the LORD there.*

1 Samuel 2

HANNAH'S PRAYER

1 Hannah prayed and said,

"My heart exults in the LORD;
my strength is exalted in my God.[j]
My mouth derides my enemies
because I rejoice in your victory.*

[2]There is no Holy One like the LORD,
no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.*
[3]Talk no more so very proudly;
let not arrogance come from your mouth,
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.*
[4]The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble gird on strength.*
[5]Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.
The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.*
[6]The LORD kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.*
[7]The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low; he also exalts.*
[8]He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes

and inherit a seat of honor.
For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's,
and on them he has set the world.*

9He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked will perish in darkness,
for not by might does one prevail.*
10The LORD! His adversaries will be shattered;
the Most High[k] will thunder in heaven.
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king
and exalt the power of his anointed."*

ELI'S WICKED SONS

11 Then they left him there before the LORD and went[l] home to Ramah, while the boy remained to minister to the LORD in the presence of the priest Eli.*

12 Now the sons of Eli were scoundrels; they had no regard for the LORD* 13or for the duties of the priests to the people. When anyone offered sacrifice, the priest's servant would come, while the meat was boiling, with a three-pronged fork in his hand,* 14and he would thrust it into the pan, kettle, caldron, or pot; all that the fork brought up the priest would take for himself.[m] This is what they did at Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there. 15Moreover, before the fat was burned, the priest's servant would come and say to the one who was sacrificing, "Give meat for the priest to roast, for he will not accept boiled meat from you but only raw."* 16And if the man said to him, "Let them burn the fat first and then take whatever you wish," he would say, "No, you must give it now; if not, I will take it by force." 17Thus the sin of the young men was very great in the sight of the LORD, for they treated the offerings of the LORD with contempt.*

THE CHILD SAMUEL AT SHILOH

18 Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod.* [19]His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.* [20]Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, "May the LORD repay[n] you with children by this woman for the loan that she made to[o] the LORD," and then they would return to their home.*

21 And[p] the LORD took note of Hannah; she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew up in the presence of the LORD.*

PROPHECY AGAINST ELI'S HOUSEHOLD

22 Now Eli was very old. He heard all that his sons were doing to all Israel and how they lay with the women who served at the entrance to the tent of meeting.* [23]He said to them, "Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all these people. [24]No, my sons; it is not a good report that I hear the people of the LORD spreading abroad.* [25]If one person sins against another, someone can intercede for the sinner with the LORD,[q] but if someone sins against the LORD, who can make intercession?" But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for it was the will of the LORD to kill them.*

26 Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.*

27 A man of God came to Eli and said to him, "Thus the LORD has said: I revealed[r] myself to the family of your ancestor in Egypt when they were slaves[s] to the house of Pharaoh.* [28]I chose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to go up to my altar, to offer incense, to wear an ephod before me, and I gave to the family of your ancestor all my offerings by fire[t] from the Israelites.* [29]Why then look[u] with greedy eye at my sacrifices and my offerings[v] and honor your sons more than me by fattening yourselves on the choicest parts of every offering of my people Israel?* [30]Therefore the LORD the God of Israel declares: I promised that your family and the family of your ancestor should go in and out before me forever, but now the LORD declares: Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be treated with contempt.* [31]See, a time is coming

when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your ancestor's family.[w,*] [32]No one in your family shall ever live to old age.[*] [33]The only one of you whom I shall not cut off from my altar shall be spared to weep out his[x] eyes and grieve his[y] heart; all the members of your household shall die by the sword.[z] [34]The fate of your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, shall be the sign to you: both of them shall die on the same day.[*] [35]I will raise up for myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind. I will build him a sure house, and he shall go in and out before my anointed one forever.[*] [36]Everyone who is left in your family shall come and prostrate himself before him for a piece of silver or a loaf of bread and shall say, 'Please put me in one of the priest's places, that I may eat a morsel of bread.' "[*]

1 Samuel 3

SAMUEL'S CALLING AND PROPHETIC ACTIVITY

1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of
the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.*

2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he
could not see, was lying down in his room;* 3the lamp of God had not yet
gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the
ark of God was.* 4Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"[a] and he said,
"Here I am!"* 5and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But
he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. 6The
LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli and said,
"Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie
down again." 7Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the
LORD had not yet been revealed to him.* 8The LORD called Samuel again, a
third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you
called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.
9Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall
say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.' " So Samuel went and lay
down in his place.

10 Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel!
Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." 11Then
the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that
will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.* 12On that day I will
fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from
beginning to end.* 13For I have told him that I am about to punish his house
forever for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming
God,[b] and he did not restrain them.* 14Therefore I swear to the house of Eli
that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering
forever."*

15 Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house
of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. 16But Eli called
Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." 17Eli said,

"What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you."* 18So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."*

19 As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.* 20And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.* 21The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.*

1 Samuel 4

1 And the word of Samuel came to all Israel.

THE ARK OF GOD CAPTURED

In those days the Philistines mustered for war against Israel,[c] and Israel went out to battle against them;[d] they encamped at Ebenezer, and the Philistines encamped at Aphek.* [2]The Philistines drew up in line against Israel, and when the battle was joined,[e] Israel was defeated by the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men on the field of battle. [3]When the troops came to the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has the LORD put us to rout today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD here from Shiloh, so that he may come among us and save us from the power of our enemies."* [4]So the people sent to Shiloh and brought from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, who is enthroned on the cherubim. The two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God.*

5 When the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel gave a mighty shout, so that the earth resounded.* [6]When the Philistines heard the noise of the shouting, they said, "What does this great shouting in the camp of the Hebrews mean?" When they learned that the ark of the LORD had come to the camp,* [7]the Philistines were afraid, for they said, "Gods have[f] come into the camp." They also said, "Woe to us! For nothing like this has happened before. [8]Woe to us! Who can deliver us from the power of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with every sort of plague in the wilderness. [9]Take courage, and be men, O Philistines, in order not to become slaves to the Hebrews as they have been to you; be men and fight."*

10 So the Philistines fought; Israel was defeated, and they fled, everyone to his home. There was a very great slaughter, for there fell of Israel thirty thousand foot soldiers.* [11]The ark of God was captured, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.*

DEATH OF ELI

12 A man of Benjamin ran from the battle line and came to Shiloh the
same day, with his clothes torn and with earth upon his head.* [13]When he
arrived, Eli was sitting upon his seat by the road watching, for his heart
trembled for the ark of God. When the man came into the city and told the
news, all the city cried out.* [14]When Eli heard the sound of the outcry, he
said, "What is this uproar?" Then the man came quickly and told Eli.
[15]Now Eli was ninety-eight years old, and his eyes were set, so that he
could not see.* [16]The man said to Eli, "I have just come from the battle; I
fled from the battle today." He said, "How did it go, my son?"* [17]The
messenger replied, "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has also
been a great slaughter[g] among the troops; your two sons also, Hophni and
Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God has been captured." [18]When he
mentioned the ark of God, Eli[h] fell over backward from his seat by the side
of the gate, and his neck was broken, and he died, for he was an old man
and heavy. He had judged Israel forty years.*

19 Now his daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas, was pregnant, about to
give birth. When she heard the news that the ark of God was captured and
that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed and gave
birth, for her labor pains overwhelmed her. [20]As she was about to die, the
women attending her said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have borne a
son." But she did not answer or give heed.* [21]She named the child Ichabod,
meaning, "The glory has departed from Israel," because the ark of God had
been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband. [22]She said,
"The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."*

1 Samuel 5

THE PHILISTINES AND THE ARK

1 When the Philistines captured the ark of God, they brought it from
Ebenezer to Ashdod;* 2then the Philistines took the ark of God and brought
it into the house of Dagon and placed it beside Dagon.* 3When the people
of Ashdod rose early the next day, there was Dagon, fallen on his face to the
ground before the ark of the LORD. So they took Dagon and put him back in
his place.* 4But when they rose early on the next morning, Dagon had fallen
on his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD, and the head of Dagon
and both his hands were lying cut off upon the threshold; only the trunk of[i]
Dagon was left to him.* 5This is why the priests of Dagon and all who enter
the house of Dagon do not step on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this
day.

6 The hand of the LORD was heavy upon the people of Ashdod, and he
terrified and struck them with tumors, both in Ashdod and in its territory.*
7And when the inhabitants of Ashdod saw how things were, they said, "The
ark of the God of Israel must not remain with us, for his hand is heavy on us
and on our god Dagon." 8So they sent and gathered together all the lords of
the Philistines and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of
Israel?" The inhabitants of Gath replied, "Let the ark of God be moved on
to us."[j] So they moved the ark of the God of Israel to Gath.[k,*] 9But after
they had brought it to Gath,[l] the hand of the LORD was against the city,
causing a very great panic; he struck the inhabitants of the city, both young
and old, so that tumors broke out on them.* 10So they sent the ark of the
God of Israel[m] to Ekron. But when the ark of God came to Ekron, the
people of Ekron cried out, "Why[n] have they brought around to us[o] the ark
of the God of Israel to kill us and our[p] people?" 11They sent therefore and
gathered together all the lords of the Philistines and said, "Send away the
ark of the God of Israel, and let it return to its own place, that it may not kill
us and our[q] people." For there was a deathly panic throughout the whole
city. The hand of God was very heavy there;* 12those who did not die were
stricken with tumors, and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

1 Samuel 6

THE ARK RETURNED TO ISRAEL

1 The ark of the LORD was in the country of the Philistines seven months.
2 Then the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners and said, "What
shall we do with the ark of the LORD? Tell us what we should send with it to
its place."* 3 They said, "If you send away the ark of the God of Israel, do
not send it empty, but by all means return it with a guilt offering. Then you
will be healed and forgiven;[r] will not his hand then turn from you?"* 4 And
they said, "What is the guilt offering that we shall send to him?" They
answered, "Five gold tumors and five gold mice, according to the number
of the lords of the Philistines, for the same plague was upon all of you and
upon your lords.* 5 So you must make images of your tumors and images of
your mice that ravage the land and give glory to the God of Israel; perhaps
he will lighten his hand on you and your gods and your land.* 6 Why should
you harden your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts?
After he had made fools of them, did they not let the people go, and they
departed?* 7 Now then, get ready a new cart and two milch cows that have
never borne a yoke, and yoke the cows to the cart, but take their calves
home, away from them.* 8 Take the ark of the LORD and place it on the cart,
and put in a box at its side the figures of gold that you are sending to him as
a guilt offering. Then send it off, and let it go its way.* 9 And watch: if it
goes up on the way to its own land, to Beth-shemesh, then it is he who has
done us this great harm; but if not, then we shall know that it is not his hand
that struck us; it happened to us by chance."*

10 The men did so; they took two milch cows and yoked them to the cart
and shut up their calves at home. 11 They put the ark of the LORD on the cart
and the box with the gold mice and the images of their tumors. 12 The cows
went straight in the direction of Beth-shemesh along one highway, lowing
as they went; they turned neither to the right nor to the left, and the lords of
the Philistines went after them as far as the border of Beth-shemesh.*

13 Now the people of Beth-shemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in
the valley. When they looked up and saw the ark, they went with rejoicing

to meet it.[s] 14The cart came into the field of Joshua of Beth-shemesh and stopped there. A large stone was there; so they split up the wood of the cart and offered the cows as a burnt offering to the LORD.* 15The Levites took down the ark of the LORD and the box beside it in which were the gold objects and set them on the large stone. Then the people of Beth-shemesh offered burnt offerings and presented sacrifices on that day to the LORD. 16When the five lords of the Philistines saw it, they returned that day to Ekron.*

17 These are the gold tumors that the Philistines returned as a guilt offering to the LORD: one for Ashdod, one for Gaza, one for Ashkelon, one for Gath, one for Ekron;* 18also the gold mice, according to the number of all the cities of the Philistines belonging to the five lords, both fortified cities and unwalled villages. The great stone, beside which they set down the ark of the LORD, is a witness to this day in the field of Joshua of Beth-shemesh.*

THE ARK AT KIRIATH-JEARIM

19 The descendants of Jeconiah did not rejoice with the people of Beth-shemesh when they greeted[t] the ark of the LORD, and he killed seventy men of them.[u] The people mourned because the LORD had made a great slaughter among the people.* 20Then the people of Beth-shemesh said, "Who is able to stand before the LORD, this holy God? To whom shall he go so that we may be rid of him?"* 21So they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kiriath-jearim, saying, "The Philistines have returned the ark of the LORD. Come down and take it up to you."*

1 Samuel 7

1 And the people of Kiriath-jearim came and took up the ark of the LORD
and brought it to the house of Abinadab on the hill. They consecrated his
son, Eleazar, to have charge of the ark of the LORD.*

2 From the day that the ark was lodged at Kiriath-jearim, a long time
passed, some twenty years, and all the house of Israel lamented[v] after the
LORD.

SAMUEL AS JUDGE

3 Then Samuel said to all the house of Israel, "If you are returning to the
LORD with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Astartes
from among you. Direct your heart to the LORD and serve him only, and he
will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines."* **4**So Israel put away the
Baals and the Astartes, and they served the LORD only.

5 Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the
LORD for you."* **6**So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it
out before the LORD. They fasted that day and said, "We have sinned against
the LORD." And Samuel judged the Israelites at Mizpah.*

7 When the Philistines heard that the Israelites had gathered at Mizpah,
the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the Israelites
heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines.* **8**The Israelites said to
Samuel, "Do not cease to cry out to the LORD our God for us, and pray that
he may save us from the hand of the Philistines."* **9**So Samuel took a
sucking lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD; Samuel
cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him.* **10**As Samuel
was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel,
but the LORD thundered with a mighty voice that day against the Philistines
and threw them into confusion, and they were routed before Israel.* **11**And
the men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines and struck
them down as far as beyond Beth-car.

12 Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and
Jeshanah[w] and named it Ebenezer,[x] for he said, "Thus far the LORD has

helped us.”* 13So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel; the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.* 14The towns that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath, and Israel recovered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites.

15 Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life.* 16He went on a circuit year by year to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah, and he judged Israel in all these places. 17Then he would come back to Ramah, for his home was there; he administered justice there to Israel and built there an altar to the LORD.*

1 Samuel 8

ISRAEL DEMANDS A KING

1 When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel.* [2]The
name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second was Abijah;
they were judges in Beer-sheba. [3]Yet his sons did not follow in his ways but
turned aside after gain; they took bribes and perverted justice.*

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at
Ramah* [5]and said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not follow in your
ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations."* [6]But
the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us."
Samuel prayed to the LORD,* [7]and the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the
voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected
you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.* [8]Just as they
have done to me[y] from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day,
forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. [9]Now
then, listen to their voice; only, you shall solemnly warn them and show
them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."*

10 So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were
asking him for a king. [11]He said, "These will be the ways of the king who
will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots
and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots,* [12]and he will
appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties
and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest and to make his
implements of war and the equipment of his chariots.* [13]He will take your
daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. [14]He will take the best of
your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers.*
[15]He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to
his officers and his courtiers. [16]He will take your male and female slaves
and the best of your cattle[z] and donkeys and put them to his work. [17]He will
take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. [18]And on that day
you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for
yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you on that day."*

ISRAEL'S REQUEST FOR A KING GRANTED

19 But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said,
"No! We are determined to have a king over us, [20]so that we also may be
like other nations and that our king may govern us and go out before us and
fight our battles."* [21]When Samuel heard all the words of the people, he
repeated them in the ears of the LORD. [22]The LORD said to Samuel, "Listen
to their voice and set a king over them." Samuel then said to the Israelites,
"Each of you return home."*

1 Samuel 9

SAUL CHOSEN TO BE KING

1 There was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish son of Abiel son of
Zeror son of Becorath son of Aphiah, a Benjaminite, a man of wealth.* [2]He
had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a
man among the Israelites more handsome than he; he stood head and
shoulders above everyone else.*

3 Now the donkeys of Kish, Saul's father, had strayed. So Kish said to
his son Saul, "Take one of the young men with you; go and look for the
donkeys." [4]He passed through the hill country of Ephraim and passed
through the land of Shalishah, but they did not find them. And they passed
through the land of Shaalim, but they were not there. Then he passed
through the land of Benjamin, but they did not find them.*

5 When they came to the land of Zuph, Saul said to the young man who
was with him, "Let us turn back, or my father will stop worrying about the
donkeys and worry about us."* [6]But he said to him, "There is a man of God
in this town; he is a man held in honor. Whatever he says always comes
true. Let us go there now; perhaps he will tell us about the journey on which
we have set out."* [7]Then Saul replied to the young man, "But if we go,
what can we bring the man? For the bread in our sacks is gone, and there is
no present to bring to the man of God. What have we?"* [8]The young man
answered Saul again, "Here, I have with me a quarter shekel of silver; I will
give it to the man of God, to tell us our way." [9](Formerly in Israel, anyone
who went to inquire of God would say, "Come, let us go to the seer," for the
one who is now called a prophet was formerly called a seer.)* [10]Saul said to
the young man, "Good; come, let us go." So they went to the town where
the man of God was.

11 As they went up the hill to the town, they met some young women
coming out to draw water and said to them, "Is the seer here?"* [12]They
answered, "Yes, there he is just ahead of you. Hurry; he has come just now
to the town because the people have a sacrifice today at the shrine.* [13]As
soon as you enter the town, you will meet him before he goes up to the

shrine to eat. For the people will not eat until he comes, since he must bless the sacrifice; afterward those eat who are invited. Now go up, for you will meet him immediately." [14]So they went up to the town. As they were entering the town, they saw Samuel coming out toward them on his way up to the shrine.

15 Now the day before Saul came, the LORD had revealed to Samuel: [16]"Tomorrow about this time I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be ruler over my people Israel. He shall save my people from the hand of the Philistines, for I have seen the suffering of[a] my people, because their outcry has come to me."* [17]When Samuel saw Saul, the LORD told him, "Here is the man of whom I spoke to you. He it is who shall rule over my people."* [18]Then Saul approached Samuel inside the gate and said, "Tell me, please, where is the house of the seer?" [19]Samuel answered Saul, "I am the seer; go up before me to the shrine, for today you shall eat with me, and in the morning I will let you go and will tell you all that is on your mind. [20]As for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, give no further thought to them, for they have been found. And on whom is all Israel's desire fixed, if not on you and on all your ancestral house?"* [21]Saul answered, "I am only a Benjaminite, from the least of the tribes of Israel, and my family is the humblest of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin. Why then have you spoken to me in this way?"*

22 Then Samuel took Saul and the young man and brought them into the hall and gave them a place at the head of those who had been invited, of whom there were about thirty. [23]And Samuel said to the cook, "Bring the portion I gave you, the one I asked you to put aside." [24]The cook took up the upper thigh[b] and set it before Saul. Samuel said, "See, what was reserved is set before you. Eat, for it was kept for you for this appointed time, so that you might eat with the guests."[c]

So Saul ate with Samuel that day.* [25]When they came down from the shrine into the town, a bed was spread for Saul[d] on the roof, and he lay down to sleep.[e,*] [26]Then at the break of dawn[f] Samuel called to Saul upon the roof, "Get up, so that I may send you on your way." Saul got up, and both he and Samuel went out into the street.

SAMUEL ANOINTS SAUL

27 As they were going down to the outskirts of the town, Samuel said to Saul, “Tell the young man to go on before us, and when he has passed on, stop here yourself for a while, that I may make known to you the word of God.”

1 Samuel 10

1 Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it on his head and kissed him; he said, "The LORD has anointed you ruler over his people Israel. You shall reign over the people of the LORD, and you will save them from the hand of their enemies all around. Now this shall be the sign to you that the LORD has anointed you ruler[g] over his heritage:* [2]When you depart from me today you will meet two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; they will say to you, 'The donkeys that you went to seek are found, and now your father has stopped worrying about them and is worrying about you, saying: "What shall I do about my son?" '* [3]Then you shall go on from there further and come to the oak of Tabor; three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there: one carrying three kids, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine.* [4]They will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall accept from them. [5]After that you shall come to Gibeath-elohim,[h] at the place where the Philistine garrison is; there, as you come to the town, you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the shrine with harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre playing in front of them; they will be in a prophetic frenzy.* [6]Then the spirit of the LORD will possess you, and you will be in a prophetic frenzy along with them and be turned into a different person.* [7]Now when these signs meet you, do whatever you see fit to do, for God is with you.* [8]And you shall go down to Gilgal ahead of me; then I will come down to you to present burnt offerings and offer sacrifices of well-being. Seven days you shall wait, until I come to you and show you what you shall do."*

SAUL PROPHESIES

9 As he turned away to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart, and all these signs were fulfilled that day.* [10]When they were going from there to Gibeah,[i] a band of prophets met him, and the spirit of God possessed him, and he fell into a prophetic frenzy along with them.* [11]When all who knew him before saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, "What has come over the son of Kish? Is Saul also among

the prophets?"* 12A man of the place answered, "And who is their father?" Therefore it became a proverb, "Is Saul also among the prophets?" 13When his prophetic frenzy had ended, he went home.[j]

14 Saul's uncle said to him and to the young man, "Where did you go?" And he replied, "To seek the donkeys, and when we saw they were not to be found, we went to Samuel." 15Saul's uncle said, "Tell me what Samuel said to you." 16Saul said to his uncle, "He told us that the donkeys had been found." But about the matter of the kingship, of which Samuel had spoken, he did not tell him anything.*

SAUL PROCLAIMED KING

17 Samuel summoned the people to the LORD at Mizpah* 18and said to the Israelites, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and I rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all the kingdoms that were oppressing you.'* 19But today you have rejected your God, who saves you from all your calamities and your distresses, and you have said, 'No, but set a king over us.' Now, therefore, present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and by your clans."*

20 Then Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken by lot.* 21He brought the tribe of Benjamin near by its families, and the family of the Matrites was taken by lot. Finally he brought the family of the Matrites near man by man,[k] and Saul the son of Kish was taken by lot. But when they sought him, he could not be found. 22So they inquired again of the LORD, "Did the man come here?"[l] And the LORD said, "See, he has hidden himself among the baggage."* 23Then they ran and brought him from there. When he took his stand among the people, he was head and shoulders taller than any of them.* 24Samuel said to all the people, "Do you see the one whom the LORD has chosen? There is no one like him among all the people." And all the people shouted, "Long live the king!"*

25 Samuel told the people the rights and duties of the kingship, and he wrote them in a book and laid it up before the LORD. Then Samuel sent all the people back to their homes.* 26Saul also went to his home at Gibeah, and with him went warriors whose hearts God had touched.* 27But some

worthless fellows said, “How can this man save us?” They despised him and brought him no present. But he held his peace.

Now Nahash, king of the Ammonites, had been grievously oppressing the Gadites and the Reubenites. He would gouge out the right eye of each of them and would not grant Israel a deliverer. No one was left of the Israelites across the Jordan whose right eye Nahash, king of the Ammonites, had not gouged out. But there were seven thousand men who had escaped from the Ammonites and had entered Jabesh-gilead.[m,*]

1 Samuel 11

SAUL DEFEATS THE AMMONITES

1 About a month later,[n] Nahash the Ammonite went up and besieged
Jabesh-gilead, and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, "Make a treaty
with us, and we will serve you."* [2]But Nahash the Ammonite said to them,
"On this condition I will make a treaty with you, namely, that I gouge out
everyone's right eye and thus put disgrace upon all Israel."* [3]The elders of
Jabesh said to him, "Give us seven days' respite that we may send
messengers through all the territory of Israel. Then, if there is no one to
save us, we will give ourselves up to you." [4]When the messengers came to
Gibeah of Saul, they reported the matter in the hearing of the people, and all
the people wept aloud.*

5 Now Saul was coming from the field behind the oxen, and Saul said,
"What is the matter with the people, that they are weeping?" So they told
him the message from the inhabitants of Jabesh. [6]And the spirit of God
came upon Saul in power when he heard these words, and his anger was
greatly kindled.* [7]He took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces and sent
them throughout all the territory of Israel by the messengers, saying,
"Whoever does not come out after Saul and Samuel, so shall it be done to
his oxen!" Then the dread of the LORD fell upon the people, and they came
out as one.* [8]When he mustered them at Bezek, those from Israel were three
hundred thousand and those from Judah seventy[o] thousand.* [9]They said to
the messengers who had come, "Thus shall you say to the inhabitants of
Jabesh-gilead: Tomorrow, by the time the sun is hot, you shall have
deliverance." When the messengers came and told the inhabitants of Jabesh,
they rejoiced. [10]So the inhabitants of Jabesh said, "Tomorrow we will give
ourselves up to you, and you may do to us whatever seems good to you."*
[11]The next day Saul put the people in three companies. At the morning
watch they came into the camp and cut down the Ammonites until the heat
of the day, and those who survived were scattered, so that no two of them
were left together.*

12 The people said to Samuel, "Who is it that said, 'Shall Saul reign over
us?' Give them to us so that we may put them to death."* [13]But Saul said,
"No one shall be put to death this day, for today the LORD has brought
deliverance to Israel."*

14 Samuel said to the people, "Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew
the kingship."* [15]So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul
king before the LORD in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being
before the LORD, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.*

1 Samuel 12

SAMUEL'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

1 Samuel said to all Israel, "I have listened to you in all that you have said
to me and have set a king over you.* [2]See, it is the king who leads you now;
I am old and gray, but my sons are with you. I have led you from my youth
until this day.* [3]Here I am; testify against me before the LORD and before his
anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Or whose donkey have I taken? Or whom
have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or from whose hand have I
taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? Testify against me,[p] and I will
restore it to you."* [4]They said, "You have not defrauded us or oppressed us
or taken anything from the hand of anyone." [5]He said to them, "The LORD is
witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that you have not
found anything in my hand." And they said, "He is witness."*

6 Samuel said to the people, "The LORD is witness, who[q] appointed
Moses and Aaron and brought your ancestors up out of the land of Egypt.*
[7]Now, therefore, take your stand so that I may enter into judgment with you
before the LORD, and I will declare to you[r] all the righteous acts of the LORD
that he performed for you and for your ancestors.* [8]When Jacob went into
Egypt and the Egyptians oppressed them,[s] then your ancestors cried to the
LORD, and the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, who brought forth your
ancestors out of Egypt and settled them in this place.* [9]But they forgot the
LORD their God, and he sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the
army of King Jabin of[t] Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into
the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.* [10]Then they
cried to the LORD and said, 'We have sinned, for we have forsaken the LORD
and have served the Baals and the Astartes, but now rescue us out of the
hand of our enemies, and we will serve you.'* [11]And the LORD sent
Jerubbaal and Barak,[u] and Jephthah, and Samson[v] and rescued you out of
the hand of your enemies on every side, and you lived in safety.* [12]But
when you saw that King Nahash of the Ammonites came against you, you
said to me, 'No, but a king shall reign over us,' though the LORD your God
was your king.* [13]See, here is the king whom you have chosen, for whom

you have asked; see, the LORD has set a king over you.* 14If you will fear the LORD and serve him and heed his voice and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, and if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the LORD your God, it will be well;* 15but if you will not heed the voice of the LORD but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then the hand of the LORD will be against you and your king.w,* 16Now, therefore, take your stand and see this great thing that the LORD will do before your eyes.* 17Is it not the wheat harvest today? I will call upon the LORD, that he may send thunder and rain, and you shall know and see that the wickedness that you have done in the sight of the LORD is great in demanding a king for yourselves."* 18So Samuel called upon the LORD, and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day, and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.*

19 All the people said to Samuel, "Pray to the LORD your God for your servants, so that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins the evil of demanding a king for ourselves."* 20And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil, yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart, 21and do not turn aside after useless things that cannot profit or save, for they are useless.* 22For the LORD will not cast away his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you a people for himself.* 23Moreover as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way.* 24Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart, for consider what great things he has done for you.* 25But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."*

1 Samuel 13

SAUL'S UNLAWFUL SACRIFICE

1 Saul was . . .[x] years old when he began to reign, and he reigned . . . and two[y] years over Israel.

2 Saul chose three thousand out of Israel; two thousand were with Saul in
Michmash and the hill country of Bethel, and a thousand were with
Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin; the rest of the people he sent home to their
tents.[*] [3]Jonathan defeated the garrison of the Philistines that was at Geba,
and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the
land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear!"[*] [4]When all Israel heard that Saul had
defeated the garrison of the Philistines and also that Israel had become
odious to the Philistines, the people were called out to join Saul at Gilgal.

5 The Philistines mustered to fight with Israel: thirty thousand chariots,
and six thousand horsemen, and troops like the sand on the seashore in
multitude; they came up and encamped at Michmash, to the east of Beth-
aven.[*] [6]When the Israelites saw that they were in distress (for the troops
were hard pressed), the people hid themselves in caves and in holes and in
rocks and in tombs and in cisterns.[*] [7]Some Hebrews crossed the Jordan to
the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul was still at Gilgal, and all the people
followed him trembling.

8 He waited seven days, the time appointed by Samuel, but Samuel did
not come to Gilgal, and the people began to slip away from Saul.[z,*] [9]So
Saul said, "Bring the burnt offering here to me and the offerings of well-
being." And he offered the burnt offering.[*] [10]As soon as he had finished
offering the burnt offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to meet him
and salute him.[*] [11]Samuel said, "What have you done?" Saul replied,
"When I saw that the people were slipping away from me and that you did
not come within the days appointed and that the Philistines were mustering
at Michmash,[*] [12]I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down upon me at
Gilgal, and I have not entreated the favor of the LORD,' so I forced myself
and offered the burnt offering." [13]Samuel said to Saul, "You have done
foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God,

which he commanded you. The LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever,* 14but now your kingdom will not continue; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart, and the LORD has appointed him to be ruler over his people because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."* 15And Samuel left and went on his way from Gilgal.[a] The rest of the people followed Saul to join the army; they went up from Gilgal toward Gibeah of Benjamin.[b]

PREPARATIONS FOR BATTLE

Saul counted the people who were present with him, about six hundred men.* 16Saul, his son Jonathan, and the people who were present with them stayed in Geba of Benjamin, but the Philistines encamped at Michmash. 17And raiders came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies; one company turned toward Ophrah to the land of Shual,* 18another company turned toward Beth-horon, and another company turned toward the mountain[c] that looks down upon the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.*

19 Now there was no smith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, "The Hebrews must not make swords or spears for themselves,"* 20so all the Israelites went down to the Philistines to sharpen their plowshares, mattocks, axes, or sickles.[d] 21The charge was two-thirds of a shekel[e] for the plowshares and for the mattocks and one-third of a shekel for sharpening the axes and for setting the goads.[f] 22So on the day of the battle neither sword nor spear was to be found in the possession of any of the people with Saul and Jonathan, but Saul and his son Jonathan had them.*

JONATHAN SURPRISES AND ROUTS THE PHILISTINES

23 Now a garrison of the Philistines had gone out to the pass of Michmash.

1 Samuel 14

1 One day Jonathan son of Saul said to the young man who carried his
armor, “Come, let us go over to the Philistine garrison on the other side.”
But he did not tell his father. 2Saul was staying in the outskirts of Gibeah
under the pomegranate tree that is at Migron; the troops who were with him
were about six hundred men,* 3along with Ahijah son of Ahitub, Ichabod’s
brother, son of Phinehas son of Eli, the priest of the LORD in Shiloh,
carrying an ephod. Now the people did not know that Jonathan had gone.*
4In the pass[g] by which Jonathan tried to go over to the Philistine garrison
there was a rocky crag on one side and a rocky crag on the other; the name
of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other was Seneh.* 5One crag
rose on the north in front of Michmash and the other on the south in front of
Geba.

6 Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, “Come, let us
go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the LORD will
act for us, for nothing can hinder the LORD from saving by many or by
few.”* 7His armor-bearer said to him, “Do all that your mind inclines to.[h] I
am with you; as your mind is, so is mine.”[i] 8Then Jonathan said, “Now we
will cross over to those men and will show ourselves to them. 9If they say
to us, ‘Wait until we come to you,’ then we will stand still in our place, and
we will not go up to them. 10But if they say, ‘Come up to us,’ then we will
go up, for the LORD has given them into our hand. That will be the sign for
us.”* 11So both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the
Philistines, and the Philistines said, “Look, Hebrews are coming out of the
holes where they have hidden themselves.”* 12The men of the garrison
hailed Jonathan and his armor-bearer, saying, “Come up to us, and we will
show you something.” Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, “Come up after
me, for the LORD has given them into the hand of Israel.”* 13Then Jonathan
climbed up on his hands and feet, with his armor-bearer following after
him. The Philistines[j] fell before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer coming
after him killed them. 14In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer
killed about twenty men within an area about half a furrow long in an acre[k]
of land. 15There was a panic in the camp, in the field, and among all the

people; the garrison and even the raiders trembled; the earth quaked; and it became a very great panic.*

16 Saul's lookouts in Gibeah of Benjamin were watching as the multitude was surging back and forth.[l,*] [17]Then Saul said to the troops who were with him, "Call the roll and see who has gone from us." When they called the roll, Jonathan and his armor-bearer were not there. [18]Saul said to Ahijah, "Bring the ark of God here." For at that time the ark of God went with the Israelites. [19]While Saul was talking to the priest, the tumult in the camp of the Philistines increased more and more, and Saul said to the priest, "Withdraw your hand."* [20]Then Saul and all the people who were with him rallied and went into the battle, and every sword was against the other, so that there was very great confusion.* [21]Now the Hebrews who previously had been with the Philistines and had gone up with them into the camp turned and joined the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. [22]Likewise, when all the Israelites who had gone into hiding in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines were fleeing, they also followed closely after them in the battle.* [23]So the LORD gave Israel the victory that day.

The battle passed beyond Beth-aven, and the troops with Saul numbered altogether about ten thousand men.[m] The battle spread out over the hill country of Ephraim.*

SAUL'S RASH OATH

24 Now Saul committed a very rash act on that day.[n] He had laid an oath on the troops, saying, "Cursed be anyone who eats food before it is evening and I have been avenged on my enemies." So none of the troops tasted food.* [25]All the troops[o] came upon a honeycomb, and there was honey on the ground. [26]When the troops came upon the honeycomb, the honey was dripping out, but they did not put their hands to their mouths, for they feared the oath. [27]But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the troops with the oath, so he extended the staff that was in his hand and dipped the tip of it in the honeycomb and put his hand to his mouth, and his eyes brightened.* [28]Then one of the soldiers said, "Your father strictly charged the troops with an oath, saying, 'Cursed be anyone who eats food this day.' And so the troops are faint." [29]Then Jonathan said, "My father has troubled

the land; see how my eyes have brightened because I tasted a little of this honey.* 30How much better if today the troops had eaten freely of the spoil taken from their enemies, for now the defeat of the Philistines has not been great."

31 After they had struck down the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon, the troops were very faint, 32so the troops flew upon the spoil and took sheep and oxen and calves and slaughtered them on the ground, and the troops ate them with the blood.* 33Then it was reported to Saul, "Look, the troops are sinning against the LORD by eating with the blood." And he said, "You have dealt treacherously; roll a large stone before me here."[p] 34Saul said, "Disperse yourselves among the troops and say to them: Let all bring their oxen or their sheep, and slaughter them here and eat, and do not sin against the LORD by eating with the blood." So all of the troops brought their oxen with them that night and slaughtered them there. 35And Saul built an altar to the LORD; it was the first altar that he built to the LORD.*

JONATHAN IN DANGER OF DEATH

36 Then Saul said, "Let us go down after the Philistines by night and despoil them until the morning light; let us not leave one of them." They said, "Do whatever seems good to you." But the priest said, "Let us draw near to God here." 37So Saul inquired of God, "Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will you give them into the hand of Israel?" But he did not answer him that day.* 38Saul said, "Come here, all you leaders of the people, and let us find out how this sin has arisen today.* 39For as the LORD lives who saves Israel, even if it is in my son Jonathan, he shall surely die!" But there was no one among all the people who answered him.* 40He said to all Israel, "You shall be on one side, and I and my son Jonathan will be on the other side." The people said to Saul, "Do what seems good to you." 41Then Saul said, "O LORD God of Israel, why have you not answered your servant today? If this guilt is in me or in my son Jonathan, O LORD God of Israel, give Urim, but if this guilt is in your people Israel,[q] give Thummim." And Jonathan and Saul were indicated by the lot, but the people were cleared.* 42Then Saul said, "Cast the lot between me and my son Jonathan." And Jonathan was taken.

43 Then Saul said to Jonathan, “Tell me what you have done.” Jonathan told him, “I tasted a little honey with the tip of the staff that was in my hand; here I am; I will die.”* 44Saul said, “God do so to me and more also; you shall surely die, Jonathan!”* 45Then the people said to Saul, “Shall Jonathan die, who has accomplished this great victory in Israel? Far from it! As the LORD lives, not one hair of his head shall fall to the ground, for he has worked with God today.” So the people ransomed Jonathan, and he did not die.* 46Then Saul withdrew from pursuing the Philistines, and the Philistines went to their own place.

SAUL’S CONTINUING WARS

47 When Saul had taken the kingship over Israel, he fought against all his enemies on every side: against Moab, against the Ammonites, against Edom, against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines; wherever he turned he routed them.* 48He did valiantly and struck down the Amalekites and rescued Israel out of the hands of those who plundered them.*

49 Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, Ishvi, and Malchishua, and the names of his two daughters were these: the name of the firstborn was Merab, and the name of the younger was Michal.* 50The name of Saul’s wife was Ahinoam daughter of Ahimaaz. And the name of the commander of his army was Abner son of Ner, Saul’s uncle;* 51Kish was the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel.*

52 There was hard fighting against the Philistines all the days of Saul, and when Saul saw any strong or valiant warrior, he took him into his service.*

1 Samuel 15

SAUL DEFEATS THE AMALEKITES BUT SPARES THEIR KING

1 Samuel said to Saul, "The LORD sent me to anoint you king over his
people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the LORD.* [2]Thus says the
LORD of hosts: I will punish the Amalekites for what they did in opposing
the Israelites when they came up out of Egypt.* [3]Now go and attack Amalek
and utterly destroy all that they have; do not spare them, but kill both man
and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey."*

4 So Saul summoned the people and numbered them in Telaim, two
hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand soldiers of Judah. [5]Saul
came to the city of the Amalekites and lay in wait in the valley. [6]Saul said
to the Kenites, "Go! Leave! Withdraw from among the Amalekites, or I will
destroy you with them, for you showed kindness to all the Israelites when
they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites withdrew from the Amalekites.*
[7]Saul defeated the Amalekites, from Havilah as far as Shur, which is east of
Egypt.* [8]He took King Agag of the Amalekites alive but utterly destroyed
all the people with the edge of the sword.* [9]Saul and the people spared
Agag and the best of the sheep and of the cattle and of the fatted calves,[r]
and the lambs, and all that was valuable and would not utterly destroy them;
all that was despised and worthless they utterly destroyed.*

SAUL REJECTED AS KING

10 The word of the LORD came to Samuel: [11]"I regret that I made Saul
king, for he has turned back from following me and has not carried out my
commands." Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the LORD all night.*
[12]Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, and Samuel was told,
"Saul went to Carmel, where he set up a monument for himself, and on
returning he passed on down to Gilgal."* [13]When Samuel came to Saul,
Saul said to him, "May you be blessed by the LORD; I have carried out the
command of the LORD."* [14]But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of
sheep in my ears and the lowing of cattle that I hear?" [15]Saul said, "They

have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and the cattle to sacrifice to the LORD your God, but the rest we have utterly destroyed."* 16Then Samuel said to Saul, "Stop! I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night." He replied, "Speak."

17 Samuel said, "Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? The LORD anointed you king over Israel.* 18And the LORD sent you on a mission and said, 'Go, utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.'* 19Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil and do what was evil in the sight of the LORD?"* 20Saul said to Samuel, "I have obeyed the voice of the LORD. I have gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me. I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.* 21But from the spoil the people took sheep and cattle, the best of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal."* 22And Samuel said,

"Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices
as in obedience to the voice of the LORD?
Surely, to obey is better than sacrifice
and to heed than the fat of rams.*
23For rebellion is no less a sin than divination,
and stubbornness is like iniquity and idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the LORD,
he has also rejected you from being king."*

24 Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.* 25Now therefore, I pray, pardon my sin, and return with me, so that I may worship the LORD." 26Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel."* 27As Samuel turned to go away, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore.* 28And Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this very day and has given it to a neighbor of yours who is better than you.* 29Moreover, the Glory of Israel will not deceive or change his mind, for he is not a mortal, that he should change his mind."* 30Then Saul[s] said, "I have

sinned; yet honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, so that I may worship the LORD your God."* 31So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped the LORD.

32 Then Samuel said, "Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me." And Agag came to him haltingly.[t] Agag said, "Surely death is bitter."[u] 33Samuel said,

"As your sword has made women childless,
so your mother shall be childless among women."

And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.*

34 Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul.* 35Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.*

1 Samuel 16

DAVID ANOINTED AS KING

1 The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have
rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out;
I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a
king among his sons."* [2]Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he
will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have
come to sacrifice to the LORD.'* [3]Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will
show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I
name to you."* [4]Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to
Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said,
"Do you come peaceably?"* [5]He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice
to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he
sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.*

6 When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed
is now before the LORD."* [7]But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on
his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him,
for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward
appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."* [8]Then Jesse called Abinadab
and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen
this one."* [9]Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has
the LORD chosen this one."* [10]Jesse made seven of his sons pass before
Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these."
[11]Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There
remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to
Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here."*
[12]He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes
and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the
one."* [13]Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence
of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from
that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.*

DAVID PLAYS THE LYRE FOR SAUL

14 Now the spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from
the LORD tormented him.* 15And Saul's servants said to him, "See now, an
evil spirit from God is tormenting you. 16Let our lord now command the
servants who attend you to look for someone who is skillful in playing the
lyre, and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you
will feel better."* 17So Saul said to his servants, "Provide for me someone
who can play well, and bring him to me." 18One of the young men
answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skillful in
playing, a man of valor, a warrior, prudent in speech, and a man of good
presence, and the LORD is with him."* 19So Saul sent messengers to Jesse
and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep." 20Jesse took a
donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid and sent them by his
son David to Saul.* 21And David came to Saul and entered his service.
Saul[v] loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer.* 22Saul sent to
Jesse, saying, "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in
my sight." 23And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David
took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and
feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him.*

1 Samuel 17

DAVID AND GOLIATH

1 Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; they were gathered at
Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah,
in Ephes-dammim.* [2]Saul and the Israelites gathered and encamped in the
valley of Elah and formed ranks against the Philistines.* [3]The Philistines
stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on
the other side, with a valley between them. [4]And there came out from the
camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height
was four[w] cubits and a span.* [5]He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and
he was armed with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand
shekels of bronze. [6]He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of
bronze slung between his shoulders.* [7]The shaft of his spear was like a
weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron,
and his shield-bearer went before him.* [8]He stood and shouted to the ranks
of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a
Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose[x] a man for yourselves,
and let him come down to me.* [9]If he is able to fight with me and kill me,
then we will be your servants, but if I prevail against him and kill him, then
you shall be our servants and serve us." [10]And the Philistine said, "Today I
defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together."*
[11]When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were
dismayed and greatly afraid.

12 Now David was the son of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah
named Jesse, who had eight sons. In the days of Saul the man was already
old and advanced in years.[y],* [13]The three eldest sons of Jesse had followed
Saul to the battle; the names of his three sons who went to the battle were
Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.*
[14]David was the youngest; the three eldest followed Saul, [15]but David went
back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.* [16]For
forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and
evening.

17 Jesse said to his son David, “Take for your brothers an ephah of this
parched grain and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to
your brothers; [18]also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their
thousand. See how your brothers fare, and bring some token from them.”*

19 Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel were in the valley of
Elah fighting with the Philistines. [20]David rose early in the morning, left the
sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded
him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle
line, shouting the war cry. [21]Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle,
army against army. [22]David left the things in charge of the keeper of the
baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. [23]As he talked
with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up
out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And
David heard him.*

24 All the Israelites, when they saw the man, fled from him and were
very much afraid. [25]The Israelites said, “Have you seen this man who has
come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. The king will greatly enrich
the man who kills him and will give him his daughter and make his family
free in Israel.”* [26]David said to the men who stood by him, “What shall be
done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from
Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the
armies of the living God?”* [27]The people answered him in the same way,
“So shall it be done for the man who kills him.”*

28 His eldest brother Eliab heard him talking to the men, and Eliab’s
anger was kindled against David. He said, “Why have you come down?
With whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your
presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down just to see
the battle.”* [29]David said, “What have I done now? It was only a
question.”* [30]He turned away from him toward another and spoke in the
same way, and the people answered him again as before.*

31 When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them
before Saul, and he sent for him. [32]David said to Saul, “Let no one’s heart
fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.”*
[33]Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight
with him, for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth.”

[34]But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep sheep for his father, and whenever a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock, [35]I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth, and if it turned against me, I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down, and kill it. [36]Your servant has killed both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God.” [37]David said, “The LORD, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine.” So Saul said to David, “Go, and may the LORD be with you!”*

38 Saul clothed David with his armor; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. [39]David strapped Saul’s sword over the armor, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, “I cannot walk with these, for I am not used to them.” So David removed them. [40]Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the wadi and put them in his shepherd’s bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. [42]When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance.* [43]The Philistine said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.* [44]The Philistine said to David, “Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field.”* [45]But David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.* [46]This very day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head, and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel* [47]and that all this assembly may know that the LORD does not save by sword and spear, for the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give you into our hand.”*

48 When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. [49]David put his hand in his bag,

took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, striking down the Philistine and killing him; there was no sword in David's hand. [51]Then David ran and stood over the Philistine; he grasped his sword, drew it out of its sheath, and killed him; then he cut off his head with it.

When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.* [52]The troops of Israel and Judah rose up with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath[z] and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron.* [53]The Israelites came back from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their camp. [54]David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

55 When Saul saw David go out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son is this young man?" Abner said, "As your soul lives, O king, I do not know."* [56]The king said, "Inquire whose son the young man is." [57]On David's return from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with the head of the Philistine in his hand.* [58]Saul said to him, "Whose son are you, young man?" And David answered, "I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."*

1 Samuel 18

JONATHAN'S COVENANT WITH DAVID

1 When David[a] had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was
bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.* [2]Saul
took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house.* [3]Then
Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as his own
soul. [4]Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing and gave it
to David and his armor and even his sword and his bow and his belt. [5]David
went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him; as a result, Saul set
him over the army. And all the people, even the servants of Saul, approved.

6 As they were coming home, when David returned from killing the
Philistine, the women came out of all the towns of Israel, singing and
dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with
musical instruments.[b,]* [7]And the women sang to one another as they made
merry,

"Saul has killed his thousands
and David his ten thousands."*

[8]Saul was very angry, for this saying displeased him. He said, "They have
ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands;
what more can he have but the kingdom?"* [9]So Saul eyed David from that
day on.

SAUL TRIES TO KILL DAVID

10 The next day an evil spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved
within his house, while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day.
Saul had his spear in his hand,* [11]and Saul threw the spear, for he thought,
"I will pin David to the wall." But David eluded him twice.*

12 Saul was afraid of David because the LORD was with him but had
departed from Saul.* [13]So Saul removed him from his presence and made
him a commander of a thousand, and David marched out and came in,
leading the army.* [14]David had success in all his undertakings, for the LORD

was with him.* 15When Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in awe of him. 16But all Israel and Judah loved David, for it was he who marched out and came in leading them.*

DAVID MARRIES MICHAL

17 Then Saul said to David, "Here is my elder daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife; only be valiant for me and fight the LORD's battles." For Saul thought, "I will not raise a hand against him; let the Philistines deal with him."* 18David said to Saul, "Who am I, and who are my kinsfolk, my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?"* 19But at the time when Saul's daughter Merab should have been given to David, she was given to Adriel the Meholathite as a wife.*

20 Now Saul's daughter Michal loved David. Saul was told, and the thing pleased him.* 21Saul thought, "Let me give her to him that she may be a snare for him and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time,[c] "You shall now be my son-in-law."* 22Saul commanded his servants, "Speak to David in private and say, 'See, the king is delighted with you, and all his servants love you; now then, become the king's son-in-law.' " 23So Saul's servants reported these words to David in private. And David said, "Does it seem to you a little thing to become the king's son-in-law, seeing that I am a poor man and of no repute?" 24The servants of Saul told him, "This is what David said." 25Then Saul said, "Thus shall you say to David, 'The king desires no marriage present except a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, that he may be avenged on the king's enemies.' " Now Saul planned to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.* 26When his servants told David these words, David was well pleased to be the king's son-in-law. Before the time had expired,* 27David rose and went, along with his men, and killed one hundred[d] of the Philistines, and David brought their foreskins, which were given in full number to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. Saul gave him his daughter Michal as a wife.* 28But when Saul realized that the LORD was with David and that Saul's daughter Michal loved him, 29Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul was David's enemy from that time forward.

30 Then the commanders of the Philistines came out to battle, and as often as they came out, David had more success than all the servants of Saul, so that his fame became very great.*

1 Samuel 19

JONATHAN INTERCEDES FOR DAVID

1 Saul spoke with his son Jonathan and with all his servants about killing
David. But Saul's son Jonathan took great delight in David.* [2]Jonathan told
David, "My father Saul is trying to kill you; therefore be on guard
tomorrow morning; stay in a secret place and hide yourself. [3]I will go out
and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to
my father about you; if I learn anything I will tell you."* [4]Jonathan spoke
well of David to his father Saul, saying to him, "The king should not sin
against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you and
because his deeds have been of good service to you,* [5]for he took his life in
his hand when he attacked the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a
great victory for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced; why then will you sin
against an innocent person by killing David without cause?"* [6]Saul heeded
the voice of Jonathan; Saul swore, "As the LORD lives, he shall not be put to
death." [7]So Jonathan called David and related all these things to him.
Jonathan then brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as before.*

MICHAL HELPS DAVID ESCAPE FROM SAUL

8 Again there was war, and David went out to fight the Philistines. He
launched a heavy attack on them, so that they fled before him. [9]Then an evil
spirit from the LORD came upon Saul as he sat in his house with his spear in
his hand, while David was playing music.* [10]Saul sought to pin David to
the wall with the spear, but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into
the wall. David fled and escaped that night.*

11 Saul sent messengers to David's house to keep watch over him,
planning to kill him in the morning. David's wife Michal told him, "If you
do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." [12]So Michal let
David down through the window; he fled away and escaped.* [13]Michal took
an idol[e] and laid it on the bed; she put a net[f] of goats' hair on its head and
covered it with the clothes. [14]When Saul sent messengers to take David, she

said, “He is sick.”* 15Then Saul sent the messengers to see David for themselves. He said, “Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him.” 16When the messengers came in, the idol[g] was in the bed, with the covering[h] of goats’ hair on its head. 17Saul said to Michal, “Why have you deceived me like this and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?” Michal answered Saul, “He said to me, ‘Let me go; why should I kill you?’ ”

DAVID JOINS SAMUEL IN RAMAH

18 Now David fled and escaped; he came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. He and Samuel went and settled at Naioth.* 19Saul was told, “David is at Naioth in Ramah.” 20Then Saul sent messengers to take David. When they saw the company of the prophets in a frenzy, with Samuel standing in charge of[i] them, the spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also fell into a prophetic frenzy.* 21When Saul was told, he sent other messengers, and they also fell into a frenzy. Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also fell into a frenzy. 22Then he himself went to Ramah. He came to the great well that is in Secu; he asked, “Where are Samuel and David?” And someone said, “They are at Naioth in Ramah.” 23He went there, toward Naioth in Ramah, and the spirit of God came upon him. As he was going, he fell into a prophetic frenzy, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.* 24He, too, stripped off his clothes, and he, too, fell into a frenzy before Samuel. He lay naked all that day and all that night. Therefore it is said, “Is Saul also among the prophets?”

1 Samuel 20

THE FRIENDSHIP OF DAVID AND JONATHAN

1 David fled from Naioth in Ramah. He came before Jonathan and said,
"What have I done? What is my guilt? And what is my sin against your
father that he is trying to take my life?"* [2]He said to him, "Far from it! You
shall not die. My father does nothing either great or small without
disclosing it to me, and why should my father hide this from me? Never!"
[3]But David also swore, "Your father knows well that you like me, and he
thinks, 'Do not let Jonathan know this, or he will be grieved.' But truly, as
the LORD lives and as you yourself live, there is but a step between me and
death." [4]Then Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you say, I will do for
you." [5]David said to Jonathan, "Tomorrow is the new moon, and I should
not fail to sit with the king at the meal, but let me go, so that I may hide in
the field until the third evening.* [6]If your father misses me at all, then say,
'David earnestly asked leave of me to run to Bethlehem his city, for there is
a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.'* [7]If he says, 'Good!' it will be
well with your servant, but if he is angry, then know that evil has been
determined by him. [8]Therefore deal kindly with your servant, for you have
brought your servant into a sacred covenant[j] with you. But if there is guilt
in me, kill me yourself; why should you bring me to your father?"*
[9]Jonathan said, "Far be it from you! If I knew that it was decided by my
father that evil should come upon you, would I not tell you?" [10]Then David
said to Jonathan, "Who will tell me if your father answers you harshly?"
[11]Jonathan replied to David, "Come, let us go out into the field." So they
both went out into the field.

12 Jonathan said to David, "By the LORD, the God of Israel! When I have
sounded out my father, about this time tomorrow or on the third day, if he is
well disposed toward David, shall I not then send and disclose it to you?
[13]But if my father intends to do you harm, the LORD do so to Jonathan and
more also, if I do not disclose it to you and send you away, so that you may
go in safety. May the LORD be with you, as he has been with my father.*
[14]If I am still alive, show me the faithful love of the LORD, but if I die,[k]
[15]never

cut off your faithful love from my house, even if the LORD were to cut off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth."* 16Thus Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "May the LORD seek out the enemies of David." 17Jonathan made David swear again by his love for him, for he loved him as he loved his own life.*

18 Jonathan said to him, "Tomorrow is the new moon; you will be missed because your place will be empty.* 19On the day after tomorrow, you shall go a long way down; go to the place where you hid yourself earlier, and remain beside the stone there.[l],* 20I will shoot three arrows to the side of it, as though I shot at a mark. 21Then I will send the boy, saying, 'Go, find the arrows.' If I say to the boy, 'Look, the arrows are on this side of you; collect them,' then you are to come, for, as the LORD lives, it is safe for you and there is no danger. 22But if I say to the young man, 'Look, the arrows are beyond you,' then go, for the LORD has sent you away.* 23As for the matter about which you and I have spoken, the LORD be between you and me forever."*

24 So David hid himself in the field. When the new moon came, the king sat at the feast to eat. 25The king sat upon his seat, as at other times, upon the seat by the wall. Jonathan stood, while Abner sat by Saul's side, but David's place was empty.*

26 Saul did not say anything that day, for he thought, "Something has befallen him; he is not clean; surely he is not clean."* 27But on the second day, the day after the new moon, David's place was empty. And Saul said to his son Jonathan, "Why has the son of Jesse not come to the feast, either yesterday or today?" 28Jonathan answered Saul, "David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Bethlehem;* 29he said, 'Let me go, for our family is holding a sacrifice in the city, and my brother has commanded me to be there. So now, if I have found favor in your sight, let me get away and see my brothers.' For this reason he has not come to the king's table."

30 Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan. He said to him, "You son of a rebellious woman![m] Do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother's nakedness?* 31For as long as the son of Jesse lives upon the earth, neither you nor your kingdom shall be established. Now send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die." 32Then Jonathan answered his father Saul, "Why should he be

put to death? What has he done?”* 33But Saul threw his spear at him to strike him, so Jonathan knew that it was the decision of his father to put David to death.* 34Jonathan sprang up[n] from the table in fierce anger and ate no food on the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David and because his father had disgraced him.

35 In the morning Jonathan went out into the field to the appointment with David, and with him was a little boy. 36He said to the boy, “Run and find the arrows that I shoot.” As the boy ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.* 37When the boy came to the place where Jonathan’s arrow had fallen, Jonathan called after the boy and said, “Is the arrow not beyond you?”* 38Jonathan called after the boy, “Hurry, be quick, do not linger.” So Jonathan’s boy gathered up the arrows and came to his master. 39But the boy knew nothing; only Jonathan and David knew the arrangement. 40Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy and said to him, “Go and carry them to the city.” 41As soon as the boy had gone, David rose from beside the stone heap[o] and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. He bowed three times, and they kissed each other and wept with each other; David wept the more.[p] 42Then Jonathan said to David, “Go in peace, since both of us have sworn in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘The LORD shall be between me and you and between my descendants and your descendants forever.’ ” He got up and left, and Jonathan went into the city.[q,*]

1 Samuel 21

DAVID AND THE HOLY BREAD

1 [r]David came to Nob to the priest Ahimelech. Ahimelech came trembling
to meet David and said to him, "Why are you alone and no one with you?"*
[2]David said to the priest Ahimelech, "The king has charged me with a
matter and said to me, 'No one must know anything of the matter about
which I send you and with which I have charged you.' I have made an
appointment[s] with the young men for such and such a place. [3]Now then,
what have you at hand? Give me five loaves of bread or whatever is here."
[4]The priest answered David, "I have no ordinary bread at hand, only holy
bread—provided that the young men have kept themselves from women."*
[5]David answered the priest, "Indeed, women have been kept from us as
always when I go on an expedition; the vessels of the young men are holy
even when it is a common journey; how much more today will their vessels
be holy?"* [6]So the priest gave him the holy bread, for there was no bread
there except the bread of the Presence, which is removed from before the
LORD, to be replaced by hot bread on the day it is taken away.*

7 Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained
before the LORD; his name was Doeg the Edomite, the chief of Saul's
shepherds.*

8 David said to Ahimelech, "Is there no spear or sword here with you? I
did not bring my sword or my weapons with me because the king's business
required haste." [9]The priest said, "The sword of Goliath the Philistine,
whom you killed in the valley of Elah, is here wrapped in a cloth behind the
ephod; if you will take that, take it, for there is none here except that one."
David said, "There is none like it; give it to me."*

DAVID FLEES TO GATH

10 David rose and fled that day from Saul; he went to King Achish of
Gath. [11]The servants of Achish said to him, "Is this not David the king of
the land? Did they not sing to one another of him in dances,

‘Saul has killed his thousands
and David his ten thousands’?”[*]

12 David took these words to heart and was very much afraid of King Achish
of Gath.[*] 13 So he changed his behavior before them; he pretended to be
mad when in their presence.[t] He scratched marks on the doors of the gate
and let his spittle run down his beard. 14 Achish said to his servants, “Look,
you see the man is mad; why then have you brought him to me? 15 Do I lack
madmen, that you have brought this fellow to play the madman in my
presence? Shall this fellow come into my house?”

1 Samuel 22

DAVID AND HIS FOLLOWERS AT ADULLAM

1 David left there and escaped to the cave of Adullam; when his brothers
and all his father's house heard of it, they went down there to him.*
[2]Everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and
everyone who was discontented gathered to him, and he became captain
over them. Those who were with him numbered about four hundred.*

3 David went from there to Mizpeh of Moab. He said to the king of
Moab, "Please let my father and mother come to you, until I know what
God will do for me." [4]He left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed
with him all the time that David was in the stronghold. [5]Then the prophet
Gad said to David, "Do not remain in the stronghold; leave and go into the
land of Judah." So David left and went into the forest of Hereth.*

SAUL SLAUGHTERS THE PRIESTS AT NOB

6 Saul heard that David and those who were with him had been located.
Saul was sitting at Gibeah, under the tamarisk tree on the height, with his
spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing around him. [7]Saul said
to his servants who stood around him, "Hear now, you Benjaminites; will
the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards? Will he make
you all commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds?* [8]Is that
why all of you have conspired against me? No one discloses to me when
my son makes a league with the son of Jesse; none of you is sorry for me or
discloses to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me to lie in
wait, as he is doing today."* [9]Doeg the Edomite, who was in charge of
Saul's servants, answered, "I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to
Ahimelech son of Ahitub;* [10]he inquired of the LORD for him, gave him
provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."*

11 The king sent for the priest Ahimelech son of Ahitub and for all his
father's house, the priests who were at Nob, and all of them came to the
king. [12]Saul said, "Listen now, son of Ahitub." He answered, "Here I am,

my lord." [13]Saul said to him, "Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, by giving him bread and a sword and by inquiring of God for him, so that he has risen against me to lie in wait, as he is doing today?"

14 Then Ahimelech answered the king, "Who among all your servants is so faithful as David? He is the king's son-in-law and is quick[u] to do your bidding and is honored in your house.* [15]Is today the first time that I have inquired of God for him? By no means! Do not let the king impute anything to his servant or to any member of my father's house, for your servant has known nothing of all this, much or little." [16]The king said, "You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's house." [17]The king said to the guard who stood around him, "Turn and kill the priests of the LORD, because their hand also is with David; they knew that he fled and did not disclose it to me." But the servants of the king would not raise a hand to attack the priests of the LORD.* [18]Then the king said to Doeg, "You, Doeg, turn and attack the priests." Doeg the Edomite turned and attacked the priests; on that day he killed eighty-five who wore the linen ephod.* [19]Nob, the city of the priests, he put to the sword; men and women, children and infants, oxen, donkeys, and sheep, he put to the sword.

20 But one of the sons of Ahimelech son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.* [21]Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the priests of the LORD. [22]David said to Abiathar, "I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I am responsible[v] for the lives of all your father's house.* [23]Stay with me, and do not be afraid, for the one who seeks my life seeks your life; you will be safe with me."*

1 Samuel 23

DAVID SAVES THE CITY OF KEILAH

1 Now they told David, "The Philistines are fighting against Keilah and are
robbing the threshing floors."* [2]David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go and
attack these Philistines?" The LORD said to David, "Go and attack the
Philistines and save Keilah."* [3]But David's men said to him, "Look, we are
afraid here in Judah; how much more then if we go to Keilah against the
armies of the Philistines?" [4]Then David inquired of the LORD again. The
LORD answered him, "Yes, go down to Keilah, for I will give the Philistines
into your hand."* [5]So David and his men went to Keilah, fought with the
Philistines, brought away their livestock, and dealt them a heavy defeat.
Thus David rescued the inhabitants of Keilah.

6 When Abiathar son of Ahimelech fled to David at Keilah, he came
down with an ephod in his hand.* [7]Now it was told Saul that David had
come to Keilah. And Saul said, "God has given[w] him into my hand, for he
has shut himself in by entering a town that has gates and bars." [8]Saul
summoned all the people to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David
and his men. [9]When David learned that Saul was plotting evil against him,
he said to the priest Abiathar, "Bring the ephod here."* [10]David said,
"O LORD, the God of Israel, your servant has heard that Saul seeks to come
to Keilah, to destroy the city on my account. [11]And now, will[x] Saul come
down as your servant has heard? O LORD, the God of Israel, I beseech you,
tell your servant." The LORD said, "He will come down." [12]Then David
said, "Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of
Saul?" The LORD said, "They will surrender you."* [13]Then David and his
men, who were about six hundred, set out and left Keilah; they wandered
wherever they could go. When Saul was told that David had escaped from
Keilah, he gave up the expedition.* [14]David remained in the strongholds in
the wilderness, in the hill country of the wilderness of Ziph. Saul sought
him every day, but the LORD[y] did not give him into his hand.*

DAVID ELUDES SAUL IN THE WILDERNESS

15 David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh when he learned that[z]
Saul had come out to seek his life. [16]Saul's son Jonathan set out and came
to David at Horesh; there he strengthened his hand through the LORD.[a,*]
[17]He said to him, "Do not be afraid, for the hand of my father Saul shall not
find you; you shall be king over Israel, and I shall be second to you; my
father Saul also knows that this is so."* [18]Then the two of them made a
covenant before the LORD; David remained at Horesh, and Jonathan went
home.*

19 Then some Ziphites went up to Saul at Gibeah and said, "David is
hiding among us in the strongholds of Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah,
which is south of Jeshimon.* [20]Now, O king, whenever you wish to come
down, do so, and our part will be to surrender him into the king's hand."*
[21]Saul said, "May you be blessed by the LORD for showing me
compassion!* [22]Go and make sure once more; find out exactly where he is
and who has seen him there, for I am told that he is very cunning. [23]Look
around and learn all the hiding places where he lurks and come back to me
with sure information. Then I will go with you, and if he is in the land, I
will search him out among all the thousands of Judah." [24]So they set out
and went to Ziph ahead of Saul.

David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah to the
south of Jeshimon.* [25]Saul and his men went to search for him. When
David was told, he went down to the rock and stayed in the wilderness of
Maon. When Saul heard that, he pursued David into the wilderness of
Maon. [26]Saul went on one side of the mountain and David and his men on
the other side of the mountain. David was hurrying to get away from Saul,
while Saul and his men were closing in on David and his men to capture
them.* [27]Then a messenger came to Saul, saying, "Hurry and come, for the
Philistines have made a raid on the land." [28]So Saul stopped pursuing David
and went against the Philistines; therefore that place was called the Rock of
Escape.[b] [29][c]David then went up from there and lived in the strongholds of
En-gedi.*

1 Samuel 24

DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE

1 When Saul returned from following the Philistines, he was told, "David is
in the wilderness of En-gedi."* [2]Then Saul took three thousand chosen men
out of all Israel and went to look for David and his men in the direction of
the Rocks of the Wild Goats.* [3]He came to the sheepfolds beside the road,
where there was a cave, and Saul went in to relieve himself.[d] Now David
and his men were sitting in the innermost parts of the cave.* [4]The men of
David said to him, "Here is the day of which the LORD said to you, 'I will
give your enemy into your hand, and you shall do to him as it seems good
to you.' " Then David went and stealthily cut off a corner of Saul's cloak.*
[5]Afterward David was stricken to the heart because he had cut off a corner
of Saul's cloak.* [6]He said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this
thing to my lord, the LORD's anointed, to raise my hand against him, for he
is the LORD's anointed."* [7]So David rebuked his men severely and did not
permit them to attack Saul. Then Saul got up and left the cave and went on
his way.

8 Afterward David also rose up and went out of the cave and called after
Saul, "My lord the king!" When Saul looked behind him, David bowed
with his face to the ground and did obeisance.* [9]David said to Saul, "Why
do you listen to the words of those who say, 'David seeks to do you harm'?
[10]This very day your eyes have seen how the LORD gave you into my hand
in the cave, and some urged me to kill you, but I spared[e] you. I said, 'I will
not raise my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD's anointed.' [11]See, my
father, see the corner of your cloak in my hand, for by the fact that I cut off
the corner of your cloak and did not kill you, you may know for certain that
there is no wrong or treason in my hands. I have not sinned against you,
though you are hunting me to take my life.* [12]May the LORD judge between
me and you! May the LORD avenge me on you, but my hand shall not be
against you.* [13]As the ancient proverb says, 'Out of the wicked comes forth
wickedness,' but my hand shall not be against you.* [14]Against whom has
the king of Israel come out? Whom do you pursue? A dead dog? A single

flea?* 15May the LORD, therefore, be judge and give sentence between me and you. May he see to it and plead my cause and vindicate me against you."*

16 When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, "Is this your voice, my son David?" Saul lifted up his voice and wept.* 17He said to David, "You are more righteous than I, for you have repaid me good, whereas I have repaid you evil.* 18Today you have explained how you have dealt well with me, in that you did not kill me when the LORD put me into your hands.* 19For who has ever found an enemy and sent the enemy safely away? So may the LORD reward you with good for what you have done to me this day. 20Now I know that you shall surely be king and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in your hand.* 21Swear to me, therefore, by the LORD that you will not cut off my descendants after me and that you will not wipe out my name from my father's house."* 22So David swore this to Saul. Then Saul went home, but David and his men went up to the stronghold.*

1 Samuel 25

DEATH OF SAMUEL

1 Now Samuel died, and all Israel assembled and mourned for him. They buried him at his home in Ramah.

Then David got up and went down to the wilderness of Paran.*

DAVID AND ABIGAIL

2 There was a man in Maon whose property was in Carmel. The man was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel.* 3Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife was Abigail. The woman was clever and beautiful, but the man was surly and mean; he was a Calebite. 4David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep. 5So David sent ten young men, and David said to the young men, "Go up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name. 6Thus you shall salute him, 'Peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have.* 7I hear that you have shearers; now your shepherds have been with us, and we did them no harm, and they missed nothing all the time they were in Carmel.* 8Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favor in your sight, for we have come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have at hand to your servants and to your son David.' "*

9 When David's young men came, they said all this to Nabal in the name of David, and then they waited. 10But Nabal answered David's servants, "Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants today who are breaking away from their masters.* 11Shall I take my bread and my water and the meat that I have butchered for my shearers and give it to men who come from I do not know where?" 12So David's young men turned away and came back and told him all this. 13David said to his men, "Every man strap on his sword!" And every one of them strapped on his sword; David also strapped on his sword, and about four hundred men went up after David, while two hundred remained with the baggage.*

14 But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, "David sent
messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master, and he shouted
insults at them. [15]Yet the men were very good to us, and we suffered no
harm, and we never missed anything when we were in the fields as long as
we were with them;* [16]they were a wall to us both by night and by day, all
the while we were with them keeping the sheep.* [17]Now, therefore, know
this and consider what you should do, for evil has been decided against our
master and against all his house; he is so ill-natured that no one can speak to
him."

18 Then Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves, two skins of wine,
five sheep ready dressed, five measures of parched grain, one hundred
clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded them on
donkeys* [19]and said to her young men, "Go on ahead of me; I am coming
after you." But she did not tell her husband Nabal.* [20]As she rode on the
donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, David and his men
came down toward her, and she met them. [21]Now David had said, "Surely it
was in vain that I protected all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that
nothing was missed of all that belonged to him, but he has returned me evil
for good.* [22]God do so to David[f] and more also if by morning I leave so
much as one male of all who belong to him."*

23 When Abigail saw David, she hurried and dismounted from the
donkey and fell before David on her face, bowing to the ground.* [24]She fell
at his feet and said, "Upon me alone, my lord, be the guilt; please let your
servant speak in your ears and hear the words of your servant.* [25]My lord,
do not take seriously this ill-natured fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is
he; Nabal[g] is his name, and folly is with him, but I, your servant, did not see
the young men of my lord, whom you sent.*

26 "Now then, my lord, as the LORD lives and as you yourself live, since
the LORD has restrained you from bloodguilt and from taking vengeance
with your own hand, now let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to
my lord be like Nabal.* [27]And now let this present that your servant has
brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. [28]Please
forgive the trespass of your servant, for the LORD will certainly make my
lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the LORD, and
evil shall not be found in you so long as you live.* [29]If anyone should rise

up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living under the care of the LORD your God, but the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. 30When the LORD has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you and has appointed you prince over Israel, 31my lord shall have no cause of grief or pangs of conscience for having shed blood without cause or for having saved himself. And when the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant."

32 David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today!* 33Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you, who kept me today from bloodguilt and from avenging myself by my own hand! 34For as surely as the LORD the God of Israel lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there would not have been left to Nabal so much as one male." 35Then David received from her hand what she had brought him; he said to her, "Go up to your house in peace; see, I have heeded your voice, and I have granted your petition."*

36 Abigail came to Nabal; he was holding a feast in his house like the feast of a king. Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk, so she told him nothing at all until the morning light.* 37In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him; he became like a stone. 38About ten days later the LORD struck Nabal, and he died.

39 When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, "Blessed be the LORD, who has judged the case of Nabal's insult to me and has kept back his servant from evil; the LORD has returned the evildoing of Nabal upon his own head." Then David sent word to Abigail to make her his wife.* 40When David's servants came to Abigail at Carmel, they said to her, "David has sent us to you to take you to him as his wife." 41She rose and bowed down, with her face to the ground, and said, "Your servant is a slave to wash the feet of the servants of my lord."* 42Abigail got up hurriedly and rode away on a donkey; her five maids attended her. She went after the messengers of David and became his wife.*

43 David also married Ahinoam of Jezreel; both of them became his wives.* 44Saul had given his daughter Michal, David's wife, to Palti son of

Laish, who was from Gallim.*

1 Samuel 26

DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE A SECOND TIME

1 Then the Ziphites came to Saul at Gibeah, saying, "David is in hiding on
the hill of Hachilah, which is opposite Jeshimon."[h,*] [2]So Saul rose and went
down to the wilderness of Ziph, with three thousand chosen men of Israel,
to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.* [3]Saul encamped on the hill of
Hachilah, which is opposite Jeshimon,[i] beside the road. But David remained
in the wilderness. When he learned that Saul had come after him into the
wilderness, [4]David sent out spies and learned that Saul had indeed arrived.
[5]Then David set out and came to the place where Saul had encamped, and
David saw the place where Saul lay, with Abner son of Ner, the commander
of his army. Saul was lying within the encampment, while the army was
encamped around him.*

6 Then David said to Ahimelech the Hittite and to Joab's brother Abishai
son of Zeruiah, "Who will go down with me into the camp to Saul?"
Abishai said, "I will go down with you."* [7]So David and Abishai went to
the army by night; there Saul lay sleeping within the encampment, with his
spear stuck in the ground at his head, and Abner and the army lay around
him. [8]Abishai said to David, "God has given your enemy into your hand
today; now, therefore, let me pin him to the ground with one stroke of the
spear; I will not strike him twice." [9]But David said to Abishai, "Do not
destroy him, for who can raise his hand against the LORD's anointed and be
guiltless?"* [10]David said, "As the LORD lives, the LORD will strike him
down, or his day will come to die, or he will go down into battle and
perish.* [11]The LORD forbid that I should raise my hand against the LORD's
anointed, but now take the spear that is at his head and the water jar, and let
us go."* [12]So David took the spear that was at Saul's head and the water jar,
and they went away. No one saw it or knew it, nor did anyone awake, for
they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the LORD had fallen upon
them.*

13 Then David went over to the other side and stood on top of a hill far
away, with a great distance between them. [14]David called to the army and to

Abner son of Ner, saying, “Abner! Will you not answer?” Then Abner replied, “Who are you who calls to the king?” 15David said to Abner, “Are you not a man? Who is like you in Israel? Why then have you not kept watch over your lord the king? For one of the people came in to destroy your lord the king. 16This thing that you have done is not good. As the LORD lives, you deserve to die because you have not kept watch over your lord, the LORD’s anointed. See now, where is the king’s spear or the water jar that was at his head?”

17 Saul recognized David’s voice and said, “Is this your voice, my son David?” David said, “It is my voice, my lord, O king.”* 18And he added, “Why does my lord pursue his servant? For what have I done? What guilt is on my hands?* 19Now, therefore, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If it is the LORD who has stirred you up against me, may he accept an offering, but if it is mortals, may they be cursed before the LORD, for they have driven me out today from my share in the heritage of the LORD, saying, ‘Go, serve other gods.’* 20Now therefore, do not let my blood fall to the ground away from the presence of the LORD, for the king of Israel has come out to seek a single flea, like one who hunts a partridge in the mountains.”*

21 Then Saul said, “I have done wrong; come back, my son David, for I will never harm you again, because my life was precious in your sight today; I have been a fool and have made a great mistake.”* 22David replied, “Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and get it.* 23The LORD rewards everyone for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the LORD gave you into my hand today, but I would not raise my hand against the LORD’s anointed. 24As your life was precious today in my sight, so may my life be precious in the sight of the LORD, and may he rescue me from all tribulation.”* 25Then Saul said to David, “Blessed be you, my son David! You will do many things and will succeed in them.” So David went his way, and Saul returned to his place.

1 Samuel 27

DAVID SERVES KING ACHISH OF GATH

1 David said in his heart, "I shall certainly perish one day by the hand of
Saul; there is nothing better for me than to escape to the land of the
Philistines; then Saul will despair of seeking me any longer within the
borders of Israel, and I shall escape out of his hand." [2]So David set out and
went over, he and the six hundred men who were with him, to King Achish
son of Maoch of Gath.* [3]David stayed with Achish at Gath, he and his
troops, every man with his household, and David with his two wives,
Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail of Carmel, Nabal's widow.* [4]When Saul
was told that David had fled to Gath, he no longer sought for him.

5 Then David said to Achish, "If I have found favor in your sight, let a
place be given me in one of the country towns so that I may live there, for
why should your servant live in the royal city with you?" [6]So that day
Achish gave him Ziklag; therefore Ziklag has belonged to the kings of
Judah to this day.* [7]The length of time that David lived in the country of the
Philistines was one year and four months.*

8 Now David and his men went up and made raids on the Geshurites, the
Girzites, and the Amalekites, for these were the landed settlements from
Telam[j] on the way to Shur and on to the land of Egypt.* [9]David struck the
land, leaving neither man nor woman alive, but took away the sheep, the
oxen, the donkeys, the camels, and the clothing and came back to Achish.*
[10]When Achish asked, "Against whom[k] have you made a raid today?"
David would say, "Against the Negeb of Judah," or "Against the Negeb of
the Jerahmeelites," or "Against the Negeb of the Kenites."* [11]David left
neither man nor woman alive to be brought back to Gath, thinking, "They
might tell about us and say, 'David has done so and so.' " Such was his
practice all the time he lived in the country of the Philistines. [12]Achish
trusted David, thinking, "He has made himself utterly abhorrent to his
people Israel; therefore he shall always be my servant."

1 Samuel 28

1 In those days the Philistines gathered their forces for war, to fight against
Israel. Achish said to David, "You know, of course, that you and your men
are to go out with me in the army."* [2]David said to Achish, "Very well, then
you shall know what your servant can do." Achish said to David, "Very
well, I will make you my bodyguard for life."

SAUL CONSULTS A MEDIUM

3 Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried
him in Ramah, his own city. Saul had expelled the mediums and the wizards
from the land.* [4]The Philistines assembled and came and encamped at
Shunem. Saul gathered all Israel, and they encamped at Gilboa.* [5]When
Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled
greatly. [6]When Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, not
by dreams or by Urim or by prophets.* [7]Then Saul said to his servants,
"Seek out for me a woman who is a medium, so that I may go to her and
inquire of her." His servants said to him, "There is a medium at Endor."*

8 So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes and went there, he
and two men with him. They came to the woman by night. And he said,
"Consult a spirit for me, and bring up for me the one whom I name to
you."* [9]The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done,
how he has cut off the mediums and the wizards from the land. Why then
are you laying a snare for my life to bring about my death?"* [10]But Saul
swore to her by the LORD, "As the LORD lives, no punishment shall come
upon you for this thing." [11]Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up
for you?" He answered, "Bring up Samuel for me." [12]When the woman saw
Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice, and the woman said to Saul, "Why
have you deceived me? You are Saul!" [13]The king said to her, "Have no
fear; what do you see?" The woman said to Saul, "I see a divine being[1]
coming up out of the ground." [14]He said to her, "What is his appearance?"
She said, "An old man is coming up; he is wrapped in a robe." So Saul

knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and did obeisance.*

15 Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams, so I have summoned you to tell me what I should do."* [16]Samuel said, "Why then do you ask me, since the LORD has turned from you and become your enemy? [17]The LORD has done to you just as he spoke by me, for the LORD has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David.* [18]Because you did not obey the voice of the LORD and did not carry out his fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the LORD has done this thing to you today.* [19]Moreover, the LORD will give Israel along with you into the hands of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me; the LORD will also give the army of Israel into the hands of the Philistines."*

20 Immediately Saul fell full length on the ground filled with fear because of the words of Samuel, and there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night. [21]The woman came to Saul, and when she saw that he was terrified, she said to him, "Your servant has listened to you; I have taken my life in my hand and have listened to what you have said to me.* [22]Now, therefore, you also listen to your servant; let me set a morsel of bread before you. Eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way." [23]He refused and said, "I will not eat." But his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he listened to their words. So he got up from the ground and sat on the bed.* [24]Now the woman had a fatted calf in the house. She quickly slaughtered it, and she took flour, kneaded it, and baked unleavened cakes. [25]She put them before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

1 Samuel 29

THE PHILISTINES REJECT DAVID

1 Now the Philistines gathered all their forces at Aphek, while the Israelites were encamped by the spring that is in Jezreel.* 2As the lords of the Philistines were passing on by hundreds and by thousands and David and his men were passing on in the rear with Achish,* 3the commanders of the Philistines said, "What are these Hebrews doing here?" Achish said to the commanders of the Philistines, "Is this not David, the servant of King Saul of Israel, who has been with me now for days and years? Since he deserted to me I have found no fault in him to this day."* 4But the commanders of the Philistines were angry with him, and the commanders of the Philistines said to him, "Send the man back, so that he may return to the place that you have assigned to him; he shall not go down with us to battle, or else he may become an adversary to us in the battle. For how could this fellow reconcile himself to his lord? Would it not be with the heads of the men here?* 5Is this not David, of whom they sing to one another in dances,

'Saul has killed his thousands

and David his ten thousands'?"*

6 Then Achish called David and said to him, "As the LORD lives, you have been honest, and to me it seems right that you should march out and in with me in the campaign, for I have found nothing wrong in you from the day of your coming to me until today. Nevertheless, the lords do not approve of you.* 7So go back now, and go peaceably; do nothing to displease the lords of the Philistines." 8David said to Achish, "But what have I done? What have you found in your servant from the day I entered your service until now, that I should not go and fight against the enemies of my lord the king?" 9Achish replied to David, "I know that you are as blameless in my sight as an angel of God; nevertheless, the commanders of the Philistines have said, 'He shall not go up with us to the battle.'* 10Now then, rise early in the morning, you and the servants of your lord who came with you, and go to the place that I appointed for you. As for the evil report, do not take it to heart, for you have done well before me.[m] Start early in the

morning, and leave as soon as you have light.”* 11So David set out with his men early in the morning, to return to the land of the Philistines. But the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

1 Samuel 30

DAVID AVENGES THE DESTRUCTION OF ZIKLAG

1 Now when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, the
Amalekites had made a raid on the Negeb and on Ziklag. They had attacked
Ziklag, burned it down,* 2and taken captive the women and all[n] who were
in it, both small and great; they killed none of them but carried them off and
went their way. 3When David and his men came to the city, they found it
burned down and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. 4Then
David and the people who were with him raised their voices and wept until
they had no more strength to weep. 5David's two wives also had been taken
captive, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel.*
6David was in great danger, for the people spoke of stoning him because all
the people were bitter in spirit for their sons and daughters. But David
strengthened himself in the LORD his God.*

7 David said to the priest Abiathar son of Ahimelech, "Bring me the
ephod." So Abiathar brought the ephod to David.* 8David inquired of the
LORD, "Shall I pursue this band? Shall I overtake them?" He answered him,
"Pursue, for you shall surely overtake and shall surely rescue."* 9So David
set out, he and the six hundred men who were with him. They came to the
Wadi Besor, where those stayed who were left behind.* 10But David went
on with the pursuit, he and four hundred men; two hundred stayed behind,
too exhausted to cross the Wadi Besor.*

11 In the open country they found an Egyptian and brought him to David.
They gave him bread, and he ate; they gave him water to drink; 12they also
gave him a piece of fig cake and two clusters of raisins. When he had eaten,
his spirit revived, for he had not eaten bread or drunk water for three days
and three nights.* 13Then David said to him, "To whom do you belong?
Where are you from?" He said, "I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an
Amalekite. My master left me behind because I fell sick three days ago.
14We had made a raid on the Negeb of the Cherethites and on that which
belongs to Judah and on the Negeb of Caleb, and we burned Ziklag down."*
15David said to him, "Will you take me down to this raiding party?" He

said, “Swear to me by God that you will not kill me or hand me over to my master, and I will take you down to them.”

16 When he had taken him down, they were spread out all over the ground, eating and drinking and dancing, because of the great amount of spoil they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah.* [17]David attacked them from twilight until the evening of the next day. Not one of them escaped, except four hundred young men, who mounted camels and fled.* [18]David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken, and David rescued his two wives. [19]Nothing was missing, whether small or great, sons or daughters, spoil or anything that had been taken; David brought back everything.* [20]David also captured all the flocks and herds, which were driven ahead of the other cattle; people said, “This is David’s spoil.”*

21 Then David came to the two hundred men who had been too exhausted to follow David and who had been left at the Wadi Besor. They went out to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. When David drew near to the people, he saluted them.* [22]Then all the corrupt and worthless fellows among the men who had gone with David said, “Because they did not go with us, we will not give them any of the spoil that we have recovered, except that each man may take his wife and children and leave.” [23]But David said, “You shall not do so, my brothers, with what the LORD has given us; he has preserved us and handed over to us the raiding party that attacked us. [24]Who would listen to you in this matter? For the share of the one who goes down into the battle shall be the same as the share of the one who stays by the baggage; they shall share alike.”* [25]From that day forward he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel; it continues to the present day.

26 When David came to Ziklag, he sent part of the spoil to his friends, the elders of Judah, saying, “Here is a present for you from the spoil of the enemies of the LORD.” [27]It was for those in Bethel, in Ramoth of the Negeb, in Jattir,* [28]in Aroer, in Siphmoth, in Eshtemoa,* [29]in Racal, in the towns of the Jerahmeelites, in the towns of the Kenites,* [30]in Hormah, in Bor-ashan, in Athach,* [31]in Hebron, all the places where David and his men had roamed.*

1 Samuel 31

THE DEATH OF SAUL AND HIS SONS

1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel fled before
the Philistines, and many fell[o] on Mount Gilboa.* [2]The Philistines overtook
Saul and his sons, and the Philistines killed Jonathan and Abinadab and
Malchishua, the sons of Saul. [3]The battle pressed hard on Saul, and the
archers found him, and he was badly wounded by them.* [4]Then Saul said to
his armor-bearer, "Draw your sword and thrust me through with it, so that
these uncircumcised may not come and thrust me through and make sport
of me." But his armor-bearer was unwilling, for he was terrified. So Saul
took his own sword and fell on it.* [5]When his armor-bearer saw that Saul
was dead, he also fell on his sword and died with him. [6]So Saul and his
three sons and his armor-bearer and all his men died together on the same
day. [7]When the men of Israel who were on the other side of the valley and
those beyond the Jordan saw that the men of Israel had fled and that Saul
and his sons were dead, they forsook their towns and fled, and the
Philistines came and occupied them.

8 The next day, when the Philistines came to strip the dead, they found
Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. [9]They cut off his head,
stripped off his armor, and sent messengers throughout the land of the
Philistines to carry the good news to the houses of their idols and to the
people.* [10]They put his armor in the temple of Astarte,[p] and they fastened
his body to the wall of Beth-shan.* [11]But when the inhabitants of Jabesh-
gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul,* [12]all the valiant men set
out, traveled all night long, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his
sons from the wall of Beth-shan. They came to Jabesh and burned them
there.* [13]Then they took their bones and buried them under the tamarisk tree
in Jabesh and fasted seven days.*

1 Samuel 1

a **1.1** Compare Gk: Heb *Ramathaim-zophim*
* **1.1** Josh 17.17, 18; 1 Chr 6.27
* **1.2** Deut 21.15–17; Lk 2.36
* **1.3** Ex 34.23; Deut 12.5; Josh 18.1
* **1.4** Deut 12.17
b **1.5** Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **1.5** Gen 16.1; 30.2
* **1.6** Job 24.21
* **1.8** Ruth 4.15
c **1.9** Gk: Heb lacks *and presented herself before the* LORD
* **1.9** 1 Sam 3.3
d **1.11** Cn Compare Gk Q ms: MT *child, then I will give him to the* LORD *all the days of his life*
* **1.11** Gen 28.20; 29.32; Num 6.5; Judg 13.5
* **1.13** Gen 24.42–45
* **1.14** Acts 2.4, 13
* **1.15** Ps 62.8
* **1.17** Judg 18.6; 1 Sam 25.35; Mk 5.34
e **1.18** Gk: Heb lacks *and drank with her husband*
f **1.18** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **1.18** Ruth 2.13; Eccl 9.7
* **1.19** Gen 4.1; 30.22
* **1.20** Gen 41.51, 52; Ex 2.10, 22
* **1.21** v 3
g **1.22** Cn Compare Q ms: MT lacks *I will offer him as a nazirite for all time*
* **1.22** 1 Sam 2.11, 18; Lk 2.22
h **1.23** Q ms Gk Syr: MT *his*
* **1.23** v 17; Num 30.7
i **1.24** Q ms Gk Syr: MT *three bulls*
* **1.24** Deut 12.5; Josh 18.1
* **1.25** Lev 1.5; Lk 2.22
* **1.26** 2 Kings 2.2
* **1.27** vv 11–13
* **1.28** vv 11, 22

1 Samuel 2

j **2.1** Gk: Heb *the* LORD
* **2.1** Ps 89.17; Isa 12.2, 3; Lk 1.46–55
* **2.2** Lev 19.2; Deut 32.30, 31; 2 Sam 22.32

* **2.3** 1 Sam 16.7; 1 Kings 8.39; Prov 8.13; 16.2; 24.12
* **2.4** Ps 76.3
* **2.5** Ps 113.9; Jer 15.9
* **2.6** Deut 32.39; Isa 26.19
* **2.7** Deut 8.17, 18; Job 5.11; Ps 75.6, 7
* **2.8** Job 36.7; 38.4, 5; Ps 113.7, 8
* **2.9** Ps 33.16, 17; 91.11, 12; Mt 8.12

k **2.10** Cn: Heb *against him he*

* **2.10** Ps 2.9; 18.13; 21.1, 7; 89.24; 96.13

l **2.11** Gk: Heb *Then Elkanah went*

* **2.11** 1 Sam 3.1
* **2.12** Jer 2.8; 9.3, 6
* **2.13** Lev 7.29–34

m **2.14** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *with it*

* **2.15** Lev 3.3, 4
* **2.17** Mal 2.7–9
* **2.18** vv 11, 28; 1 Sam 3.1
* **2.19** 1 Sam 1.3

n **2.20** Q ms Gk: MT *give*

o **2.20** Q ms Gk: MT *for the request that she asked of*

* **2.20** 1 Sam 1.11, 27, 28; Lk 2.34

p **2.21** Q ms Gk: MT *When*

* **2.21** v 26; Gen 21.1; 1 Sam 3.19; Lk 2.40
* **2.22** Ex 38.8
* **2.24** 1 Kings 15.26

q **2.25** Gk Q ms: MT *another, God will intercede for him*

* **2.25** Num 15.30; Deut 1.17; Josh 11.20
* **2.26** v 21; Lk 2.52

r **2.27** Gk Tg Syr: Heb *Did I reveal*

s **2.27** Q ms Gk: MT lacks *slaves*

* **2.27** Ex 4.14–16; 1 Kings 13.1

t **2.28** Or *my gifts*

* **2.28** Ex 28.1–4; Lev 8.7, 8

u **2.29** Q ms Gk: MT *then kick*

v **2.29** Q ms Gk: MT adds *that I commanded at this dwelling*

* **2.29** vv 13–17; Deut 12.5; Mt 10.37
* **2.30** Ex 29.9; Ps 91.14; Mal 2.9

w **2.31–32** Q ms Gk: MT adds *so that no one in your family will live to old age.* [32]*Then in a distressed place you will look upon all the prosperity of Israel. No one*

* **2.31** 1 Sam 4.11–18; 22.17–20
* **2.32** 1 Kings 2.26, 27; Zech 8.4

x **2.33** Q ms Gk: MT *your*
y **2.33** Q ms Gk: MT *your*
z **2.33** Q ms Gk: MT *die like mortals*
* **2.34** 1 Sam 4.11; 1 Kings 13.3
* **2.35** 1 Sam 12.3; 16.13; 2 Sam 7.11, 27; 1 Kings 2.35; 11.38
* **2.36** 1 Kings 2.27

1 Samuel 3

* **3.1** 1 Sam 2.11, 18; Am 8.11
* **3.2** 1 Sam 4.15
* **3.3** Lev 24.2–4
a **3.4** Q ms Gk: MT *called to Samuel*
* **3.4** Isa 6.8
* **3.7** Acts 19.2
* **3.11** 2 Kings 21.12; Jer 19.3
* **3.12** 1 Sam 2.30–36
b **3.13** Gk: Heb *cursing for themselves*
* **3.13** 1 Sam 2.12, 17, 22, 29–31
* **3.14** Lev 15.30, 31; Isa 22.14
* **3.17** Ruth 1.17; 2 Sam 3.35
* **3.18** Job 2.10; Isa 39.8
* **3.19** Gen 21.22; 39.2; 1 Sam 2.21; 9.6
* **3.20** Judg 20.1
* **3.21** v 10

1 Samuel 4

c **4.1** Gk: Heb lacks *In those days the Philistines mustered for war against Israel*
d **4.1** Gk: Heb *against the Philistines*
* **4.1** 1 Sam 7.12
e **4.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.3** Num 10.35; Josh 7.7, 8
* **4.4** Ex 25.18, 22; 2 Sam 6.2
* **4.5** Josh 6.5, 20
* **4.6** Ex 15.14
f **4.7** Or *A god has*
* **4.9** Judg 13.1; 1 Cor 16.13
* **4.10** v 2; Deut 28.25; 2 Sam 18.17; 2 Kings 14.12
* **4.11** 1 Sam 2.34; Ps 78.56–64
* **4.12** Josh 7.6; 2 Sam 1.2; Neh 9.1
* **4.13** v 18; 1 Sam 1.9

* **4.15** 1 Sam 3.2
* **4.16** 2 Sam 1.4
g **4.17** Heb *plague*
h **4.18** Heb *he*
* **4.18** v 13
* **4.20** Gen 35.16–19
* **4.22** v 11; Jer 2.11

1 Samuel 5

* **5.1** 1 Sam 4.1; 7.12
* **5.2** Judg 16.23
* **5.3** Isa 19.1; 46.1, 2, 7
i **5.4** Gk Syr Tg Vg: Heb lacks *the trunk of*
* **5.4** Ezek 6.4, 6
* **5.6** vv 7, 11; Ex 9.3; Deut 28.27; 1 Sam 6.5; Ps 78.66
j **5.8** Gk Compare Q ms: MT *They replied, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be brought around to Gath."*
k **5.8** Gk: Heb lacks *to Gath*
* **5.8** v 11
l **5.9** Q ms: MT lacks *to Gath*
* **5.9** vv 6, 11; 1 Sam 7.13; Ps 78.66
m **5.10** Q ms Gk mss: MT lacks *of Israel*
n **5.10** Q ms Gk: MT lacks *Why*
o **5.10** Heb *me*
p **5.10** Heb *me and my*
q **5.11** Heb *me and my*
* **5.11** vv 6, 8, 9

1 Samuel 6

* **6.2** Gen 41.8; Ex 7.11; Isa 2.6
r **6.3** Q ms Gk: MT *and it will be known to you*
* **6.3** Ex 23.15; Lev 5.15, 16; Deut 16.16
* **6.4** vv 7, 18; Josh 13.3; Judg 3.3
* **6.5** Josh 7.19; 1 Sam 5.3–11; Isa 42.12
* **6.6** Ex 8.15; 9.34; 12.31
* **6.7** Num 19.2; 2 Sam 6.3
* **6.8** vv 3, 5
* **6.9** v 3; Josh 15.10
* **6.12** v 9; Num 20.19
s **6.13** Gk: Heb *rejoiced to see it*

* **6.14** 2 Sam 24.22; 1 Kings 19.21
* **6.16** Josh 13.3
* **6.17** v 4
* **6.18** vv 14, 15

t **6.19** Gk: Heb *19And he killed some of the people of Beth-shemesh, because they looked into*
u **6.19** Cn: Heb *killed seventy men, fifty thousand men*
* **6.19** Num 4.5, 15, 20; 2 Sam 6.7
* **6.20** Lev 11.44, 45; 2 Sam 6.9
* **6.21** Josh 9.17; 15.9, 60

1 Samuel 7

* **7.1** 2 Sam 6.3, 4
v **7.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.3** Deut 6.13; Josh 24.14; Judg 2.13; Joel 2.12; Mt 4.10
* **7.5** Judg 20.1; 1 Sam 8.6
* **7.6** Judg 10.10; Neh 9.1; Ps 62.8
* **7.7** 1 Sam 17.11
* **7.8** Isa 37.4
* **7.9** Ps 99.6; Jer 15.1
* **7.10** Josh 10.10; 1 Sam 2.10; 2 Sam 22.14, 15
w **7.12** Gk Syr: Heb *Shen*
x **7.12** That is, *stone of help*
* **7.12** Gen 35.14; Josh 4.9
* **7.13** Judg 13.1; 1 Sam 13.5
* **7.15** v 6; 1 Sam 12.11
* **7.17** 1 Sam 1.19

1 Samuel 8

* **8.1** Deut 16.18, 19
* **8.3** Ex 23.6, 8; Deut 16.19; Ps 15.5
* **8.4** 1 Sam 7.17
* **8.5** Deut 17.14, 15
* **8.6** 1 Sam 15.11
* **8.7** Ex 16.8; 1 Sam 10.19
y **8.8** Gk: Heb lacks *to me*
* **8.9** v 11
* **8.11** 1 Sam 14.52; 2 Sam 15.1
* **8.12** 1 Sam 22.7
* **8.14** 1 Kings 21.7; Ezek 46.18
z **8.16** Gk: Heb *young men*

* **8.18** Prov 1.25–28; Mic 3.4
* **8.20** v 5
* **8.22** v 7

1 Samuel 9

* **9.1** 1 Sam 14.51; 1 Chr 9.36–39
* **9.2** 1 Sam 10.23, 24
* **9.4** Josh 19.42; 24.33; 2 Kings 4.42
* **9.5** 1 Sam 10.2
* **9.6** Deut 33.1; 1 Sam 3.19
* **9.7** 1 Kings 14.3; 2 Kings 8.8
* **9.9** 2 Sam 24.11; 1 Chr 26.28; Isa 30.10
* **9.11** Gen 24.15
* **9.12** Num 28.11–15; 1 Sam 7.17; 10.5

a **9.16** Gk: Heb lacks *the suffering of*

* **9.16** Ex 3.7, 9; 1 Sam 10.1
* **9.17** 1 Sam 16.12
* **9.20** v 3; 1 Sam 8.5; 12.13
* **9.21** Judg 20.46, 48; 1 Sam 15.17

b **9.24** Meaning of Heb uncertain

c **9.24** Cn: Heb *time, saying, I have invited the people*

* **9.24** Lev 7.32, 33; Num 18.18

d **9.25** Gk: Heb *and he spoke with Saul*

e **9.25** Gk: Heb lacks *and he lay down to sleep*

* **9.25** Deut 22.8; Acts 10.9

f **9.26** Gk: Heb *and they arose early and at break of dawn*

1 Samuel 10

g **10.1** Gk: Heb lacks *over his people Israel. You shall . . . anointed you ruler*

* **10.1** Deut 32.9; 1 Sam 16.13; Ps 2.12; 78.71
* **10.2** Gen 35.19, 20; 1 Sam 9.3–5
* **10.3** Gen 28.22; 35.1, 3, 7, 8

h **10.5** Or *the hill of God*

* **10.5** 1 Sam 9.12; 13.3; 19.20; 2 Kings 3.15
* **10.6** v 10; Num 11.25, 29; 1 Sam 19.23, 24
* **10.7** Josh 1.5; Judg 6.12
* **10.8** 1 Sam 11.15; 13.8
* **10.9** v 6

i **10.10** Or *the hill*

* **10.10** vv 5, 6; 1 Sam 19.20

* **10.11** 1 Sam 19.24; Mt 13.54, 55; Jn 7.15
j **10.13** Cn: Heb *went to the shrine*
* **10.16** 1 Sam 9.20
* **10.17** 1 Sam 7.5, 6
* **10.18** Judg 6.8, 9
* **10.19** Josh 24.1; 1 Sam 8.6, 7
* **10.20** Josh 7.14, 16, 17
k **10.21** Gk: Heb lacks *Finally . . . man by man*
l **10.22** Gk: Heb *Is there yet a man to come here?*
* **10.22** 1 Sam 23.2, 4, 9–11
* **10.23** 1 Sam 9.2
* **10.24** 2 Sam 21.6; 1 Kings 1.25, 39
* **10.25** Deut 17.14–20; 1 Sam 8.11–18
* **10.26** 1 Sam 11.4
m **10.27** Q ms: MT lacks *Now Nahash . . . entered Jabesh-gilead*.
* **10.27** 1 Kings 10.25; 2 Chr 17.5

1 Samuel 11

n **11.1** Q ms Gk: MT lacks *About a month later*
* **11.1** Judg 21.8; 1 Sam 12.12; 1 Kings 20.34; Ezek 17.13
* **11.2** Num 16.14; 1 Sam 17.26
* **11.4** Judg 2.4; 1 Sam 10.26; 15.34; 30.4
* **11.6** Judg 3.10; 6.34; 13.25; 14.6; 1 Sam 10.10; 16.13
* **11.7** Judg 19.29; 21.5, 8, 10
o **11.8** Q ms Gk OL: MT *thirty*
* **11.8** Judg 1.5; 20.2
* **11.10** v 3
* **11.11** Judg 7.16
* **11.12** 1 Sam 10.27; Lk 19.27
* **11.13** Ex 14.13; 1 Sam 19.5; 2 Sam 19.22
* **11.14** 1 Sam 10.8, 25
* **11.15** 1 Sam 10.8

1 Samuel 12

* **12.1** 1 Sam 8.7; 10.24
* **12.2** 1 Sam 8.1, 5, 20
p **12.3** Gk: Heb lacks *Testify against me*
* **12.3** Num 16.15; Deut 16.19; 1 Sam 10.1; 2 Sam 1.14; Acts 20.33
* **12.5** Ex 22.4
q **12.6** Gk: Heb lacks *is witness, who*

* **12.6** Ex 6.26
r **12.7** Gk: Heb lacks *and I will declare to you*
* **12.7** Isa 1.18; Mic 6.1–5
s **12.8** Gk: Heb lacks *and the Egyptians oppressed them*
* **12.8** Ex 2.23; 3.10; 4.16
t **12.9** Gk: Heb lacks *King Jabin of*
* **12.9** Judg 3.7, 12; 4.2; 10.7; 13.1
* **12.10** Judg 2.13; 10.10, 15
u **12.11** Gk Syr: Heb *Bedan*
v **12.11** Gk: Heb *Samuel*
* **12.11** Judg 4.6; 6.14, 32; 11.1
* **12.12** Judg 8.23; 1 Sam 8.6, 19; 11.1
* **12.13** 1 Sam 8.5; 10.24; Hos 13.11
* **12.14** Josh 24.14
w **12.15** Gk: Heb *and your ancestors*
* **12.15** Josh 24.20
* **12.16** Ex 14.13, 31
* **12.17** 1 Sam 7.9, 10; Prov 26.1
* **12.18** Ex 14.31
* **12.19** Ex 9.28; Jas 5.15
* **12.21** Deut 11.16; Jer 16.19; Hab 2.18
* **12.22** Josh 7.9; 1 Kings 6.13
* **12.23** Rom 1.9; Col 1.9; 2 Tim 1.3
* **12.24** Deut 10.21
* **12.25** Josh 24.20

1 Samuel 13

x **13.1** The number is lacking in the Heb text (13.1 is lacking in Gk mss).
y **13.1** *Two* is not the entire number; something has dropped out.
* **13.2** 1 Sam 10.26
* **13.3** 1 Sam 10.5
* **13.5** Josh 11.4
* **13.6** Judg 6.2
z **13.8** Heb *him*
* **13.8** 1 Sam 10.8
* **13.9** 2 Sam 24.25
* **13.10** 1 Sam 15.13
* **13.11** vv 2, 5, 16, 23
* **13.13** 1 Sam 15.11, 22; 2 Chr 16.9
* **13.14** 1 Sam 15.28; Acts 13.22
a **13.15** Gk: Heb *went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin*

b **13.15** Gk: Heb lacks *The rest . . . of Benjamin*
* **13.15** 1 Sam 14.2
* **13.17** 1 Sam 14.15
c **13.18** Cn: Heb *border road*
* **13.18** Josh 18.13, 14; Neh 11.34
* **13.19** 2 Kings 24.14
d **13.20** Gk: Heb *plowshare*
e **13.21** Heb *was a pim*
f **13.21** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.22** Judg 5.8

1 Samuel 14

* **14.2** 1 Sam 13.15
* **14.3** 1 Sam 2.28; 4.21; 22.9–12, 20
g **14.4** Heb *Between the passes*
* **14.4** 1 Sam 13.23
* **14.6** Judg 7.4, 7; 1 Sam 17.46, 47
h **14.7** Gk: Heb *Do all that is in your mind. Turn*
i **14.7** Gk: Heb lacks *so is mine*
* **14.10** Gen 24.14; Judg 6.36, 37
* **14.11** 1 Sam 13.6
* **14.12** 1 Sam 17.43, 44; 2 Sam 5.24
j **14.13** Heb *They*
k **14.14** Heb *yoke*
* **14.15** 1 Sam 13.17; 2 Kings 7.6, 7
l **14.16** Gk: Heb *they went and there*
* **14.16** 2 Sam 18.24
* **14.19** Num 27.21
* **14.20** Judg 7.22; 2 Chr 20.23
* **14.22** 1 Sam 13.6
m **14.23** Gk OL: Heb lacks *and the troops . . . Ephraim*
* **14.23** Ex 14.30; 1 Sam 13.5; Ps 44.6, 7
n **14.24** Gk: Heb *The Israelites were distressed that day*
* **14.24** Josh 6.26
o **14.25** Heb *land*
* **14.27** 1 Sam 30.12
* **14.29** 1 Kings 18.18
* **14.32** Lev 17.10–14; 1 Sam 15.19
p **14.33** Gk: Heb *me this day*
* **14.35** 1 Sam 7.17
* **14.37** 1 Sam 10.22; 28.6

* **14.38** Josh 7.14; 1 Sam 10.19
* **14.39** 2 Sam 12.5

q **14.41** Gk OL: Heb *41 Saul said to the LORD, the God of Israel*
* **14.41** Prov 16.33; Acts 1.24
* **14.43** v 23; Josh 7.19
* **14.44** v 39; Ruth 1.17
* **14.45** 2 Sam 14.11; 1 Kings 1.52; Acts 27.34
* **14.47** v 52; 1 Sam 11.1–13; 2 Sam 10.6
* **14.48** 1 Sam 15.3, 7
* **14.49** 1 Sam 18.17–20; 31.2; 1 Chr 8.33
* **14.50** 2 Sam 2.8
* **14.51** 1 Sam 9.1
* **14.52** 1 Sam 8.11

1 Samuel 15

* **15.1** 1 Sam 9.16
* **15.2** Ex 17.8–14; Num 24.20; Deut 25.17–19
* **15.3** Num 24.20; Deut 20.16–18; 1 Sam 22.19
* **15.6** Ex 18.10, 19; Num 10.29–32; Judg 1.16; 4.11
* **15.7** Gen 16.7; 25.17, 18; Ex 15.22; 1 Sam 14.48
* **15.8** 1 Sam 30.1; 1 Kings 20.34ff

r **15.9** Cn: Heb *the second ones*
* **15.9** vv 3, 15
* **15.11** Gen 6.6, 7; 1 Sam 16.1; 2 Sam 24.16; 1 Kings 9.6, 7
* **15.12** Josh 15.55
* **15.13** Gen 14.19; Judg 17.2
* **15.15** vv 9, 21; Gen 3.12
* **15.17** 1 Sam 9.21
* **15.18** v 3
* **15.19** 1 Sam 14.32
* **15.20** v 13
* **15.21** v 15
* **15.22** Isa 1.11–13; Hos 6.6; Mic 6.6–8; Mk 12.22; Heb 10.6–9
* **15.23** 1 Sam 13.14
* **15.24** 2 Sam 12.13; Prov 29.25; Isa 51.12, 13
* **15.26** 1 Sam 13.14
* **15.27** 1 Kings 11.30, 31
* **15.28** 1 Sam 28.17
* **15.29** Num 23.19; 1 Chr 29.11; Ezek 24.14

s **15.30** Heb *he*

* **15.30** Isa 29.13; Jn 12.43
t **15.32** Cn Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
u **15.32** Gk Syr OL: Heb *Surely the bitterness of death is past*
* **15.33** Gen 9.6; Judg 1.7
* **15.34** 1 Sam 7.17; 11.4
* **15.35** 1 Sam 16.1; 19.24

1 Samuel 16

* **16.1** 1 Sam 9.16; 15.23, 35; 2 Kings 9.1; Ps 78.70; Acts 13.22
* **16.2** 1 Sam 20.29
* **16.3** Ex 4.15; 1 Sam 9.16
* **16.4** 1 Kings 2.13; 2 Kings 9.22; Lk 2.4
* **16.5** Ex 19.10
* **16.6** 1 Sam 7.13
* **16.7** 1 Kings 8.39; 1 Chr 28.9; Isa 55.8
* **16.8** 1 Sam 17.13
* **16.9** 1 Sam 17.13
* **16.11** 1 Sam 17.12
* **16.12** 1 Sam 9.17; 17.42
* **16.13** 1 Sam 10.1, 6, 9, 10
* **16.14** Judg 16.20; 1 Sam 18.10
* **16.16** v 23; 1 Sam 18.10; 19.9; 2 Kings 3.15
* **16.18** 1 Sam 3.19; 17.32–36
* **16.20** 1 Sam 10.27; Prov 18.16
v **16.21** Heb *He*
* **16.21** Gen 41.46; Prov 22.29
* **16.23** vv 14–16

1 Samuel 17

* **17.1** 1 Sam 13.5; 2 Chr 28.18
* **17.2** 1 Sam 21.9
w **17.4** Q ms Gk: MT *six*
* **17.4** Josh 11.21; 2 Sam 21.19
* **17.6** v 45
* **17.7** v 41; 2 Sam 21.19
x **17.8** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **17.8** 1 Sam 8.17
* **17.10** vv 26, 36, 45
y **17.12** Gk Syr: Heb *among men*
* **17.12** Gen 35.19; Ruth 4.22; 1 Sam 16.10, 11, 18; 1 Chr 2.13–15

* **17.13** 1 Sam 16.6, 8, 9
* **17.15** 1 Sam 16.19
* **17.18** Gen 37.14
* **17.23** vv 8–11
* **17.25** Josh 15.16
* **17.26** v 10; Deut 5.6; 1 Sam 11.2; 14.6
* **17.27** v 25
* **17.28** Gen 37.4ff
* **17.29** v 17
* **17.30** vv 26, 27
* **17.32** Deut 20.1–4; 1 Sam 16.18
* **17.37** 1 Sam 20.13; 1 Chr 22.11, 16; 2 Tim 4.17
* **17.42** 1 Sam 16.12; Ps 123.3, 4; Prov 16.18
* **17.43** 1 Sam 24.14; 2 Sam 3.8
* **17.44** 1 Kings 20.10
* **17.45** 2 Chr 32.8; Ps 124.8; Heb 11.34
* **17.46** 1 Kings 18.36; 2 Kings 19.19; Isa 52.10
* **17.47** 1 Sam 14.6; 2 Chr 14.11; Ps 44.6, 7
* **17.51** 1 Sam 21.9; Heb 11.34
z **17.52** Gk Syr: Heb *a valley*
* **17.52** Josh 15.36
* **17.55** 1 Sam 16.21, 22
* **17.57** v 54
* **17.58** v 12

1 Samuel 18

a **18.1** Heb *he*
* **18.1** Gen 44.30; Deut 13.6; 1 Sam 20.17; 2 Sam 1.26
* **18.2** 1 Sam 17.15
b **18.6** Or *triangles* or *three-stringed instruments*
* **18.6** Ex 15.20; Judg 11.34; Ps 68.25
* **18.7** Ex 15.21; 1 Sam 21.11
* **18.8** 1 Sam 15.8
* **18.10** 1 Sam 16.14, 23; 19.9, 23, 24
* **18.11** 1 Sam 19.10; 20.33
* **18.12** vv 15, 29; 1 Sam 14.18; 16.13
* **18.13** v 16; 2 Sam 5.2
* **18.14** Gen 39.2, 3, 23; 1 Sam 16.18
* **18.16** v 5
* **18.17** vv 21, 25; 1 Sam 17.25; 25.28
* **18.18** v 23; 1 Sam 9.21; 2 Sam 7.18

* **18.19** Judg 7.22; 2 Sam 21.8
* **18.20** v 28
c **18.21** Heb *by two*
* **18.21** vv 17, 26
* **18.25** v 17; Ex 22.17; 1 Sam 14.24
* **18.26** v 21
d **18.27** Gk: Heb *two hundred*
* **18.27** v 13; 2 Sam 3.14
* **18.30** v 5

1 Samuel 19

* **19.1** 1 Sam 18.1–3, 8, 9
* **19.3** 1 Sam 20.9, 13
* **19.4** Gen 42.22; 1 Sam 20.32
* **19.5** 1 Sam 11.13; 17.49, 50; 20.32
* **19.7** 1 Sam 16.21; 18.2, 13
* **19.9** 1 Sam 16.14; 18.10, 11
* **19.10** 1 Sam 18.11
* **19.12** Josh 2.15; Acts 9.24, 25
e **19.13** Heb *the teraphim*
f **19.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **19.14** Josh 2.5
g **19.16** Heb *the teraphim*
h **19.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **19.18** 1 Sam 7.17
i **19.20** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **19.20** vv 11, 14; Num 11.25; 1 Sam 10.5, 6
* **19.23** 1 Sam 10.10–12; Isa 20.2

1 Samuel 20

* **20.1** 1 Sam 24.9
* **20.5** Num 10.10; 28.11; 1 Sam 19.2
* **20.6** Deut 12.5; 1 Sam 17.58
j **20.8** Heb *a covenant of the* LORD
* **20.8** 1 Sam 18.3; 23.18; 2 Sam 14.32
* **20.13** Ruth 1.17; 1 Sam 3.17; 17.37
k **20.14** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **20.15** 2 Sam 9.1
* **20.17** 1 Sam 18.1
* **20.18** vv 5, 25

l **20.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **20.19** 1 Sam 19.2
* **20.22** v 37
* **20.23** vv 14, 15; Gen 31.49, 53
* **20.25** v 18
* **20.26** Lev 7.20, 21; 1 Sam 16.5
* **20.28** v 6
m **20.30** Cn Compare Q ms Gk: Meaning of MT uncertain
* **20.30** Deut 21.20
* **20.32** 1 Sam 19.5; Mt 27.23; Lk 23.22
* **20.33** v 7
n **20.34** Q ms Gk: MT *rose*
* **20.36** vv 20, 21
* **20.37** v 22
o **20.41** Gk: Heb *from beside the south*
p **20.41** Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
q **20.42** This sentence is 21.1 in Heb
* **20.42** v 22; 1 Sam 1.17

1 Samuel 21

r **21.1** 21.2 in Heb
* **21.1** 1 Sam 14.3; 16.4; 22.19
s **21.2** Q ms Vg: Meaning of MT uncertain
* **21.4** Lev 24.5–9; Mt 12.4
* **21.5** Ex 19.14, 15
* **21.6** Lev 24.8, 9; Mt 12.3, 4; Mk 2.25, 26
* **21.7** 1 Sam 22.9
* **21.9** 1 Sam 17.2, 51
* **21.11** 1 Sam 18.7; 29.5
* **21.12** 1 Sam 2.19
t **21.13** Heb *in their hands*

1 Samuel 22

* **22.1** 2 Sam 23.13
* **22.2** 1 Sam 23.13; 25.13
* **22.5** 2 Sam 24.11; 1 Chr 29.29; 2 Chr 29.25
* **22.7** 1 Sam 8.14
* **22.8** 1 Sam 18.3; 20.16
* **22.9** 1 Sam 14.3; 21.1
* **22.10** 1 Sam 10.22; 21.6, 9

u **22.14** Heb *and turns aside*
* **22.14** 1 Sam 19.4, 5
* **22.17** Ex 1.17
* **22.18** 1 Sam 2.18, 31
* **22.20** 1 Sam 2.33; 23.6, 9
v **22.22** Gk Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.22** 1 Sam 21.7
* **22.23** 1 Kings 2.26

1 Samuel 23

* **23.1** Josh 15.44
* **23.2** vv 4, 6, 9; 2 Sam 5.19, 23
* **23.4** Josh 8.7; Judg 7.7
* **23.6** 1 Sam 22.20
w **23.7** Gk Tg: Heb *made a stranger of*
* **23.9** v 6; 1 Sam 30.7
x **23.11** Q ms Compare Gk: MT *Will the men of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will*
* **23.12** v 20
* **23.13** 1 Sam 22.2; 25.13
y **23.14** Q ms Gk: MT *God*
* **23.14** Josh 15.15; Ps 54.3, 4
z **23.15** Or *saw that*
a **23.16** Gk Compare Q ms: MT *God*
* **23.16** 1 Sam 30.6
* **23.17** 1 Sam 20.31; 24.20
* **23.18** 1 Sam 18.3; 20.16, 42; 2 Sam 9.1; 21.7
* **23.19** 1 Sam 26.1
* **23.20** v 12
* **23.21** 1 Sam 22.8
* **23.24** Josh 15.55; 1 Sam 25.2
* **23.26** Ps 17.9
b **23.28** Or *Rock of Division*; meaning of Heb uncertain
c **23.29** 24.1 in Heb
* **23.29** 2 Chr 20.2

1 Samuel 24

* **24.1** 1 Sam 23.28, 29
* **24.2** 1 Sam 26.2
d **24.3** Heb *to cover his feet*
* **24.3** Judg 3.24

* **24.4** 1 Sam 23.17; 25.28–30
* **24.5** 2 Sam 24.10
* **24.6** 1 Sam 26.11
* **24.8** 1 Sam 25.23, 24
e **24.10** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *it* (my eye) *spared*
* **24.11** 1 Sam 23.14, 23; 26.20; Ps 7.3; 35.7
* **24.12** Gen 31.53; Judg 11.27; 1 Sam 26.10; Job 5.8
* **24.13** Mt 7.16–20
* **24.14** 1 Sam 17.43; 26.20
* **24.15** v 12; Ps 35.1; Mic 7.9
* **24.16** 1 Sam 26.17
* **24.17** 1 Sam 26.21; Mt 5.44
* **24.18** 1 Sam 26.23
* **24.20** 1 Sam 23.17
* **24.21** Gen 21.23; 2 Sam 21.6–8
* **24.22** 1 Sam 23.29

1 Samuel 25

* **25.1** Gen 21.21; Deut 34.8; 1 Sam 28.3; 2 Chr 33.20
* **25.2** Josh 15.55; 1 Sam 23.24
* **25.6** 1 Chr 12.18
* **25.7** vv 15, 21; 2 Sam 13.23, 24
* **25.8** Neh 8.10–12
* **25.10** Judg 9.28
* **25.13** 1 Sam 23.13; 30.24
* **25.15** v 7
* **25.16** Ex 14.22
* **25.18** 2 Sam 16.1; 1 Chr 12.40
* **25.19** Gen 32.16, 20
* **25.21** Ps 109.5
f **25.22** Gk Compare Syr: Heb *the enemies of David*
* **25.22** 1 Sam 3.17; 20.13; 1 Kings 14.10
* **25.23** Josh 15.18
* **25.24** 2 Sam 14.9
g **25.25** That is, *fool*
* **25.25** Deut 13.13
* **25.26** 1 Sam 20.3
* **25.28** 1 Sam 2.35; 18.27
* **25.32** v 39; Gen 24.27
* **25.35** Gen 19.21; 1 Sam 20.42; 2 Kings 5.19
* **25.36** 2 Sam 13.23

* **25.39** vv 26, 34; 1 Sam 24.15; 1 Kings 2.44
* **25.41** Ruth 2.10, 13; Mk 1.7
* **25.42** Gen 24.61–67
* **25.43** Josh 15.56; 1 Sam 27.3
* **25.44** 2 Sam 3.14; Isa 10.30

1 Samuel 26

h **26.1** Or *opposite the wasteland*
* **26.1** 1 Sam 23.19
* **26.2** 1 Sam 13.2; 24.2
i **26.3** Or *opposite the wasteland*
* **26.5** 1 Sam 14.50; 17.55
* **26.6** Judg 7.10, 11; 1 Chr 2.16
* **26.9** 1 Sam 24.6, 7; 2 Sam 1.16
* **26.10** Deut 31.14; 1 Sam 25.38; 31.6
* **26.11** 1 Sam 24.6, 12
* **26.12** Gen 2.21; 15.12
* **26.17** 1 Sam 24.16
* **26.18** 1 Sam 24.9, 11–14
* **26.19** 2 Sam 16.11
* **26.20** 1 Sam 24.14
* **26.21** 1 Sam 15.24; 24.17
* **26.22** 1 Sam 24.12, 19
* **26.24** Ps 54.7

1 Samuel 27

* **27.2** 1 Sam 21.10; 25.13
* **27.3** 1 Sam 25.42, 43; 30.3
* **27.6** Josh 15.31; 19.5
* **27.7** 1 Sam 29.3
j **27.8** Compare Gk 15.4: Heb *from of old*
* **27.8** Ex 15.22; 17.8; Josh 13.2, 13
* **27.9** 1 Sam 15.3
k **27.10** Q ms Gk Vg: MT lacks *whom*
* **27.10** Judg 1.16; 1 Chr 2.9, 25

1 Samuel 28

* **28.1** 1 Sam 29.1
* **28.3** Lev 19.31; Deut 18.10, 11; 1 Sam 7.17; 15.23; 25.1
* **28.4** 1 Sam 31.1; 2 Kings 4.8

* **28.6** Ex 28.30; 1 Chr 10.13, 14; Prov 1.28
* **28.7** Josh 17.11; Acts 16.16
* **28.8** Deut 18.10, 11; Isa 8.19
* **28.9** v 3
l **28.13** Or *a god* or *gods*
* **28.14** 1 Sam 15.27; 24.8
* **28.15** v 6; 1 Sam 18.12
* **28.17** 1 Sam 15.28
* **28.18** 1 Sam 15.9; 20.26
* **28.19** 1 Sam 31.2
* **28.21** 1 Sam 19.5
* **28.23** 2 Kings 5.13

1 Samuel 29

* **29.1** Josh 12.18; 1 Sam 4.1; 28.1
* **29.2** 1 Sam 28.1, 2
* **29.3** 1 Sam 27.7; Dan 6.5
* **29.4** 1 Sam 14.21; 1 Chr 12.19
* **29.5** 1 Sam 18.7; 21.11
* **29.6** v 3
* **29.9** v 4; 2 Sam 14.17, 20; 19.27
m **29.10** Gk: Heb lacks *and go to the place . . . done well before me*
* **29.10** 1 Chr 12.19, 22

1 Samuel 30

* **30.1** 1 Sam 15.7; 27.8; 29.4, 11
n **30.2** Gk: Heb lacks *and all*
* **30.5** 1 Sam 25.42, 43
* **30.6** Ex 17.4; Ps 27.14; 56.3, 4, 11
* **30.7** 1 Sam 23.9
* **30.8** v 18; 1 Sam 23.2, 4
* **30.9** 1 Sam 27.2
* **30.10** vv 9, 21
* **30.12** Judg 15.19
* **30.14** vv 1, 16; Josh 14.13; 2 Sam 8.18; Ezek 25.16
* **30.16** v 14
* **30.17** 1 Sam 15.3
* **30.19** v 8
* **30.20** vv 26–31
* **30.21** v 10

* **30.24** Num 31.27; Josh 22.8
* **30.27** Josh 15.30, 48; 19.8
* **30.28** Josh 13.16; 15.50
* **30.29** 1 Sam 15.16; 27.10
* **30.30** Judg 1.17
* **30.31** Josh 14.13

1 Samuel 31

o **31.1** Heb *and they fell slain*
* **31.1** 1 Sam 28.4; 1 Chr 10.1–12
* **31.3** 2 Sam 1.6
* **31.4** Judg 9.54; 2 Sam 1.6, 10
* **31.9** 2 Sam 1.20
p **31.10** Heb plural
* **31.10** Josh 17.11; Judg 2.13; 1 Sam 7.3; 2 Sam 21.12
* **31.11** 1 Sam 11.3, 9, 11
* **31.12** 2 Sam 2.4–7; 2 Chr 16.14
* **31.13** 1 Sam 22.6; 2 Sam 1.12; 21.12–14

2 Samuel

2 Samuel 1

DAVID MOURNS FOR SAUL AND JONATHAN

1 After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the
Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag.* [2]On the third day, a man
came from Saul's camp with his clothes torn and dirt on his head. When he
came to David, he fell to the ground and did obeisance.* [3]David said to him,
"Where have you come from?" He said to him, "I have escaped from the
camp of Israel." [4]David said to him, "How did things go? Tell me!" He
answered, "The army fled from the battle, but also many of the army fell
and died, and Saul and his son Jonathan also died." [5]Then David asked the
young man who was reporting to him, "How do you know that Saul and his
son Jonathan died?" [6]The young man reporting to him said, "I happened to
be on Mount Gilboa, and there was Saul leaning on his spear, while the
chariots and the horsemen drew close to him.* [7]When he looked behind
him, he saw me and called to me. I answered, 'Here, sir.' [8]And he said to
me, 'Who are you?' I answered him, 'I am an Amalekite.'* [9]He said to me,
'Come, stand over me and kill me, for convulsions have seized me, and yet
my life still lingers.' [10]So I stood over him and killed him, for I knew that
he could not live after he had fallen. I took the crown that was on his head
and the armlet that was on his arm, and I have brought them here to my
lord."*

11 Then David took hold of his clothes and tore them, and all the men
who were with him did the same.* [12]They mourned and wept and fasted
until evening for Saul and for his son Jonathan and for the army of the LORD
and for the house of Israel, because they had been struck down[a] by the
sword.* [13]David said to the young man who had reported to him, "Where do
you come from?" He answered, "I am the son of a resident alien, an
Amalekite."* [14]David said to him, "Were you not afraid to lift your hand to
destroy the LORD's anointed?"* [15]Then David called one of the young men
and said, "Come here and strike him down." So he struck him down, and he

died.* 16David said to him, “Your blood be on your head, for your own mouth has testified against you, saying, ‘I have killed the LORD’s anointed.’ ”*

17 David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan.* 18(He ordered that The Song of the Bow[b] be taught to the people of Judah; it is written in the Book of Jashar.) He said,*

19“Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places!
How the mighty have fallen!*
20Tell it not in Gath;
proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon,
or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice;
the daughters of the uncircumcised will exult.*

21You mountains of Gilboa,
let there be no dew or rain upon you
nor bounteous fields![c]
For there the shield of the mighty was defiled,
the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more.*

22From the blood of the slain,
from the fat of the mighty,
the bow of Jonathan did not turn back,
nor the sword of Saul return empty.*

23Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely!
In life and in death they were not divided;
they were swifter than eagles;
they were stronger than lions.*

24O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
who clothed you with crimson, in luxury,
who put ornaments of gold on your apparel.

[25]How the mighty have fallen
in the midst of the battle!

Jonathan lies slain upon your high places.*
[26]I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan;
greatly beloved were you to me;
your love to me was wonderful,
passing the love of women.*

[27]How the mighty have fallen,
and the weapons of war perished!”*

2 Samuel 2

DAVID ANOINTED KING OF JUDAH

1 After this David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I go up into any of the cities
of Judah?" The LORD said to him, "Go up." David said, "To which shall I go
up?" He said, "To Hebron."* [2]So David went up there, along with his two
wives, Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail the widow of Nabal of Carmel.*
[3]David brought up the men who were with him, every one with his
household, and they settled in the towns of Hebron.* [4]Then the people of
Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

When they told David, "It was the people of Jabesh-gilead who buried
Saul,"* [5]David sent messengers to the people of Jabesh-gilead and said to
them, "May you be blessed by the LORD, because you showed this loyalty to
Saul your lord and buried him!* [6]Now may the LORD show steadfast love
and faithfulness to you! And I, too, will reward you because you have done
this thing. [7]Therefore let your hands be strong and be valiant, for Saul your
lord is dead, and the house of Judah has anointed me king over them."

ISHBAAL KING OF ISRAEL

8 But Abner son of Ner, commander of Saul's army, had taken Ishbaal[d]
son of Saul and brought him over to Mahanaim. [9]He made him king over
Gilead, the Ashurites, Jezreel, Ephraim, Benjamin, and all Israel.*
[10]Ishbaal,[e] Saul's son, was forty years old when he began to reign over
Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David.
[11]The time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was
seven years and six months.*

THE BATTLE OF GIBEON

12 Abner son of Ner and the servants of Ishbaal[f] son of Saul went out
from Mahanaim to Gibeon.* [13]Joab son of Zeruiah and the servants of
David went out and met them at the pool of Gibeon. One group sat on one
side of the pool, while the other sat on the other side of the pool.* [14]Abner

said to Joab, “Let the young men come forward and have a contest before us.” Joab said, “Let them come forward.” 15So they came forward and were counted as they passed by, twelve for Benjamin and Ishbaal[g] son of Saul and twelve of the servants of David. 16Each grasped his opponent by the head and thrust his sword in his opponent’s side, so they fell down together. Therefore that place was called Helkath-hazzurim,[h] which is at Gibeon. 17The battle was very fierce that day, and Abner and the men of Israel were beaten by the servants of David.*

18 The three sons of Zeruiah were there, Joab, Abishai, and Asahel. Now Asahel was as swift of foot as a wild gazelle.* 19Asahel pursued Abner, turning neither to the right nor to the left as he followed him. 20Then Abner looked back and said, “Is it you, Asahel?” He answered, “Yes, it is.” 21Abner said to him, “Turn to your right or to your left, and seize one of the young men, and take his spoil.” But Asahel would not turn away from following him. 22Abner said again to Asahel, “Turn away from following me; why should I strike you to the ground? How then could I show my face to your brother Joab?”* 23But he refused to turn away. So Abner struck him in the stomach with the butt of his spear, so that the spear came out at his back. He fell there and died where he lay. And all those who came to the place where Asahel had fallen and died stood still.*

24 But Joab and Abishai pursued Abner. As the sun was going down they came to the hill of Ammah, which lies before Giah on the way to the wilderness of Gibeon.* 25The Benjaminites rallied around Abner and formed a single band; they took their stand on the top of a hill. 26Then Abner called to Joab, “Is the sword to keep devouring forever? Do you not know that the end will be bitter? How long will it be before you order your people to turn from the pursuit of their kinsmen?” 27Joab said, “As God lives, if you had not spoken, the people would have continued to pursue their kinsmen, not stopping until morning.”* 28Joab sounded the trumpet, and all the people stopped; they no longer pursued Israel or engaged in battle any further.

29 Abner and his men traveled all that night through the Arabah; they crossed the Jordan, and, marching the whole forenoon,[i] they came to Mahanaim.* 30Joab returned from the pursuit of Abner, and when he had gathered all the people together, there were missing of David’s servants

nineteen men besides Asahel. [31]But the servants of David had killed of Benjamin three hundred sixty of Abner's men. [32]They took up Asahel and buried him in the tomb of his father, which was at Bethlehem. Joab and his men marched all night, and the day broke upon them at Hebron.

2 Samuel 3

ABNER DEFECTS TO DAVID

1 There was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David;
David grew stronger and stronger, while the house of Saul became weaker
and weaker.

2 Sons were born to David at Hebron: his firstborn was Amnon, of
Ahinoam of Jezreel;* [3]his second was Chileab, of Abigail the widow of
Nabal of Carmel; the third was Absalom son of Maacah, daughter of King
Talmai of Geshur;* [4]the fourth was Adonijah son of Haggith; the fifth was
Shephatiah son of Abital;* [5]and the sixth was Ithream, of David's wife
Eglah. These were born to David in Hebron.

6 While there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David,
Abner was making himself strong in the house of Saul. [7]Now Saul had a
concubine whose name was Rizpah daughter of Aiah. And Ishbaal[j] said to
Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?"* [8]The words of
Ishbaal[k] made Abner very angry; he said, "Am I a dog's head for Judah?
Today I keep showing loyalty to the house of your father Saul, to his
brothers, and to his friends and have not given you into the hand of David,
yet you charge me now with a crime concerning this woman.* [9]So may God
do to Abner and so may he add to it! For just what the LORD has sworn to
David, that will I accomplish for him:* [10]to transfer the kingdom from the
house of Saul and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah,
from Dan to Beer-sheba."* [11]And Ishbaal[l] could not answer Abner another
word because he feared him.

12 Abner sent messengers to David where he was,[m] saying, "To whom
does the land belong? Make your covenant with me, and I will give you my
support to bring all Israel over to you." [13]He said, "Good; I will make a
covenant with you. But one thing I require of you: you shall never appear in
my presence unless you bring Saul's daughter Michal when you come to
see me."* [14]Then David sent messengers to Saul's son Ishbaal,[n] saying,
"Give me my wife Michal, to whom I became engaged at the price of one
hundred foreskins of the Philistines."* [15]Ishbaal[o] sent and took her from her

husband Paltiel the son of Laish.* 16But her husband went with her, weeping as he walked behind her all the way to Bahurim. Then Abner said to him, "Go back home!" So he went back.*

17 Abner sent word to the elders of Israel, saying, "For some time past you have been seeking David as king over you. 18Now then bring it about, for the LORD has promised David: Through my servant David I will save my people Israel from the hand of the Philistines and from all their enemies."* 19Abner also spoke directly to the Benjaminites; then Abner went to tell David at Hebron all that Israel and the whole house of Benjamin were ready to do.*

20 When Abner came with twenty men to David at Hebron, David made a feast for Abner and the men who were with him. 21Abner said to David, "Let me go and rally all Israel to my lord the king, in order that they may make a covenant with you and that you may reign over all that your heart desires." So David dismissed Abner, and he went away in peace.*

ABNER IS KILLED BY JOAB

22 Just then the servants of David arrived with Joab from a raid, bringing much spoil with them. But Abner was not with David at Hebron, for David[p] had dismissed him, and he had gone away in peace.* 23When Joab and all the army that was with him came, it was told to Joab, "Abner son of Ner came to the king, and he has dismissed him, and he has gone away in peace." 24Then Joab went to the king and said, "What have you done? Abner came to you; why did you dismiss him, so that he got away? 25You know that Abner son of Ner came to deceive you and to learn your comings and goings and to learn all that you are doing."*

26 When Joab came out from David's presence, he sent messengers after Abner, and they brought him back from the cistern of Sirah, but David did not know about it. 27When Abner returned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gateway to speak with him privately, and there he stabbed him in the stomach. So he died on account of the blood of Asahel, Joab's[q] brother.* 28Afterward, when David heard of it, he said, "I and my kingdom are forever guiltless before the LORD for the blood of Abner son of Ner. 29May the bloodguilt fall on the head of Joab and on all his father's house, and

may the house of Joab never be without one who has a discharge, or who has a defiling skin disease, or who holds a spindle, or who falls by the sword, or who lacks food!”* 30So Joab and his brother Abishai murdered Abner because he had killed their brother Asahel in the battle at Gibeon.*

31 Then David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, “Tear your clothes, put on sackcloth, and mourn over Abner.” And King David followed the bier.* 32They buried Abner at Hebron. The king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner, and all the people wept. 33The king lamented for Abner, saying,

“Should Abner die as a fool dies?*
34Your hands were not bound;
your feet were not fettered;
as one falls before the wicked
you have fallen.”

And all the people wept over him again. 35Then all the people came to persuade David to eat something while it was still day, but David swore, saying, “So may God do to me and more, if I taste bread or anything else before the sun goes down!”* 36All the people took notice of it, and it pleased them, just as everything the king did pleased all the people. 37So all the people and all Israel understood that day that the king had no part in the killing of Abner son of Ner. 38And the king said to his servants, “Do you not know that a prince and a great man has fallen this day in Israel? 39Today I am powerless, even though anointed king; these men, the sons of Zeruiah, are too violent for me. The LORD pay back the one who does wickedly in accordance with his wickedness!”*

2 Samuel 4

ISHBAAL ASSASSINATED

1 When Saul's son Ishbaal[r] heard that Abner had died at Hebron, his
courage failed, and all Israel was dismayed.* [2]Saul's son had two captains
of raiding bands; the name of the one was Baanah, and the name of the
other was Rechab. They were sons of Rimmon, a Benjaminite from
Beeroth, for Beeroth is considered to belong to Benjamin.* [3](Now the
people of Beeroth had fled to Gittaim and are there as resident aliens to this
day.)*

4 Saul's son Jonathan had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five
years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel. His
nurse picked him up and fled, and in her haste to flee it happened that he fell
and became lame. His name was Mephibosheth.*

5 Now the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, set out,
and about the heat of the day they came to the house of Ishbaal[s] while he
was taking his noonday rest.* [6]They came inside the house as though to take
wheat,[t] and they struck him in the stomach; then Rechab and his brother
Baanah escaped.* [7]Now they had come into the house while he was lying
on his couch in his bedchamber; they attacked him, killed him, and
beheaded him. Then they took his head and traveled by way of the Arabah
all night long. [8]They brought the head of Ishbaal[u] to David at Hebron and
said to the king, "Here is the head of Ishbaal[v] son of Saul, your enemy who
sought your life; the LORD has avenged my lord the king this day on Saul
and on his offspring."*

9 David answered Rechab and his brother Baanah, the sons of Rimmon
the Beerothite, "As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my life out of every
adversity,* [10]when the one who told me, 'See, Saul is dead,' thought he was
bringing good news, I seized him and killed him at Ziklag—this was the
reward I gave him for his news.* [11]How much more, then, when wicked
men have killed a righteous man on his bed in his own house! And now
shall I not require his blood at your hand and destroy you from the earth?"*
[12]So David commanded the young men, and they killed them; they cut off

their hands and feet and hung their bodies beside the pool at Hebron. But the head of Ishbaal[w] they took and buried in the tomb of Abner at Hebron.[*]

2 Samuel 5

DAVID ANOINTED KING OF ALL ISRAEL

1 Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "Look, we
are your bone and flesh.* [2]For some time, while Saul was king over us, it
was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you, 'It is
you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over
Israel.' "* [3]So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King
David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they
anointed David king over Israel.* [4]David was thirty years old when he
began to reign, and he reigned forty years.* [5]At Hebron he reigned over
Judah seven years and six months, and at Jerusalem he reigned over all
Israel and Judah thirty-three years.*

JERUSALEM MADE CAPITAL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

6 The king and his men marched to Jerusalem against the Jebusites, the
inhabitants of the land, who said to David, "You will not come in here; even
the blind and the lame will turn you back," thinking, "David cannot come in
here."* [7]Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, which is now the
city of David. [8]David had said on that day, "Whoever would strike down
the Jebusites, let him get up the water shaft to attack the lame and the blind,
those whom David hates."[x] Therefore it is said, "The blind and the lame
shall not come into the house."* [9]David occupied the stronghold and named
it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward.*
[10]And David became greater and greater, for the LORD of hosts[y] was with
him.*

11 King Hiram of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar trees
and carpenters and masons who built David a house.* [12]David then
perceived that the LORD had established him king over Israel and that he had
exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

13 In Jerusalem, after he came from Hebron, David took more
concubines and wives, and more sons and daughters were born to David.*

14 These are the names of those who were born to him in Jerusalem:
Shammua, Shobab, Nathan, Solomon,* 15 Ibhar, Elishua, Nepheg, Japhia,
16 Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet.

PHILISTINE ATTACK REPULSED

17 When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over
Israel, all the Philistines went up in search of David, but David heard about
it and went down to the stronghold.* 18 Now the Philistines had come and
spread out in the valley of Rephaim.* 19 David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I
go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" The LORD
said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your
hand."* 20 So David came to Baal-perazim, and David defeated them there.
He said, "The LORD has burst forth against my enemies before me like a
bursting flood." Therefore that place is called Baal-perazim.z,* 21 The
Philistines abandoned their idols there, and David and his men carried them
away.*

22 Once again the Philistines came up and were spread out in the valley
of Rephaim.* 23 When David inquired of the LORD, he said, "You shall not
go up; go around to their rear and come upon them opposite the balsam
trees.* 24 When you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam
trees, then be on the alert, for then the LORD has gone out before you to
strike down the army of the Philistines."* 25 David did just as the LORD had
commanded him, and he struck down the Philistines from Geba all the way
to Gezer.*

2 Samuel 6

DAVID BRINGS THE ARK TO JERUSALEM

1 David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. [2]David
and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah to bring up
from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts
who is enthroned on the cherubim.* [3]They carried the ark of God on a new
cart and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill.
Uzzah and Ahio,[a] the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart* [4]with
the ark of God,[b] and Ahio[c] went in front of the ark.* [5]David and all the
house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with
songs[d] and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.*

6 When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out his
hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen lurched.* [7]The anger
of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him there,[e] and he
died there beside the ark of God.* [8]David was angry because the LORD had
burst forth with an outburst upon Uzzah, so that place is called Perez-uzzah[f]
to this day. [9]David was afraid of the LORD that day; he said, "How can the
ark of the LORD come into my care?" [10]So David was unwilling to take the
ark of the LORD into his care in the city of David; instead, David took it to
the house of Obed-edom the Gittite.* [11]The ark of the LORD remained in the
house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months, and the LORD blessed Obed-
edom and all his household.*

12 It was told King David, "The LORD has blessed the household of
Obed-edom and all that belongs to him because of the ark of God." So
David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to
the city of David with rejoicing,* [13]and when those who bore the ark of the
LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatted calf. [14]David
danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen
ephod.* [15]So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the
LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.*

16 As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal daughter
of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing

before the LORD, and she despised him in her heart.*

17 They brought in the ark of the LORD and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD.* [18]When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts* [19]and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat,[g] and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

20 David returned to bless his household. But Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David and said, "How the king of Israel honored himself today, uncovering himself today before the eyes of his servants' maids, as any vulgar fellow might shamelessly uncover himself!"* [21]David said to Michal, "It was before the LORD, who chose me in place of your father and all his household, to appoint me as prince over Israel, the people of the LORD—I will dance before the LORD.* [22]I will make myself yet more contemptible than this, and I will be humbled in my own eyes, but by the maids of whom you have spoken, by them I shall be held in honor." [23]And Michal the daughter of Saul had no child to the day of her death.

2 Samuel 7

GOD'S COVENANT WITH DAVID

1 Now when the king was settled in his house and the LORD had given him
rest from all his enemies around him,* 2the king said to the prophet Nathan,
"See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a
tent."* 3Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind, for the
LORD is with you."*

4 But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, 5"Go and tell
my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house
to live in? 6I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people
of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and
a tabernacle. 7Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel,
did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders[h] of Israel, whom I
commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built
me a house of cedar?'* 8Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant
David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from
following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel,* 9and I have been
with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before
you, and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones
of the earth.* 10And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will
plant them, so that they may live in their own place and be disturbed no
more, and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly,* 11from the time
that I appointed judges over my people Israel, and I will give you rest from
all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will
make you a house.* 12When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with
your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come
forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.* 13He shall build a
house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.*
14I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits
iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows
inflicted by human beings.* 15But I will not take[i] my steadfast love from
him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.* 16Your

house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me;[j] your throne shall be established forever.”* 17In accordance with all these words and with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

DAVID’S PRAYER

18 Then King David went in and sat before the LORD and said, “Who am I, O Lord GOD, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?* 19And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O Lord GOD; you have spoken also of your servant’s house into the distant future. May this be instruction for the people,[k] O Lord GOD! 20And what more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Lord GOD!* 21Because of your promise and according to your own heart, you have wrought all this greatness so that your servant may know it. 22Therefore you are great, O LORD God, for there is no one like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears.* 23Who is like your people, like Israel? Is there another[l] nation on earth whose God went to redeem it as a people and to make a name for himself, doing[m] great and awesome things, driving out[n] nations and their gods before your people, whom you redeemed for yourself from Egypt?* 24And you established your people Israel for yourself to be your people forever, and you, O LORD, became their God.* 25And now, O LORD God, as for the word that you have spoken concerning your servant and concerning his house, confirm it forever; do as you have promised. 26Thus your name will be magnified forever in the saying, ‘The LORD of hosts is God over Israel,’ and the house of your servant David will be established before you.* 27For you, O LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, have made this revelation to your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house’; therefore your servant has found courage to pray this prayer to you.* 28And now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant;* 29now, therefore, may it please you to bless the house of your servant so that it may continue forever before you, for you, O Lord GOD, have spoken, and with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever.”*

2 Samuel 8

DAVID'S WARS

1 Some time afterward, David attacked the Philistines and subdued them;
David took Metheg-ammah out of the hand of the Philistines.

2 He also defeated the Moabites and, making them lie down on the
ground, measured them off with a cord; he measured two lengths of cord for
those who were to be put to death and one length[o] for those who were to be
spared. And the Moabites became servants to David and brought tribute.*

3 David also struck down the king of Zobah, Hadadezer son of Rehob, as
he went to restore his monument at the River Euphrates.* 4David took from
him one thousand seven hundred horsemen and twenty thousand foot
soldiers. David hamstrung all the chariot horses but left enough for a
hundred chariots.* 5When the Arameans of Damascus came to help King
Hadadezer of Zobah, David killed twenty-two thousand men of the
Arameans.* 6Then David put garrisons among the Arameans of Damascus,
and the Arameans became servants to David and brought tribute. The LORD
gave victory to David wherever he went.* 7David took the gold shields that
were carried by the servants of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem.*
8From Betah and from Berothai, towns of Hadadezer, King David took a
great amount of bronze.

9 When King Toi of Hamath heard that David had defeated the whole
army of Hadadezer, 10Toi sent his son Joram to King David, to greet him
and to congratulate him because he had fought against Hadadezer and
defeated him. Now Hadadezer had often been at war with Toi. Joram
brought with him articles of silver, gold, and bronze;* 11these also King
David dedicated to the LORD, together with the silver and gold that he
dedicated from all the nations he subdued,* 12from Edom, Moab, the
Ammonites, the Philistines, Amalek, and from the spoil of the king of
Zobah, Hadadezer son of Rehob.

13 David won a name for himself. When he returned, he killed eighteen
thousand Edomites[p] in the Valley of Salt.* 14He put garrisons in Edom;

throughout all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became David's servants. And the LORD gave victory to David wherever he went.*

DAVID'S OFFICERS

15 So David reigned over all Israel, and David administered justice and equity to all his people. [16]Joab son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder;* [17]Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelech son of Abiathar were priests; Seraiah was secretary;* [18]Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over[q] the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's sons were priests.*

2 Samuel 9

DAVID'S KINDNESS TO MEPHIBOSHETH

1 David asked, "Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul to whom I
may show kindness for Jonathan's sake?"* [2]Now there was a servant of the
house of Saul whose name was Ziba, and he was summoned to David. The
king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" And he said, "At your service!"* [3]The
king said, "Is there anyone remaining of the house of Saul to whom I may
show the kindness of God?" Ziba said to the king, "There remains a son of
Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet."* [4]The king said to him, "Where is he?"
Ziba said to the king, "He is in the house of Machir son of Ammiel, at Lo-
debar."* [5]Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir
son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar. [6]Mephibosheth son of Jonathan son of Saul
came to David and fell on his face and did obeisance. David said,
"Mephibosheth!" He answered, "I am your servant."* [7]David said to him,
"Do not be afraid, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father
Jonathan; I will restore to you all the land of your grandfather Saul, and you
yourself shall eat at my table always."* [8]He did obeisance and said, "What
is your servant, that you should look upon a dead dog such as I?"*

9 Then the king summoned Saul's servant Ziba and said to him, "All that
belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's
grandson.* [10]You and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him
and shall bring in the produce, so that your master's grandson may have
food to eat, but your master's grandson Mephibosheth shall always eat at
my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.* [11]Then Ziba
said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king commands his
servant, so your servant will do." Mephibosheth ate at David's[r] table, like
one of the king's sons. [12]Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was
Mica. And all who lived in Ziba's house became Mephibosheth's servants.*
[13]Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he always ate at the king's table.
Now he was lame in both his feet.*

2 Samuel 10

THE AMMONITES AND ARAMEANS ARE DEFEATED

1 Some time afterward, the king of the Ammonites died, and his son Hanun
succeeded him.* [2]David said, "I will deal loyally with Hanun son of
Nahash, just as his father dealt loyally with me." So David sent envoys to
console him concerning his father. When David's envoys came into the land
of the Ammonites, [3]the princes of the Ammonites said to their lord Hanun,
"Do you really think that David is honoring your father just because he has
sent messengers with condolences to you? Has not David sent his envoys to
you to search the city, to spy it out, and to overthrow it?" [4]So Hanun seized
David's envoys, shaved off half the beard of each, cut off their garments in
the middle at their waists, and sent them away.* [5]When David was told, he
sent to meet them, for the men were greatly ashamed. The king said,
"Remain at Jericho until your beards have grown and then return."

6 When the Ammonites saw that they had become odious to David, the
Ammonites sent and hired the Arameans of Beth-rehob and the Arameans
of Zobah, twenty thousand foot soldiers, as well as the king of Maacah, one
thousand men, and the men of Tob, twelve thousand men.* [7]When David
heard of it, he sent Joab and all the army of the warriors. [8]The Ammonites
came out and drew up in battle array at the entrance of the gate, but the
Arameans of Zobah and of Rehob and the men of Tob and Maacah were by
themselves in the open country.*

9 When Joab saw that the battle was set against him both in front and in
the rear, he chose some of the picked men of Israel and arrayed them
against the Arameans; [10]the rest of the troops he put in the charge of his
brother Abishai, and he arrayed them against the Ammonites. [11]He said, "If
the Arameans are too strong for me, then you shall help me, but if the
Ammonites are too strong for you, then I will come and help you. [12]Be
strong, and let us be courageous for the sake of our people and for the cities
of our God, and may the LORD do what seems good to him."* [13]So Joab and
the people who were with him moved forward into battle against the
Arameans, and they fled before him.* [14]When the Ammonites saw that the

Arameans fled, they likewise fled before Abishai and entered the city. Then Joab returned from fighting against the Ammonites and came to Jerusalem.

15 But when the Arameans saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they gathered themselves together. [16]Hadadezer sent and brought out the Arameans who were beyond the River, and they came to Helam, with Shobach the commander of the army of Hadadezer at their head.* [17]When it was told David, he gathered all Israel together and crossed the Jordan and came to Helam. The Arameans arrayed themselves against David and fought with him. [18]The Arameans fled before Israel, and David killed of the Arameans seven hundred chariot teams and forty thousand horsemen and wounded Shobach the commander of their army, so that he died there.* [19]When all the kings who were servants of Hadadezer saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they made peace with Israel and became subject to them. So the Arameans were afraid to help the Ammonites any more.*

2 Samuel 11

DAVID COMMITS ADULTERY WITH BATHSHEBA

1 In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent
Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites
and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.*

2 It happened, late one afternoon when David rose from his couch and
was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the
roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful.* [3]David sent
someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba
daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite."* [4]So David sent
messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she
was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house.*
[5]The woman conceived, and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."*

6 So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab
sent Uriah to David. [7]When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and
the people fared and how the war was going. [8]Then David said to Uriah,
"Go down to your house and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's
house, and there followed him a present from the king.* [9]But Uriah slept at
the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord and did not
go down to his house. [10]When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to
his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why
did you not go down to your house?" [11]Uriah said to David, "The ark and
Israel and Judah remain in booths,[s] and my lord Joab and the servants of my
lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house to eat and to
drink and to lie with my wife? As you live and as your soul lives, I will not
do such a thing."* [12]Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also,
and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that
day. On the next day,[t] [13]David invited him to eat and drink in his presence
and made him drunk, and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch
with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.*

DAVID HAS URIAH KILLED

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah.* 15In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."* 16As Joab kept watch over the city, he assigned Uriah to the place where he knew there were valiant warriors. 17The men of the city came out and fought with Joab, and some of the servants of David among the people fell. Uriah the Hittite was killed as well.* 18Then Joab sent and told David all the news about the fighting, 19and he instructed the messenger, "When you have finished telling the king all the news about the fighting, 20if the king's anger rises and if he says to you, 'Why did you go so near the city to fight? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall? 21Who killed Abimelech son of Jerubbaal?[u] Did not a woman throw an upper millstone on him from the wall, so that he died at Thebez? Why did you go so near the wall?' then you shall say, 'Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead, too.' "*

22 So the messenger went and came and told David all that Joab had sent him to tell. 23The messenger said to David, "The men gained an advantage over us and came out against us in the field, but we drove them back to the entrance of the gate. 24Then the archers shot at your servants from the wall; some of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also." 25David said to the messenger, "Thus you shall say to Joab, 'Do not let this matter trouble you, for the sword devours now one and now another; press your attack on the city and overthrow it.' And encourage him."

26 When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him.* 27When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

NATHAN CONDEMNS DAVID

But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD,*

2 Samuel 12

1 and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him,
"There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor.*
2The rich man had very many flocks and herds, 3but the poor man had
nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it
grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare
and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to
him. 4Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take
one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to
him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who
had come to him." 5Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the
man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this
deserves to die;* 6he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this
thing and because he had no pity."*

7 Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God
of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand
of Saul;* 8I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your
bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been
too little, I would have added as much more. 9Why have you despised the
word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down
Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and
have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.* 10Now, therefore, the
sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me and
have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.* 11Thus says the
LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house, and I
will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and
he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight.* 12For you did it secretly, but
I will do this thing before all Israel and in broad daylight."* 13David said to
Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." Nathan said to David, "Now the
LORD has put away your sin; you shall not die.* 14Nevertheless, because by
this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD,[v] the child born to you shall
die."* 15Then Nathan went to his house.

BATHSHEBA'S CHILD DIES

The LORD struck the child whom Uriah's wife bore to David, and it
became very ill.* 16David therefore pleaded with God for the child; David
fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground.* 17The elders of his
house stood beside him urging him to rise from the ground, but he would
not, nor did he eat food with them. 18On the seventh day the child died. And
the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for
they said, "While the child was still alive, we spoke to him, and he did not
listen to us; how then can we tell him the child is dead? He may do himself
some harm." 19But when David saw that his servants were whispering
together, he perceived that the child was dead, and David said to his
servants, "Is the child dead?" They said, "He is dead."

20 Then David rose from the ground, washed, anointed himself, and
changed his clothes. He went into the house of the LORD and worshiped; he
then went to his own house, and when he asked, they set food before him,
and he ate.* 21Then his servants said to him, "What is this thing that you
have done? You fasted and wept for the child while it was alive, but when
the child died, you rose and ate food." 22He said, "While the child was still
alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, 'Who knows? The LORD may be gracious
to me, and the child may live.'* 23But now he is dead; why should I fast?
Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to
me."*

SOLOMON IS BORN

24 Then David consoled his wife Bathsheba and went to her and lay with
her, and she bore a son, and he named him Solomon. The LORD loved him*
25and sent a message by the prophet Nathan, so he named him Jedidiah[w]
because of the LORD.

THE AMMONITES CRUSHED

26 Now Joab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites and took the royal
city.* 27Joab sent messengers to David and said, "I have fought against
Rabbah; moreover, I have taken the water city. 28Now, then, gather the rest
of the people together, encamp against the city, and take it, lest I myself

take the city and it is called by my name.” [29]So David gathered all the people together and went to Rabbah and fought against it and took it. [30]He took the crown of Milcom[x] from his head; the weight of it was a talent of gold, and in it was a precious stone, and it was placed on David’s head. He also brought forth the spoil of the city, a very great amount.[*] [31]He brought out the people who were in it and set them to work with saws and iron picks and iron axes or sent them to the brickworks. Thus he did to all the cities of the Ammonites. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 13

AMNON AND TAMAR

1 Some time passed. David's son Absalom had a beautiful sister whose
name was Tamar, and David's son Amnon fell in love with her.* [2]Amnon
was so tormented that he made himself ill because of his sister Tamar, for
she was a virgin, and it seemed impossible to Amnon to do anything to her.
[3]But Amnon had a friend whose name was Jonadab, the son of David's
brother Shimeah, and Jonadab was a very crafty man.* [4]He said to him,
"O son of the king, why are you so haggard morning after morning? Will
you not tell me?" Amnon said to him, "I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's
sister." [5]Jonadab said to him, "Lie down on your bed and pretend to be ill,
and when your father comes to see you, say to him, 'Let my sister Tamar
come and give me something to eat and prepare the food in my sight, so
that I may see it and eat it from her hand.' " [6]So Amnon lay down and
pretended to be ill, and when the king came to see him, Amnon said to the
king, "Please let my sister Tamar come and make a couple of cakes in my
sight, so that I may eat from her hand."*

7 Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, "Go to your brother Amnon's
house and prepare food for him." [8]So Tamar went to her brother Amnon's
house, where he was lying down. She took dough, kneaded it, made cakes
in his sight, and baked the cakes. [9]Then she took the pan and set them
before him, but he refused to eat. Amnon said, "Send out everyone from
me." So everyone went out from him.* [10]Then Amnon said to Tamar,
"Bring the food into the chamber so that I may eat from your hand." So
Tamar took the cakes she had made and brought them into the chamber to
Amnon her brother. [11]But when she brought them near him to eat, he took
hold of her and said to her, "Come, lie with me, my sister."* [12]She answered
him, "No, my brother, do not force me, for such a thing is not done in
Israel; do not do anything so vile!* [13]As for me, where could I carry my
shame? And as for you, you would be as one of the scoundrels in Israel.
Now therefore, I beg you, speak to the king, for he will not withhold me

from you."* 14But he would not listen to her, and being stronger than she, he forced her and lay with her.*

15 Then Amnon was seized with a very great loathing for her; indeed, his loathing was even greater than the lust he had felt for her. Amnon said to her, "Get out!" 16But she said to him, "No, my brother,[y] for this wrong in sending me away is greater than the other that you did to me." But he would not listen to her. 17He called the young man who served him and said, "Put this woman out of my presence and bolt the door after her." 18(Now she was wearing an ornamented[z] robe with sleeves, for this is how the virgin daughters of the king were clothed in earlier times.[a]) So his servant put her out and bolted the door after her.* 19But Tamar put ashes on her head and tore the long robe that she was wearing; she put her hand on her head and went away, crying aloud as she went.*

20 Her brother Absalom said to her, "Has Amnon your brother been with you? Be quiet for now, my sister; he is your brother; do not take this to heart." So Tamar remained, a desolate woman, in her brother Absalom's house.* 21When King David heard of all these things, he became very angry, but he would not punish his son Amnon because he loved him, for he was his firstborn.[b] 22But Absalom spoke to Amnon neither good nor bad, for Absalom hated Amnon because he had raped his sister Tamar.*

ABSALOM AVENGES THE VIOLATION OF HIS SISTER

23 After two full years Absalom had sheepshearers at Baal-hazor, which is near Ephraim, and Absalom invited all the king's sons. 24Absalom came to the king and said, "Your servant has sheepshearers; will the king and his servants please go with your servant?" 25But the king said to Absalom, "No, my son, let us not all go, or else we will be burdensome to you." He pressed him, but he would not go but gave him his blessing. 26Then Absalom said, "If not, please let my brother Amnon go with us." The king said to him, "Why should he go with you?" 27But Absalom pressed him until he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him. Absalom made a feast like a king's feast.[c] 28Then Absalom commanded his servants, "Watch when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, 'Strike Amnon,' then kill him. Do not be afraid; have I not myself commanded you? Be

courageous and valiant."* [29]So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons rose, and each mounted his mule and fled.*

30 While they were on the way, the report came to David that Absalom had killed all the king's sons, and not one of them was left. [31]The king rose, tore his garments, and lay on the ground, and all his servants who were standing by tore their garments.* [32]But Jonadab, the son of David's brother Shimeah, said, "Let not my lord suppose that they have killed all the young men the king's sons; Amnon alone is dead. This has been determined by Absalom from the day Amnon[d] raped his sister Tamar.* [33]Now, therefore, do not let my lord the king take it to heart, as if all the king's sons were dead, for Amnon alone is dead."*

34 But Absalom fled. When the young man who kept watch looked up, he saw many people coming from the Horonaim road[e] by the side of the mountain.* [35]Jonadab said to the king, "See, the king's sons have come; as your servant said, so it has come about." [36]As soon as he had finished speaking, the king's sons arrived and raised their voices and wept, and the king and all his servants also wept very bitterly.

37 But Absalom fled and went to Talmai son of Ammihud, king of Geshur. David mourned for his son day after day.* [38]Absalom, having fled to Geshur, stayed there three years. [39]And the heart of[f] the king went out, yearning for Absalom, for he was now consoled over the death of Amnon.*

2 Samuel 14

ABSALOM RETURNS TO JERUSALEM

1 Now Joab son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's mind was on
Absalom.* [2]Joab sent to Tekoa and brought from there a wise woman. He
said to her, "Pretend to be a mourner; put on mourning garments, and do not
anoint yourself with oil, but behave like a woman who has been mourning
many days for the dead.* [3]Go to the king and speak to him as follows." And
Joab put the words into her mouth.*

4 When the woman of Tekoa came[g] to the king, she fell on her face to the
ground and did obeisance and said, "Help, O king!"* [5]The king asked her,
"What is your trouble?" She answered, "Alas, I am a widow; my husband is
dead.* [6]Your servant had two sons, and they fought with one another in the
field; there was no one to part them, and one struck the other and killed him.
[7]Now the whole family has risen against your servant. They say, 'Give up
the man who struck his brother, so that we may kill him for the life of his
brother whom he murdered, even if we destroy the heir as well.' Thus they
would quench my one remaining ember and leave to my husband neither
name nor remnant on the face of the earth."*

8 Then the king said to the woman, "Go to your house, and I will give
orders concerning you." [9]The woman of Tekoa said to the king, "On me be
the guilt, my lord the king, and on my father's house; let the king and his
throne be guiltless."* [10]The king said, "If anyone says anything to you,
bring him to me, and he shall never touch you again." [11]Then she said,
"Please, may the king keep the LORD your God in mind, so that the avenger
of blood may kill no more and my son not be destroyed." He said, "As the
LORD lives, not one hair of your son shall fall to the ground."*

12 Then the woman said, "Please let your servant speak a word to my
lord the king." He said, "Speak." [13]The woman said, "Why then have you
planned such a thing against the people of God? For in giving this decision
the king convicts himself, inasmuch as the king does not bring his banished
one home again.* [14]We must all die; we are like water spilled on the
ground, which cannot be gathered up. But God will not take away a life; he

will devise plans so as not to keep an outcast banished forever from his presence.[h,*] 15Now I have come to say this to my lord the king because the people have made me afraid; your servant thought, 'I will speak to the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his servant. 16For the king will hear and deliver his servant from the hand of the man who would cut both me and my son off from the heritage of God.' 17Your servant thought, 'The word of my lord the king will set me at rest,' for my lord the king is like the angel of God, discerning good and evil. The LORD your God be with you!"[*]

18 Then the king answered the woman, "Do not withhold from me anything I ask you." The woman said, "Let my lord the king speak." 19The king said, "Is the hand of Joab with you in all this?" The woman answered and said, "As surely as you live, my lord the king, one cannot turn right or left from anything that my lord the king has said. For it was your servant Joab who commanded me; it was he who put all these words into the mouth of your servant.[*] 20In order to change the course of affairs your servant Joab did this. But my lord has wisdom like the wisdom of the angel of God to know all things that are on the earth."[*]

21 Then the king said to Joab, "Very well, I grant this; go, bring back the young man Absalom." 22Joab prostrated himself with his face to the ground and did obeisance and blessed the king, and Joab said, "Today your servant knows that I have found favor in your sight, my lord the king, in that the king has granted the request of his servant." 23So Joab set off, went to Geshur, and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.[*] 24The king said, "Let him go to his own house; he is not to come into my presence." So Absalom went to his own house and did not come into the king's presence.[*]

DAVID FORGIVES ABSALOM

25 Now in all Israel there was no one to be praised so much for his beauty as Absalom; from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.[*] 26When he cut the hair of his head (for at the end of every year he used to cut it; when it was heavy on him, he cut it), he weighed the hair of his head, two hundred shekels by the king's weight.[*] 27There were born to Absalom three sons and one daughter whose name was Tamar; she was a beautiful woman.[*]

28 So Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem without coming into the
king's presence.* [29]Then Absalom sent for Joab to send him to the king, but
Joab would not come to him. He sent a second time, but Joab would not
come. [30]Then he said to his servants, "Look, Joab's field is next to mine,
and he has barley there; go and set it on fire." So Absalom's servants set the
field on fire. [31]Then Joab rose and went to Absalom at his house and said to
him, "Why have your servants set my field on fire?" [32]Absalom answered
Joab, "Look, I sent word to you. Come here that I may send you to the king
with the question, 'Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for
me to be there still.' Now let me go into the king's presence; if there is guilt
in me, let him kill me!"* [33]Then Joab went to the king and told him, and he
summoned Absalom. So he came to the king and prostrated himself with his
face to the ground before the king, and the king kissed Absalom.*

2 Samuel 15

ABSALOM USURPS THE THRONE

1 After this Absalom provided for himself a chariot and horses and fifty
men to run ahead of him.* [2]Absalom used to rise early and stand beside the
road into the gate, and when anyone brought a suit before the king for
judgment, Absalom would call out and say, "From what city are you?"
When the person said, "Your servant is of such and such a tribe in Israel,"*
[3]Absalom would say, "See, your claims are good and right, but there is no
one deputed by the king to hear you." [4]Absalom would also say, "If only I
were judge in the land! Then all who had a suit or cause might come to me,
and I would give them justice."* [5]Whenever people came near to do
obeisance to him, he would put out his hand and take hold of them and kiss
them. [6]Thus Absalom did to every Israelite who came to the king for
judgment, so Absalom stole the hearts of the people of Israel.*

7 At the end of four[i] years Absalom said to the king, "Please let me go to
Hebron and pay the vow that I have made to the LORD.* [8]For your servant
made a vow while I lived at Geshur in Aram: If the LORD will indeed bring
me back to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD in Hebron."[j,*] [9]The king
said to him, "Go in peace." So he got up and went to Hebron. [10]But
Absalom sent secret messengers throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying,
"As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then shout: Absalom has
become king at Hebron!" [11]Two hundred men from Jerusalem went with
Absalom; they were invited guests, and they went in innocence, knowing
nothing of the matter.* [12]While Absalom was offering the sacrifices, he sent
for[k] Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, from his city Giloh. The
conspiracy grew in strength, and the people with Absalom kept increasing.*

DAVID FLEES FROM JERUSALEM

13 A messenger came to David, saying, "The hearts of the Israelites have
gone after Absalom."* [14]Then David said to all his officials who were with
him at Jerusalem, "Get up! Let us flee, or there will be no escape for us

from Absalom. Hurry, or he will soon overtake us, and bring disaster down upon us, and attack the city with the edge of the sword."* 15The king's officials said to the king, "Your servants are ready to do whatever our lord the king decides." 16So the king left, followed by all his household, except ten concubines whom he left behind to look after the house.* 17The king left, followed by all the people, and they stopped at the last house. 18All his officials passed by him, and all the Cherethites, and all the Pelethites, and all the six hundred Gittites who had followed him from Gath passed on before the king.*

19 Then the king said to Ittai the Gittite, "Why are you also coming with us? Go back, and stay with the king, for you are a foreigner and also an exile from your home.* 20You came only yesterday, and shall I today make you wander about with us while I go wherever I can? Go back, and take your kinsfolk with you, and may the LORD show[l] steadfast love and faithfulness to you."* 21But Ittai answered the king, "As the LORD lives and as my lord the king lives, wherever my lord the king may be, whether for death or for life, there also your servant will be."* 22David said to Ittai, "Go then, march on." So Ittai the Gittite marched on, with all his men and all the little ones who were with him. 23The whole country wept aloud as all the people passed by; the king crossed the Wadi Kidron, and all the people moved on toward the wilderness.

24 Abiathar came up, and Zadok also, with all the Levites, carrying the ark of the covenant of God. They set down the ark of God until the people had all passed out of the city.* 25Then the king said to Zadok, "Carry the ark of God back into the city. If I find favor in the eyes of the LORD, he will bring me back and let me see both it and the place where it stays.* 26But if he says, 'I take no pleasure in you,' here I am, let him do to me what seems good to him."* 27The king also said to the priest Zadok, "Look,[m] go back to the city in peace, you and Abiathar,[n] with your two sons, Ahimaaz your son and Jonathan son of Abiathar.* 28See, I will wait at the fords of the wilderness until word comes from you to inform me."* 29So Zadok and Abiathar carried the ark of God back to Jerusalem, and they remained there.

30 But David went up the ascent of the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went, with his head covered and walking barefoot, and all the people who were with him covered their heads and went up, weeping as they went.*

[31]David was told that Ahithophel was among the conspirators with Absalom. And David said, "O LORD, I pray you, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness."*

HUSHAI BECOMES DAVID'S SPY

32 When David came to the summit, where God was worshiped, Hushai the Archite came to meet him with his coat torn and earth on his head.* [33]David said to him, "If you go on with me, you will be a burden to me.* [34]But if you return to the city and say to Absalom, 'I will be your servant, O king; as I have been your father's servant in time past, so now I will be your servant,' then you will defeat for me the counsel of Ahithophel.* [35]The priests Zadok and Abiathar will be with you there. So whatever you hear from the king's house, tell it to the priests Zadok and Abiathar.* [36]Their two sons are with them there, Zadok's son Ahimaaz and Abiathar's son Jonathan, and by them you shall report to me everything you hear."* [37]So Hushai, David's friend, came into the city just as Absalom was entering Jerusalem.*

2 Samuel 16

DAVID'S ADVERSARIES

1 When David had passed a little beyond the summit, Ziba the servant of
Mephibosheth met him with a couple of donkeys saddled, carrying two
hundred loaves of bread, one hundred bunches of raisins, one hundred of
summer fruits, and one skin of wine.* [2]The king said to Ziba, "Why have
you brought these?" Ziba answered, "The donkeys are for the king's
household to ride, the bread and summer fruit are for the young men to eat,
and the wine is for those to drink who faint in the wilderness."* [3]The king
said, "And where is your master's son?" Ziba said to the king, "He remains
in Jerusalem, for he said, 'Today the house of Israel will give me back my
grandfather's kingdom.' "* [4]Then the king said to Ziba, "All that belonged
to Mephibosheth is now yours." Ziba said, "I do obeisance; let me find
favor in your sight, my lord the king."

SHIMEI CURSES DAVID

5 When King David came to Bahurim, a man of the family of the house
of Saul came out whose name was Shimei son of Gera; he came out
cursing.* [6]He threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David;
now all the people and all the warriors were on his right and on his left.
[7]Shimei shouted while he cursed, "Out! Out! Murderer! Scoundrel!* [8]The
LORD has avenged on all of you the blood of the house of Saul, in whose
place you have reigned, and the LORD has given the kingdom into the hand
of your son Absalom. See, disaster has overtaken you, for you are a man of
blood."*

9 Then Abishai son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead
dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and take off his head."* [10]But
the king said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? If he is
cursing because the LORD has said to him, 'Curse David,' who then shall
say, 'Why have you done so?' "* [11]David said to Abishai and to all his
servants, "My own son seeks my life; how much more now may this
Benjaminite! Let him alone, and let him curse, for the LORD has bidden

him.* 12It may be that the LORD will look on my distress,[o] and the LORD will
repay me with good for this cursing of me today."* 13So David and his men
went on the road while Shimei went along on the hillside opposite him and
cursed as he went, throwing stones and flinging dust at him. 14The king and
all the people who were with him arrived weary at the Jordan,[p] and there he
refreshed himself.

THE COUNSEL OF AHITHOPHEL

15 Now Absalom and all the Israelites[q] came to Jerusalem; Ahithophel
was with him.* 16When Hushai the Archite, David's friend, came to
Absalom, Hushai said to Absalom, "Long live the king! Long live the
king!"* 17Absalom said to Hushai, "Is this your loyalty to your friend? Why
did you not go with your friend?"* 18Hushai said to Absalom, "No, but the
one whom the LORD and this people and all the Israelites have chosen, his I
will be, and with him I will remain. 19Moreover, whom should I serve?
Should it not be his son? Just as I have served your father, so I will serve
you."*

20 Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give us your counsel; what shall
we do?" 21Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Go in to your father's concubines,
the ones he has left to look after the house, and all Israel will hear that you
have made yourself odious to your father, and the hands of all who are with
you will be strengthened."* 22So they pitched a tent for Absalom upon the
roof, and Absalom went in to his father's concubines in the sight of all
Israel.* 23Now in those days the counsel that Ahithophel gave was as if one
consulted the oracle[r] of God, so all the counsel of Ahithophel was esteemed
both by David and by Absalom.*

2 Samuel 17

1 Moreover Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Let me choose twelve thousand
men, and I will set out and pursue David tonight. [2]I will come upon him
while he is weary and discouraged and throw him into a panic, and all the
people who are with him will flee. I will strike down only the king,* [3]and I
will bring all the people back to you as a bride comes home to her husband.
You seek the life of only one man,[s] and all the people will be at peace."
[4]The advice pleased Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

THE COUNSEL OF HUSHAI

5 Then Absalom said, "Call Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear too
what he has to say."* [6]When Hushai came to Absalom, Absalom said to
him, "This is what Ahithophel has said; shall we do as he advises? If not,
you tell us." [7]Then Hushai said to Absalom, "This time the counsel that
Ahithophel has given is not good." [8]Hushai continued, "You know that your
father and his men are warriors and that they are enraged, like a bear robbed
of her cubs in the field. Besides, your father is expert in war; he will not
spend the night with the troops.* [9]Even now he has hidden himself in one of
the pits or in some other place. And when some of our troops[t] fall at the first
attack, whoever hears it will say, 'There has been a slaughter among the
troops who follow Absalom.' [10]Then even the valiant warrior whose heart
is like the heart of a lion will utterly melt with fear, for all Israel knows that
your father is a warrior and that those who are with him are valiant
warriors.* [11]But my counsel is that all Israel be gathered to you, from Dan
to Beer-sheba, like the sand by the sea for multitude, and that you go to
battle in person. [12]So we shall come upon him in whatever place he may be
found, and we shall light on him as the dew falls on the ground, and he will
not survive, nor will any of those with him. [13]If he withdraws into a city,
then all Israel will bring ropes to that city, and we shall drag it into the
valley until not even a pebble is to be found there." [14]Absalom and all the
men of Israel said, "The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the

counsel of Ahithophel." For the LORD had ordained to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, so that the LORD might bring ruin on Absalom.*

HUSHAI WARNS DAVID TO ESCAPE

15 Then Hushai said to the priests Zadok and Abiathar, "Thus and so did Ahithophel counsel Absalom and the elders of Israel, and thus and so I have counseled.* [16]Therefore send quickly and tell David, 'Do not lodge tonight at the fords of the wilderness, but by all means cross over, lest the king and all the people who are with him be swallowed up.' "* [17]Jonathan and Ahimaaz were waiting at En-rogel; a female slave used to go and tell them, and they would go and tell King David, for they could not risk being seen entering the city.* [18]But a young man saw them and told Absalom, so both of them went away quickly and came to the house of a man at Bahurim who had a well in his courtyard, and they went down into it.* [19]The man's wife took a covering, stretched it over the well's mouth, and spread out grain on it, and nothing was known of it.* [20]When Absalom's servants came to the woman at the house, they said, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" The woman said to them, "They have crossed over the brook[u] of water." And when they had searched and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem.*

21 After they had gone, the men came up out of the well and went and told King David. They said to David, "Go and cross the water quickly, for thus and so has Ahithophel counseled against you."* [22]So David and all the people who were with him set out and crossed the Jordan; by daybreak not one was left who had not crossed the Jordan.

23 When Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his donkey and went off home to his own city. He set his house in order and hanged himself; he died and was buried in the tomb of his father.*

24 Then David came to Mahanaim, while Absalom crossed the Jordan with all the men of Israel.* [25]Now Absalom had set Amasa over the army in the place of Joab. Amasa was the son of a man named Ithra the Ishmaelite,[v] who had married Abigal daughter of Nahash, sister of Zeruiah, Joab's mother.* [26]The Israelites and Absalom encamped in the land of Gilead.

27 When David came to Mahanaim, Shobi son of Nahash from Rabbah
of the Ammonites, and Machir son of Ammiel from Lo-debar, and Barzillai
the Gileadite from Rogelim* [28]brought beds, basins, and earthen vessels,
wheat, barley, meal, parched grain, beans and lentils,w [29]honey and curds,
sheep, and cheese from the herd, for David and the people with him to eat,
for they said, "The troops are hungry and weary and thirsty in the
wilderness."*

2 Samuel 18

THE DEFEAT AND DEATH OF ABSALOM

1 Then David mustered the men who were with him and set over them
commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds.* [2]And David sent
forth the army: one third under the command of Joab; one third under the
command of Abishai son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother; and one third under the
command of Ittai the Gittite. The king said to the men, "I myself will also
go out with you."* [3]But the men said, "You shall not go out. For if we flee,
they will not care about us. If half of us die, they will not care about us. But
you are worth ten thousand of us;[x] therefore it is better that you send us
help from the city."* [4]The king said to them, "Whatever seems best to you I
will do." So the king stood at the side of the gate, while all the army
marched out by hundreds and by thousands.* [5]The king ordered Joab and
Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man
Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the
commanders concerning Absalom.*

6 So the army went out into the field against Israel, and the battle was
fought in the forest of Ephraim.* [7]The men of Israel were defeated there by
the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty
thousand men. [8]The battle spread over the face of all the country, and the
forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

9 Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding
on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His
head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging[y] between heaven and
earth, while the mule that was under him went on.* [10]A man saw it and told
Joab, "I saw Absalom hanging in an oak." [11]Joab said to the man who told
him, "What, you saw him! Why then did you not strike him there to the
ground? I would have been glad to give you ten pieces of silver and a belt."
[12]But the man said to Joab, "Even if I felt in my hand the weight of a
thousand pieces of silver, I would not raise my hand against the king's son,
for in our hearing the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, saying,
'For my sake protect the young man Absalom!'* [13]On the other hand, if I

had dealt treacherously against his life[z] (and there is nothing hidden from the king), then you yourself would have stood aloof." [14]Joab said, "I will not waste time like this with you." He took three spears in his hand and thrust them into the heart of Absalom while he was still alive in the oak.* [15]And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him and killed him.

16 Then Joab sounded the trumpet, and the troops came back from pursuing Israel, for Joab restrained the troops.* [17]They took Absalom, threw him into a great pit in the forest, and raised over him a very great heap of stones. Meanwhile all the Israelites fled to their homes.* [18]Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up for himself a pillar that is in the King's Valley, for he said, "I have no son to keep my name in remembrance." He called the pillar by his own name; it is called Absalom's Monument to this day.*

DAVID HEARS OF ABSALOM'S DEATH

19 Then Ahimaaz son of Zadok said, "Let me run and carry tidings to the king that the LORD has delivered him from the power of his enemies."* [20]Joab said to him, "You are not to carry tidings today; you may carry tidings another day, but today you shall not do so because the king's son is dead." [21]Then Joab said to a Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." The Cushite bowed before Joab and ran. [22]Then Ahimaaz son of Zadok said again to Joab, "Come what may, let me also run after the Cushite." And Joab said, "Why will you run, my son, seeing that you have no reward[a] for the tidings?" [23]"Come what may," he said, "I will run." So he said to him, "Run." Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the Plain and outran the Cushite.

24 Now David was sitting between the two gates. The sentinel went up to the roof of the gate by the wall, and when he looked up he saw a man running alone.* [25]The sentinel shouted and told the king. The king said, "If he is alone, there are tidings in his mouth." He kept coming and drew near. [26]Then the sentinel saw another man running, and the sentinel called to the gatekeeper and said, "See, another man running alone!" The king said, "He also is bringing tidings." [27]The sentinel said, "I think the first one runs like

Ahimaaz son of Zadok." The king said, "He is a good man and comes with good tidings."

28 Then Ahimaaz cried out to the king, "All is well!" He prostrated himself before the king with his face to the ground and said, "Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king."* [29]The king said, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" Ahimaaz answered, "I saw a great tumult when the king's servant Joab sent your servant, but I do not know what it was."* [30]The king said, "Turn aside, and stand here." So he turned aside and stood still.

31 Then the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, "Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you."* [32]The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king and all who rise up to do you harm be like that young man."*

DAVID MOURNS FOR ABSALOM

33 [b]The king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept, and as he went he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"*

2 Samuel 19

1 It was told Joab, "The king is weeping and mourning for Absalom."* [2]So
the victory that day was turned into mourning for all the troops, for the
troops heard that day, "The king is grieving for his son." [3]The troops stole
into the city that day as soldiers steal in who are ashamed when they flee in
battle. [4]The king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice,
"O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!"* [5]Then Joab came into
the house to the king and said, "Today you have covered with shame the
faces of all your officers who have saved your life today, and the lives of
your sons and your daughters, and the lives of your wives and your
concubines, [6]for love of those who hate you and for hatred of those who
love you. You have made it clear today that commanders and officers are
nothing to you, for I perceive that, if Absalom were alive and all of us were
dead today, then you would be pleased. [7]So go out at once and speak kindly
to your servants, for I swear by the LORD, if you do not go, not a man will
stay with you this night, and this will be worse for you than any disaster
that has come upon you from your youth until now." [8]Then the king got up
and took his seat in the gate. The troops were all told, "See, the king is
sitting in the gate," and all the troops came before the king.

DAVID RECALLED TO JERUSALEM

Meanwhile, all the Israelites had fled to their homes.* [9]All the people
were disputing throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "The king
delivered us from the hand of our enemies and saved us from the hand of
the Philistines, and now he has fled out of the land because of Absalom.*
[10]But Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore
why do you say nothing about bringing the king back?"

11 King David sent this message to the priests Zadok and Abiathar, "Say
to the elders of Judah, 'Why should you be the last to bring the king back to
his house? The talk of all Israel has come to the king.[c] [12]You are my kin;
you are my bone and my flesh; why then should you be the last to bring
back the king?'* [13]And say to Amasa, 'Are you not my bone and my flesh?

So may God do to me and more, if you are not the commander of my army from now on, in place of Joab.' "* 14Amasa[d] swayed the hearts of all the people of Judah as one, and they sent word to the king, "Return, both you and all your servants."* 15So the king came back to the Jordan, and Judah came to Gilgal to meet the king and to bring him over the Jordan.*

16 Shimei son of Gera, a Benjaminite from Bahurim, hurried to come down with the people of Judah to meet King David;* 17with him were a thousand people from Benjamin. And Ziba, the servant of the house of Saul, with his fifteen sons and his twenty servants, rushed down to the Jordan ahead of the king* 18while the crossing was taking place,[e] to bring over the king's household and to do his pleasure.

DAVID'S MERCY TO SHIMEI

Shimei son of Gera fell down before the king as he was about to cross the Jordan 19and said to the king, "May my lord not hold me guilty or remember how your servant did wrong on the day my lord the king left Jerusalem; may the king not bear it in mind.* 20For your servant knows that I have sinned; therefore, see, I have come this day, the first of all the house of Joseph to come down to meet my lord the king."* 21Abishai son of Zeruiah answered, "Shall not Shimei be put to death for this because he cursed the LORD's anointed?"* 22But David said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah, that you should today become an adversary to me? Shall anyone be put to death in Israel this day? For do I not know that I am this day king over Israel?"* 23The king said to Shimei, "You shall not die." And the king gave him his oath.*

DAVID AND MEPHIBOSHETH MEET

24 Mephibosheth grandson of Saul came down to meet the king; he had not taken care of his feet or trimmed his beard or washed his clothes from the day the king left until the day he came back in safety.* 25When he came from Jerusalem to meet the king, the king said to him, "Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?"* 26He answered, "My lord, O king, my servant deceived me, for your servant said to him, 'Saddle a donkey for me[f] so that I may ride on it and go with the king.' For your servant is lame.* 27He has

slandered your servant to my lord the king. But my lord the king is like the angel of God; do therefore what seems good to you.* 28For all my father's house were doomed to death before my lord the king, but you set your servant among those who eat at your table. What further right have I, then, to appeal to the king?"* 29The king said to him, "Why speak any more of your affairs? I have decided: you and Ziba shall divide the land." 30Mephibosheth said to the king, "Let him take it all, since my lord the king has arrived home safely."

DAVID'S KINDNESS TO BARZILLAI

31 Now Barzillai the Gileadite had come down from Rogelim; he went on with the king to the Jordan to escort him over the Jordan.* 32Barzillai was a very aged man, eighty years old. He had provided the king with food while he stayed at Mahanaim, for he was a very wealthy man.* 33The king said to Barzillai, "Come over with me, and I will provide for you in Jerusalem at my side." 34But Barzillai said to the king, "How many years have I still to live, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem? 35Today I am eighty years old; can I discern what is pleasant and what is not? Can your servant taste what he eats or what he drinks? Can I still listen to the voice of singing men and singing women? Why then should your servant be an added burden to my lord the king?* 36Your servant will go a little way over the Jordan with the king. Why should the king recompense me with such a reward? 37Please let your servant return, so that I may die in my own town, near the graves of my father and my mother. But here is your servant Chimham; let him go over with my lord the king and do for him whatever seems good to you."* 38The king answered, "Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do for him whatever seems good to you, and all that you desire of me I will do for you." 39Then all the people crossed over the Jordan, and the king crossed over; the king kissed Barzillai and blessed him, and he returned to his own home.* 40The king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him; all the people of Judah, and also half the people of Israel, brought the king on his way.

41 Then all the people of Israel came to the king and said to him, "Why have our kindred the people of Judah stolen you away and brought the king and his household over the Jordan and all David's men with him?"* 42All

the people of Judah answered the people of Israel, “Because the king is near of kin to us. Why then are you angry over this matter? Have we eaten at all at the king’s expense? Or has he given us any gift?”* 43But the people of Israel answered the people of Judah, “We have ten shares in the king, and in David also we have more than you. Why then did you despise us? Were we not the first to speak of bringing back our king?” But the words of the people of Judah were fiercer than the words of the people of Israel.*

2 Samuel 20

THE REBELLION OF SHEBA

1 Now a scoundrel named Sheba son of Bichri, a Benjaminite, happened to be there. He sounded the trumpet and cried out,

"We have no portion in David,
no share in the son of Jesse!
Everyone to your tents, O Israel!"*

2So all the people of Israel withdrew from David and followed Sheba son of Bichri, but the people of Judah followed their king steadfastly from the Jordan to Jerusalem.

3 David came to his house at Jerusalem, and the king took the ten concubines whom he had left to look after the house and put them in a house under guard and provided for them but did not go in to them. So they were shut up until the day of their death, living as if in widowhood.*

4 Then the king said to Amasa, "Call the men of Judah together to me within three days, and be here yourself."* 5So Amasa went to summon Judah, but he delayed beyond the set time that had been appointed him. 6David said to Abishai, "Now Sheba son of Bichri will do us more harm than Absalom; take your lord's servants and pursue him, or he will find fortified cities for himself and escape from us."* 7Joab's men went out after him, along with the Cherethites, the Pelethites, and all the warriors; they went out from Jerusalem to pursue Sheba son of Bichri.* 8When they were at the large stone that is in Gibeon, Amasa came to meet them. Now Joab was wearing a soldier's garment, and over it was a belt with a sword in its sheath fastened at his waist; as he went forward, it fell out. 9Joab said to Amasa, "Is it well with you, my brother?" And Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him.* 10But Amasa did not notice the sword in Joab's hand; Joab struck him in the belly so that his entrails poured out on the ground, and he died. He did not strike a second blow.

Then Joab and his brother Abishai pursued Sheba son of Bichri.* 11And one of Joab's men took his stand by Amasa and said, "Whoever favors

Joab, and whoever is for David, let him follow Joab." [12]Amasa lay wallowing in his blood on the highway, and the man saw that all the people were stopping. Since he saw that all who came by him were stopping, he carried Amasa from the highway into a field and threw a garment over him. [13]Once he was removed from the highway, all the people went on after Joab to pursue Sheba son of Bichri.

14 Sheba[g] passed through all the tribes of Israel to Abel of Beth-maacah,[h] and all the Bichrites[i] assembled and followed him inside. [15]Joab's forces[j] came and besieged him in Abel of Beth-maacah; they threw up a siege ramp against the city, and it stood against the rampart. Joab's forces were battering the wall to break it down.* [16]Then a wise woman called from the city, "Listen! Listen! Tell Joab, 'Come here, I want to speak to you.' "* [17]He came near her, and the woman said, "Are you Joab?" He answered, "I am." Then she said to him, "Listen to the words of your servant." He answered, "I am listening." [18]Then she said, "They used to say in the old days, 'Let them inquire at Abel,' and so they would settle a matter. [19]I am one of those who are peaceable and faithful in Israel; you seek to destroy a city that is a mother in Israel; why will you swallow up the heritage of the LORD?"* [20]Joab answered, "Far be it from me, far be it, that I should swallow up or destroy! [21]That is not the case! But a man of the hill country of Ephraim called Sheba son of Bichri has lifted up his hand against King David; give him up alone, and I will withdraw from the city." The woman said to Joab, "His head shall be thrown over the wall to you."* [22]Then the woman went to all the people with her wise plan. And they cut off the head of Sheba son of Bichri and threw it out to Joab. So he blew the trumpet, and they dispersed from the city, and all went to their homes, while Joab returned to Jerusalem to the king.*

23 Now Joab was in command of all the army of Israel;[k] Benaiah son of Jehoiada was in command of the Cherethites and the Pelethites;* [24]Adoram was in charge of the forced labor; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was the recorder; [25]Sheva was secretary; Zadok and Abiathar were priests;* [26]and Ira the Jairite was also David's priest.*

2 Samuel 21

DAVID AVENGES THE GIBEONITES

1 Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after
year, and David inquired of the LORD. The LORD said, "There is bloodguilt
on Saul and on his house because he put the Gibeonites to death." [2]So the
king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them. (Now the Gibeonites were
not of the people of Israel but of the remnant of the Amorites; although the
people of Israel had sworn to spare them, Saul had tried to wipe them out in
his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah.)* [3]David said to the Gibeonites,
"What shall I do for you? How shall I make expiation, that you may bless
the heritage of the LORD?"* [4]The Gibeonites said to him, "It is not a matter
of silver or gold between us and Saul or his house; neither is it for us to put
anyone to death in Israel." He said, "What do you say that I should do for
you?"* [5]They said to the king, "The man who consumed us and planned to
destroy us so that we should have no place in all the territory of Israel,* [6]let
seven of his sons be handed over to us, and we will impale them before the
LORD at Gibeon on the mountain of the LORD."[l] The king said, "I will hand
them over."

7 But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Saul's son Jonathan,
because of the oath of the LORD that was between them, between David and
Jonathan son of Saul.* [8]The king took the two sons of Rizpah daughter of
Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons
of Merab[m] daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel son of Barzillai the
Meholathite;* [9]he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they
impaled them on the mountain before the LORD. The seven of them perished
together. They were put to death in the first days of harvest, at the beginning
of barley harvest.

10 Then Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it on a
rock for herself, from the beginning of harvest until rain fell on them from
the heavens; she did not allow the birds of the air to come on the bodies[n] by
day or the wild animals by night.* [11]When David was told what Rizpah
daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done, [12]David went and took

the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan from the people of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the public square of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hung them up, on the day the Philistines killed Saul on Gilboa.* 13He brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan, and they gathered the bones of those who had been impaled. 14They buried the bones of Saul and of his son Jonathan in the land of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of his father Kish; they did all that the king commanded. After that, God heeded supplications for the land.*

EXPLOITS OF DAVID'S MEN

15 The Philistines went to war again with Israel, and David went down together with his servants. They fought against the Philistines, and David grew weary. 16Ishbi-benob, one of the descendants of the giants, whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of bronze and who was fitted out with new weapons,[o] said he would kill David. 17But Abishai son of Zeruiah came to his aid and attacked the Philistine and killed him. Then David's men swore to him, "You shall not go out with us to battle any longer, so that you do not quench the lamp of Israel."*

18 After this a battle took place with the Philistines at Gob; then Sibbecai the Hushathite killed Saph, who was one of the descendants of the giants.* 19Then there was another battle with the Philistines at Gob, and Elhanan son of Jaare-oregim the Bethlehemite killed Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.* 20There was again war at Gath, where there was a man of great size who had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; he, too, was descended from the giants.[p] 21When he taunted Israel, Jonathan son of David's brother Shimei killed him. 22These four were descended from the giants[q] in Gath; they fell by the hands of David and his servants.

2 Samuel 22

DAVID'S SONG OF THANKSGIVING

1 David spoke to the LORD the words of this song on the day when the LORD
delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul.*
2He said,

"The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,*
3my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,
my shield and the horn of my salvation,
my stronghold and my refuge,
my savior; you save me from violence.*
4I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies.*

5For the waves of death encompassed me;
the torrents of perdition assailed me;*
6the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.*

7In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I called.
From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry came to his ears.*

8Then the earth reeled and rocked;
the foundations of the heavens trembled
and reeled because he was angry.*
9Smoke went up from his nostrils
and devouring fire from his mouth;
glowing coals flamed forth from him.*

10 He bowed the heavens and came down;
thick darkness was under his feet.*
11 He rode on a cherub and flew;
he was seen upon the wings of the wind.*
12 He made darkness around him a canopy,
thick clouds, a gathering of water.*
13 Out of the brightness before him
coals of fire flamed forth.
14 The LORD thundered from heaven;
the Most High uttered his voice.*
15 He sent out arrows and scattered them,
lightning and routed them.
16 Then the channels of the sea were seen;
the foundations of the world were laid bare
at the rebuke of the LORD,
at the blast of the breath of his nostrils.*

17 He reached from on high; he took me;
he drew me out of mighty waters.*
18 He delivered me from my strong enemy,
from those who hated me,
for they were too mighty for me.
19 They came upon me in the day of my calamity,
but the LORD was my stay.*
20 He brought me out into a broad place;
he delivered me because he delighted in me.*

21 The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness;
according to the cleanness of my hands he recompensed me.*
22 For I have kept the ways of the LORD

and have not wickedly departed from my God.*
23For all his ordinances were before me,
and from his statutes I did not turn aside.*
24I was blameless before him,
and I kept myself from guilt.*
25Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness,
according to my cleanness in his sight.*

26With the loyal you show yourself loyal;
with the blameless[r] you show yourself blameless;*
27with the pure you show yourself pure,
and with the crooked you show yourself shrewd.*
28You deliver a humble people,
but your eyes are upon the haughty to bring them down.*
29Indeed, you are my lamp, O LORD;
the LORD lightens my darkness.*
30By you I can outrun a troop,
and by my God I can leap over a wall.
31This God—his way is perfect;
the promise of the LORD proves true;
he is a shield for all who take refuge in him.*

32For who is God but the LORD?
And who is a rock except our God?*
33The God who has girded me with strength[s]
has opened wide my path.[t,*]
34He made my feet like the feet of deer
and set me secure on the heights.*
35He trains my hands for war,

so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.*
36 You have given me the shield of your salvation,
and your help[u] has made me great.
37 You have made me stride freely,
and my feet do not slip;*
38 I pursued my enemies and destroyed them
and did not turn back until they were consumed.
39 I consumed them; I struck them down so that they did not rise;
they fell under my feet.*
40 For you girded me with strength for the battle;
you made my assailants sink under me.*
41 You made my enemies turn their backs to me,
those who hated me, and I destroyed them.*
42 They looked, but there was no one to save them;
they cried to the LORD, but he did not answer them.*
43 I beat them fine like the dust of the earth;
I crushed them and stamped them down like the mire of the streets.*

44 You delivered me from strife with the peoples;[v]
you kept me as the head of the nations;
people whom I had not known served me.*
45 Foreigners came cringing to me;
as soon as they heard of me, they obeyed me.*
46 Foreigners lost heart
and came trembling out[w] of their strongholds.*

47 The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock,
and exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation,*
48 the God who gave me vengeance

and brought down peoples under me,*
49 who brought me out from my enemies;
you exalted me above my adversaries;
you delivered me from the violent.*

50 For this I will extol you, O LORD, among the nations
and sing praises to your name.*
51 He is a tower of salvation for his king
and shows steadfast love to his anointed,
to David and his descendants forever."*

2 Samuel 23

THE LAST WORDS OF DAVID

1 Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,[x]
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favorite of the Strong One of Israel:*

[2]The spirit of the LORD speaks through me;
his word is upon my tongue.*
[3]The God of Israel has spoken;
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
"One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,*
[4]is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land."*

[5]Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.
Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?*
[6]But the godless[y] are all like thorns that are thrown away,
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;*
[7]to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.
And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.[z]

DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

8 These are the names of the warriors whom David had: Josheb-basshebeth a Tahchemonite; he was chief of the Three;[a] he wielded his spear[b] against eight hundred whom he killed at one time.

9 Next to him among the three warriors was Eleazar son of Dodo son of Ahohi. He was with David when they defied the Philistines who were gathered there for battle. The Israelites withdrew,* [10]but he stood his ground. He struck down the Philistines until his arm grew weary, though his hand clung to the sword. The LORD brought about a great victory that day. Then the people came back to him—but only to strip the dead.*

11 Next to him was Shammah son of Agee the Hararite. The Philistines gathered together at Lehi, where there was a plot of ground full of lentils, and the army fled from the Philistines.* [12]But he took his stand in the middle of the plot, defended it, and killed the Philistines, and the LORD brought about a great victory.

13 Toward the beginning of harvest three of the thirty chiefs went down to join David at the cave of Adullam while a band of Philistines was encamped in the valley of Rephaim.* [14]David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem.* [15]David said longingly, "Oh, that someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem that is by the gate!" [16]Then the three warriors broke through the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate, and brought it to David. But he would not drink of it; he poured it out to the LORD, [17]for he said, "The LORD forbid that I should do this. Can I drink the blood of the men who went at the risk of their lives?" Therefore he would not drink it. The three warriors did these things.*

18 Now Abishai son of Zeruiah, the brother of Joab, was chief of the Thirty.[c] With his spear he fought against three hundred men and killed them and won a name beside the Three.* [19]He was the most renowned of the Thirty[d] and became their commander, but he did not attain to the Three.

20 Benaiah son of Jehoiada was a valiant warrior[e] from Kabzeel, a doer of great deeds; he struck down two sons of Ariel[f] of Moab. He also went down and killed a lion in a pit on a day when snow had fallen.* [21]And he killed an Egyptian, a handsome man. The Egyptian had a spear in his hand,

but Benaiah went against him with a staff, snatched the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and killed him with his own spear. [22]Such were the things Benaiah son of Jehoiada did and won a name beside the three warriors. [23]He was renowned among the Thirty, but he did not attain to the Three. And David put him in charge of his bodyguard.*

24 Among the Thirty were Asahel brother of Joab; Elhanan son of Dodo of Bethlehem;* [25]Shammah of Harod; Elika of Harod;* [26]Helez the Paltite; Ira son of Ikkesh of Tekoa; [27]Abiezer of Anathoth; Mebunnai the Hushathite; [28]Zalmon the Ahohite; Maharai of Netophah; [29]Heleb son of Baanah of Netophah; Ittai son of Ribai of Gibeah of the Benjaminites; [30]Benaiah of Pirathon; Hiddai of the wadis of Gaash; [31]Abi-albon the Arbathite; Azmaveth of Bahurim;[g] [32]Eliahba of Shaalbon; the sons of Jashen: Jonathan [33]son of[h] Shammah the Hararite; Ahiam son of Sharar the Hararite; [34]Eliphelet son of Ahasbai of Maacah; Eliam son of Ahithophel the Gilonite; [35]Hezro[i] of Carmel; Paarai the Arbite; [36]Igal son of Nathan of Zobah; Bani the Gadite; [37]Zelek the Ammonite; Naharai of Beeroth, the armor-bearer of Joab son of Zeruiah; [38]Ira the Ithrite; Gareb the Ithrite;* [39]Uriah the Hittite—thirty-seven in all.*

2 Samuel 24

DAVID'S CENSUS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

1 Again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he incited
David against them, saying, "Go, count the people of Israel and Judah."*
2So the king said to Joab and the commanders of the army[j] who were with
him, "Go through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan to Beer-sheba, and take a
census of the people, so that I may know how many there are."* 3But Joab
said to the king, "May the LORD your God increase the number of the
people a hundredfold while the eyes of my lord the king can still see it! But
why does my lord the king want to do this?" 4But the king's word prevailed
against Joab and the commanders of the army. So Joab and the commanders
of the army went out from the presence of the king to take a census of the
people of Israel. 5They crossed the Jordan and began from[k] Aroer and from
the city that is in the middle of the valley, toward Gad and on to Jazer.*
6Then they came to Gilead and to Kadesh in the land of the Hittites,[l] and
they came to Dan, and from Dan[m] they went around to Sidon* 7and came to
the fortress of Tyre and to all the cities of the Hivites and Canaanites, and
they went out to the Negeb of Judah at Beer-sheba.* 8So when they had
gone through all the land, they came back to Jerusalem at the end of nine
months and twenty days. 9Joab reported to the king the number of those
who had been recorded: in Israel there were eight hundred thousand soldiers
able to draw the sword, and those of Judah were five hundred thousand.*

JUDGMENT ON DAVID'S SIN

10 But afterward, David was stricken to the heart because he had
numbered the people. David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in
what I have done. But now, O LORD, I pray you, take away the guilt of your
servant, for I have done very foolishly."* 11When David rose in the
morning, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Gad, David's seer,
saying,* 12"Go and say to David: Thus says the LORD: Three things I offer[n]
you; choose one of them, and I will do it to you."* 13So Gad came to David
and told him; he asked him, "Shall seven years of famine come to you on

your land? Or will you flee three months before your foes while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days' pestilence in your land? Now consider and decide what answer I shall return to the one who sent me." [14]Then David said to Gad, "I am in great distress; let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great, but let me not fall into human hands."*

15 So the LORD sent a pestilence on Israel from that morning until the appointed time, and seventy thousand of the people died, from Dan to Beer-sheba.* [16]But when the angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD relented concerning the evil and said to the angel who was bringing destruction among the people, "It is enough; now stay your hand." The angel of the LORD was standing[o] by the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. David looked up and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven and in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell on their faces.[p,*] [17]When David saw the angel who was destroying the people, he said to the LORD, "I alone have sinned, and I, the shepherd, have done evil,[q] but these sheep, what have they done? Let your hand, I pray, be against me and against my father's house."*

DAVID'S ALTAR ON THE THRESHING FLOOR

18 That day Gad came to David and said to him, "Go up and erect an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite."* [19]Following Gad's instructions, David went up, as the LORD had commanded. [20]When Araunah looked down, he saw the king and his servants coming toward him, and Araunah went out and prostrated himself before the king with his face to the ground. [21]Araunah said, "Why has my lord the king come to his servant?" David said, "To buy the threshing floor from you in order to build an altar to the LORD, so that the plague may be averted from the people."* [22]Then Araunah said to David, "Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him; here are the oxen for the burnt offering and the threshing sledges and the yokes of the oxen for the wood.* [23]All this, O king, Araunah gives to the king." And Araunah said to the king, "May the LORD your God respond favorably to you."*

24 But the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will buy them from you for a price; I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God that cost me

nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.* 25David built there an altar to the LORD and offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being. So the LORD answered his supplication for the land, and the plague was averted from Israel.*

2 Samuel 1

* **1.1** 1 Sam 30.17, 26; 31.6
* **1.2** 1 Sam 4.10, 12
* **1.6** 1 Sam 31.2–4
* **1.8** 1 Sam 15.3
* **1.10** Judg 9.54
* **1.11** 2 Sam 3.31; 13.31
a **1.12** Q ms Gk: Heb *had fallen*
* **1.12** 2 Sam 3.35
* **1.13** v 8
* **1.14** 1 Sam 24.6; 26.9
* **1.15** 2 Sam 4.10, 12
* **1.16** v 10; 2 Sam 3.28, 29
* **1.17** 2 Chr 35.25
b **1.18** Heb *that The Bow*
* **1.18** Josh 10.13; 1 Sam 31.3
* **1.19** v 27
* **1.20** Ex 15.20; 1 Sam 18.6; 31.4, 9; Mic 1.10
c **1.21** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **1.21** 1 Sam 31.1; Job 3.3, 4; Isa 21.5
* **1.22** 1 Sam 18.4; Isa 34.6
* **1.23** Judg 14.18; Jer 4.13
* **1.25** vv 19, 27
* **1.26** 1 Sam 18.1–4
* **1.27** vv 19, 25; 1 Sam 2.4

2 Samuel 2

* **2.1** 1 Sam 23.2, 4, 9–12; 30.31
* **2.2** 1 Sam 30.5
* **2.3** 1 Sam 30.9; 1 Chr 12.1
* **2.4** 1 Sam 31.11–13; 2 Sam 5.3, 5
* **2.5** 1 Sam 23.21
d **2.8** Gk: Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **2.9** Judg 1.32; 1 Sam 29.1
e **2.10** Gk: Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **2.11** 2 Sam 5.5
f **2.12** Gk: Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **2.12** Josh 18.25
* **2.13** 1 Chr 2.16

g **2.15** Gk: Heb *Ish-bosheth*
h **2.16** That is, *field of sword edges*
* **2.17** 2 Sam 3.1
* **2.18** 1 Chr 2.16; 12.8
* **2.22** 2 Sam 3.27
* **2.23** 2 Sam 3.27; 4.6; 20.10
* **2.24** Josh 10.41
* **2.27** v 14
i **2.29** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **2.29** v 8

2 Samuel 3

* **3.2** 1 Sam 25.42, 43; 1 Chr 3.1–3
* **3.3** 1 Sam 27.8; 2 Sam 13.37
* **3.4** 1 Kings 1.5
j **3.7** Heb *And he*
* **3.7** 2 Sam 16.21; 21.8–11
k **3.8** Gk: Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **3.8** 1 Sam 24.14; 2 Sam 9.8
* **3.9** 1 Sam 15.28; 1 Kings 19.2
* **3.10** Judg 20.1; 1 Sam 3.20
l **3.11** Heb *And he*
m **3.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.13** Gen 43.3; 1 Sam 18.20
n **3.14** Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **3.14** 1 Sam 18.25, 26
o **3.15** Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **3.15** 1 Sam 25.44
* **3.16** 2 Sam 16.5
* **3.18** 1 Sam 9.16; 15.28
* **3.19** 1 Sam 10.20, 21
* **3.21** vv 10, 12; 1 Kings 11.37
p **3.22** Heb *he*
* **3.22** 1 Sam 27.8
* **3.25** 1 Sam 29.6; Isa 37.28
q **3.27** Heb *his*
* **3.27** 2 Sam 2.23; 4.6; 20.9, 10; 1 Kings 2.5
* **3.29** 1 Kings 2.32
* **3.30** 2 Sam 2.23
* **3.31** Gen 37.34; 2 Sam 1.2, 11
* **3.33** 2 Sam 1.17

* **3.35** 1 Sam 3.17; 2 Sam 1.12; 12.17
* **3.39** 2 Sam 19.5–7; 1 Kings 2.5, 6, 33, 34

2 Samuel 4

r **4.1** Heb lacks *Ishbaal*
* **4.1** 2 Sam 3.27; Ezra 4.4
* **4.2** Josh 18.25
* **4.3** Neh 11.33
* **4.4** 1 Sam 31.1–4; 2 Sam 9.3, 6
s **4.5** Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **4.5** 2 Sam 2.8
t **4.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.6** 2 Sam 2.23
u **4.8** Heb *Ish-bosheth*
v **4.8** Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **4.8** 1 Sam 23.15; 25.29
* **4.9** 1 Kings 1.29
* **4.10** 2 Sam 1.2, 4, 15
* **4.11** Gen 9.5, 6
w **4.12** Heb *Ish-bosheth*
* **4.12** 2 Sam 1.15; 3.32

2 Samuel 5

* **5.1** 2 Sam 19.13; 1 Chr 11.1
* **5.2** 1 Sam 16.1, 12; 18.13; 25.30
* **5.3** 2 Sam 2.4; 3.21; 1 Chr 11.3
* **5.4** Num 4.3; 1 Chr 26.31; Lk 3.23
* **5.5** 2 Sam 2.11
* **5.6** Josh 15.63; Judg 1.8, 21
x **5.8** Q ms Syr Tg: MT *those who hate David*
* **5.8** v 9; 2 Sam 6.12, 16; 1 Kings 2.10
* **5.9** v 7
y **5.10** Q ms Gk: MT *the* LORD *God of hosts*
* **5.10** 2 Sam 3.1
* **5.11** 1 Chr 14.1
* **5.13** Deut 17.17; 1 Chr 3.9
* **5.14** 1 Chr 3.5–8
* **5.17** 2 Sam 23.14
* **5.18** Josh 15.18; 17.15; 18.16
* **5.19** 1 Sam 23.2; 2 Sam 2.1

z **5.20** That is, *lord of bursting forth*
* **5.20** Isa 28.21
* **5.21** 1 Chr 14.12
* **5.22** v 18
* **5.23** v 19
* **5.24** Judg 4.14; 2 Kings 7.6
* **5.25** Josh 12.12; 1 Chr 14.16

2 Samuel 6

* **6.2** Lev 24.16; 1 Sam 4.4; 1 Chr 13.5, 6
a **6.3** Or *and his brother*
* **6.3** 1 Sam 6.7
b **6.4** Compare Gk: Heb *which was on the hill with the ark of God*
c **6.4** Or *and his brother*
* **6.4** 1 Sam 7.1
d **6.5** Q ms Gk: MT *fir trees*
* **6.5** 1 Sam 18.6, 7; 1 Chr 13.8
* **6.6** Num 4.15, 19, 20; 1 Chr 13.9
e **6.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.7** 1 Sam 6.19
f **6.8** That is, *bursting out against Uzzah*
* **6.10** 1 Chr 13.13
* **6.11** 1 Chr 13.14
* **6.12** 1 Kings 8.1; 1 Chr 15.25
* **6.14** Ex 15.20; 1 Sam 2.18
* **6.15** 1 Chr 15.28
* **6.16** 1 Chr 15.29
* **6.17** 1 Kings 8.62–65; 1 Chr 15.1; 16.1
* **6.18** 1 Kings 8.14, 15
g **6.19** Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.20** vv 14, 16; 1 Sam 19.24
* **6.21** 1 Sam 13.14; 15.28

2 Samuel 7

* **7.1** 1 Chr 17.1ff
* **7.2** Ex 26.1; 2 Sam 5.11; Acts 7.46
* **7.3** 1 Kings 8.17, 18
h **7.7** Or *any of the tribes*
* **7.7** Lev 26.11, 12; Deut 23.14; 2 Sam 5.2
* **7.8** 1 Sam 16.11, 12; 2 Sam 6.21; Ps 78.70

* **7.9** 1 Sam 18.14; 2 Sam 5.10; Ps 18.37–42
* **7.10** Ex 15.17; Ps 89.22; Isa 5.2, 7; 60.18
* **7.11** vv 1, 27; Judg 2.16; 1 Sam 12.9–11; 25.28
* **7.12** 1 Kings 2.1
* **7.13** 1 Kings 5.5; Ps 89.4, 29, 36, 37; Isa 9.7
* **7.14** Ps 89.26, 27, 30–33; Heb 1.5

i **7.15** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *shall not depart*

* **7.15** 1 Sam 15.23, 28

j **7.16** Gk Heb mss: MT *before you*

* **7.16** Ps 89.36, 37
* **7.18** Ex 3.11; 1 Sam 18.18

k **7.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **7.20** 1 Sam 16.7; Jn 21.17
* **7.22** Ex 15.11; Deut 3.24; Ps 44.1; 48.1; 86.10

l **7.23** Gk: Heb *one*

m **7.23** Gk: Heb adds *for you*

n **7.23** Gk: Heb *for your land*

* **7.23** Deut 4.7, 32–38; 9.26; 10.21; 15.15
* **7.24** Deut 26.18; Ps 48.14
* **7.26** Ps 72.18, 19
* **7.27** v 13
* **7.28** Jn 17.17
* **7.29** Num 6.24–26

2 Samuel 8

o **8.2** Heb *one full length*

* **8.2** Num 24.17
* **8.3** 2 Sam 10.15–19
* **8.4** Josh 11.6, 9
* **8.5** 1 Kings 11.23–25
* **8.6** v 13; 2 Sam 7.9
* **8.7** 1 Kings 10.16
* **8.10** 1 Chr 18.10
* **8.11** 1 Kings 7.51; 1 Chr 18.11; 26.25

p **8.13** Gk Syr Heb mss: MT *Arameans*

* **8.13** 2 Kings 14.7
* **8.14** v 6; Gen 27.29, 37, 40; Num 24.17, 18
* **8.16** 2 Sam 19.13; 1 Kings 4.3; 2 Kings 18.18, 37
* **8.17** 1 Chr 24.3

q **8.18** Syr Tg Vg: Heb lacks *was over*

* **8.18** 1 Sam 30.14

2 Samuel 9

* **9.1** 1 Sam 20.14–17, 42
* **9.2** 2 Sam 16.1–4; 19.17, 29
* **9.3** 1 Sam 20.14; 2 Sam 4.4
* **9.4** 2 Sam 17.27
* **9.6** 2 Sam 16.4; 19.24–30
* **9.7** vv 1, 3; 2 Sam 12.8; 19.28
* **9.8** 2 Sam 16.9
* **9.9** 2 Sam 16.4; 19.29
* **9.10** vv 7, 11, 13; 2 Sam 19.28

r **9.11** Gk: Heb *my*

* **9.12** 1 Chr 8.34
* **9.13** vv 3, 7, 10

2 Samuel 10

* **10.1** 1 Chr 19.1ff
* **10.4** Isa 15.2; 20.4
* **10.6** Gen 34.30; Judg 18.28; 2 Sam 8.3, 5
* **10.8** Judg 11.3, 5; 1 Chr 19.9
* **10.12** Deut 31.6; 1 Sam 3.18; 1 Cor 16.13
* **10.13** 1 Kings 20.13–21
* **10.16** 2 Sam 8.3; 1 Chr 19.16
* **10.18** 1 Chr 19.18
* **10.19** 2 Sam 8.6

2 Samuel 11

* **11.1** 2 Sam 12.26–28; 1 Kings 20.22, 26; 1 Chr 20.1
* **11.2** Deut 22.8; Mt 5.28
* **11.3** 2 Sam 23.39
* **11.4** Lev 15.19, 28; 18.19
* **11.5** Lev 20.10
* **11.8** Gen 43.24; Lk 7.44

s **11.11** Or *at Succoth*

* **11.11** 2 Sam 7.2, 6; 20.6

t **11.12** Gk ms Syr ms OL ms: Heb *that day and the next*

* **11.13** v 9
* **11.14** 1 Kings 21.8–10
* **11.15** 2 Sam 12.9
* **11.17** v 21

u **11.21** Gk Syr: Heb *Jerubbesheth*

* **11.21** Judg 9.50–54
* **11.26** Deut 34.8; 1 Sam 31.13
* **11.27** 2 Sam 12.9; Ps 51.4, 5

2 Samuel 12

* **12.1** 2 Sam 14.4–7; 1 Kings 20.35–41
* **12.5** 1 Kings 20.39, 40
* **12.6** Ex 22.1; Lk 19.8
* **12.7** 1 Sam 16.13; 1 Kings 20.42
* **12.9** 1 Sam 15.19; 2 Sam 11.15–17, 27
* **12.10** 2 Sam 13.28; 18.14; 1 Kings 2.25
* **12.11** Deut 28.30; 2 Sam 16.22
* **12.12** 2 Sam 11.4–15; 16.22
* **12.13** 1 Sam 15.24; 2 Sam 24.10; Prov 28.13; Mic 7.18
v **12.14** Cn: Heb *scorned the enemies of the* LORD
* **12.14** Isa 52.5; Rom 2.24
* **12.15** 1 Sam 25.38
* **12.16** 2 Sam 13.31
* **12.20** Job 1.20
* **12.22** Isa 38.1, 5; Jon 3.9
* **12.23** Gen 37.35; Job 7.8–10
* **12.24** 1 Chr 22.9; Mt 1.6
w **12.25** That is, *beloved of the* LORD
* **12.26** 1 Chr 20.1–3
x **12.30** Gk: Heb *their kings*
* **12.30** 1 Chr 20.2

2 Samuel 13

* **13.1** 2 Sam 3.2, 3; 1 Chr 3.9
* **13.3** 1 Sam 16.9
* **13.6** Gen 18.6
* **13.9** Gen 45.1
* **13.11** Gen 39.12
* **13.12** Lev 20.17; Judg 19.23; 20.6
* **13.13** Gen 20.12; Lev 18.9, 11
* **13.14** Deut 22.25
y **13.16** Cn Compare Gk Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
z **13.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain
a **13.18** Cn: Heb *were clothed in robes*
* **13.18** Gen 37.3; Judg 5.30

* **13.19** 1 Sam 4.12; 2 Sam 1.2; Jer 2.37
* **13.20** 2 Sam 14.24
b **13.21** Q ms Gk: MT lacks *but he would not punish . . . firstborn*
* **13.22** Gen 31.24; Lev 19.17, 18
c **13.27** Gk Compare Q ms: MT lacks *Absalom made a feast like a king's feast*
* **13.28** Judg 19.6, 9, 22; 1 Sam 25.36
* **13.29** 2 Sam 18.9; 1 Kings 1.33, 38
* **13.31** 2 Sam 1.11; 12.16
d **13.32** Heb *he*
* **13.32** v 3
* **13.33** 2 Sam 19.19
e **13.34** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *the road behind him*
* **13.34** vv 37, 38; 2 Sam 18.24
* **13.37** v 34; 2 Sam 3.3; 14.23, 32
f **13.39** Q ms Gk: MT *And David*
* **13.39** 2 Sam 12.19–23

2 Samuel 14

* **14.1** 2 Sam 13.39
* **14.2** 2 Sam 12.20; 1 Kings 20.35–43; 2 Chr 11.5
* **14.3** v 19
g **14.4** Heb mss Gk Syr Vg: MT *said*
* **14.4** 2 Sam 1.12; 2 Kings 6.26–28
* **14.5** 2 Sam 12.1–7
* **14.7** Num 35.19; Deut 19.12; Mt 21.38
* **14.9** 1 Sam 25.24; 1 Kings 2.33; Mt 27.25
* **14.11** Num 35.19; 1 Sam 14.45
* **14.13** 2 Sam 12.7; 13.37, 38; 1 Kings 20.40–42
h **14.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **14.14** Num 35.15, 25, 28; Job 35.15; Heb 9.27
* **14.17** v 20; 2 Sam 19.27
* **14.19** v 3
* **14.20** v 17; 2 Sam 19.27
* **14.23** 2 Sam 13.37, 38
* **14.24** 2 Sam 3.13
* **14.25** Isa 1.6
* **14.26** Ezek 44.20
* **14.27** 2 Sam 18.18
* **14.28** v 24
* **14.32** 1 Sam 20.8
* **14.33** Gen 33.4; Lk 15.20

2 Samuel 15

* **15.1** 2 Sam 12.11; 1 Kings 1.5
* **15.2** 2 Sam 19.8
* **15.4** Judg 9.29
* **15.6** Rom 16.18
i **15.7** Gk Syr: Heb *forty*
* **15.7** 2 Sam 3.2, 3
j **15.8** Gk mss: Heb lacks *in Hebron*
* **15.8** Gen 28.20, 21; 2 Sam 13.37, 38
* **15.11** 1 Sam 9.13; 22.15
k **15.12** Or *he sent*
* **15.12** v 31; Josh 15.51; Ps 3.1
* **15.13** v 6; Judg 9.3
* **15.14** 2 Sam 12.11; 19.9
* **15.16** 2 Sam 16.21, 22
* **15.18** 2 Sam 8.18
* **15.19** 2 Sam 18.2
l **15.20** Cn Compare Gk: Heb lacks *may the LORD show*
* **15.20** 1 Sam 23.13
* **15.21** Ruth 1.16, 17
* **15.24** Num 4.15; 1 Sam 22.20; 2 Sam 8.17
* **15.25** Ps 43.3; Jer 25.30
* **15.26** 1 Sam 3.18; 2 Sam 22.20; 1 Kings 10.9
m **15.27** Gk: Heb *Are you a seer* or *Do you see?*
n **15.27** Cn: Heb lacks *and Abiathar*
* **15.27** 1 Sam 9.6–9; 2 Sam 17.17
* **15.28** 2 Sam 17.16
* **15.30** 2 Sam 19.4; Esth 6.12; Ps 126.6; Isa 20.2–4
* **15.31** v 12; 2 Sam 16.23; 17.14, 23
* **15.32** Josh 16.2; 2 Sam 1.2
* **15.33** 2 Sam 19.35
* **15.34** 2 Sam 16.19
* **15.35** 2 Sam 17.15, 16
* **15.36** v 27; 2 Sam 17.17
* **15.37** 2 Sam 16.16, 17; 1 Chr 27.33

2 Samuel 16

* **16.1** 2 Sam 9.2–13; 15.32
* **16.2** 2 Sam 17.29
* **16.3** 2 Sam 9.9, 10; 19.26, 27

* **16.5** 2 Sam 3.16–18; 19.16–23; 1 Kings 2.8
* **16.7** 2 Sam 12.9
* **16.8** 2 Sam 21.1–9
* **16.9** 2 Sam 9.8; 19.21
* **16.10** 2 Sam 19.22; 2 Kings 18.25; Rom 9.20; 1 Pet 2.23
* **16.11** Gen 45.5; 2 Sam 12.11
o **16.12** Gk Vg: Heb *iniquity*
* **16.12** Rom 8.28
p **16.14** Gk ms: Heb lacks *at the Jordan*
q **16.15** Gk: Heb *all the people, the men of Israel*
* **16.15** 2 Sam 15.37
* **16.16** 2 Sam 15.37
* **16.17** 2 Sam 19.25
* **16.19** 2 Sam 15.34
* **16.21** 1 Sam 13.4; 2 Sam 2.7; 15.16
* **16.22** 2 Sam 12.11, 12
r **16.23** Heb *word*
* **16.23** 2 Sam 15.12

2 Samuel 17

* **17.2** 2 Sam 16.14; 1 Kings 22.31
s **17.3** Gk: Heb *like the return of the whole (is) the man whom you seek*
* **17.5** 2 Sam 15.31–34
* **17.8** 1 Sam 16.18; Hos 13.8
t **17.9** Gk mss: Heb *some of them*
* **17.10** Josh 2.11
* **17.14** 2 Sam 15.31, 34
* **17.15** 2 Sam 15.35
* **17.16** 2 Sam 15.28
* **17.17** Josh 15.7; 18.16; 2 Sam 15.27, 36
* **17.18** 2 Sam 16.5
* **17.19** Josh 2.4–6
u **17.20** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **17.20** Josh 2.3–5; 1 Sam 19.12–17
* **17.21** vv 15, 16
* **17.23** 2 Sam 15.12; 2 Kings 20.1; Mt 27.5
* **17.24** Gen 32.2; 2 Sam 2.8
v **17.25** Gk mss: Heb *Israelite*
* **17.25** 2 Sam 19.13; 20.9–12
* **17.27** 2 Sam 10.1, 2; 12.26, 29; 19.31, 32; 1 Kings 2.7
w **17.28** Heb *and lentils and parched grain*

* **17.29** 2 Sam 16.2

2 Samuel 18

* **18.1** Ex 18.25; 1 Sam 22.7
* **18.2** 1 Sam 11.11; 2 Sam 15.19
x **18.3** Gk Vg Symmachus: Heb *for now there are ten thousand such as we*
* **18.3** 2 Sam 21.17
* **18.4** v 24
* **18.5** v 12
* **18.6** Josh 17.15, 18
y **18.9** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *was put*
* **18.9** 2 Sam 14.26
* **18.12** v 5
z **18.13** Another reading is *at the risk of my life*
* **18.14** 2 Sam 14.30
* **18.16** 2 Sam 2.28; 20.22
* **18.17** Josh 7.26; 8.29
* **18.18** Gen 14.17; 1 Sam 15.12; 2 Sam 14.27
* **18.19** v 31; 2 Sam 15.36
a **18.22** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **18.24** 2 Sam 13.34; 19.8; 2 Kings 9.17
* **18.28** 1 Sam 17.46; 25.23; 2 Sam 14.4
* **18.29** v 22
* **18.31** v 19; Judg 5.31
* **18.32** 1 Sam 25.26
b **18.33** 19.1 in Heb
* **18.33** Ex 32.32; 2 Sam 19.4; Rom 9.3

2 Samuel 19

* **19.1** 2 Sam 18.33
* **19.4** 2 Sam 15.30; 18.33
* **19.8** 2 Sam 15.2; 18.4
* **19.9** 2 Sam 5.20; 8.1–14; 15.14
c **19.11** Gk: Heb *to the king, to his house*
* **19.12** 2 Sam 5.1
* **19.13** vv 5–7; 2 Sam 17.25; 1 Kings 8.16; 19.2
d **19.14** Heb *He*
* **19.14** Judg 20.1
* **19.15** Josh 5.9
* **19.16** 2 Sam 16.5; 1 Kings 2.8

* **19.17** 2 Sam 16.1, 2
e **19.18** Cn: Heb *the ford crossed*
* **19.19** 1 Sam 22.15; 2 Sam 13.33; 16.6–8
* **19.20** 2 Sam 16.5
* **19.21** Ex 22.28; 2 Sam 16.7, 8
* **19.22** 1 Sam 11.13; 2 Sam 16.10
* **19.23** 1 Kings 2.8
* **19.24** 2 Sam 9.6–10
* **19.25** 2 Sam 16.17
f **19.26** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *said, 'I will saddle a donkey for myself*
* **19.26** 2 Sam 9.3
* **19.27** 2 Sam 14.17, 20; 16.3
* **19.28** 2 Sam 9.7, 10, 13; 21.6–9
* **19.31** 1 Kings 2.7
* **19.32** 2 Sam 17.27
* **19.35** Ps 90.10; Isa 5.11, 12
* **19.37** v 40; 1 Kings 2.7; Jer 41.17
* **19.39** Gen 31.55
* **19.41** v 15
* **19.42** v 12
* **19.43** 1 Kings 11.30, 31

2 Samuel 20

* **20.1** 2 Sam 19.43; 1 Kings 12.16; 2 Chr 10.16
* **20.3** 2 Sam 15.16; 16.21, 22
* **20.4** 2 Sam 19.13
* **20.6** 2 Sam 11.11; 1 Kings 1.33
* **20.7** 2 Sam 8.18; 15.18; 1 Kings 1.38
* **20.9** Mt 26.49
* **20.10** 2 Sam 2.23; 3.27; 1 Kings 2.5
g **20.14** Heb *He*
h **20.14** Compare 20.15: Heb *and Beth-maacah*
i **20.14** Compare Gk Vg: Heb *Berites*
j **20.15** Heb *They*
* **20.15** 1 Kings 15.20; 2 Kings 19.32
* **20.16** 2 Sam 14.2
* **20.19** 1 Sam 26.19; 2 Sam 21.3
* **20.21** v 2
* **20.22** v 1; Eccl 9.13–16
k **20.23** Cn: Heb *Joab to all the army, Israel*
* **20.23** 2 Sam 8.16–18

* **20.25** 2 Sam 8.17
* **20.26** 2 Sam 23.38

2 Samuel 21

* **21.2** Josh 9.3, 15–17
* **21.3** 2 Sam 20.19
* **21.4** Num 35.31, 32
* **21.5** 1 Sam 10.24, 26

l **21.6** Cn Compare: Heb *at Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of the* LORD

* **21.7** 1 Sam 18.3; 20.8, 15; 23.18; 2 Sam 4.4; 9.10

m **21.8** Heb mss Syr Compare Gk: MT *Michal*

* **21.8** 2 Sam 3.7

n **21.10** Heb *them*

* **21.10** v 8; Deut 21.23; 1 Sam 17.44, 46
* **21.12** 1 Sam 31.10–13
* **21.14** Josh 7.26; 18.28; 2 Sam 24.25

o **21.16** Heb *was belted anew*

* **21.17** 2 Sam 6.17; 18.3
* **21.18** 1 Chr 11.29; 20.4
* **21.19** 1 Chr 20.5

p **21.20** Gk: Heb *from the Raphah*

q **21.22** Gk: Heb *from the Raphah*

2 Samuel 22

* **22.1** Ex 15.1; Ps 18.2–50
* **22.2** Deut 32.4; Ps 31.3; 71.3; 91.2; 144.2
* **22.3** Gen 15.1; Ps 9.9; 14.6; Jer 16.19; Lk 1.69; Heb 2.13
* **22.4** Ps 48.1
* **22.5** Ps 69.14, 15; 93.4; Jon 2.3
* **22.6** Ps 116.3
* **22.7** Ps 34.6, 15; 116.4; 120.1
* **22.8** Judg 5.4; Job 26.11; Ps 77.18
* **22.9** Ps 97.3; Heb 12.29
* **22.10** Ex 19.16; 1 Kings 8.12; Ps 97.2
* **22.11** Ps 104.3
* **22.12** Ps 97.2
* **22.14** 1 Sam 2.10
* **22.16** Hab 3.11
* **22.17** Ps 32.6; 144.7
* **22.19** Ps 23.4

* **22.20** Ps 22.8; 31.8
* **22.21** 1 Kings 8.32; Ps 24.4
* **22.22** Gen 18.19; Ps 128.1
* **22.23** Deut 6.6–9
* **22.24** Gen 7.1; 17.1; Eph 1.4
* **22.25** v 21
r **22.26** Heb mss Gk: MT *blameless warrior*
* **22.26** Mt 5.7
* **22.27** Lev 26.23
* **22.28** Ps 72.12; Isa 2.11, 12, 17
* **22.29** Ps 27.1
* **22.31** Deut 32.4; Ps 12.6; Mt 5.48
* **22.32** 1 Sam 2.2
s **22.33** Q ms Gk Syr Vg: MT *God is my strong refuge*
t **22.33** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.33** Ps 27.1; 101.2, 6
* **22.34** Deut 32.13; Hab 3.19
* **22.35** Ps 144.1
u **22.36** Q ms: MT *your answering*
* **22.37** Prov 4.12
* **22.39** Mal 4.3
* **22.40** Ps 44.5
* **22.41** Ex 23.27; Josh 10.24
* **22.42** 1 Sam 28.6; Ps 50.22
* **22.43** Ps 18.42; Isa 10.6
v **22.44** Heb mss Q ms Gk: MT *my people*
* **22.44** Deut 28.13; 2 Sam 3.1; Isa 55.5
* **22.45** Ps 66.3
w **22.46** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.46** Mic 7.17
* **22.47** Ps 89.26
* **22.48** Ps 94.1; 144.2
* **22.49** Ps 44.5; 140.1
* **22.50** Rom 15.9
* **22.51** 2 Sam 7.12–16; Ps 144.10

2 Samuel 23

x **23.1** Q ms: MT *who was raised on high*
* **23.1** 1 Sam 16.12, 13; 2 Sam 7.8, 9; Ps 78.70; 89.20
* **23.2** 2 Pet 1.21
* **23.3** Ex 18.21; Deut 32.4; 2 Sam 22.2; 2 Chr 19.7, 9

* **23.4** Judg 5.31; Ps 89.36
* **23.5** Ps 89.29; Isa 55.3
y **23.6** Heb *worthless*
* **23.6** Mt 13.41
z **23.7** Heb *in sitting*
a **23.8** Gk Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
b **23.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **23.9** 1 Chr 27.4
* **23.10** 1 Chr 11.12–14
* **23.11** 1 Chr 11.27
* **23.13** 1 Sam 22.1; 2 Sam 5.18
* **23.14** 1 Sam 22.4, 5
* **23.17** Lev 17.10
c **23.18** Heb mss Syr: MT *Three*
* **23.18** 2 Sam 10.10, 14; 1 Chr 11.20
d **23.19** Heb ms Syr: Heb *Was he the most renowned of the Three?*
e **23.20** Another reading is *the son of Ish-hai*
f **23.20** Gk: Heb lacks *sons of*
* **23.20** Josh 15.21; 2 Sam 8.18
* **23.23** 2 Sam 8.18; 20.23
* **23.24** 2 Sam 2.18
* **23.25** 1 Chr 11.27
g **23.31** Cn: Heb *the Barhumite*
h **23.33** Gk: Heb lacks *son of*
i **23.35** Another reading is *Hezrai*
* **23.38** 2 Sam 20.26
* **23.39** 2 Sam 11.3, 6

2 Samuel 24

* **24.1** 2 Sam 21.1, 2; 1 Chr 27.23, 24
j **24.2** Cn Compare 1 Chr 21.2 Gk: Heb *to Joab the commander of the army*
* **24.2** Judg 20.1; 2 Sam 3.10
k **24.5** Gk mss: Heb *encamped in Aroer south of*
* **24.5** Num 32.1, 3; Deut 2.36; Josh 13.9, 16
l **24.6** Gk: Heb *to the land of Tahtim-hodshi*
m **24.6** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *they came to Dan-jaan and*
* **24.6** Josh 19.28
* **24.7** Gen 21.22–33; Josh 11.3
* **24.9** 1 Chr 21.5
* **24.10** 1 Sam 13.13; 24.5; 2 Sam 12.13
* **24.11** 1 Sam 9.9; 22.5; 1 Chr 29.29

n **24.12** Or *hold over*
* **24.12** 1 Chr 21.12
* **24.14** Ps 103.8, 13, 14
* **24.15** 1 Chr 21.14; 27.24
o **24.16** Q ms: MT lacks *standing*
* **24.16** Gen 6.6; Ex 12.23; 1 Sam 15.11
p **24.16** Q ms Compare 1 Chr 21.16: MT lacks *David looked . . . faces*
q **24.17** Q ms Gk: MT reads *I alone have done wickedly*
* **24.17** v 10; 1 Chr 21.17
* **24.18** 1 Chr 21.18ff
* **24.21** Num 16.48, 50
* **24.22** 1 Kings 19.21
* **24.23** Ezek 20.40, 41
* **24.24** 1 Chr 21.24, 25
* **24.25** v 21; 2 Sam 21.14

1 Kings

1 Kings 1

THE STRUGGLE FOR THE SUCCESSION

1 King David was old and advanced in years, and although they covered
him with clothes, he could not get warm. 2So his servants said to him, "Let
a young virgin be sought for my lord the king, and let her wait on the king
and be his attendant; let her lie in your bosom, so that my lord the king may
be warm." 3So they searched for a beautiful young woman throughout all
the territory of Israel and found Abishag the Shunammite and brought her
to the king.* 4The young woman was very beautiful. She became the king's
attendant and served him, but the king did not know her sexually.

5 Now Adonijah son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king."
He prepared for himself chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before
him.* 6His father had never at any time reprimanded him by asking, "Why
have you done thus and so?" He was also a very handsome man, and he was
born next after Absalom.* 7He conferred with Joab son of Zeruiah and with
the priest Abiathar, and they supported Adonijah.* 8But the priest Zadok,
and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the prophet Nathan, and Shammah[a] and
his companions,[b] David's own warriors, did not side with Adonijah.*

9 Adonijah sacrificed sheep, oxen, and fatted cattle by the stone
Zoheleth, which is beside En-rogel, and he invited all his brothers, the
king's sons, and all the royal officials of Judah,* 10but he did not invite the
prophet Nathan or Benaiah or the warriors or his brother Solomon.*

11 Then Nathan said to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, "Have you not
heard that Adonijah son of Haggith has become king and our lord David
does not know it?* 12Now therefore come, let me give you advice, so that
you may save your own life and the life of your son Solomon. 13Go in at
once to King David and say to him, 'Did you not, my lord the king, swear
to your servant, saying, "Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and
he shall sit on my throne? Why then is Adonijah king?" '* 14Then while you

are still there speaking with the king, I will come in after you and confirm your words."

15 So Bathsheba went to the king in his room. The king was very old; Abishag the Shunammite was attending the king.* [16]Bathsheba bowed and did obeisance to the king, and the king said, "What do you wish?" [17]She said to him, "My lord, you swore to your servant by the LORD your God, saying, 'Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne.'* [18]But now suddenly Adonijah has become king, though you, my lord the king, do not know it. [19]He has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance and has invited all the children of the king, the priest Abiathar, and Joab the commander of the army, but your servant Solomon he has not invited.* [20]But you, my lord the king, the eyes of all Israel are on you to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him. [21]Otherwise it will come to pass, when my lord the king sleeps with his ancestors, that my son Solomon and I will be counted offenders."*

22 While she was still speaking with the king, the prophet Nathan came in. [23]The king was told, "Here is the prophet Nathan." When he came in before the king, he did obeisance to the king, with his face to the ground. [24]Nathan said, "My lord the king, have you said, 'Adonijah shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne'? [25]For today he has gone down and has sacrificed oxen, fatted cattle, and sheep in abundance and has invited all the king's children, Joab the commander[c] of the army, and the priest Abiathar, who are now eating and drinking before him, and saying, 'Long live King Adonijah!'* [26]But he did not invite me, your servant, and the priest Zadok, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and your servant Solomon.* [27]Has this thing been brought about by my lord the king and you have not let your servants know who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?"

THE ACCESSION OF SOLOMON

28 King David answered, "Summon Bathsheba to me." So she came into the king's presence and stood before the king. [29]The king swore, saying, "As the LORD lives, who has saved my life from every adversity,* [30]as I swore to you by the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Your son Solomon shall succeed me as king, and he shall sit on my throne in my place,' so will I do

this day."* 31Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground and did obeisance to the king and said, "May my lord King David live forever!"*

32 King David said, "Summon to me the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, and Benaiah son of Jehoiada." When they came before the king, 33the king said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord and have my son Solomon ride on my own mule and bring him down to Gihon.* 34There let the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan anoint him king over Israel; then blow the trumpet and say, 'Long live King Solomon!'* 35You shall go up following him. Let him enter and sit on my throne; he shall be king in my place, for I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah." 36Benaiah son of Jehoiada answered the king, "Amen! May the LORD, the God of my lord the king, so ordain. 37As the LORD has been with my lord the king, so may he be with Solomon and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord King David."*

38 So the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites went down and had Solomon ride on King David's mule and led him to Gihon.* 39There the priest Zadok took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!"* 40And all the people went up following him, playing on pipes and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth quaked at their noise.

41 Adonijah and all the guests who were with him heard it as they finished feasting. When Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, "Why is the city in an uproar?" 42While he was still speaking, Jonathan son of the priest Abiathar arrived. Adonijah said, "Come in, for you are a worthy man and surely you bring good news."* 43Jonathan answered Adonijah, "No, for our lord King David has made Solomon king; 44the king has sent with him the priest Zadok, the prophet Nathan, Benaiah son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites and the Pelethites, and they had him ride on the king's mule; 45the priest Zadok and the prophet Nathan have anointed him king at Gihon, and they have gone up from there rejoicing, so that the city is in an uproar. This is the noise that you heard.* 46Solomon now sits on the royal throne.* 47Moreover, the king's servants came to congratulate our lord King David, saying, 'May God make the name of Solomon more famous than yours and make his throne greater than your throne.' The king bowed in worship on

the bed* 48and went on to pray thus, ‘Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who today has granted one of my offspring[d] to sit on my throne and permitted me to witness it.’ ”*

49 Then all the guests of Adonijah got up trembling and went their own ways. 50Adonijah, fearing Solomon, got up and went to grasp the horns of the altar.* 51Solomon was informed, “Adonijah is afraid of King Solomon; see, he has laid hold of the horns of the altar, saying, ‘Let King Solomon swear to me first that he will not kill his servant with the sword.’ ” 52So Solomon responded, “If he proves to be a worthy man, not one of his hairs shall fall to the ground, but if wickedness is found in him, he shall die.”* 53Then King Solomon sent to have him brought down from the altar. He came to do obeisance to King Solomon, and Solomon said to him, “Go home.”

1 Kings 2

DAVID'S INSTRUCTION TO SOLOMON

1 When David's time to die drew near, he charged his son Solomon,
saying:* 2"I am about to go the way of all the earth. Be strong, be
courageous,* 3and keep the charge of the LORD your God, walking in his
ways and keeping his statutes, his commandments, his ordinances, and his
testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, so that you may prosper in
all that you do and wherever you turn.* 4Then the LORD will establish his
word that he spoke concerning me: 'If your heirs take heed to their way, to
walk before me in faithfulness with all their heart and with all their soul,
there shall not fail you a successor on the throne of Israel.'*

5 "Moreover, you know also what Joab son of Zeruiah did to me, how he
dealt with the two commanders of the armies of Israel, Abner son of Ner
and Amasa son of Jether, whom he murdered, retaliating in time of peace
for blood that had been shed in war and putting innocent blood[e] on the belt
around my[f] waist and on the sandals on my[g] feet.* 6Act, therefore,
according to your wisdom, but do not let his gray head go down to Sheol in
peace.* 7Deal loyally, however, with the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and
let them be among those who eat at your table, for with such loyalty they
met me when I fled from your brother Absalom.* 8There is also with you
Shimei son of Gera, a Benjaminite from Bahurim, who cursed me with a
terrible curse on the day when I went to Mahanaim, but when he came
down to meet me at the Jordan, I swore to him by the LORD, 'I will not put
you to death with the sword.'* 9Therefore do not hold him guiltless, for you
are a wise man; you will know what you ought to do to him, and you must
bring his gray head down with blood to Sheol."*

DEATH OF DAVID

10 Then David slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of
David.* 11The time that David reigned over Israel was forty years; he
reigned seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.* 12So

Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his kingdom was firmly established.*

SOLOMON CONSOLIDATES HIS REIGN

13 Then Adonijah son of Haggith came to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother. She asked, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably."* [14]Then he said, "May I have a word with you?" She said, "Go on." [15]He said, "You know that the kingdom was mine and that all Israel expected me to reign; however, the kingdom has turned about and become my brother's, for it was his from the LORD.* [16]And now I have one request to make of you; do not refuse me." She said to him, "Go on." [17]He said, "Please ask King Solomon —he will not refuse you—to give me Abishag the Shunammite as my wife."* [18]Bathsheba said, "Very well; I will speak to the king on your behalf."

19 So Bathsheba went to King Solomon, to speak to him on behalf of Adonijah. The king rose to meet her and bowed down to her; then he sat on his throne and had a throne brought for the king's mother, and she sat on his right.* [20]Then she said, "I have one small request to make of you; do not refuse me." And the king said to her, "Make your request, my mother, for I will not refuse you."* [21]She said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to your brother Adonijah as his wife."* [22]King Solomon answered his mother, "And why do you ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom as well! For he is my elder brother, and the priest Abiathar and Joab son of Zeruiah are on his side!"* [23]Then King Solomon swore by the LORD, "So may God do to me, and more also, for Adonijah has devised this scheme at the risk of his life!* [24]Now therefore as the LORD lives, who has established me and placed me on the throne of my father David and who has made me a house as he promised, today Adonijah shall be put to death."* [25]So King Solomon sent Benaiah son of Jehoiada; he struck him down, and he died.

26 The king said to the priest Abiathar, "Go to Anathoth, to your estate, for you deserve death. But I will not at this time put you to death because you carried the ark of the Lord GOD before my father David and because you shared in all the hardships my father endured."* [27]So Solomon

banished Abiathar from being priest to the LORD, thus fulfilling the word of the LORD that he had spoken concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.*

28 When the news came to Joab—for Joab had supported Adonijah though he had not supported Absalom—Joab fled to the tent of the LORD and grasped the horns of the altar.* [29]When it was told King Solomon, "Joab has fled to the tent of the LORD and now is beside the altar," Solomon sent Benaiah son of Jehoiada, saying, "Go, strike him down."* [30]So Benaiah came to the tent of the LORD and said to him, "The king commands, 'Come out.' " But he said, "No, I will die here." Then Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, "Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me." [31]The king replied to him, "Do as he has said, strike him down and bury him, and thus take away from me and from my father's house the guilt for the blood that Joab shed without cause.* [32]The LORD will bring back his bloody deeds on his own head because, without the knowledge of my father David, he attacked and killed with the sword two men more righteous and better than he: Abner son of Ner, commander of the army of Israel, and Amasa son of Jether, commander of the army of Judah.* [33]So shall their blood come back on the head of Joab and on the head of his descendants forever, but to David, and to his descendants, and to his house, and to his throne there shall be peace from the LORD forevermore."* [34]Then Benaiah son of Jehoiada went up and struck him down and killed him, and he was buried at his own house near the wilderness. [35]The king put Benaiah son of Jehoiada over the army in his place, and the king put the priest Zadok in the place of Abiathar.*

36 Then the king sent and summoned Shimei and said to him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and live there, and do not go out from there to any place whatever.* [37]For on the day you go out and cross the Wadi Kidron, know for certain that you shall die; your blood shall be on your own head."* [38]And Shimei said to the king, "The sentence is fair; as my lord the king has said, so will your servant do." So Shimei lived in Jerusalem many days.

39 But it happened at the end of three years that two of Shimei's slaves ran away to King Achish son of Maacah of Gath. When it was told Shimei, "Your slaves are in Gath,"* [40]Shimei arose and saddled a donkey and went to Achish in Gath, to search for his slaves; Shimei went and brought his

slaves from Gath.* 41When Solomon was told that Shimei had gone from
Jerusalem to Gath and returned, 42the king sent and summoned Shimei and
said to him, “Did I not make you swear by the LORD and solemnly adjure
you, saying, ‘Know for certain that on the day you go out and go to any
place whatever, you shall die’? And you said to me, ‘The sentence is fair; I
accept.’ 43Why then have you not kept your oath to the LORD and the
commandment with which I charged you?” 44The king also said to Shimei,
“You know in your own heart all the evil that you did to my father David,
so the LORD will bring back your evil on your own head.* 45But King
Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established
before the LORD forever.”* 46Then the king commanded Benaiah son of
Jehoiada, and he went out and struck him down, and he died.

So the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.*

1 Kings 3

SOLOMON'S PRAYER FOR WISDOM

1 Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt; he took
Pharaoh's daughter and brought her into the city of David until he had
finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall
around Jerusalem.* [2]The people were sacrificing at the high places,
however, because no house had yet been built for the name of the LORD.*

3 Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David,
except that he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places.* [4]The king
went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place;
Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.* [5]At Gibeon
the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask
what I should give you."* [6]And Solomon said, "You have shown great and
steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before
you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward
you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given
him a son to sit on his throne today.* [7]And now, O LORD my God, you have
made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a
little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.* [8]And your servant is
in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so
numerous they cannot be numbered or counted.* [9]Give your servant,
therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern
between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"*

10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. [11]God said to him,
"Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or
riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself
understanding to discern what is right,* [12]I now do according to your word.
Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been
before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.* [13]I give you also what
you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall
compare with you.* [14]If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and

my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."*

15 Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem, where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. He offered up burnt offerings and offerings of well-being and provided a feast for all his servants.*

SOLOMON'S WISDOM IN JUDGMENT

16 Later, two women who were prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. [17]The one woman said, "Please, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house, and I gave birth while she was in the house.* [18]Then on the third day after I gave birth, this woman also gave birth. We were together; there was no one else with us in the house; only the two of us were in the house. [19]Then this woman's son died in the night because she lay on him. [20]She got up in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your servant slept. She laid him at her breast and laid her dead son at my breast.* [21]When I rose in the morning to nurse my son, I saw that he was dead, but when I looked at him closely in the morning, clearly it was not the son I had borne." [22]But the other woman said, "No, the living son is mine, and the dead son is yours." The first said, "No, the dead son is yours, and the living son is mine." So they argued before the king.

23 Then the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son who is alive, and your son is dead,' while the other says, 'Not so! Your son is dead, and my son is the living one.' " [24]So the king said, "Bring me a sword," and they brought a sword before the king. [25]The king said, "Divide the living boy in two; then give half to the one and half to the other." [26]But the woman whose son was alive said to the king, because compassion for her son burned within her, "Please, my lord, give her the living boy; certainly do not kill him!" The other said, "It shall be neither mine nor yours; divide it."* [27]Then the king responded, "Give her the living boy; do not kill him. She is his mother." [28]All Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to execute justice.*

1 Kings 4

SOLOMON'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

1 King Solomon was king over all Israel, [2]and these were his high officials:
Azariah son of Zadok was the priest; [3]Elihoreph and Ahijah sons of Shisha
were secretaries; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder; [4]Benaiah son of
Jehoiada was in command of the army; Zadok and Abiathar were priests;
[5]Azariah son of Nathan was over the officials; Zabud son of Nathan was
priest and king's friend;* [6]Ahishar was in charge of the palace; and
Adoniram son of Abda was in charge of the forced labor.

7 Solomon had twelve officials over all Israel who provided food for the
king and his household; each one had to make provision for one month in
the year. [8]These were their names: Ben-hur, in the hill country of Ephraim;*
[9]Ben-deker, in Makaz, Shaalbim, Beth-shemesh, and Elon-beth-hanan;*
[10]Ben-hesed, in Arubboth (to him belonged Socoh and all the land of
Hepher);* [11]Ben-abinadab, in all Naphath-dor (he had Taphath, Solomon's
daughter, as his wife);* [12]Baana son of Ahilud, in Taanach, Megiddo, and
all Beth-shean, which is beside Zarethan below Jezreel, and from Beth-
shean to Abel-meholah, as far as the other side of Jokmeam;* [13]Ben-geber,
in Ramoth-gilead (he had the villages of Jair son of Manasseh, which are in
Gilead, and he had the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, sixty great
cities with walls and bronze bars);* [14]Ahinadab son of Iddo, in Mahanaim;*
[15]Ahimaaz, in Naphtali (he had taken Basemath, Solomon's daughter, as his
wife);* [16]Baana son of Hushai, in Asher and Bealoth;* [17]Jehoshaphat son of
Paruah, in Issachar; [18]Shimei son of Ela, in Benjamin;* [19]Geber son of Uri,
in the land of Gilead, the country of King Sihon of the Amorites and of
King Og of Bashan. And there was one garrison in the land.*

MAGNIFICENCE OF SOLOMON'S RULE

[[**20** Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand by the sea; they ate
and drank and were happy.* [21h]Solomon was sovereign over all the
kingdoms from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines, even to the

border of Egypt; they brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life.[i,*]]]

22 Solomon's provision for one day was thirty cors of choice flour and sixty cors of meal, [23]ten fat oxen and twenty pasture-fed cattle, one hundred sheep, besides deer, gazelles, roebucks, and fatted fowl. [24]For he had dominion over all the region west of the Euphrates,[j] and he had peace on all sides.[*] [25]During Solomon's lifetime Judah and Israel lived in safety, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all of them under their vines and fig trees.[*] [26]Solomon also had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots and twelve thousand horsemen.[*] [27]Those officials supplied provisions for King Solomon and for all who came to King Solomon's table, each one in his month; they let nothing be lacking.[*] [28]They also brought to the required place barley and straw for the horses and swift steeds, each according to his charge.

FAME OF SOLOMON'S WISDOM

29 God gave Solomon very great wisdom, discernment, and breadth of understanding as vast as the sand on the seashore,[*] [30]so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt.[*] [31]He was wiser than anyone else, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, children of Mahol; his fame spread throughout all the surrounding nations.[*] [32]He composed three thousand proverbs, and his songs numbered a thousand and five.[*] [33]He would speak of trees, from the cedar that is in the Lebanon to the hyssop that grows in the wall; he would speak of animals, and birds, and reptiles, and fish. [34]People came from all the nations to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.[*]

1 Kings 5

PREPARATIONS AND MATERIALS FOR THE TEMPLE

1 [k]Now King Hiram of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon when he heard
that they had anointed him king in place of his father, for Hiram had always
been a friend to David.* [2]Solomon sent word to Hiram, saying, [3]"You know
that my father David could not build a house for the name of the LORD his
God because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him, until
he[l] put them under the soles of his feet.[m,*] [4]But now the LORD my God has
given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor misfortune.* [5]So
I intend to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD said
to my father David, 'Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your
place, shall build the house for my name.'* [6]Therefore command that cedars
from the Lebanon be cut for me. My servants will join your servants, and I
will give you whatever wages you set for your servants, for you know that
there is no one among us who knows how to cut timber like the Sidonians."

7 When Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he rejoiced greatly and said,
"Blessed be the LORD today, who has given to David a wise son to be over
this great people." [8]Hiram sent word to Solomon, "I have heard the message
that you have sent to me; I will fulfill all your needs in the matter of cedar
and cypress timber. [9]My servants shall bring it down to the sea from the
Lebanon; I will make it into rafts to go by sea to the place you indicate. I
will have them broken up there for you to take away. And you shall meet
my needs by providing food for my household."* [10]So Hiram supplied
Solomon's every need for timber of cedar and cypress. [11]Solomon, in turn,
gave Hiram twenty thousand cors of wheat as food for his household and
twenty cors of fine oil. Solomon gave this to Hiram year by year.* [12]So the
LORD gave Solomon wisdom, as he had promised him. There was peace
between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a treaty.*

13 King Solomon conscripted forced labor out of all Israel; the levy
numbered thirty thousand men. [14]He sent them to the Lebanon, ten
thousand a month in shifts; they would be a month in the Lebanon and two
months at home;[n] Adoniram was in charge of the forced labor.* [15]Solomon

also had seventy thousand laborers and eighty thousand stonecutters in the hill country,* 16besides Solomon's three thousand three hundred supervisors who were over the work, having charge of the people who did the work. 17At the king's command, they quarried out great, costly stones in order to lay the foundation of the house with dressed stones.* 18So Solomon's builders and Hiram's builders and the Gebalites did the stonecutting and prepared the timber and the stone to build the house.

1 Kings 6

SOLOMON BUILDS THE TEMPLE

1 In the four hundred eightieth year after the Israelites came out of the land
of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of
Ziv, which is the second month, he began to build the house of the LORD.*
2The house that King Solomon built for the LORD was sixty cubits long,
twenty cubits wide, and thirty cubits high.* 3The vestibule in front of the
nave of the house was twenty cubits wide, across the width of the house. Its
depth was ten cubits in front of the house. 4For the house he made windows
with recessed frames.[o,*] 5He also built a structure against the wall of the
house, running around the walls of the house, both the nave and the inner
sanctuary, and he made side chambers all around.* 6The lowest story[p] was
five cubits wide, the middle one was six cubits wide, and the third was
seven cubits wide, for around the outside of the house he made offsets on
the wall in order that the supporting beams should not be inserted into the
walls of the house.

7 The house was built with stone finished at the quarry so that neither
hammer nor ax nor any tool of iron was heard in the temple while it was
being built.*

8 The entrance for the lower[q] story was on the south side of the house:
one went up by winding stairs to the middle story and from the middle story
to the third. 9So he built the house and finished it; he roofed the house with
beams and planks of cedar.* 10He built the structure against the whole
house, each story[r] five cubits high, and it was joined to the house with
timbers of cedar.

11 Now the word of the LORD came to Solomon, 12"Concerning this
house that you are building, if you will walk in my statutes, obey my
ordinances, and keep all my commandments by walking in them, then I will
establish my promise with you that I made to your father David.* 13I will
dwell among the Israelites and will not forsake my people Israel."*

14 So Solomon built the house and finished it.* 15He lined the walls of
the house on the inside with boards of cedar; from the floor of the house to

the rafters of the ceiling, he covered them on the inside with wood, and he covered the floor of the house with boards of cypress. [16]He built twenty cubits of the rear of the house with boards of cedar from the floor to the rafters, and he built this within as an inner sanctuary, as the most holy place.* [17]The house, that is, the nave in front of the inner sanctuary, was forty cubits long. [18]The cedar within the house had carvings of gourds and open flowers; all was cedar; no stone was seen.* [19]The inner sanctuary he prepared in the innermost part of the house, to set there the ark of the covenant of the LORD. [20]The interior of the inner sanctuary was twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and twenty cubits high; he overlaid it with pure gold. He also overlaid the altar with cedar.[s] [21]Solomon overlaid the inside of the house with pure gold, then he drew chains of gold across, in front of the inner sanctuary, and overlaid it with gold. [22]Next he overlaid the whole house with gold, in order that the whole house might be perfect; even the whole altar that belonged to the inner sanctuary he overlaid with gold.*

THE FURNISHINGS OF THE TEMPLE

23 In the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olivewood, each ten cubits high.* [24]Five cubits was the length of one wing of the cherub and five cubits the length of the other wing of the cherub; it was ten cubits from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. [25]The other cherub also measured ten cubits; both cherubim had the same measure and the same form. [26]The height of one cherub was ten cubits, and so was that of the other cherub. [27]He put the cherubim in the innermost part of the house; the wings of the cherubim were spread out so that a wing of one was touching the one wall and a wing of the other cherub was touching the other wall; their other wings toward the center of the house were touching wing to wing.* [28]He also overlaid the cherubim with gold.

29 He carved the walls of the house all around about with carved engravings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, in the inner and outer rooms. [30]The floor of the house he overlaid with gold, in the inner and outer rooms.

31 For the entrance to the inner sanctuary he made doors of olivewood; the lintel and the doorposts were five-sided.[t] [32]He covered the two doors of

olivewood with carvings of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers; he overlaid them with gold and spread gold on the cherubim and on the palm trees.

33 So also he made for the entrance to the nave doorposts of olivewood, four-sided each, [34]and two doors of cypress wood; the two leaves of the one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding.* [35]He carved cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, overlaying them with gold evenly applied upon the carved work. [36]He built the inner court with three courses of dressed stone to one course of cedar beams.*

37 In the fourth year the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid, in the month of Ziv.* [38]In the eleventh year, in the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was finished in all its parts and according to all its specifications. He was seven years in building it.

1 Kings 7

SOLOMON'S PALACE AND OTHER BUILDINGS

1 Solomon was building his own house thirteen years, and he finished his entire house.*

2 He built the House of the Forest of the Lebanon one hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide, and thirty cubits high, built on four rows of cedar pillars, with cedar beams on the pillars.* [3]It was roofed with cedar on the forty-five rafters, fifteen in each row, which were on the pillars. [4]There were window frames in the three rows, facing each other in the three rows. [5]All the doorways and doorposts had four-sided frames, opposite, facing each other in the three rows.

6 He made the Hall of Pillars fifty cubits long and thirty cubits wide. There was a porch in front with pillars and a canopy in front of them.

7 He made the Hall of the Throne where he was to pronounce judgment, the Hall of Justice, covered with cedar from the floor to the rafters.[u],*

8 His own house where he would reside, in the other court back of the hall, was of the same construction. Solomon also made a house like this hall for Pharaoh's daughter, whom he had taken in marriage.*

9 All these were made of costly stones, cut according to measure, sawed with saws, back and front, from the foundation to the coping and from outside to the great court. [10]The foundation was of costly stones, huge stones, stones of eight and ten cubits. [11]There were costly stones above, cut to measure, and cedarwood. [12]The great court had three courses of dressed stone to one layer of cedar beams all around; so had the inner court of the house of the LORD and the vestibule of the house.*

PRODUCTS OF HIRAM THE BRONZEWORKER

13 Now King Solomon invited and received Hiram from Tyre.* [14]He was the son of a widow of the tribe of Naphtali, whose father, a man of Tyre, had been an artisan in bronze; he was full of skill, intelligence, and

knowledge in working bronze. He came to King Solomon and did all his work.*

15 He cast two pillars of bronze. Eighteen cubits was the height of the one, and a cord of twelve cubits would encircle it; the second pillar was the same.[v,*] [16]He also made two capitals of molten bronze to set on the tops of the pillars; the height of the one capital was five cubits, and the height of the other capital was five cubits. [17]There were nets of checker work with wreaths of chain work for the capitals on the tops of the pillars, seven for the one capital and seven for the other capital. [18]He made the columns with two rows around each latticework to cover the capitals that were above the pomegranates; he did the same with the other capital. [19]Now the capitals that were on the tops of the pillars in the vestibule were of lily-work, four cubits high. [20]The capitals were on the two pillars and also above the rounded projection that was beside the latticework; there were two hundred pomegranates in rows all around, and so with the other capital.* [21]He set up the pillars at the vestibule of the temple; he set up the pillar on the south and called it Jachin, and he set up the pillar on the north and called it Boaz.* [22]On the tops of the pillars was lily-work. Thus the work of the pillars was finished.

23 Then he made the molten sea; it was round, ten cubits from brim to brim, and five cubits high. A line of thirty cubits would encircle it completely.* [24]Under its brim were gourds[w] all around it, each of ten cubits, surrounding the sea; there were two rows of gourds,[x] cast when it was cast.* [25]It stood on twelve oxen, three facing north, three facing west, three facing south, and three facing east; the sea was set on them. The hindquarters of each were toward the inside.* [26]Its thickness was a handbreadth; its brim was made like the brim of a cup, like the flower of a lily; it held two thousand baths.[y]

27 He also made the ten stands of bronze; each stand was four cubits long, four cubits wide, and three cubits high.* [28]This was the construction of the stands: they had borders; the borders were within the frames; [29]on the borders that were set in the frames were lions, oxen, and cherubim. On the frames, both above and below the lions and oxen, there were wreaths of beveled work. [30]Each stand had four bronze wheels and axles of bronze; at the four corners were supports for a basin. The supports were cast with

wreaths at the side of each.* 31Its opening was within the crown, whose
height was one cubit; its opening was round, as a pedestal is made; it was a
cubit and a half wide. At its opening there were carvings; its borders were
four-sided, not round. 32The four wheels were underneath the borders; the
axles of the wheels were in the stands; and the height of a wheel was a cubit
and a half. 33The wheels were made like a chariot wheel; their axles, their
rims, their spokes, and their hubs were all cast. 34There were four supports
at the four corners of each stand; the supports were of one piece with the
stands. 35On the top of the stand there was a round band half a cubit high;
on the top of the stand, its stays and its borders were of one piece with it.
36On the surfaces of its stays and on its borders he carved cherubim, lions,
and palm trees where each had space, with wreaths all around. 37In this way
he made the ten stands; all of them were cast alike, with the same size and
the same form.*

38 He made ten basins of bronze; each basin held forty baths;z each basin
measured four cubits; there was a basin for each of the ten stands.* 39He set
five of the stands on the south side of the house and five on the north side of
the house; he set the sea on the southeast corner of the house.

40 Hiram also made the pots, the shovels, and the basins. So Hiram
finished all the work that he did for King Solomon on the house of the
LORD: 41the two pillars, the two bowls of the capitals that were on the tops
of the pillars, the two latticeworks to cover the two bowls of the capitals
that were on the tops of the pillars;* 42the four hundred pomegranates for
the two latticeworks, two rows of pomegranates for each latticework, to
cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the pillars;* 43the ten
stands, the ten basins on the stands; 44the one sea and the twelve oxen
underneath the sea.*

45 The pots, the shovels, and the basins—all these vessels that Hiram
made for King Solomon for the house of the LORD were of burnished
bronze.* 46In the plain of the Jordan the king cast them, in the clay ground
between Succoth and Zarethan.* 47Solomon left all the vessels unweighed
because there were so many of them; the weight of the bronze was not
determined.

48 So Solomon made all the vessels that were in the house of the LORD:
the golden altar, the golden table for the bread of the Presence,* 49the

lampstands of pure gold, five on the south side and five on the north, in front of the inner sanctuary; the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs, of gold;* 50the cups, snuffers, basins, dishes for incense, and firepans, of pure gold; the sockets for the doors of the innermost part of the house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the main hall of the temple, of gold.

51 Thus all the work that King Solomon did on the house of the LORD was finished. Solomon brought in the things that his father David had dedicated, the silver, the gold, and the vessels, and stored them in the treasuries of the house of the LORD.*

1 Kings 8

DEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE

1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.* 2All the people of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the festival in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month.* 3And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests carried the ark.* 4So they brought up the ark of the LORD, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up.* 5King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered.* 6Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim.* 7For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. 8The poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy place in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen from outside; they are there to this day.* 9There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses had placed there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites when they came out of the land of Egypt.* 10And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD,* 11so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

12 Then Solomon said,

"The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness.*

13I have built you an exalted house,

a place for you to dwell forever."*

SOLOMON'S SPEECH

14 Then the king turned around and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel stood.* 15He said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who with his hand has fulfilled what he promised with his mouth to my father David, saying,* 16'Since the day that I brought my people Israel out of Egypt, I have not chosen a city from any of the tribes of Israel in which to build a house, that my name might be there, nor did I choose anyone to be a ruler over my people Israel. But I have chosen Jerusalem in order that my name may be there,[a] and I have chosen David to be over my people Israel.'* 17My father David had it in mind to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.* 18But the LORD said to my father David, 'You did well to consider building a house for my name; 19nevertheless, you shall not build the house, but your son who shall be born to you shall build the house for my name.'* 20Now the LORD has fulfilled the promise that he made, for I have risen in the place of my father David; I sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.* 21There I have provided a place for the ark, in which is the covenant of the LORD that he made with our ancestors when he brought them out of the land of Egypt."*

SOLOMON'S PRAYER OF DEDICATION

22 Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven.* 23He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love with your servants who walk before you with all their heart,* 24the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. 25Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.'* 26Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed that you promised to your servant my father David.*

27 "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built!* 28Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the

cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today, [29]that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place.* [30]Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; hear and forgive.*

31 "If someone sins against a neighbor and is required to take an oath and comes and swears before your altar in this house,* [32]then hear in heaven, and act, and judge your servants, condemning the guilty by bringing their conduct on their own heads and vindicating the righteous by rewarding them according to their righteousness.*

33 "When your people Israel, having sinned against you, are defeated before an enemy but turn again to you, confess your name, pray and plead with you in this house,* [34]then hear in heaven, forgive the sin of your people Israel, and bring them again to the land that you gave to their ancestors.

35 "When heaven is shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against you and then they pray toward this place, confess your name, and turn from their sin because you punish[b] them,* [36]then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel, when you teach them the good way in which they should walk, and grant rain on your land, which you have given to your people as an inheritance.*

37 "If there is famine in the land, if there is plague, blight, mildew, locust, or caterpillar; if their enemy besieges them in any[c] of their cities; whatever suffering, whatever sickness there is;* [38]whatever prayer, whatever plea there is from any individual or from all your people Israel, all knowing the suffering of their own hearts so that they stretch out their hands toward this house; [39]then hear in heaven your dwelling place, forgive, act, and render to all whose hearts you know—according to all their ways, for only you know the human heart*—[40]so that they may fear you all the days that they live in the land that you gave to our ancestors.*

41 "Likewise when foreigners, who are not of your people Israel, come from a distant land because of your name [42]—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when foreigners come and pray toward this house,* [43]then hear in heaven your dwelling

place and do whatever the foreigners ask of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.*

44 "If your people go out to battle against their enemy, by whatever way you shall send them, and they pray to the LORD toward the city that you have chosen and the house that I have built for your name, [45]then hear in heaven their prayer and their plea and maintain their cause.

46 "If they sin against you—for there is no one who does not sin—and you are angry with them and give them to an enemy, so that they are carried away captive to the land of the enemy, far off or near,* [47]then if they come to their senses in the land to which they have been taken captive and repent and plead with you in the land of their captors, saying, 'We have sinned and have done wrong; we have acted wickedly,'* [48]if they repent with all their heart and soul in the land of their enemies who took them captive and pray to you toward their land that you gave to their ancestors, the city that you have chosen, and the house that I have built for your name,* [49]then hear in heaven your dwelling place their prayer and their plea, maintain their cause, [50]and forgive your people who have sinned against you and all their transgressions that they have committed against you, and grant them compassion in the sight of their captors, so that they may have compassion on them* [51](for they are your people and heritage that you brought out of Egypt, from the midst of the iron smelter).* [52]Let your eyes be open to the plea of your servant and to the plea of your people Israel, listening to them whenever they call to you. [53]For you have separated them from among all the peoples of the earth to be your heritage, just as you promised through Moses, your servant, when you brought our ancestors out of Egypt, O Lord GOD."*

SOLOMON BLESSES THE ASSEMBLY

54 Now when Solomon finished offering all this prayer and this plea to the LORD, he arose from facing the altar of the LORD, where he had knelt with hands outstretched toward heaven; [55]he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice:*

56 "Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel according to all that he promised; not one word has failed of all his good promise that he spoke through his servant Moses.* 57The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our ancestors; may he not leave us or abandon us,* 58but incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances that he commanded our ancestors.* 59Let these words of mine, with which I pleaded before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, and may he maintain the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires, 60so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other.* 61Therefore devote yourselves completely to the LORD our God, walking in his statutes and keeping his commandments, as at this day."*

SOLOMON OFFERS SACRIFICES

62 Then the king and all Israel with him offered sacrifice before the LORD.* 63Solomon offered as sacrifices of well-being to the LORD twenty-two thousand oxen and one hundred twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD. 64The same day the king consecrated the middle of the court that was in front of the house of the LORD, for there he offered the burnt offerings and the grain offerings and the fat pieces of the sacrifices of well-being, because the bronze altar that was before the LORD was too small to receive the burnt offerings and the grain offerings and the fat pieces of the sacrifices of well-being.*

65 So Solomon held the festival at that time and all Israel with him—a great assembly, people from Lebo-hamath to the Wadi of Egypt—before the LORD our God, seven days.[d],* 66On the eighth day he sent the people away, and they blessed the king and went to their tents joyful and in good spirits because of all the goodness that the LORD had shown to his servant David and to his people Israel.

1 Kings 9

GOD APPEARS AGAIN TO SOLOMON

1 When Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD and the king's
house and all that Solomon desired to build,* 2the LORD appeared to
Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon.* 3The LORD
said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your plea that you made before
me; I have consecrated this house that you have built and put my name
there forever; my eyes and my heart will be there for all time.* 4As for you,
if you will walk before me as David your father walked, with integrity of
heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you
and keeping my statutes and my ordinances,* 5then I will establish your
royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised your father David, saying,
'You shall never lack a successor on the throne of Israel.'*

6 "If you turn aside from following me, you or your children, and do not
keep my commandments and my statutes that I have set before you but go
and serve other gods and worship them,* 7then I will cut Israel off from the
land that I have given them, and the house that I have consecrated for my
name I will cast out of my sight, and Israel will become a proverb and a
taunt among all peoples.* 8This house will become a heap of ruins;[e]
everyone passing by it will be astonished and will hiss, and they will say,
'Why has the LORD done such a thing to this land and to this house?'* 9Then
they will say, 'Because they abandoned the LORD their God, who brought
their ancestors out of the land of Egypt, and embraced other gods,
worshiping them and serving them; therefore the LORD brought this disaster
upon them.' "

10 At the end of twenty years, in which Solomon had built the two
houses, the house of the LORD and the king's house,* 11King Hiram of Tyre
having supplied Solomon with cedar and cypress timber and gold, as much
as he desired, King Solomon gave to Hiram twenty cities in the land of
Galilee.* 12But when Hiram came from Tyre to see the cities that Solomon
had given him, they did not please him. 13Therefore he said, "What kind of
cities are these that you have given me, my brother?" So they are called the

land of Cabul[f] to this day.* 14But Hiram had sent to the king one hundred twenty talents of gold.

OTHER ACTS OF SOLOMON

15 This is the account of the forced labor that King Solomon conscripted to build the house of the LORD and his own house, the Millo and the wall of Jerusalem, Hazor, Megiddo, Gezer* 16(Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and captured Gezer and burned it down, had killed the Canaanites who lived in the city, and had given it as dowry to his daughter, Solomon's wife;* 17so Solomon rebuilt Gezer), Lower Beth-horon,* 18Baalath, Tadmor in the wilderness, within the land, 19as well as all of Solomon's storage cities, the cities for his chariots, the cities for his cavalry, and whatever Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion.* 20All the people who were left of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, who were not of the people of Israel*—21their descendants who were still left in the land, whom the Israelites were unable to destroy completely—these Solomon conscripted for slave labor, and so they are to this day.* 22But of the Israelites Solomon made no slaves; they were the soldiers; they were his officials, his commanders, his captains, and the commanders of his chariotry and cavalry.*

23 These were the chief officers who were over Solomon's work: five hundred fifty who had charge of the people who carried on the work.*

24 But Pharaoh's daughter went up from the city of David to her own house that Solomon had built for her; then he built the Millo.*

25 Three times a year Solomon used to offer up burnt offerings and sacrifices of well-being on the altar that he built for the LORD, offering incense[g] before the LORD. So he completed the house.*

SOLOMON'S COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

26 King Solomon built a fleet of ships at Ezion-geber, which is near Eloth on the shore of the Red Sea,[h] in the land of Edom.* 27Hiram sent his servants with the fleet, sailors who were familiar with the sea, together with

the servants of Solomon.* [28]They went to Ophir and imported from there four hundred twenty talents of gold that they delivered to King Solomon.*

1 Kings 10

VISIT OF THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

1 When the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon (fame due to[i] the
name of the LORD), she came to test him with riddles.* [2]She came to
Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very
much gold and precious stones, and when she came to Solomon, she told
him all that was on her mind. [3]Solomon answered all her questions; there
was nothing hidden from the king that he could not explain to her. [4]When
the queen of Sheba had observed all the wisdom of Solomon, the house that
he had built, [5]the food of his table, the seating of his officials, and the
attendance of his servants, their clothing, his valets, and his burnt offerings
that he offered at the house of the LORD, it took her breath away.*

6 So she said to the king, "The report was true that I heard in my own
land of your accomplishments and of your wisdom, [7]but I did not believe
the reports until I came and my own eyes saw it. Not even half had been
told me; your wisdom and prosperity far surpass the report that I had heard.
[8]Happy are your wives![j] Happy are these your servants who continually
attend you and hear your wisdom! [9]Blessed be the LORD your God, who has
delighted in you and set you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD
loved Israel forever, he has made you king to execute justice and
righteousness."* [10]Then she gave the king one hundred twenty talents of
gold, a great quantity of spices, and precious stones; never again did spices
come in such quantity as that which the queen of Sheba gave to King
Solomon.

11 Moreover, the fleet of Hiram, which carried gold from Ophir, brought
from Ophir a great quantity of almug wood and precious stones.* [12]From
the almug wood the king made supports for the house of the LORD and for
the king's house, lyres also and harps for the singers; no such almug wood
has come or been seen to this day.*

13 Meanwhile, King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba every desire
that she expressed, as well as what he gave her out of Solomon's royal
bounty. Then she returned to her own land with her servants.

14 The weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred
sixty-six talents of gold,* 15besides that which came from the traders and
from the business of the merchants and from all the kings of Arabia and the
governors of the land. 16King Solomon made two hundred large shields of
beaten gold; six hundred shekels of gold went into each large shield.* 17He
made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three minas of gold went into
each shield; and the king put them in the House of the Forest of Lebanon.*
18The king also made a great ivory throne and overlaid it with the finest
gold.* 19The throne had six steps. The top of the throne was rounded in the
back, and on each side of the seat were arm rests and two lions standing
beside the arm rests, 20while twelve lions were standing, one on each end of
a step on the six steps. Nothing like it was ever made in any kingdom. 21All
King Solomon's drinking vessels were of gold, and all the vessels of the
House of the Forest of Lebanon were of pure gold; none were of silver—it
was not considered as anything in the days of Solomon. 22For the king had
a fleet of ships of Tarshish at sea with the fleet of Hiram. Once every three
years the fleet of ships of Tarshish used to come bringing gold, silver, ivory,
apes, and peacocks.[k,*]

23 Thus King Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth in riches and in
wisdom.* 24The whole earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his
wisdom, which God had put into his mind.* 25Every one of them brought a
present, objects of silver and gold, garments, weaponry, spices, horses, and
mules, so much year by year.

26 Solomon gathered together chariots and horses; he had fourteen
hundred chariots and twelve thousand horses, which he stationed in the
chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.* 27The king made silver as
common in Jerusalem as stone, and he made cedar as plentiful as the
sycamores of the Shephelah. 28Solomon's import of horses was from Egypt
and Kue, and the king's traders received them from Kue at a price.* 29A
chariot could be imported from Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver and
a horse for one hundred fifty, so through the king's traders they were
exported to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Aram.*

1 Kings 11

SOLOMON'S ERRORS

1 King Solomon loved many foreign women along with the daughter of
Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women,*
2 from the nations concerning which the LORD had said to the Israelites,
"You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you,
for they will surely incline your heart to follow their gods." Solomon clung
to these in love.* 3 Among his wives were seven hundred princesses and
three hundred concubines, and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For when
Solomon was old, his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his
heart was not true to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father
David.* 5 For Solomon followed Astarte the goddess of the Sidonians and
Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.* 6 So Solomon did what was
evil in the sight of the LORD and did not completely follow the LORD, as his
father David had done. 7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the
abomination of Moab and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites on
the mountain east of Jerusalem.* 8 He did the same for all his foreign wives
who offered incense and sacrificed to their gods.

9 Then the LORD was angry with Solomon because his heart had turned
away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice*
10 and had commanded him concerning this matter, that he should not follow
other gods, but he did not observe what the LORD had commanded.*
11 Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, "Since this has been your mind and
you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded
you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and give it to your servant.*
12 Yet for the sake of your father David I will not do it in your lifetime; I
will tear it out of the hand of your son. 13 I will not, however, tear away the
entire kingdom; I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of my servant
David and for the sake of Jerusalem, which I have chosen."*

ADVERSARIES OF SOLOMON

14 Then the LORD raised up an adversary against Solomon, Hadad the Edomite; he was of the royal house in Edom. [15]For when David was destroying[l] Edom and Joab the commander of the army went up to bury the dead, he killed every male in Edom* [16](for Joab and all Israel remained there six months until he had eliminated every male in Edom), [17]but Hadad fled to Egypt with some Edomites who were servants of his father. He was a young boy at that time. [18]They set out from Midian and came to Paran; they took people with them from Paran and came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, who gave him a house, assigned him an allowance of food, and gave him land. [19]Hadad found great favor in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him his sister-in-law for a wife, the sister of Queen Tahpenes. [20]The sister of Tahpenes gave birth by him to his son Genubath, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house; Genubath was in Pharaoh's house among the children of Pharaoh. [21]When Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his ancestors and that Joab the commander of the army was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, "Let me depart, that I may go to my own country."* [22]But Pharaoh said to him, "What do you lack with me that you now seek to go to your own country?" And he said, "No, do let me go."

23 God raised up another adversary against Solomon,[m] Rezon son of Eliada, who had fled from his master, King Hadadezer of Zobah.* [24]He gathered followers around him and became leader of a marauding band, after the killing by David; they went to Damascus, settled there, and made him king in Damascus.* [25]He was an adversary of Israel all the days of Solomon, making trouble as Hadad did; he despised Israel and reigned over Aram.

JEROBOAM'S REBELLION

26 Jeroboam son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zeredah, a servant of Solomon, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, rebelled against the king.* [27]The following was the reason he rebelled against the king. Solomon built the Millo and closed up the gap in the wall[n] of the city of his father David.* [28]The man Jeroboam was very able, and when Solomon saw that the young man was industrious, he gave him charge over all the forced labor of the house of Joseph. [29]About that time, when Jeroboam was leaving Jerusalem, the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him on the road.

Ahijah had clothed himself with a new garment. The two of them were alone in the open country* 30when Ahijah laid hold of the new garment he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces.* 31He then said to Jeroboam, "Take for yourself ten pieces, for thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: See, I am about to tear the kingdom from the hand of Solomon and will give you ten tribes.* 32One tribe will remain his, for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel. 33This is because he has[o] forsaken me, worshiped Astarte the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the Ammonites, and has[p] not walked in my ways, doing what is right in my sight and keeping my statutes and my ordinances, as his father David did.* 34Nevertheless, I will not take the whole kingdom away from him but will make him ruler all the days of his life, for the sake of my servant David whom I chose and who did keep my commandments and my statutes, 35but I will take the kingdom away from his son and give it to you—that is, the ten tribes.* 36Yet to his son I will give one tribe, so that my servant David may always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen to put my name.* 37I will take you, and you shall reign over all that your soul desires; you shall be king over Israel. 38If you will listen to all that I command you, walk in my ways, and do what is right in my sight by keeping my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did, I will be with you and will build you an enduring house, as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you.* 39For this reason I will punish the descendants of David, but not forever." 40Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam, but Jeroboam promptly fled to Egypt, to King Shishak of Egypt, and remained in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

DEATH OF SOLOMON

41 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, all that he did as well as his wisdom, are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon?* 42The time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years.* 43Solomon slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of his father David, and his son Rehoboam succeeded him.*

1 Kings 12

THE NORTHERN TRIBES SECEDE

1 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make
him king.* 2When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard of it (for he was still in
Egypt, where he had fled from King Solomon), then Jeroboam remained in
Egypt.* 3And they sent and called him, and Jeroboam and all the assembly
of Israel came and said to Rehoboam, 4"Your father made our yoke heavy.
Now, therefore, lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke
that he placed on us, and we will serve you."* 5He said to them, "Go away
for three days, then come again to me." So the people went away.*

6 Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the older men who had
attended his father Solomon while he was still alive, saying, "How do you
advise me to answer this people?" 7They answered him, "If you will be a
servant to this people today and serve them and speak good words to them
when you answer them, then they will be your servants forever."* 8But he
disregarded the advice that the older men gave him and consulted with the
young men who had grown up with him and now attended him.* 9He said to
them, "What do you advise that we answer this people who have said to me,
'Lighten the yoke that your father put on us'?" 10The young men who had
grown up with him said to him, "Thus you should say to this people who
spoke to you, 'Your father made our yoke heavy, but you must lighten it for
us'; thus you should say to them, 'My little finger is thicker than my
father's loins. 11Now, whereas my father laid on you a heavy yoke, I will
add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips, but I will
discipline you with scorpions.' "

12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as
the king had said, "Come to me again the third day."* 13The king answered
the people harshly. He disregarded the advice that the older men had given
him 14and spoke to them according to the advice of the young men, "My
father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke; my father
disciplined you with whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions."*
15So the king did not listen to the people because it was a turn of affairs brought

about by the LORD to fulfill his word that the LORD had spoken by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam son of Nebat.*

16 When all Israel saw that the king would not listen to them, the people answered the king,

"What share do we have in David?
We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse.
To your tents, O Israel!
Look now to your own house, O David."

So Israel went away to their tents.* [17]But Rehoboam reigned over the Israelites who were living in the towns of Judah.* [18]When King Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was taskmaster over the forced labor, all Israel stoned him to death. King Rehoboam then hurriedly mounted his chariot to flee to Jerusalem.* [19]So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.*

FIRST DYNASTY: JEROBOAM REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

20 When all Israel heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. There was no one who followed the house of David except the tribe of Judah alone.*

21 When Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah and the tribe of Benjamin, one hundred eighty thousand chosen troops, to fight against the house of Israel, to restore the kingdom to Rehoboam son of Solomon.* [22]But the word of God came to Shemaiah the man of God: [23]"Say to King Rehoboam of Judah, son of Solomon, and to all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the rest of the people: [24]Thus says the LORD: You shall not go up or fight against your kindred the people of Israel. Let everyone go home, for this thing is from me." So they heeded the word of the LORD and went home again, according to the word of the LORD.*

JEROBOAM'S GOLDEN CALVES

25 Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim and resided there; he went out from there and built Penuel.* [26]Then Jeroboam

said to himself, “Now the kingdom may well revert to the house of David.
27If this people continues to go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the
LORD at Jerusalem, the heart of this people will turn again to their master,
King Rehoboam of Judah; they will kill me and return to King Rehoboam
of Judah.”* 28So the king took counsel and made two calves of gold. He
said to the people,[q] “You have gone up to Jerusalem long enough. Here are
your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.”* 29He
set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan.* 30And this thing became a
sin, for the people went to worship before the one at Bethel and before the
other as far as Dan.[r,*] 31He also made houses[s] on high places and appointed
priests from among all the people who were not Levites.* 32Jeroboam
appointed a festival on the fifteenth day of the eighth month like the festival
that was in Judah, and he offered sacrifices on the altar; so he did in Bethel,
sacrificing to the calves that he had made. And he placed in Bethel the
priests of the high places that he had made.* 33He went up to the altar that
he had made in Bethel on the fifteenth day in the eighth month, in the
month that he had selected on his own; he appointed a festival for the
people of Israel, and he went up to the altar to offer incense.*

1 Kings 13

A MAN OF GOD FROM JUDAH

1 A man of God came out of Judah by the word of the LORD to Bethel,
while Jeroboam was standing by the altar to offer incense.* [2]And he cried
out against the altar by the word of the LORD and said, "O altar, altar, thus
says the LORD: A son shall be born to the house of David, Josiah by name,
and he shall sacrifice on you the priests of the high places who offer incense
on you, and human bones shall be burned on you."* [3]He gave a sign the
same day, saying, "This is the sign that the LORD has spoken: The altar shall
be torn down, and the ashes that are on it shall be poured out."* [4]When the
king heard what the man of God cried out against the altar at Bethel,
Jeroboam stretched out his hand from the altar, saying, "Seize him!" But the
hand that he stretched out against him withered so that he could not draw it
back to himself. [5]The altar also was torn down, and the ashes poured out
from the altar, according to the sign that the man of God had given by the
word of the LORD. [6]The king said to the man of God, "Entreat now the favor
of the LORD your God, and pray for me, so that my hand may be restored to
me." So the man of God entreated the LORD, and the king's hand was
restored to him and became as it was before.* [7]Then the king said to the
man of God, "Come home with me and dine, and I will give you a gift."*
[8]But the man of God said to the king, "If you give me half your kingdom, I
will not go in with you, nor will I eat food or drink water in this place.* [9]For
thus I was commanded by the word of the LORD: 'You shall not eat food, or
drink water, or return by the way that you came.' " [10]So he went another
way and did not return by the way that he had come to Bethel.

11 Now there lived an old prophet in Bethel. One of his sons came and
told him all that the man of God had done that day in Bethel; the words also
that he had spoken to the king, they told to their father.* [12]Their father said
to them, "Which way did he go?" And his sons showed him the way that
the man of God who came from Judah had gone. [13]Then he said to his sons,
"Saddle a donkey for me." So they saddled a donkey for him, and he
mounted it. [14]He went after the man of God and found him sitting under an

oak tree. He said to him, “Are you the man of God who came from Judah?” He answered, “I am.” 15Then he said to him, “Come home with me and eat some food.” 16But he said, “I cannot return with you or go in with you, nor will I eat food or drink water with you in this place,* 17for it was said to me by the word of the LORD, ‘You shall not eat food or drink water there or return by the way that you came.’ ”* 18Then the other[t] said to him, “I also am a prophet as you are, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the LORD, ‘Bring him back with you into your house so that he may eat food and drink water.’ ” But he was deceiving him. 19Then the man of God[u] went back with him and ate food and drank water in his house.

20 As they were sitting at the table, the word of the LORD came to the prophet who had brought him back, 21and he cried out to the man of God who came from Judah, “Thus says the LORD: Because you have disobeyed the word of the LORD and have not kept the commandment that the LORD your God commanded you* 22but have come back and have eaten food and drunk water in the place of which he said to you, ‘Eat no food, and drink no water,’ your body shall not come to your ancestral tomb.” 23After the man of God[v] had eaten food and had drunk, they saddled for him a donkey belonging to the prophet who had brought him back. 24Then as he went away, a lion met him on the road and killed him. His body was thrown in the road, and the donkey stood beside it; the lion also stood beside the body.* 25People passed by and saw the body thrown in the road, with the lion standing by the body. And they came and told it in the town where the old prophet lived.*

26 When the prophet who had brought him back from the way heard of it, he said, “It is the man of God who disobeyed the word of the LORD; therefore the LORD has given him to the lion, which has torn him and killed him according to the word that the LORD spoke to him.”* 27Then he said to his sons, “Saddle a donkey for me.” So they saddled one, 28and he went and found the body thrown in the road, with the donkey and the lion standing beside the body. The lion had not eaten the body or attacked the donkey. 29The prophet took up the body of the man of God, laid it on the donkey, and brought it back to the city[w] to mourn and to bury him. 30He laid the body in his own grave, and they mourned over him, saying, “Alas, my brother!”* 31After he had buried him, he said to his sons, “When I die, bury

me in the grave in which the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones.* 32For the saying that he proclaimed by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel and against all the houses of the high places that are in the cities of Samaria shall surely come to pass."*

33 Even after this event Jeroboam did not turn from his evil way but made priests for the high places again from among all the people; any who wanted to be priests he consecrated for the high places.* 34This matter became sin to the house of Jeroboam, so as to cut it off and to destroy it from the face of the earth.*

1 Kings 14

JUDGMENT ON THE HOUSE OF JEROBOAM

1 At that time Abijah son of Jeroboam fell sick. [2]Jeroboam said to his wife, "Go, disguise yourself so that it will not be known that you are the wife of Jeroboam, and go to Shiloh, for the prophet Ahijah is there, who said of me that I should be king over this people.* [3]Take with you ten loaves, some cakes, and a jar of honey, and go to him; he will tell you what shall happen to the child."*

4 Jeroboam's wife did so; she set out and went to Shiloh and came to the house of Ahijah. Now Ahijah could not see, for his eyes were dim because of his age.* [5]But the LORD said to Ahijah, "The wife of Jeroboam is coming to inquire of you concerning her son, for he is sick. Thus and thus you shall say to her when she comes. She will pretend to be another woman."*

6 But when Ahijah heard the sound of her feet as she came in at the door, he said, "Come in, wife of Jeroboam; why do you pretend to be another? For I am charged with heavy tidings for you. [7]Go, tell Jeroboam, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Because I exalted you from among the people, made you leader over my people Israel,* [8]and tore the kingdom away from the house of David to give it to you, yet you have not been like my servant David, who kept my commandments and followed me with all his heart, doing only that which was right in my sight,* [9]but you have done evil above all those who were before you and have gone and made for yourself other gods and cast images, provoking me to anger, and have thrust me behind your back,* [10]therefore I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam. I will cut off from Jeroboam every male, both bond and free in Israel, and will consume the house of Jeroboam, just as one burns up dung until it is all gone.* [11]Anyone belonging to Jeroboam who dies in the city the dogs shall eat, and anyone who dies in the open country the birds of the air shall eat, for the LORD has spoken.'* [12]Therefore set out, go to your house. When your feet enter the city, the child shall die.* [13]All Israel shall mourn for him and bury him, for he alone of Jeroboam's family shall come to the grave, because in him there is found something pleasing to the LORD, the God of

Israel, in the house of Jeroboam.* 14Moreover the LORD will raise up for himself a king over Israel who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam today, even right now![x,*]

15 "The LORD will strike Israel as a reed is shaken in the water; he will root up Israel out of this good land that he gave to their ancestors and scatter them beyond the Euphrates, because they have made their sacred poles,[y] provoking the LORD to anger.* 16He will give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, which he sinned and which he caused Israel to commit."*

17 Then Jeroboam's wife got up and went away, and she came to Tirzah. As she came to the threshold of the house, the child died. 18All Israel buried him and mourned for him, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by his servant the prophet Ahijah.

DEATH OF JEROBOAM

19 Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how he warred and how he reigned, are written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.* 20The time that Jeroboam reigned was twenty-two years; then he slept with his ancestors, and his son Nadab succeeded him.

REHOBOAM REIGNS OVER JUDAH

21 Now Rehoboam son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city that the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. His mother's name was Naamah the Ammonite.* 22Judah did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; they provoked him to jealousy with their sins that they committed, more than all that their ancestors had done.* 23For they also built for themselves high places, pillars, and sacred poles[z] on every high hill and under every green tree;* 24there were also illicit priests in the land. They committed all the abominations of the nations that the LORD had driven out before the people of Israel.*

25 In the fifth year of King Rehoboam, King Shishak of Egypt came up against Jerusalem;* 26he took away the treasures of the house of the LORD

and the treasures of the king's house; he took everything. He also took away all the shields of gold that Solomon had made,* 27so King Rehoboam made shields of bronze instead and committed them to the hands of the officers of the guard who kept the door of the king's house. 28As often as the king went into the house of the LORD, the guard carried them and brought them back to the guardroom.

29 Now the rest of the acts of Rehoboam and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?* 30There was war between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually.* 31Rehoboam slept with his ancestors and was buried with his ancestors in the city of David. His mother's name was Naamah the Ammonite. His son Abijam succeeded him.*

1 Kings 15

ABIJAM REIGNS OVER JUDAH: IDOLATRY AND WAR

1 Now in the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam son of Nebat, Abijam
began to reign over Judah.* [2]He reigned for three years in Jerusalem. His
mother's name was Maacah daughter of Abishalom. [3]He committed all the
sins that his father did before him; his heart was not true to the LORD his
God, like the heart of his father David.* [4]Nevertheless, for David's sake the
LORD his God gave him a lamp in Jerusalem, setting up his son after him
and establishing Jerusalem,* [5]because David did what was right in the sight
of the LORD and did not turn aside from anything that he commanded him
all the days of his life, except in the matter of Uriah the Hittite.* [6]The war
begun between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continued all the days of his life.*
[7]The rest of the acts of Abijam and all that he did, are they not written in the
Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? There was war between Abijam
and Jeroboam.* [8]Abijam slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in the
city of David. Then his son Asa succeeded him.*

ASA REIGNS OVER JUDAH

9 In the twentieth year of King Jeroboam of Israel, Asa began to reign
over Judah; [10]he reigned forty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name
was Maacah daughter of Abishalom.* [11]Asa did what was right in the sight
of the LORD, as his father David had done.* [12]He put away the illicit priests
out of the land and removed all the idols that his ancestors had made.*
[13]He also removed his mother Maacah from being queen mother, because she
had made an abominable image for Asherah; Asa cut down her image and
burned it at the Wadi Kidron.* [14]But the high places were not taken away.
Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was true to the LORD all his days.* [15]He
brought into the house of the LORD the votive gifts of his father and his own
votive gifts—silver, gold, and utensils.*

ALLIANCE WITH ARAM AGAINST ISRAEL

16 There was war between Asa and King Baasha of Israel all their days.* [17]King Baasha of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah to prevent anyone from going out or coming in to King Asa of Judah.* [18]Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house and gave them into the hands of his servants. King Asa sent them to King Ben-hadad son of Tabrimmon son of Hezion of Aram, who resided in Damascus, saying,* [19]"Let there be an alliance between me and you, like that between my father and your father: I am sending you a present of silver and gold; go, break your alliance with King Baasha of Israel, so that he may withdraw from me." [20]Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel. He conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-beth-maacah, and all Chinneroth, with all the land of Naphtali.* [21]When Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah and lived in Tirzah. [22]Then King Asa made a proclamation to all Judah; none was exempt: they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber with which Baasha had been building; with them King Asa built Geba of Benjamin and Mizpah.* [23]Now the rest of all the acts of Asa, all his power, all that he did, and the cities that he built, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? But in his old age he was diseased in his feet.* [24]Then Asa slept with his ancestors and was buried with his ancestors in the city of his father David; his son Jehoshaphat succeeded him.*

NADAB REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

25 Nadab son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of King Asa of Judah; he reigned over Israel two years.* [26]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, walking in the way of his ancestor and in the sin that he caused Israel to commit.*

27 Baasha son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him, and Baasha struck him down at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines, for Nadab and all Israel were laying siege to Gibbethon.* [28]So Baasha killed Nadab[a] in the third year of King Asa of Judah and succeeded him. [29]As soon as he was king, he killed all the house of Jeroboam; he left to the house of Jeroboam not one who breathed, until he had destroyed it, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by his servant Ahijah the

Shilonite* —[30]because of the sins of Jeroboam that he committed and that he caused Israel to commit and because of the anger to which he provoked the LORD, the God of Israel.*

31 Now the rest of the acts of Nadab and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?* [32]There was war between Asa and King Baasha of Israel all their days.

SECOND DYNASTY: BAASHA REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

33 In the third year of King Asa of Judah, Baasha son of Ahijah began to reign over all Israel at Tirzah; he reigned twenty-four years. [34]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, walking in the way of Jeroboam and in the sin that he caused Israel to commit.*

1 Kings 16

1 The word of the LORD came to Jehu son of Hanani against Baasha,
saying,* 2"Since I exalted you out of the dust and made you leader over my
people Israel, and you have walked in the way of Jeroboam and have
caused my people Israel to sin, provoking me to anger with their sins,*
3therefore I will consume Baasha and his house, and I will make your house
like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat.* 4Anyone belonging to Baasha
who dies in the city the dogs shall eat, and anyone of his who dies in the
field the birds of the air shall eat."*

5 Now the rest of the acts of Baasha, what he did, and his power, are they
not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?* 6Baasha slept
with his ancestors and was buried at Tirzah, and his son Elah succeeded
him.* 7Moreover, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Jehu son of
Hanani against Baasha and his house, both because of all the evil that he did
in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger with the work of his hands,
in being like the house of Jeroboam, and also because he destroyed it.*

ELAH REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

8 In the twenty-sixth year of King Asa of Judah, Elah son of Baasha
began to reign over Israel in Tirzah; he reigned two years. 9But his servant
Zimri, commander of half his chariots, conspired against him. When he was
at Tirzah drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza, who was in charge of
the palace at Tirzah,* 10Zimri came in and struck him down and killed him,
in the twenty-seventh year of King Asa of Judah, and succeeded him.

11 When he began to reign, as soon as he had seated himself on his
throne, he killed all the house of Baasha; he did not leave him a single male
of his kindred or his friends. 12Thus Zimri destroyed all the house of
Baasha, according to the word of the LORD, which he had spoken against
Baasha by the prophet Jehu,* 13because of all the sins of Baasha and the
sins of his son Elah that they committed and that they caused Israel to
commit, provoking the LORD God of Israel to anger with their idols.* 14Now

the rest of the acts of Elah and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?*

THIRD DYNASTY: ZIMRI REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

15 In the twenty-seventh year of King Asa of Judah, Zimri reigned seven days in Tirzah. Now the troops were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines,* [16]and the troops who were encamped heard it said, "Zimri has conspired, and he has killed the king"; therefore all Israel made Omri, the commander of the army, king over Israel that day in the camp. [17]So Omri went up from Gibbethon and all Israel with him, and they besieged Tirzah. [18]When Zimri saw that the city was taken, he went into the citadel of the king's house; he burned down the king's house over himself with fire and died*—[19]because of the sins that he committed, doing evil in the sight of the LORD, walking in the way of Jeroboam, and for the sin that he committed, causing Israel to sin.* [20]Now the rest of the acts of Zimri and the conspiracy that he made, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?*

FOURTH DYNASTY: OMRI REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

21 Then the people of Israel were divided into two parts: half of the people followed Tibni son of Ginath to make him king, and half followed Omri. [22]But the people who followed Omri overcame the people who followed Tibni son of Ginath, so Tibni died, and Omri became king. [23]In the thirty-first year of King Asa of Judah, Omri began to reign over Israel; he reigned for twelve years, six of them in Tirzah.*

SAMARIA THE NEW CAPITAL

24 He bought the hill of Samaria from Shemer for two talents of silver; he fortified the hill and called the city that he built Samaria, after the name of Shemer, the owner of the hill.*

25 Omri did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; he did more evil than all who were before him. [26]For he walked in all the way of Jeroboam son of Nebat and in the sins that he caused Israel to commit, provoking the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger by their idols.* [27]Now the rest of the acts of

Omri that he did and the power that he showed, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel? [28]Omri slept with his ancestors and was buried in Samaria; his son Ahab succeeded him.

AHAB REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

29 In the thirty-eighth year of King Asa of Judah, Ahab son of Omri began to reign over Israel; Ahab son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. [30]Ahab son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD more than all who were before him.*

AHAB MARRIES JEZEBEL AND WORSHIPS BAAL

31 And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, he took as his wife Jezebel daughter of King Ethbaal of the Sidonians and went and served Baal and worshiped him.* [32]He erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal that he built in Samaria.* [33]Ahab also made a sacred pole.[b] Ahab did more to provoke the anger of the LORD, the God of Israel, than had all the kings of Israel who were before him.* [34]In his days Hiel of Bethel built Jericho; he laid its foundation at the cost of Abiram his firstborn and set up its gates at the cost of his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Joshua son of Nun.*

1 Kings 17

ELIJAH PREDICTS A DROUGHT

1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe[c] in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD
the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor
rain these years, except by my word."* [2]The word of the LORD came to him,
saying, [3]"Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the Wadi
Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. [4]You shall drink from the wadi, and I
have commanded the ravens to feed you there." [5]So he went and did
according to the word of the LORD; he went and lived by the Wadi Cherith,
which is east of the Jordan. [6]The ravens brought him bread and meat in the
morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the wadi.
[7]But after a while the wadi dried up because there was no rain in the land.

THE WIDOW OF ZAREPHATH

8 Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, [9]"Go now to
Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there, for I have commanded a
widow there to feed you."* [10]So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he
came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called
to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink."
[11]As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel
of bread in your hand." [12]But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have
nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am
now gathering a couple of sticks so that I may go home and prepare it for
myself and my son, that we may eat it and die."* [13]Elijah said to her, "Do
not be afraid; go and do as you have said, but first make me a little cake of
it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your
son. [14]For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be
emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain
on the earth."* [15]She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he
and her household ate for many days. [16]The jar of meal was not emptied,
neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he
spoke by Elijah.

ELIJAH REVIVES THE WIDOW'S SON

17 After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill;
his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. [18]She then said
to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to
me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!"*
[19]But he said to her, "Give me your son." He took him from her bosom,
carried him up into the upper chamber where he was lodging, and laid him
on his own bed. [20]He cried out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, have you
brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing
her son?" [21]Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried
out to the LORD, "O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him
again."* [22]The LORD listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child
came into him again, and he revived.* [23]Elijah took the child, brought him
down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother;
then Elijah said, "See, your son is alive." [24]So the woman said to Elijah,
"Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD in
your mouth is truth."*

1 Kings 18

ELIJAH'S MESSAGE TO AHAB

1 After many days the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year of
the drought,[d] saying, "Go, present yourself to Ahab; I will send rain on the
earth."* [2]So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab. The famine was severe
in Samaria. [3]Ahab summoned Obadiah, who was in charge of the palace.
(Now Obadiah revered the LORD greatly; [4]when Jezebel was killing off the
prophets of the LORD, Obadiah took a hundred prophets, hid them fifty to a
cave, and provided them with bread and water.)* [5]Then Ahab said to
Obadiah, "Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the
wadis; perhaps we may find grass to keep the horses and mules alive and
not lose some of the animals." [6]So they divided the land between them to
pass through it; Ahab went in one direction by himself, and Obadiah went
in another direction by himself.

7 As Obadiah was on the way, Elijah met him; Obadiah recognized him,
fell on his face, and said, "Is it you, my lord Elijah?"* [8]He answered him,
"It is I. Go, tell your lord that Elijah is here." [9]And he said, "How have I
sinned, that you would hand your servant over to Ahab to kill me? [10]As the
LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom to which my lord has
not sent to seek you, and when they would say, 'He is not here,' he would
require an oath of the kingdom or nation that they had not found you.* [11]But
now you say, 'Go, tell your lord that Elijah is here.' [12]As soon as I have
gone from you, the spirit of the LORD will carry you I know not where; so,
when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although
I your servant have revered the LORD from my youth.* [13]Has it not been told
my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of the LORD, how I hid
a hundred of the LORD's prophets fifty to a cave and provided them with
bread and water?* [14]Yet now you say, 'Go, tell your lord that Elijah is here';
he will surely kill me." [15]Elijah said, "As the LORD of hosts lives, before
whom I stand, I will surely show myself to him today."* [16]So Obadiah went
to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

17 When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is it you, you troubler of Israel?"* [18]He answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you have, and your father's house, because you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and followed the Baals.* [19]Now therefore have all Israel assemble for me at Mount Carmel, with the four hundred fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah who eat at Jezebel's table."*

ELIJAH'S TRIUMPH OVER THE PRIESTS OF BAAL

20 So Ahab sent to all the Israelites and assembled the prophets at Mount Carmel. [21]Elijah then came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him, but if Baal, then follow him." The people did not answer him a word.* [22]Then Elijah said to the people, "I, even I only, am left a prophet of the LORD, but Baal's prophets number four hundred fifty.* [23]Let two bulls be given to us; let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood but put no fire to it; I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood but put no fire to it. [24]Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD; the god who answers by fire is indeed God." All the people answered, "Well spoken!"* [25]Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many; then call on the name of your god, but put no fire to it." [26]So they took the bull that was given them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, crying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice and no answer. They limped about the altar that they had made.* [27]At noon Elijah mocked them, saying, "Cry aloud! Surely he is a god; either he is meditating, or he has wandered away, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened." [28]Then they cried aloud, and, as was their custom, they cut themselves with swords and lances until the blood gushed out over them.* [29]As midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice, no answer, and no response.*

30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come closer to me," and all the people came closer to him. First he repaired the altar of the LORD that had been thrown down;* [31]Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD came, saying,

"Israel shall be your name";* 32with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD. Then he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed.* 33Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood."* 34Then he said, "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time. Again he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time, 35so that the water ran all around the altar and filled the trench also with water.

36 At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding.* 37Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God and that you have turned their hearts back." 38Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust and even licked up the water that was in the trench.* 39When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The LORD indeed is God; the LORD indeed is God."* 40Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal; do not let one of them escape." Then they seized them, and Elijah brought them down to the Wadi Kishon and killed them there.*

THE DROUGHT ENDS

41 Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of rushing rain." 42So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; there he bowed himself down upon the earth and put his face between his knees.* 43He said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." He went up and looked and said, "There is nothing." Then he said, "Go again seven times." 44At the seventh time he said, "Look, a little cloud no bigger than a person's hand is rising out of the sea." Then he said, "Go say to Ahab, 'Harness your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.' " 45In a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind; there was a heavy rain. Ahab rode off and went to Jezreel. 46But the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; he girded up his loins and ran in front of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.*

1 Kings 19

ELIJAH FLEES FROM JEZEBEL

1 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had killed all the
prophets with the sword.* [2]Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying,
"So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life like the
life of one of them by this time tomorrow."* [3]Then he was afraid;[e] he got up
and fled for his life and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left
his servant there.

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and
sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die, "It is
enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my
ancestors."* [5]Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep.
Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." [6]He
looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of
water. He ate and drank and lay down again. [7]The angel of the LORD came a
second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, or the journey will be
too much for you." [8]He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the
strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of
God.* [9]At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing
here, Elijah?" [10]He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the
God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down
your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and
they are seeking my life, to take it away."*

ELIJAH MEETS GOD AT HOREB

11 He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the
LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was
splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the
LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD
was not in the earthquake,* [12]and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD
was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. [13]When Elijah

heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"* 14He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."* 15Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.* 16Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.* 17Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill.* 18Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."*

ELISHA BECOMES ELIJAH'S DISCIPLE

19 So he set out from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him.* 20He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah[f] said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?"* 21He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah and became his servant.*

1 Kings 20

AHAB'S WARS WITH THE ARAMEANS

1 King Ben-hadad of Aram gathered all his army together; thirty-two kings
were with him, along with horses and chariots. He marched against
Samaria, laid siege to it, and attacked it.* [2]Then he sent messengers into the
city to King Ahab of Israel and said to him, "Thus says Ben-hadad: [3]Your
silver and gold are mine; your fairest wives and children also are mine."
[4]The king of Israel answered, "As you say, my lord, O king, I am yours, and
all that I have." [5]The messengers came again and said, "Thus says Ben-
hadad: I sent to you, saying, 'Deliver to me your silver and gold, your wives
and children'; [6]now I will send my servants to you tomorrow about this
time, and they shall search your house and the houses of your servants and
lay hands on whatever pleases them[g] and take it away."

7 Then the king of Israel called all the elders of the land and said, "Look
now! See how this man is seeking trouble, for he sent to me for my wives,
my children, my silver, and my gold, and I did not refuse him."* [8]Then all
the elders and all the people said to him, "Do not listen or consent." [9]So he
said to the messengers of Ben-hadad, "Tell my lord the king: All that you
first demanded of your servant I will do, but this thing I cannot do." The
messengers left and brought him word again. [10]Ben-hadad sent to him and
said, "The gods do so to me and more also, if the dust of Samaria will
provide a handful for each of the people who follow me."* [11]The king of
Israel answered, "Enough![h] One who puts on armor should not brag like
one who takes it off."* [12]When Ben-hadad heard this message—now he had
been drinking with the kings in the booths—he said to his men, "Take your
positions!" And they took their positions against the city.*

PROPHETIC OPPOSITION TO AHAB

13 Then a certain prophet came up to King Ahab of Israel and said,
"Thus says the LORD: Have you seen all this great multitude? Look, I will
give it into your hand today, and you shall know that I am the LORD."*

[14]Ahab said, “By whom?” He said, “Thus says the LORD: By the young men who serve the district governors.” Then he said, “Who shall begin the battle?” He answered, “You.” [15]Then he mustered the young men who served the district governors, two hundred thirty-two; after them he mustered all the people of Israel, seven thousand.

16 They went out at noon, while Ben-hadad was drinking himself drunk in the booths, he and the thirty-two kings allied with him.* [17]The young men who served the district governors went out first. Ben-hadad had sent out scouts,[i] and they reported to him, “Men have come out from Samaria.” [18]He said, “If they have come out for peace, take them alive; if they have come out for war, take them alive.”*

19 But these had already come out of the city: the young men who served the district governors and the army that followed them. [20]Each killed his man; the Arameans fled, and Israel pursued them, but King Ben-hadad of Aram escaped on a horse with the cavalry. [21]The king of Israel went out, attacked the horses and chariots, and inflicted a massive defeat on the Arameans.

22 Then the prophet approached the king of Israel and said to him, “Come, strengthen yourself, and consider well what you have to do, for in the spring the king of Aram will come up against you.”*

THE ARAMEANS ARE DEFEATED

23 The servants of the king of Aram said to him, “Their gods are gods of the hills, so they were stronger than we, but let us fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they.* [24]Also do this: remove the kings, each from his post, and put commanders in place of them; [25]and muster an army like the army that you have lost, horse for horse, and chariot for chariot; then we will fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they.” He heeded their voice and did so.

26 In the spring Ben-hadad mustered the Arameans and went up to Aphek to fight against Israel.* [27]After the Israelites had been mustered and provisioned, they went out to engage them; the people of Israel encamped opposite them like two little flocks of goats, while the Arameans filled the country. [28]A man of God approached and said to the king of Israel, “Thus

says the LORD: Because the Arameans have said, 'The LORD is a god of the hills, but he is not a god of the valleys,' therefore I will give all this great multitude into your hand, and you shall know that I am the LORD."* 29They encamped opposite one another seven days. Then on the seventh day the battle began; the Israelites killed one hundred thousand Aramean foot soldiers in one day. 30The rest fled into the city of Aphek, and the wall fell on twenty-seven thousand men who were left.

Ben-hadad also fled and entered the city to hide.* 31His servants said to him, "Look, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings; let us put sackcloth around our waists and ropes on our heads, and go out to the king of Israel; perhaps he will spare your life."* 32So they tied sackcloth around their waists, put ropes on their heads, went to the king of Israel, and said, "Your servant Ben-hadad says, 'Please let me live.' " And he said, "Is he still alive? He is my brother."* 33Now the men were watching for an omen; they quickly took it up from him and said, "Yes, Ben-hadad is your brother." Then he said, "Go and bring him." So Ben-hadad came out to him, and he had him come up into the chariot. 34Ben-hadad[j] said to him, "I will restore the towns that my father took from your father, and you may establish bazaars for yourself in Damascus, as my father did in Samaria." The king of Israel responded,[k] "I will let you go on those terms." So he made a treaty with him and let him go.*

A PROPHET CONDEMNS AHAB

35 At the command of the LORD a certain member of a company of prophets[l] said to another, "Strike me!" But the man refused to strike him.* 36Then he said to him, "Because you have not obeyed the voice of the LORD, as soon as you have left me, a lion will kill you." And when he had left him, a lion met him and killed him.* 37Then he found another man and said, "Strike me!" So the man hit him, striking and wounding him. 38Then the prophet departed and waited for the king along the road, disguising himself with a bandage over his eyes. 39As the king passed by, he cried to the king and said, "Your servant went out into the thick of the battle; then a soldier turned and brought a man to me and said, 'Guard this man; if he is missing, your life shall be given for his life, or else you shall pay a talent of silver.'* 40While your servant was busy here and there, he was gone." The

king of Israel said to him, “So shall your judgment be; you yourself have decided it.” 41Then he quickly took the bandage away from his eyes. The king of Israel recognized him as one of the prophets. 42Then he said to him, “Thus says the LORD: Because you have let the man go whom I had devoted to destruction, therefore your life shall be for his life and your people for his people.”* 43The king of Israel set out toward home, resentful and sullen, and came to Samaria.*

1 Kings 21

NABOTH'S VINEYARD

1 Later the following events took place: Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel beside the palace of King Ahab of Samaria.* 2And Ahab said to Naboth, "Give me your vineyard, so that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house; I will give you a better vineyard for it, or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its value in money."* 3But Naboth said to Ahab, "The LORD forbid that I should give you my ancestral inheritance."* 4Ahab went home resentful and sullen because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to him, for he had said, "I will not give you my ancestral inheritance." He lay down on his bed, turned away his face, and would not eat.*

5 His wife Jezebel came to him and said, "Why are you so depressed that you will not eat?" 6He said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money, or if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard for it,' but he answered, 'I will not give you my vineyard.' " 7His wife Jezebel said to him, "Do you now govern Israel? Get up, eat some food, and be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."*

8 So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal; she sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who lived with Naboth in his city.* 9She wrote in the letters, "Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth at the head of the assembly; 10seat two scoundrels opposite him, and have them bring a charge against him, saying, 'You have cursed God and the king.' Then take him out and stone him to death."* 11The men of his city, the elders and the nobles who lived in his city, did as Jezebel had sent word to them. Just as it was written in the letters that she had sent to them, 12they proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head of the assembly. 13The two scoundrels came in and sat opposite him, and the scoundrels brought a charge against Naboth in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king." So they took him outside the city and stoned him to death.* 14Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned; he is dead."

15 As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead,
Jezebel said to Ahab, "Go, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the
Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money, for Naboth is not alive
but dead." [16]As soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab set out to
go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

ELIJAH PRONOUNCES GOD'S SENTENCE

17 Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,* [18]"Go
down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules[m] in Samaria; he is now in the
vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession.* [19]You shall say
to him: Thus says the LORD: Have you killed and also taken possession?
You shall say to him: Thus says the LORD: In the place where dogs licked up
the blood of Naboth, dogs will also lick up your blood."*

20 Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" He
answered, "I have found you. Because you have sold yourself to do what is
evil in the sight of the LORD,* [21]I will bring disaster on you; I will consume
you and will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel,* [22]and I
will make your house like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat and like the
house of Baasha son of Ahijah, because you have provoked me to anger and
have caused Israel to sin. [23]Also concerning Jezebel the LORD said: The
dogs shall eat Jezebel within the bounds of Jezreel.* [24]Anyone belonging to
Ahab who dies in the city the dogs shall eat, and anyone of his who dies in
the open country the birds of the air shall eat."*

25 (Indeed, there was no one like Ahab, who sold himself to do what was
evil in the sight of the LORD, urged on by his wife Jezebel. [26]He acted most
abominably in going after idols, as the Amorites had done, whom the LORD
had driven out before the Israelites.)*

27 When Ahab heard those words, he tore his clothes and put sackcloth
over his bare flesh; he fasted, lay in the sackcloth, and went about
dejectedly.* [28]Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite,
[29]"Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he
has humbled himself before me, I will not bring the disaster in his days, but
in his son's days I will bring the disaster on his house."*

1 Kings 22

JOINT CAMPAIGN WITH JUDAH AGAINST ARAM

1 For three years Aram and Israel continued without war. [2]But in the third
year King Jehoshaphat of Judah came down to the king of Israel.* [3]The king
of Israel said to his servants, "Do you know that Ramoth-gilead belongs to
us, yet we are doing nothing to take it out of the hand of the king of
Aram?"* [4]He said to Jehoshaphat, "Will you go with me to battle at
Ramoth-gilead?" Jehoshaphat replied to the king of Israel, "I am as you are;
my people are your people; my horses are your horses."*

5 But Jehoshaphat also said to the king of Israel, "Inquire first for the
word of the LORD." [6]Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together,
about four hundred of them, and said to them, "Shall I go to battle against
Ramoth-gilead, or shall I refrain?" They said, "Go up, for the LORD will
give it into the hand of the king."* [7]But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there no other
prophet of the LORD here of whom we may inquire?"* [8]The king of Israel
said to Jehoshaphat, "There is still one other by whom we may inquire of
the LORD, Micaiah son of Imlah, but I hate him, for he never prophesies
anything favorable about me but only disaster." Jehoshaphat said, "Let the
king not say such a thing." [9]Then the king of Israel summoned an officer
and said, "Bring quickly Micaiah son of Imlah." [10]Now the king of Israel
and King Jehoshaphat of Judah were sitting on their thrones, arrayed in
their robes, at the threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Samaria, and
all the prophets were prophesying before them.* [11]Zedekiah son of
Chenaanah made for himself horns of iron, and he said, "Thus says the
LORD: With these you shall gore the Arameans until they are destroyed."*
[12]All the prophets were prophesying the same and saying, "Go up to
Ramoth-gilead and triumph; the LORD will give it into the hand of the king."

MICAIAH PREDICTS FAILURE

13 The messenger who had gone to summon Micaiah said to him, "Look,
the words of the prophets with one accord are favorable to the king; let your

word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably." [14]But Micaiah said, "As the LORD lives, whatever the LORD says to me, that I will speak."*

15 When he had come to the king, the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall we refrain?" He answered him, "Go up and triumph; the LORD will give it into the hand of the king."* [16]But the king said to him, "How many times must I make you swear to tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?" [17]Then Micaiah[n] said, "I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains like sheep that have no shepherd, and the LORD said, 'These have no master; let each one go home in peace.' "* [18]The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy anything favorable about me but only disaster?"*

19 Then Micaiah[o] said, "Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, with all the host of heaven standing beside him to the right and to the left of him.* [20]And the LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab, so that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' Then one said one thing, and another said another, [21]until a certain spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, saying, 'I will entice him.' [22]'How?' the LORD asked him. He replied, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' Then the LORD[p] said, 'You are to entice him, and you shall succeed; go out and do it.'* [23]So you see, the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; the LORD has decreed disaster for you."*

24 Then Zedekiah son of Chenaanah came up to Micaiah, slapped him on the cheek, and said, "Which way did the spirit of the LORD pass from me to speak to you?"* [25]Micaiah replied, "You will find out on that day when you go in to hide in an inner chamber."* [26]The king of Israel then ordered, "Take Micaiah, and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king's son, [27]and say: Thus says the king: Put this fellow in prison, and feed him on reduced rations of bread and water until I come in peace."* [28]Micaiah said, "If you return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me." And he said, "Hear, you peoples, all of you!"*

DEFEAT AND DEATH OF AHAB

29 So the king of Israel and King Jehoshaphat of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead.* [30]The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise myself and go into battle, but you wear your robes." So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into battle. [31]Now the king of Aram had commanded the thirty-two captains of his chariots, "Fight with no one small or great but only with the king of Israel."* [32]When the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said, "It is surely the king of Israel." So they turned to fight against him, and Jehoshaphat cried out.* [33]When the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him. [34]But a certain man drew his bow and unknowingly struck the king of Israel between the scale armor and the breastplate; so he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn around and carry me out of the battle, for I am wounded." [35]The battle grew hot that day, and the king was propped up in his chariot facing the Arameans until at evening he died; the blood from the wound had flowed into the bottom of the chariot. [36]Then about sunset a shout went through the army, "Every man to his city, and every man to his country!"

37 So the king died and was brought to Samaria; they buried the king in Samaria. [38]They washed the chariot by the pool of Samaria; the dogs licked up his blood, and the prostitutes washed themselves in it,[q] according to the word of the LORD that he had spoken.* [39]Now the rest of the acts of Ahab and all that he did and the ivory house that he built and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?* [40]So Ahab slept with his ancestors, and his son Ahaziah succeeded him.

JEHOSHAPHAT REIGNS OVER JUDAH

41 Jehoshaphat son of Asa began to reign over Judah in the fourth year of King Ahab of Israel.* [42]Jehoshaphat was thirty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Azubah daughter of Shilhi. [43]He walked in all the way of his father Asa; he did not turn aside from it, doing what was right in the sight of the LORD, yet the high places were not taken away, and the people still sacrificed and offered incense on the high places.* [44]Jehoshaphat also made peace with the king of Israel.*

45 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat and his power that he showed
and how he waged war, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of
the Kings of Judah?* 46The remnant of the illicit priests who remained from
the days of his father Asa, he purged from the land.*

47 There was no king in Edom; a deputy was king.* 48Jehoshaphat made
ships of the Tarshish type to go to Ophir for gold, but they did not go, for
the ships were wrecked at Ezion-geber.* 49Then Ahaziah son of Ahab said
to Jehoshaphat, "Let my servants go with your servants in the ships," but
Jehoshaphat was not willing. 50Jehoshaphat slept with his ancestors and was
buried with his ancestors in the city of his father David; his son Jehoram
succeeded him.*

AHAZIAH REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

51 Ahaziah son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the
seventeenth year of King Jehoshaphat of Judah; he reigned two years over
Israel.* 52He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in the
way of his father and mother and in the way of Jeroboam son of Nebat, who
caused Israel to sin.* 53He served Baal and worshiped him; he provoked the
LORD, the God of Israel, to anger, just as his father had done.*

1 Kings 1

* **1.3** Josh 19.18
* **1.5** 2 Sam 3.4; 15.1
* **1.6** 2 Sam 3.3, 4
* **1.7** 2 Sam 20.25; 1 Kings 2.22, 28; 1 Chr 11.6
a **1.8** Lucianic: Heb *Shimei*
b **1.8** Lucianic: Heb *Rei*
* **1.8** 2 Sam 8.18; 12.1; 20.25; 23.8
* **1.9** 2 Sam 17.17
* **1.10** 2 Sam 12.24
* **1.11** 2 Sam 3.4
* **1.13** v 30; 1 Chr 22.9–13
* **1.15** v 1
* **1.17** vv 13, 30
* **1.19** v 9
* **1.21** Deut 31.16; 1 Kings 2.10
c **1.25** Gk: Heb *the commanders*
* **1.25** v 9; 1 Sam 10.24
* **1.26** vv 8, 10
* **1.29** 2 Sam 4.9
* **1.30** vv 13, 17
* **1.31** Neh 2.3; Dan 2.4
* **1.33** 2 Sam 20.6, 7
* **1.34** v 25; 1 Sam 10.1; 16.3, 12; 2 Sam 15.10
* **1.37** v 47; Josh 1.5, 17; 1 Sam 20.13
* **1.38** vv 8, 33; 2 Sam 8.18
* **1.39** Ex 30.23–32; 1 Chr 29.22; Ps 89.20
* **1.42** 2 Sam 15.27, 36; 18.27
* **1.45** v 40
* **1.46** 1 Chr 29.23
* **1.47** v 37; Gen 47.31
d **1.48** Gk: Heb *one*
* **1.48** 2 Sam 7.12; 1 Kings 3.6
* **1.50** 1 Kings 2.28
* **1.52** 1 Sam 14.45; 2 Sam 14.11

1 Kings 2

* **2.1** Gen 47.29; Deut 31.14
* **2.2** Deut 31.7, 23; Josh 1.6, 7; 23.14

* **2.3** Josh 1.7; 1 Chr 22.12, 13
* **2.4** 2 Sam 7.12, 13, 25; 2 Kings 20.3; Ps 132.12
e **2.5** Gk: Heb *blood of war*
f **2.5** Gk: Heb *his*
g **2.5** Gk: Heb *his*
* **2.5** 2 Sam 3.27; 18.5, 12, 14; 20.10
* **2.6** v 9
* **2.7** 2 Sam 9.7, 10; 17.27; 19.31, 38
* **2.8** 2 Sam 16.5–8; 19.18–23
* **2.9** v 6
* **2.10** 2 Sam 5.7; Acts 2.29
* **2.11** 2 Sam 5.4; 1 Chr 29.26, 27
* **2.12** 1 Chr 29.23; 2 Chr 1.1
* **2.13** 1 Sam 16.4
* **2.15** 1 Kings 1.5; 1 Chr 22.9, 10; 28.5–7
* **2.17** 1 Kings 1.3, 4
* **2.19** Ps 45.9
* **2.20** v 16
* **2.21** 1 Kings 1.3, 4
* **2.22** 2 Sam 12.8; 1 Kings 1.6, 7
* **2.23** Ruth 1.17
* **2.24** 2 Sam 7.11, 13
* **2.26** Josh 21.18; 1 Sam 22.20–23; 23.6; 2 Sam 15.24–29
* **2.27** 1 Sam 2.31–35
* **2.28** 1 Kings 1.7, 50
* **2.29** v 25
* **2.31** Ex 21.14; Num 35.33; Deut 19.13
* **2.32** Judg 9.24, 57; 2 Sam 3.27; 20.10; 2 Chr 21.13; Ps 7.16
* **2.33** 2 Sam 3.29; Prov 25.5
* **2.35** v 27; 1 Kings 4.4; 1 Chr 29.22
* **2.36** v 8
* **2.37** Lev 20.9; 2 Sam 1.16; 15.23
* **2.39** 1 Sam 27.2
* **2.40** 2 Sam 19.16–23
* **2.44** 1 Sam 25.39; 2 Sam 16.5–13; Ezek 17.19
* **2.45** 2 Sam 7.13
* **2.46** vv 12, 25, 34; 2 Chr 1.1

1 Kings 3

* **3.1** 2 Sam 5.7; 1 Kings 6; 7.1, 8; 9.15, 19, 24
* **3.2** Lev 17.3–5; Deut 12.2, 4, 5

* **3.3** Deut 6.5; 1 Kings 2.3; 9.4; 11.4, 6, 38; Ps 31.23
* **3.4** 1 Chr 16.39; 2 Chr 1.3
* **3.5** Num 12.6; 1 Kings 9.2; 2 Chr 1.7; Mt 1.20
* **3.6** 1 Kings 1.48; 2.4; 9.4; 2 Chr 1.8ff
* **3.7** Num 27.17; 1 Chr 22.9–13; 29.1
* **3.8** Gen 13.16; 15.5; Deut 7.6
* **3.9** 2 Chr 1.10; Ps 72.1, 2; Prov 2.3–9; Jas 1.5
* **3.11** Jas 4.3
* **3.12** 1 Kings 4.29–31; 1 Jn 5.14, 15
* **3.13** 1 Kings 4.21–24; Mt 6.33
* **3.14** v 6
* **3.15** Gen 41.7; 1 Kings 8.65; Esth 1.3; Dan 5.1; Mk 6.21
* **3.17** Num 27.2
* **3.20** Ruth 4.16
* **3.26** Gen 43.30; Isa 49.15; Jer 31.20
* **3.28** vv 9, 11, 12

1 Kings 4

* **4.5** v 7
* **4.8** Josh 24.33
* **4.9** Josh 21.16
* **4.10** Josh 12.17; 15.35
* **4.11** Josh 11.1, 2
* **4.12** Josh 3.16; 17.11; 1 Kings 19.16; 1 Chr 6.68
* **4.13** Num 32.41; Deut 3.4
* **4.14** Josh 13.26
* **4.15** 2 Sam 15.27
* **4.16** 2 Sam 15.32
* **4.18** 1 Kings 1.8
* **4.19** Deut 3.8–10
* **4.20** Gen 32.12; 1 Kings 3.8

h **4.21** 5.1 in Heb

i **4.20–21** Gk lacks 4.20–21

* **4.21** Gen 15.18; 2 Chr 9.26; Ps 68.29; 72.10, 11

j **4.24** Gk: Heb adds *from Tiphsah to Gaza, over all the kings west of the Euphrates*

* **4.24** 1 Chr 22.9; Ps 72.11
* **4.25** Judg 20.1; Jer 23.6; Mic 4.4; Zech 3.10
* **4.26** 1 Kings 10.26; 2 Chr 1.14
* **4.27** v 7
* **4.29** 1 Kings 3.12
* **4.30** Gen 25.6; Acts 7.22

* **4.31** 1 Kings 3.12; 1 Chr 2.6; 6.33; 15.19
* **4.32** Prov 1.1; Eccl 12.9; Song 1.1
* **4.34** 1 Kings 10.1; 2 Chr 9.23

1 Kings 5

k **5.1** 5.15 in Heb
* **5.1** vv 10, 18; 2 Sam 5.11; 1 Chr 14.1; 2 Chr 2.3
l **5.3** Gk: Heb *the* LORD
m **5.3** Gk Tg Vg: Heb *my feet* or *his feet*
* **5.3** 1 Chr 22.8; 28.3
* **5.4** 1 Kings 4.24; 1 Chr 22.9
* **5.5** 2 Sam 7.12, 13; 1 Chr 17.12; 22.10
* **5.9** 2 Chr 2.16; Ezra 3.7; Ezek 27.17; Acts 12.20
* **5.11** 2 Chr 2.10
* **5.12** 1 Kings 3.12
n **5.14** Or *at his palace*
* **5.14** 1 Kings 4.6
* **5.15** 1 Kings 9.20–22; 2 Chr 2.17
* **5.17** 1 Chr 22.2

1 Kings 6

* **6.1** 2 Chr 3.1, 2; Acts 7.47
* **6.2** Ezek 41.1ff
o **6.4** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.4** Ezek 40.16; 41.16
* **6.5** vv 16, 19–21, 31; Ezek 41.6
p **6.6** Gk: Heb *structure*
* **6.7** Deut 27.5, 6
q **6.8** Gk Tg: Heb *middle*
* **6.9** vv 14, 38
r **6.10** Heb lacks *each story*
* **6.12** 1 Kings 2.4; 9.4
* **6.13** Ex 25.8; Deut 31.6
* **6.14** vv 9, 38
* **6.16** Ex 26.33; Lev 16.2; 1 Kings 8.6; 2 Chr 3.8
* **6.18** 1 Kings 7.24
s **6.20** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.22** Ex 30.1, 3, 6
* **6.23** 2 Chr 3.10–12
* **6.27** Ex 25.20; 37.9; 1 Kings 8.7; 2 Chr 5.8

t **6.31** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.34** Ezek 41.23–25
* **6.36** 1 Kings 7.12
* **6.37** v 1

1 Kings 7

* **7.1** 1 Kings 9.10; 2 Chr 8.1
* **7.2** 1 Kings 10.17, 21
u **7.7** Syr Vg: Heb *floor*
* **7.7** 1 Kings 6.15, 16
* **7.8** 1 Kings 3.1; 2 Chr 8.11
* **7.12** v 6; 1 Kings 6.36
* **7.13** 2 Chr 4.11
* **7.14** 2 Chr 2.14; 4.16
v **7.15** Cn: Heb *and a cord of twelve cubits encircled the second pillar*
* **7.15** 2 Kings 25.17; 2 Chr 3.15
* **7.20** 2 Chr 3.16; 4.13; Jer 52.23
* **7.21** 1 Kings 6.3; 2 Chr 3.17
* **7.23** 2 Kings 25.13; 2 Chr 4.2; Jer 52.17
w **7.24** Meaning of Heb uncertain
x **7.24** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.24** 1 Kings 6.18; 2 Chr 4.3
* **7.25** 2 Chr 4.4, 5; Jer 52.20
y **7.26** A Heb measure of volume
* **7.27** v 38; 2 Chr 4.14
* **7.30** 2 Kings 16.17; 25.13, 16
* **7.37** 2 Chr 4.14
z **7.38** A Heb measure of volume
* **7.38** 2 Chr 4.6
* **7.41** vv 17, 18
* **7.42** v 20
* **7.44** vv 23, 25
* **7.45** 2 Chr 4.16
* **7.46** Josh 3.16; 13.27; 2 Chr 4.17
* **7.48** Ex 37.10ff
* **7.49** Ex 25.31–38
* **7.51** 2 Sam 8.11; 2 Chr 5.1

1 Kings 8

* **8.1** 2 Sam 5.7, 9; 6.17; 2 Chr 5.2

* **8.2** Lev 23.34; 2 Chr 7.8
* **8.3** Num 7.9
* **8.4** 1 Kings 3.4; 2 Chr 1.3
* **8.5** 2 Sam 6.13
* **8.6** 2 Sam 6.17; 1 Kings 6.19, 27
* **8.8** Ex 25.14
* **8.9** Ex 24.7, 8; 25.21; Deut 10.2–5; Heb 9.4
* **8.10** Ex 40.34, 35; 2 Chr 7.1, 2
* **8.12** 2 Chr 6.1; Ps 97.2
* **8.13** 2 Sam 7.13; Ps 132.14
* **8.14** 2 Sam 6.18
* **8.15** 2 Sam 7.12, 13; 1 Chr 29.10, 20; Neh 9.5

a **8.16** Cn Compare Q ms and 2 Chr 6.5–6: MT lacks *nor did . . . be there*

* **8.16** Deut 12.11; 1 Sam 16.1; 2 Sam 7.4–6, 8
* **8.17** 2 Sam 7.2; 1 Chr 17.1
* **8.19** 2 Sam 7.5, 12, 13; 1 Kings 5.3, 5
* **8.20** 1 Chr 28.5, 6
* **8.21** v 9
* **8.22** Ex 9.33; 2 Chr 6.12ff; Ezra 9.5
* **8.23** Deut 7.9; 1 Sam 2.2; 2 Sam 7.22; Neh 1.5, 9
* **8.25** 2 Sam 17.12, 16; 1 Kings 2.4
* **8.26** 2 Sam 7.25
* **8.27** 2 Chr 2.6; Isa 66.1; Jer 23.24; Acts 7.49
* **8.29** Deut 12.11; Dan 6.10
* **8.30** Neh 1.6
* **8.31** Ex 22.11
* **8.32** Deut 25.1
* **8.33** Lev 26.17, 39; Deut 28.25

b **8.35** Or *when you answer*

* **8.35** Lev 26.19; Deut 28.23
* **8.36** 1 Sam 12.23; Ps 27.11; 94.12

c **8.37** Gk Syr: Heb *in the land*

* **8.37** Lev 26.16, 25, 26; Deut 28.21–23, 38–42
* **8.39** 1 Sam 16.7; 1 Chr 28.9; Ps 11.4; Jer 17.10
* **8.40** Ps 130.4
* **8.42** Deut 3.24
* **8.43** 1 Sam 17.46; 2 Kings 19.19; Ps 102.15
* **8.46** Lev 26.34–39; Deut 28.36, 64; 2 Chr 6.36; Prov 20.9; 1 Jn 1.8–10
* **8.47** Lev 26.40; Neh 1.6; Ps 106.6; Dan 9.5
* **8.48** Jer 29.12–14; Dan 6.10
* **8.50** 2 Chr 30.9; Ps 106.46

* **8.51** Deut 4.20; 9.29; Neh 1.10; Jer 11.4
* **8.53** Ex 19.5; Deut 9.26–29
* **8.55** v 14
* **8.56** Josh 21.45; 23.14
* **8.57** Josh 1.5; Rom 8.28; Heb 13.5
* **8.58** Ps 119.36
* **8.60** 1 Kings 18.39; Jer 10.10–12
* **8.61** 1 Kings 11.4; 15.3, 14; 2 Kings 20.3
* **8.62** 2 Chr 7.4ff
* **8.64** 2 Chr 4.1; 7.7
d **8.65** Compare Gk: Heb *seven days and seven days, fourteen days*
* **8.65** v 2; Gen 15.18; Lev 23.34; Num 34.8; Josh 13.5; 2 Chr 7.8

1 Kings 9

* **9.1** 1 Kings 7.1; 2 Chr 7.11ff; 8.6
* **9.2** 1 Kings 3.5
* **9.3** Deut 11.12; 1 Kings 8.29; 2 Kings 20.5
* **9.4** Gen 17.1; 1 Kings 15.5
* **9.5** 2 Sam 7.12, 16; 1 Kings 2.4; 1 Chr 22.10
* **9.6** 2 Sam 7.14; 2 Chr 7.19, 20
* **9.7** Deut 28.37; 2 Kings 17.23; 25.21; Ps 44.14; Jer 7.14
e **9.8** Syr OL: Heb *will become high*
* **9.8** Deut 29.24–26; 2 Chr 7.21; Jer 22.8, 9
* **9.10** 1 Kings 6.37, 38; 7.1; 2 Chr 8.1
* **9.11** 2 Chr 8.2
f **9.13** Perhaps meaning *as nothing*
* **9.13** Josh 19.27
* **9.15** v 24; Josh 16.10; 17.11; 19.36; 2 Sam 5.9; 1 Kings 5.13
* **9.16** Josh 16.10
* **9.17** Josh 16.3; 2 Chr 8.5
* **9.19** v 1; 1 Kings 4.26
* **9.20** 2 Chr 8.7
* **9.21** Gen 9.25, 26; Josh 15.63; 17.12; Judg 1.21, 27, 29; Ezra 2.55, 58
* **9.22** Lev 25.39
* **9.23** 2 Chr 8.10
* **9.24** 1 Kings 3.1; 7.8; 11.27; 2 Chr 32.5
g **9.25** Gk: Heb *offering incense with it that was*
* **9.25** 2 Chr 8.12, 13, 16
h **9.26** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **9.26** Num 33.35; Deut 2.8; 1 Kings 22.48; 2 Chr 8.17, 18
* **9.27** 1 Kings 10.11

* **9.28** 1 Chr 29.4

1 Kings 10

i **10.1** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **10.1** Judg 14.12; 2 Chr 9.1ff; Mt 12.42
* **10.5** 1 Chr 26.16
j **10.8** Gk Syr: Heb *men*
* **10.9** 2 Sam 8.15; 1 Kings 5.7
* **10.11** 1 Kings 9.27, 28
* **10.12** 2 Chr 9.10, 11
* **10.14** 2 Chr 9.13–28
* **10.16** 1 Kings 14.26–28
* **10.17** 1 Kings 7.2
* **10.18** 2 Chr 9.17ff
k **10.22** Or *baboons*
* **10.22** 1 Kings 9.26–28; 22.48; 2 Chr 20.36
* **10.23** 1 Kings 3.12, 13; 4.30
* **10.24** 1 Kings 3.9, 12, 28
* **10.26** 1 Kings 4.26; 9.19; 2 Chr 1.14; 9.25
* **10.28** 2 Chr 1.16; 9.28
* **10.29** 2 Kings 7.6, 7

1 Kings 11

* **11.1** Deut 17.17; Neh 13.26
* **11.2** Ex 34.16; Deut 7.3, 4
* **11.4** 1 Kings 8.61; 9.4
* **11.5** v 33; Judg 2.13; 2 Kings 23.13
* **11.7** Num 21.29; Judg 11.24; 2 Kings 23.13
* **11.9** vv 2, 3; 1 Kings 3.5; 9.2
* **11.10** 1 Kings 6.12; 9.6, 7
* **11.11** v 31; 1 Kings 12.15, 16
* **11.13** Deut 12.11; 2 Sam 7.15; 1 Kings 12.20
l **11.15** Gk Syr: Heb *was in*
* **11.15** 2 Sam 8.14; 1 Chr 18.12, 13
* **11.21** 1 Kings 2.10
m **11.23** Heb *him*
* **11.23** v 14; 2 Sam 8.3
* **11.24** 2 Sam 8.3; 10.8, 18
* **11.26** 2 Sam 20.21; 1 Kings 12.2; 2 Chr 13.6
n **11.27** Heb lacks *in the wall*

* **11.27** 1 Kings 9.24
* **11.29** 1 Kings 14.2
* **11.30** 1 Sam 15.27, 28
* **11.31** vv 11–13
o **11.33** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *they have*
p **11.33** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *they have*
* **11.33** vv 5–7
* **11.35** 1 Kings 12.16, 17
* **11.36** v 13; 1 Kings 15.4; 2 Kings 8.19
* **11.38** Josh 1.5; 2 Sam 7.11, 27
* **11.41** 2 Chr 9.29
* **11.42** 2 Chr 9.30
* **11.43** 1 Kings 14.21; 2 Chr 9.31

1 Kings 12

* **12.1** 2 Chr 10.1ff
* **12.2** 1 Kings 11.26, 40
* **12.4** 1 Sam 8.11–18; 1 Kings 4.7
* **12.5** v 12
* **12.7** 2 Chr 10.7
* **12.8** Lev 19.32
* **12.12** v 5
* **12.14** Ex 1.13, 14; 5.5–9, 16–18
* **12.15** v 24; Judg 14.4; 1 Kings 11.11, 31; 2 Chr 10.15; 22.7; 25.20
* **12.16** 2 Sam 20.1
* **12.17** 1 Kings 11.13, 36
* **12.18** 1 Kings 4.6; 5.14
* **12.19** 2 Kings 17.21
* **12.20** 1 Kings 11.13, 32
* **12.21** 2 Chr 11.1ff
* **12.24** v 15
* **12.25** Judg 8.17; 9.45
* **12.27** Deut 12.5, 6
q **12.28** Gk: Heb *to them*
* **12.28** Ex 32.4, 8; 2 Kings 10.29; 17.16
* **12.29** Gen 28.19; Judg 18.29
r **12.30** Compare Gk: Heb *went to the one as far as Dan*
* **12.30** 1 Kings 13.34; 2 Kings 17.21
s **12.31** Gk Vg: Heb *a house*
* **12.31** Num 3.10; 1 Kings 13.32, 33; 2 Kings 17.32
* **12.32** Lev 23.33, 34; Num 29.12; Am 7.13

* **12.33** 1 Kings 13.1

1 Kings 13

* **13.1** 1 Kings 12.32, 33; 2 Kings 23.17
* **13.2** 2 Kings 23.15, 16
* **13.3** Judg 6.17; Isa 7.14
* **13.6** Ex 8.8; 9.28; Lk 6.27, 28; Acts 8.24
* **13.7** 1 Sam 9.7, 8; 2 Kings 5.15
* **13.8** vv 16, 17; Num 22.18; 24.13
* **13.11** v 25
* **13.16** vv 8, 9
* **13.17** 1 Kings 20.35
t **13.18** Heb *he*
u **13.19** Heb *he*
* **13.21** 1 Sam 15.26
v **13.23** Heb *he*
* **13.24** 1 Kings 20.36
* **13.25** v 11
* **13.26** v 21
w **13.29** Gk: Heb *he came to the town of the old prophet*
* **13.30** Jer 22.18
* **13.31** 2 Kings 23.17, 18
* **13.32** v 2; 1 Kings 16.24; 2 Kings 23.16, 17, 19
* **13.33** 1 Kings 12.31, 32; 2 Chr 11.15; 13.9
* **13.34** 1 Kings 12.30; 14.10

1 Kings 14

* **14.2** 1 Sam 28.8; 2 Sam 14.2; 1 Kings 11.29–31
* **14.3** 1 Sam 9.7, 8
* **14.4** 1 Sam 3.2; 4.15; 1 Kings 11.29
* **14.5** 2 Sam 14.2
* **14.7** 1 Kings 11.28–31; 16.2
* **14.8** 1 Kings 11.31ff
* **14.9** Ex 34.17; 1 Kings 12.28; 2 Chr 11.15; Ps 50.17; Ezek 23.35
* **14.10** Deut 32.36; 1 Kings 15.29; 21.21; 2 Kings 9.8; 14.26
* **14.11** 1 Kings 16.4; 21.24
* **14.12** v 17
* **14.13** 2 Chr 12.12
x **14.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **14.14** 1 Kings 15.27–29

y **14.15** Or *Asherahs*
* **14.15** Ex 34.13; Deut 12.3, 4; Josh 23.15, 16; 2 Kings 15.29; 17.6
* **14.16** 1 Kings 12.30; 13.34; 15.30, 34
* **14.19** 2 Chr 13.2–20
* **14.21** v 31; 1 Kings 11.32, 36; 2 Chr 12.13
* **14.22** Deut 32.21; 2 Chr 12.1
z **14.23** Or *Asherahs*
* **14.23** Deut 12.2; 2 Kings 17.9, 10; Isa 57.5; Ezek 16.24, 25
* **14.24** Deut 23.17; 1 Kings 15.12; 2 Kings 23.7
* **14.25** 1 Kings 11.40; 2 Chr 12.2, 9–11
* **14.26** 1 Kings 10.17; 15.18
* **14.29** 2 Chr 12.15
* **14.30** 1 Kings 12.21, 24; 15.6
* **14.31** v 21; 2 Chr 12.16

1 Kings 15

* **15.1** 2 Chr 13.1, 2
* **15.3** 1 Kings 11.4
* **15.4** 1 Kings 11.36; 2 Chr 21.7
* **15.5** 2 Sam 11.4, 15–17; 12.9; 1 Kings 14.8
* **15.6** 1 Kings 14.30
* **15.7** 2 Chr 13.2, 3, 22
* **15.8** 2 Chr 14.1
* **15.10** v 2
* **15.11** 2 Chr 14.2
* **15.12** 1 Kings 14.24; 22.46
* **15.13** Ex 32.20; 2 Chr 15.16–18
* **15.14** v 3; 1 Kings 22.43; 2 Chr 15.17, 18
* **15.15** 1 Kings 7.51
* **15.16** v 32
* **15.17** Josh 18.25; 1 Kings 12.27; 2 Chr 16.1ff
* **15.18** v 15; 1 Kings 11.23, 24; 2 Chr 16.2
* **15.20** Judg 18.29; 2 Sam 20.14; 2 Kings 15.29
* **15.22** Josh 21.17; 2 Chr 16.6
* **15.23** 2 Chr 16.11–14
* **15.24** 2 Chr 17.1
* **15.25** 1 Kings 14.20
* **15.26** 1 Kings 12.30; 14.16
* **15.27** Josh 19.44; 21.23; 1 Kings 14.14
a **15.28** Heb *him*
* **15.29** 1 Kings 14.10, 14

* **15.30** 1 Kings 14.9, 16
* **15.31** v 16
* **15.34** 1 Kings 12.28, 29; 13.33; 14.16

1 Kings 16

* **16.1** v 7; 2 Chr 19.2; 20.34
* **16.2** 1 Kings 14.7; 15.34
* **16.3** v 11; 1 Kings 14.10; 15.29
* **16.4** vv 20, 30–33; 1 Kings 14.11; 21.24
* **16.5** 1 Kings 14.19; 15.31
* **16.6** 1 Kings 14.17; 15.21
* **16.7** v 1; 1 Kings 15.27, 29
* **16.9** 2 Kings 9.30–33
* **16.12** v 3; 2 Chr 19.2; 20.34
* **16.13** Deut 32.21; 1 Sam 12.21; Isa 41.29
* **16.14** v 5
* **16.15** 1 Kings 15.27
* **16.18** 1 Sam 31.4, 5; 2 Sam 17.23
* **16.19** 1 Kings 12.28; 15.26, 34
* **16.20** vv 5, 14, 27
* **16.23** 1 Kings 15.21
* **16.24** 1 Kings 13.32; Jn 4.4
* **16.26** v 19; Mic 6.16
* **16.30** v 25; 1 Kings 14.9
* **16.31** Deut 7.3; 2 Kings 10.18; 17.16
* **16.32** 2 Kings 10.21, 26, 27

b **16.33** Or *Asherah*

* **16.33** vv 29, 30; 2 Kings 13.6
* **16.34** Josh 6.26

1 Kings 17

c **17.1** Gk: Heb *of the settlers*

* **17.1** Deut 10.8; 1 Kings 18.1; 2 Kings 3.14; Lk 4.25; Jas 5.17
* **17.9** Ob 20; Lk 4.26
* **17.12** v 1; 2 Kings 4.2–7
* **17.14** Lk 4.25, 26
* **17.18** 2 Kings 3.13
* **17.21** 2 Kings 4.34, 35; Acts 20.10
* **17.22** Heb 11.35
* **17.24** Jn 3.2; 16.30

1 Kings 18

d **18.1** Heb lacks *of the drought*
* **18.1** 1 Kings 17.1; Lk 4.25; Jas 5.17
* **18.4** v 13
* **18.7** 2 Kings 1.6–8
* **18.10** 1 Kings 17.1
* **18.12** 2 Kings 2.16; Ezek 3.12, 14; Acts 8.39
* **18.13** v 4
* **18.15** 1 Kings 17.1
* **18.17** Josh 7.25; 1 Kings 21.20; Acts 16.20
* **18.18** 1 Kings 16.31; 21.25, 26; 2 Chr 15.2
* **18.19** Josh 19.26; 1 Kings 16.33
* **18.21** Josh 24.15; 2 Kings 17.41; Mt 6.24
* **18.22** v 19; 1 Kings 19.10, 14
* **18.24** v 38; 1 Chr 21.26
* **18.26** Ps 115.5; Jer 10.5; 1 Cor 8.4; 12.2
* **18.28** Lev 19.28; Deut 14.1
* **18.29** v 26
* **18.30** 1 Kings 19.10, 14
* **18.31** Gen 32.28; 35.10; 2 Kings 17.34
* **18.32** Col 3.17
* **18.33** Gen 22.9; Lev 1.6–8
* **18.36** Ex 3.6; Num 16.28; 1 Kings 8.43; 2 Kings 19.19
* **18.38** Lev 9.24; 1 Chr 21.26; 2 Chr 7.1
* **18.39** vv 21, 24
* **18.40** Deut 13.5; 18.20; 2 Kings 10.24, 25
* **18.42** vv 19, 20; Jas 5.17, 18
* **18.46** 2 Kings 3.15; 4.29

1 Kings 19

* **19.1** 1 Kings 18.40
* **19.2** 1 Kings 20.10; 2 Kings 6.31
e **19.3** Gk: Heb *he saw*
* **19.4** Num 11.15; Jon 4.3, 8
* **19.8** Ex 3.1; 34.28; Deut 9.9–11, 18; Mt 4.2
* **19.10** 1 Kings 18.4, 22; Rom 11.3
* **19.11** Ex 24.12; Ezek 1.4; 37.7
* **19.13** v 9; Ex 3.6
* **19.14** v 10
* **19.15** 2 Kings 8.12, 13

* **19.16** vv 19–21; 2 Kings 2.9, 15; 9.1–3
* **19.17** 2 Kings 8.12; 9.14ff; 13.3, 22
* **19.18** Hos 13.2; Rom 11.4
* **19.19** 2 Kings 2.8, 13
f **19.20** Heb *he*
* **19.20** Mt 8.21, 22; Lk 9.61, 62
* **19.21** 2 Sam 24.22

1 Kings 20

* **20.1** 1 Kings 15.18, 20; 22.31; 2 Kings 6.24–29
g **20.6** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *you*
* **20.7** 2 Kings 5.7
* **20.10** 1 Kings 19.2
h **20.11** Gk: Heb *Tell him*
* **20.11** Prov 27.1
* **20.12** v 16
* **20.13** v 28
* **20.16** v 12
i **20.17** Heb lacks *scouts*
* **20.18** 2 Kings 14.8–12
* **20.22** vv 13, 26; 2 Sam 11.1
* **20.23** 1 Kings 14.23
* **20.26** v 22; 2 Kings 13.7
* **20.28** v 13
* **20.30** v 26; 1 Kings 22.25; 2 Chr 18.24
* **20.31** Gen 37.34
* **20.32** vv 3–6
j **20.34** Heb *He*
k **20.34** Heb lacks *The king of Israel responded*
* **20.34** 1 Kings 15.20
l **20.35** Heb *of the sons of the prophets*
* **20.35** 1 Kings 13.17, 18; 2 Kings 2.3–7
* **20.36** 1 Kings 13.24
* **20.39** 2 Kings 10.24
* **20.42** v 39; 1 Kings 22.31–37
* **20.43** 1 Kings 21.4

1 Kings 21

* **21.1** 1 Kings 18.45, 46
* **21.2** 1 Sam 8.14

* **21.3** Lev 25.23; Num 36.7; Ezek 46.18
* **21.4** 1 Kings 20.43
* **21.7** 1 Sam 8.14
* **21.8** Esth 3.12; 8.8, 10
* **21.10** Ex 22.28; Lev 24.15, 16; Acts 6.11
* **21.13** 2 Kings 9.26
* **21.17** Ps 9.12

m **21.18** Heb *who is*

* **21.18** 1 Kings 16.29
* **21.19** 1 Kings 22.38; 2 Kings 9.8
* **21.20** v 25; 1 Kings 18.17
* **21.21** 1 Kings 14.10; 15.29; 2 Kings 9.8; 21.22
* **21.23** 2 Kings 9.10, 30–37
* **21.24** 1 Kings 14.11
* **21.26** Gen 15.16; Lev 18.25–30
* **21.27** 2 Sam 3.31; 2 Kings 6.30
* **21.29** 2 Kings 9.25

1 Kings 22

* **22.2** 1 Kings 15.24; 2 Chr 18.2ff
* **22.3** Deut 4.43; Josh 21.38
* **22.4** 2 Kings 3.7
* **22.6** 1 Kings 18.19
* **22.7** 2 Kings 3.11
* **22.10** v 6
* **22.11** Deut 33.17; Zech 1.18–21
* **22.14** Num 22.18; 24.13; 1 Kings 18.10, 15
* **22.15** v 12

n **22.17** Heb *he*

* **22.17** vv 34–36
* **22.18** v 8

o **22.19** Heb *he*

* **22.19** Isa 6.1; Dan 7.9, 10

p **22.22** Heb *he*

* **22.22** Judg 9.23; 1 Sam 16.14; 18.10; 19.9; 2 Thess 2.11
* **22.23** Ezek 14.9
* **22.24** 2 Chr 18.23
* **22.25** 1 Kings 20.30
* **22.27** 2 Chr 18.25–27
* **22.28** Deut 18.22
* **22.29** vv 3, 4

* **22.31** 2 Chr 18.30
* **22.32** 2 Chr 18.31
q **22.38** Heb lacks *in it*
* **22.38** 1 Kings 21.19
* **22.39** Am 3.15
* **22.41** 2 Chr 20.31
* **22.43** 1 Kings 15.14; 2 Kings 12.3; 2 Chr 17.3
* **22.44** 2 Chr 19.2
* **22.45** 2 Chr 20.34
* **22.46** 1 Kings 14.24; 15.12
* **22.47** 2 Sam 8.14; 2 Kings 3.9
* **22.48** 1 Kings 10.22; 2 Chr 20.35ff
* **22.50** 2 Chr 21.1
* **22.51** v 40
* **22.52** 1 Kings 15.26; 21.25
* **22.53** 1 Kings 16.30–32

2 Kings

2 Kings 1

ELIJAH DENOUNCES AHAZIAH

1 After the death of Ahab, Moab rebelled against Israel.*

2 Ahaziah had fallen through the lattice in his upper chamber in Samaria
and was injured, so he sent messengers, telling them, "Go, inquire of Baal-
zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this injury."* [3]But the
angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Get up, go to meet the
messengers of the king of Samaria and say to them: Is it because there is no
God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron?
[4]Now therefore thus says the LORD: You shall not leave the bed to which
you have gone, but you shall surely die." So Elijah went.*

5 The messengers returned to the king, who said to them, "Why have you
returned?" [6]They answered him, "There came a man to meet us, who said to
us, 'Go back to the king who sent you and say to him: Thus says the LORD:
Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are sending to inquire of
Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not leave the bed to
which you have gone but shall surely die.' " [7]He said to them, "What sort of
man was he who came to meet you and told you these things?" [8]They
answered him, "A hairy man with a leather belt around his waist." He said,
"It is Elijah the Tishbite."*

9 Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty men. He went
up to Elijah, who was sitting on the top of a hill and said to him, "O man of
God, the king says: Come down." [10]But Elijah answered the captain of fifty,
"If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you
and your fifty." Then fire came down from heaven and consumed him and
his fifty.*

11 Again the king sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. He
went up[a] and said to him, "O man of God, this is the king's order: Come
down quickly!" [12]But Elijah answered him,[b] "If I am a man of God, let fire

come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." Then the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.

13 Again the king sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. So the third captain of fifty went up and came and fell on his knees before Elijah and entreated him, "O man of God, please let my life and the life of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight.* [14]Look, fire came down from heaven and consumed the two former captains of fifty men with their fifties, but now let my life be precious in your sight." [15]Then the angel of the LORD said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." So he set out and went down with him to the king* [16]and said to him, "Thus says the LORD: Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron—is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of his word? —therefore you shall not leave the bed to which you have gone, but you shall surely die."*

DEATH OF AHAZIAH

17 So he died according to the word of the LORD that Elijah had spoken. His brother[c] Jehoram succeeded him as king in the second year of King Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat of Judah, because Ahaziah had no son.* [18]Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

2 Kings 2

ELIJAH ASCENDS TO HEAVEN

1 Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a
whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.* [2]Elijah said to
Elisha, "Stay here, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha
said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So
they went down to Bethel.* [3]The company of prophets who were in Bethel
came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will
take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."*

4 Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, for the LORD has sent me to
Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not
leave you." So they came to Jericho.* [5]The company of prophets who were
at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the
LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I
know; keep silent."*

6 Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the
Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not
leave you." So the two of them went on.* [7]Fifty men of the company of
prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were
standing by the Jordan.* [8]Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and
struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and
the two of them crossed on dry ground.*

9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do
for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a
double share of your spirit." [10]He responded, "You have asked a hard thing,
yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if
not, it will not." [11]As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire
and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a
whirlwind into heaven.* [12]Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father,
father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no
longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.*

ELISHA SUCCEEDS ELIJAH

13 He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. [14]He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water. He said, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah? Where is he?" He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.*

15 When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.* [16]They said to him, "See now, we have fifty strong men among your servants; please let them go and seek your master; it may be that the spirit of the LORD has caught him up and thrown him down on some mountain or into some valley." He responded, "No, do not send them."* [17]But when they urged him to the point of embarrassment, he said, "Send them." So they sent fifty men who searched for three days but did not find him.* [18]When they came back to him (he had remained at Jericho), he said to them, "Did I not say to you, 'Do not go'?"

ELISHA PERFORMS MIRACLES

19 Now the people of the city said to Elisha, "The location of this city is good, as my lord sees, but the water is bad, and the land is unfruitful." [20]He said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it." So they brought it to him. [21]Then he went to the spring of water and threw the salt into it and said, "Thus says the LORD: I have made this water wholesome; from now on neither death nor miscarriage shall come from it."* [22]So the water has been wholesome to this day, according to the word that Elisha spoke.

23 He went up from there to Bethel, and while he was going up on the way, some small boys came out of the city and jeered at him, saying, "Go away, baldhead! Go away, baldhead!" [24]When he turned around and saw them, he cursed them in the name of the LORD. Then two she-bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the boys.* [25]From there he went on to Mount Carmel and then returned to Samaria.*

2 Kings 3

JEHORAM REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

1 In the eighteenth year of King Jehoshaphat of Judah, Jehoram son of
Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria; he reigned twelve years.* 2He did
what was evil in the sight of the LORD, though not like his father and
mother, for he removed the pillar of Baal that his father had made.*
3Nevertheless, he clung to the sin of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused
Israel to commit; he did not depart from it.*

WAR WITH MOAB

4 Now King Mesha of Moab was a sheep breeder who used to deliver to
the king of Israel one hundred thousand lambs and the wool of one hundred
thousand rams.* 5But when Ahab died, the king of Moab rebelled against
the king of Israel.* 6So King Jehoram marched out of Samaria at that time
and mustered all Israel. 7As he went he sent word to King Jehoshaphat of
Judah, "The king of Moab has rebelled against me; will you go with me to
battle against Moab?" He answered, "I will; I am as you are; my people are
your people; my horses are your horses."* 8Then he asked, "By which way
shall we march?" Jehoram answered, "By the way of the wilderness of
Edom."

9 So the king of Israel, the king of Judah, and the king of Edom set out,
and when they had made a roundabout march of seven days, there was no
water for the army or for the animals that were with them.* 10Then the king
of Israel said, "Alas! The LORD has summoned these three kings to hand
them over to Moab." 11But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there no prophet of the
LORD here through whom we may inquire of the LORD?" Then one of the
servants of the king of Israel answered, "Elisha son of Shaphat, who used to
pour water on the hands of Elijah, is here."* 12Jehoshaphat said, "The word
of the LORD is with him." So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king
of Edom went down to him.

13 Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What have I to do with you? Go to
your father's prophets or to your mother's." But the king of Israel said to

him, “No; it is the LORD who has summoned these three kings to hand them over to Moab.”* 14Elisha said, “As the LORD of hosts lives, whom I serve, were it not that I have regard for King Jehoshaphat of Judah, I would give you neither a look nor a glance.* 15But get me a musician.” And then, while the musician was playing, the hand of the LORD came on him.* 16And he said, “Thus says the LORD: I will make this wadi full of pools. 17For thus says the LORD: You shall see neither wind nor rain, but the wadi shall be filled with water, so that you shall drink, you, your army,[d] and your animals. 18This is only a trifle in the sight of the LORD, for he will also hand Moab over to you. 19You shall conquer every fortified city and every choice city; every good tree you shall fell, all springs of water you shall stop up, and every good piece of land you shall ruin with stones.”* 20The next day, about the time of the morning offering, suddenly water began to flow from the direction of Edom until the country was filled with water.*

21 When all the Moabites heard that the kings had come up to fight against them, all who were able to put on armor, from the youngest to the oldest, were called out and were drawn up at the frontier.* 22When they rose early in the morning and the sun shone upon the water, the Moabites saw the water opposite them as red as blood. 23They said, “This is blood; the kings must have fought together and killed one another. Now then, Moab, to the spoil!” 24But when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and attacked the Moabites, who fled before them; as they entered Moab, they continued the attack.[e] 25The cities they overturned, and on every good piece of land everyone threw a stone until it was covered; every spring of water they stopped up, and every good tree they felled. Only at Kir-hareseth did the stone walls remain until the slingers surrounded and attacked it.* 26When the king of Moab saw that the battle was going against him, he took with him seven hundred swordsmen to break through opposite the king of Edom, but they could not. 27Then he took his firstborn son who was to succeed him and offered him as a burnt offering on the wall. And great wrath came upon Israel, so they withdrew from him and returned to their own land.*

2 Kings 4

ELISHA AND THE WIDOW'S OIL

1 Now the wife of a member of the company of prophets cried to Elisha,
"Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared
the LORD, but a creditor has come to take my two children as slaves."*
[2]Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in
the house?" She answered, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a
jar of oil." [3]He said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors,
empty vessels—and not just a few. [4]Then go in, shut the door behind you
and your children, and start pouring into all these vessels; when each is full,
set it aside." [5]So she left him and shut the door behind her and her children;
they kept bringing vessels to her, and she kept pouring. [6]When the vessels
were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." But he said to her,
"There are no more." Then the oil stopped flowing. [7]She came and told the
man of God, and he said, "Go sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and
your children can live on the rest."*

ELISHA RAISES THE SHUNAMMITE'S SON

8 One day Elisha was passing through Shunem, where a wealthy woman
lived, who urged him to have a meal. So whenever he passed that way, he
would stop there for a meal.* [9]She said to her husband, "Look, I am sure
that this man who regularly passes our way is a holy man of God.* [10]Let us
make a small roof chamber with walls and put there for him a bed, a table, a
chair, and a lamp, so that he can stay there whenever he comes to us."

11 One day when he came there, he went up to the chamber and lay down
there. [12]He said to his servant Gehazi, "Call the Shunammite woman."
When he had called her, she stood before him.* [13]He said to him, "Say to
her: Since you have taken all this trouble for us, what may be done for you?
Would you have a word spoken on your behalf to the king or to the
commander of the army?" She answered, "I live among my own people."
[14]He said, "What then may be done for her?" Gehazi answered, "Well, she
has no son, and her husband is old." [15]He said, "Call her." When he had

called her, she stood at the door. [16]He said, “At this season, in due time, you shall embrace a son.” She replied, “No, my lord, O man of God; do not deceive your servant.”*

17 The woman conceived and bore a son at that season, in due time, as Elisha had declared to her.

18 When the child was older, he went out one day to his father among the reapers. [19]He complained to his father, “Oh, my head, my head!” The father said to his servant, “Carry him to his mother.” [20]He carried him and brought him to his mother; the child sat on her lap until noon, and he died. [21]She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, closed the door on him, and left.* [22]Then she called to her husband and said, “Send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys, so that I may quickly go to the man of God and come back again.” [23]He said, “Why go to him today? It is neither new moon nor Sabbath.” She said, “It will be all right.”* [24]Then she saddled the donkey and said to her servant, “Urge the animal on; do not hold back for me unless I tell you.” [25]So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When the man of God saw her coming, he said to Gehazi his servant, “Look, there is the Shunammite woman;* [26]run at once to meet her and say to her: Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is the child all right?” She answered, “It is all right.” [27]When she came to the man of God at the mountain, she caught hold of his feet. Gehazi approached to push her away, but the man of God said, “Let her alone, for she is in bitter distress; the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me.” [28]Then she said, “Did I ask my lord for a son? Did I not say, ‘Do not mislead me?’ ”* [29]He said to Gehazi, “Gird up your loins, and take my staff in your hand, and go. If you meet anyone, give no greeting, and if anyone greets you, do not answer, and lay my staff on the face of the child.”* [30]Then the mother of the child said, “As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave without you.” So he rose up and followed her.* [31]Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the face of the child, but there was no sound or sign of life. He came back to meet him and told him, “The child has not awakened.”

32 When Elisha came into the house, he saw the child lying dead on his bed. [33]So he went in and closed the door on the two of them and prayed to the LORD.* [34]Then he got up on the bed[f] and lay upon the child, putting his

mouth upon his mouth, his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands, and while he lay bent over him, the flesh of the child became warm.* 35He got down, walked once to and fro in the room, then got up again and bent over him; the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.* 36Elisha[g] summoned Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite woman." So he called her. When she came to him, he said, "Take your son." 37She came and fell at his feet, bowing to the ground; then she took her son and left.*

ELISHA PURIFIES THE POT OF STEW

38 When Elisha returned to Gilgal, there was a famine in the land. As the company of prophets was sitting before him, he said to his servant, "Put the large pot on, and make some stew for the company of prophets."* 39One of them went out into the field to gather herbs; he found a wild vine and gathered from it a lapful of wild gourds and came and cut them up into the pot of stew, not knowing what they were. 40They served some for the men to eat. But while they were eating the stew, they cried out, "O man of God, there is death in the pot!" They could not eat it. 41He said, "Then bring some flour." He threw it into the pot and said, "Serve the people and let them eat." And there was nothing harmful in the pot.*

ELISHA FEEDS ONE HUNDRED MEN

42 A man came from Baal-shalishah bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat."* 43But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD: They shall eat and have some left." 44He set it before them; they ate and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.*

2 Kings 5

THE HEALING OF NAAMAN

1 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man
and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given
victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin
disease.* [2]Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl
captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. [3]She said to
her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He
would cure him of his skin disease." [4]So Naaman[h] went in and told his lord
just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. [5]And the king of Aram
said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of
gold, and ten sets of garments.* [6]He brought the letter to the king of Israel,
which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my
servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease." [7]When the
king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to
give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin
disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."*

8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn
his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your
clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in
Israel."* [9]So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the
entrance of Elisha's house. [10]Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go,
wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you
shall be clean."* [11]But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I
thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the
name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure
the skin disease! [12]Are not Abana[i] and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus,
better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?"
He turned and went away in a rage. [13]But his servants approached and said
to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something
difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to

you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?"* 14So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.*

15 Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant."* 16But he said, "As the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing!" He urged him to accept, but he refused.* 17Then Naaman said, "If not, please let two mule loads of earth be given to your servant, for your servant will no longer offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god except the LORD. 18But may the LORD pardon your servant on one count: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow down in the house of Rimmon, when I do bow down in the house of Rimmon, may the LORD pardon your servant on this one count."* 19He said to him, "Go in peace."

GEHAZI'S GREED

But when Naaman had gone from him a short distance, 20Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, thought, "My master has let that Aramean Naaman off too lightly by not accepting from him what he offered. As the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him."* 21So Gehazi went after Naaman. When Naaman saw someone running after him, he jumped down from the chariot to meet him and said, "Is everything all right?" 22He replied, "Yes, but my master has sent me to say, 'Two members of a company of prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim; please give them a talent of silver and two changes of clothing.' "* 23Naaman said, "Please accept two talents." He urged him and tied up two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothing, and gave them to two of his servants, who carried them in front of Gehazi.[j] 24When he came to the citadel, he took the bags[k] from them and stored them inside; he dismissed the men, and they left.

25 He went in and stood before his master, and Elisha said to him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?" He answered, "Your servant has not gone anywhere at all."* 26But he said to him, "Did I not go with you in spirit when someone left his chariot to meet you? Is this a time to accept silver

and to accept clothing, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, and male and female slaves?* 27Therefore the skin disease of Naaman shall cling to you and to your descendants forever." So he left his presence diseased, as white as snow.*

2 Kings 6

THE MIRACLE OF THE AX HEAD

1 Now the company of prophets said to Elisha, "As you see, the place
where we live under your charge is too small for us.* [2]Let us go to the
Jordan, and let us collect logs there, one for each of us, and build a place
there for us to live." He answered, "Do so." [3]Then one of them said, "Please
come with your servants." And he answered, "I will." [4]So he went with
them. When they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees. [5]But as one was
felling a log, his ax head fell into the water; he cried out, "Alas, master! It
was borrowed." [6]Then the man of God said, "Where did it fall?" When he
showed him the place, he cut off a stick and threw it in there and made the
iron float.* [7]He said, "Pick it up." So he reached out his hand and took it.

THE ARAMEAN ATTACK IS THWARTED

8 Once when the king of Aram was at war with Israel, he took counsel
with his officers. He said, "At such and such a place shall be my camp."
[9]But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, "Take care not to pass
this place, for the Arameans are going down there."* [10]The king of Israel
sent word to the place of which the man of God spoke. More than once or
twice he warned a place[l] so that it was on the alert.

11 The mind of the king of Aram was greatly perturbed because of this;
he called his officers and said to them, "Now tell me: Who among us is
betraying us to[m] the king of Israel?" [12]Then one of his officers said, "No
one, my lord king. It is Elisha, the prophet in Israel, who tells the king of
Israel the words that you speak in your bedchamber." [13]He said, "Go and
find where he is; I will send and seize him." He was told, "He is in
Dothan."* [14]So he sent horses and chariots there and a great army; they
came by night and surrounded the city.

15 When an attendant of the man of God rose early in the morning and
went out, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. His
servant said, "Alas, master! What shall we do?" [16]He replied, "Do not be

afraid, for there are more with us than there are with them."* 17Then Elisha prayed, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the servant, and he saw; the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.* 18When the Arameans[n] came down against him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, "Strike this people, please, with blindness." So he struck them with blindness as Elisha had asked.* 19Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, and this is not the city; follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And he led them to Samaria.

20 As soon as they entered Samaria, Elisha said, "O LORD, open the eyes of these men so that they may see." The LORD opened their eyes, and they saw that they were inside Samaria.* 21When the king of Israel saw them he said to Elisha, "Father, shall I strike them? Shall I strike them?"* 22He answered, "No! Would you strike those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Set food and water before them so that they may eat and drink, and let them go to their master."* 23So he prepared for them a great feast; after they ate and drank, he sent them on their way, and they went to their master. And the Arameans no longer came raiding into the land of Israel.*

BEN-HADAD'S SIEGE OF SAMARIA

24 Some time later King Ben-hadad of Aram mustered his entire army; he marched against Samaria and laid siege to it.* 25As the siege continued, famine in Samaria became so great that a donkey's head was sold for eighty shekels of silver and one-fourth of a kab of dove's dung for five shekels of silver. 26Now as the king of Israel was walking on the city wall, a woman cried out to him, "Help, my lord king!" 27He said, "If the LORD does not help you, where would my help come from? From the threshing floor or from the winepress?" 28But then the king asked her, "What is your complaint?" She answered, "This woman said to me, 'Give up your son; we will eat him today, and we will eat my son tomorrow.' 29So we cooked my son and ate him. The next day I said to her, 'Give up your son, and we will eat him.' But she has hidden her son."* 30When the king heard the words of the woman he tore his clothes—now since he was walking on the city wall, the people could see that he had sackcloth on his body underneath*—31and

he said, “So may God do to me and more, if the head of Elisha son of Shaphat stays on his shoulders today.”* 32So he dispatched a man from his presence.

Now Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were sitting with him. Before the messenger arrived, Elisha said to the elders, “Are you aware that this murderer has sent someone to take off my head? When the messenger comes, see that you shut the door and hold it closed against him. Is not the sound of his master’s feet behind him?”* 33While he was still speaking with them, the king[o] came down to him and said, “This trouble is from the LORD! Why should I hope in the LORD any longer?”*

2 Kings 7

1 But Elisha said, “Hear the word of the Lord: Thus says the Lord:
Tomorrow about this time a measure of choice meal shall be sold for a
shekel and two measures of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria.”*
2Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned said to the man of God,
“Even if the Lord were to make windows in the sky, could such a thing
happen?” But he said, “You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall
not eat from it.”*

THE ARAMEANS FLEE

3 Now there were four men with a defiling skin disease outside the city
gate who said to one another, “Why should we sit here until we die?* 4If we
say, ‘Let us enter the city,’ the famine is in the city, and we shall die there,
but if we sit here, we shall also die. Therefore, let us desert to the Aramean
camp; if they spare our lives, we shall live, and if they kill us, we shall but
die.”* 5So they arose at twilight to go to the Aramean camp, but when they
came to the edge of the Aramean camp there was no one there at all. 6For
the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the sound of chariots and of
horses, the sound of a great army, so that they said to one another, “The
king of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to
fight against us.”* 7So they fled away in the twilight and abandoned their
tents, their horses, and their donkeys, leaving the camp just as it was, and
fled for their lives.* 8When these diseased men had come to the edge of the
camp, they went into a tent, ate and drank, carried off silver, gold, and
clothing, and went and hid them. Then they came back, entered another
tent, carried off things from it and went and hid them.

9 Then they said to one another, “What we are doing is wrong. This is a
day of good news; if we are silent and wait until the morning light, we will
be found guilty; therefore let us go and tell the king’s household.”* 10So
they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city and told them, “We went
to the Aramean camp, but there was no one to be seen or heard there,
nothing but the horses tied, the donkeys tied, and the tents as they were.”

[11]Then the gatekeepers called out and proclaimed it to the king's household.
[12]The king got up in the night and said to his servants, "I will tell you what
the Arameans have prepared against us. They know that we are starving, so
they left the camp to hide themselves in the open country, thinking, 'When
they come out of the city, we shall take them alive and get into the city.' "*
[13]One of his servants said, "Let some men take five of the remaining horses,
since those left here will suffer the fate of the whole multitude of Israel that
have perished already;[p] let us send and find out." [14]So they took two
mounted men, and the king sent them after the Aramean army, saying, "Go
and find out." [15]So they went after them as far as the Jordan; the whole way
was littered with garments and equipment that the Arameans had thrown
away in their haste. So the messengers returned and told the king.

16 Then the people went out and plundered the camp of the Arameans.
So a measure of choice meal was sold for a shekel and two measures of
barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD.* [17]Now the king had
appointed the captain on whose hand he leaned to have charge of the gate;
the people trampled him to death in the gate, just as the man of God had
said when the king came down to him. [18]For when the man of God had said
to the king, "Two measures of barley shall be sold for a shekel and a
measure of choice meal for a shekel, about this time tomorrow in the gate of
Samaria,"* [19]the captain had answered the man of God, "Even if the LORD
were to make windows in the sky, could such a thing happen?" And he had
answered, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat from
it."* [20]It did indeed happen to him; the people trampled him to death in the
gate.

2 Kings 8

THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN'S LAND RESTORED

1 Now Elisha had said to the woman whose son he had restored to life, "Get
up and go with your household and settle wherever you can, for the LORD
has called for a famine, and it will come on the land for seven years."* [2]So
the woman got up and did according to the word of the man of God; she
went with her household and settled in the land of the Philistines seven
years. [3]At the end of the seven years, when the woman returned from the
land of the Philistines, she set out to appeal to the king for her house and
her land. [4]Now the king was talking with Gehazi the servant of the man of
God, saying, "Tell me all the great things that Elisha has done."* [5]While he
was telling the king how Elisha had restored a dead person to life, the
woman whose son he had restored to life appealed to the king for her house
and her land. Gehazi said, "My lord king, here is the woman, and here is her
son whom Elisha restored to life."* [6]When the king questioned the woman,
she told him. So the king appointed an official for her, saying, "Restore all
that was hers, together with all the revenue of the fields from the day that
she left the land until now."

DEATH OF BEN-HADAD

7 Elisha went to Damascus while King Ben-hadad of Aram was ill. When
it was told him, "The man of God has come here,"* [8]the king said to
Hazael, "Take a present with you and go to meet the man of God. Inquire of
the LORD through him, whether I shall recover from this illness."* [9]So
Hazael went to meet him, taking a present with him, all kinds of goods of
Damascus, forty camel loads. When he entered and stood before him, he
said, "Your son King Ben-hadad of Aram has sent me to you, saying, 'Shall
I recover from this illness?' " [10]Elisha said to him, "Go, say to him, 'You
shall certainly recover,' but the LORD has shown me that he shall certainly
die."* [11]He fixed his gaze and stared at him to the point of embarrassment.
Then the man of God wept. [12]Hazael asked, "Why does my lord weep?" He
answered, "Because I know the evil that you will do to the people of Israel;

you will set their fortresses on fire; you will kill their young men with the sword, dash in pieces their little ones, and rip up their pregnant women."* 13Hazael said, "What is your servant, who is a mere dog, that he should do this great thing?" Elisha answered, "The LORD has shown me that you are to be king over Aram."* 14Then he left Elisha and went to his master Ben-hadad,[q] who said to him, "What did Elisha say to you?" And he answered, "He told me that you would certainly recover." 15But the next day he took the bedcover and dipped it in water and spread it over the king's face, until he died. And Hazael succeeded him.*

JEHORAM REIGNS OVER JUDAH

16 In the fifth year of King Joram son of Ahab of Israel,[r] Jehoram son of King Jehoshaphat of Judah began to reign.* 17He was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.* 18He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab had done, for the daughter of Ahab was his wife. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD.* 19Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah, for the sake of his servant David, since he had promised to give a lamp to him and to his descendants forever.*

20 In his days Edom revolted against the rule of Judah and set up a king of their own.* 21Then Joram crossed over to Zair with all his chariots. He set out by night and attacked the Edomites and their chariot commanders who had surrounded him,[s] but his army fled home.* 22So Edom has been in revolt against the rule of Judah to this day. Libnah also revolted at the same time.* 23Now the rest of the acts of Joram and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? 24So Joram slept with his ancestors and was buried with them in the city of David; his son Ahaziah succeeded him.*

AHAZIAH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

25 In the twelfth year of King Joram son of Ahab of Israel, Ahaziah son of King Jehoram of Judah began to reign.* 26Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned one year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah, a granddaughter of King Omri of Israel. 27He also

walked in the way of the house of Ahab, doing what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as the house of Ahab had done, for he was son-in-law to the house of Ahab.

28 He went with Joram son of Ahab to wage war against King Hazael of Aram at Ramoth-gilead, where the Arameans wounded Joram.* [29]King Joram returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds that the Arameans had inflicted on him at Ramah, when he fought against King Hazael of Aram. King Ahaziah son of Jehoram of Judah went down to see Joram son of Ahab in Jezreel because he was wounded.*

2 Kings 9

ANOINTING OF JEHU

1 Then the prophet Elisha called a member of the company of prophets and
said to him, “Gird up your loins; take this flask of oil in your hand, and go
to Ramoth-gilead.* [2]When you arrive, look there for Jehu son of
Jehoshaphat son of Nimshi; go in and get him to leave his companions, and
take him into an inner chamber.* [3]Then take the flask of oil, pour it on his
head, and say, ‘Thus says the LORD: I anoint you king over Israel.’ Then
open the door and flee; do not linger.”*

4 So the young man, the young prophet, went to Ramoth-gilead. [5]He
arrived while the commanders of the army were in council, and he
announced, “I have a message for you, commander.” “For which one of
us?” asked Jehu. “For you, commander.” [6]So Jehu[t] got up and went inside;
the young man poured the oil on his head, saying to him, “Thus says the
LORD the God of Israel: I anoint you king over the people of the LORD, over
Israel.* [7]You shall strike down the house of your master Ahab, so that I may
avenge on Jezebel the blood of my servants the prophets and the blood of
all the servants of the LORD.* [8]For the whole house of Ahab shall perish; I
will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel.* [9]I will make the
house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat and like the house
of Baasha son of Ahijah.* [10]The dogs shall eat Jezebel in the territory of
Jezreel, and no one shall bury her.” Then he opened the door and fled.*

11 When Jehu came back to his master’s officers, they said to him, “Is
everything all right? Why did that madman come to you?” He answered
them, “You know the sort and how they babble.” [12]They said, “Liar! Come
on, tell us!” So he said, “This is just what he said to me: ‘Thus says the
LORD, I anoint you king over Israel.’ ” [13]Then hurriedly they all took their
cloaks and spread them for him on the bare[u] steps, and they blew the
trumpet and proclaimed, “Jehu is king.”*

JORAM OF ISRAEL KILLED

14 Thus Jehu son of Jehoshaphat son of Nimshi conspired against Joram.
Joram with all Israel had been on guard at Ramoth-gilead against King
Hazael of Aram,* 15but King Joram had returned to be healed in Jezreel of
the wounds that the Arameans had inflicted on him when he fought against
King Hazael of Aram. So Jehu said, "If this is your wish, then let no one
slip out of the city to go and tell the news in Jezreel."* 16Then Jehu
mounted his chariot and went to Jezreel, where Joram was lying ill. King
Ahaziah of Judah had come down to visit Joram.*

17 In Jezreel, the sentinel standing on the tower spied the company of
Jehu arriving and said, "I see a company." Joram said, "Take a horseman;
send him to meet them, and let him say, 'Is it peace?' " 18So the horseman
went to meet him; he said, "Thus says the king, 'Is it peace?' " Jehu
responded, "What have you to do with peace? Fall in behind me." The
sentinel reported, saying, "The messenger reached them, but he is not
coming back."* 19Then he sent out a second horseman, who came to them
and said, "Thus says the king, 'Is it peace?' " Jehu answered, "What have
you to do with peace? Fall in behind me." 20Again the sentinel reported,
"He reached them, but he is not coming back. It looks like the driving of
Jehu son of Nimshi, for he drives like a maniac."*

21 Joram said, "Get ready." And they got his chariot ready. Then King
Joram of Israel and King Ahaziah of Judah set out, each in his chariot, and
went to meet Jehu; they met him at the property of Naboth the Jezreelite.*
22When Joram saw Jehu, he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?" He answered, "What
peace can there be, so long as the many prostitutions[v] and sorceries of your
mother Jezebel continue?"* 23Then Joram reined about and fled, saying to
Ahaziah, "Treason, Ahaziah!" 24Jehu drew his bow with all his strength and
shot Joram between the shoulders, so that the arrow pierced his heart, and
he sank in his chariot.* 25Jehu said to his aide Bidkar, "Lift him out and
throw him on the plot of ground belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite, for
remember when you and I rode side by side behind his father Ahab how the
LORD uttered this oracle against him:* 26'For the blood of Naboth and for
the blood of his children that I saw yesterday, says the LORD, I swear I will
repay you on this very plot of ground.' Now, therefore, lift him out and
throw him on the plot of ground in accordance with the word of the LORD."*

AHAZIAH OF JUDAH KILLED

27 When King Ahaziah of Judah saw this, he fled in the direction of Beth-haggan. Jehu pursued him, saying, "Shoot him also!" And they shot him[w] in the chariot at the ascent to Gur, which is by Ibleam. Then he fled to Megiddo and died there.[*] [28]His officers carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem and buried him in his tomb with his ancestors in the city of David.[*]

29 In the eleventh year of Joram son of Ahab, Ahaziah began to reign over Judah.

JEZEBEL'S VIOLENT DEATH

30 When Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; she painted her eyes and adorned her head and looked out of the window.[*] [31]As Jehu entered the gate, she said, "Is it peace, Zimri, murderer of your master?"[*] [32]He looked up to the window and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs looked out at him. [33]He said, "Throw her down." So they threw her down; some of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses, which trampled on her. [34]Then he went in and ate and drank; he said, "See to that cursed woman and bury her, for she is a king's daughter."[*] [35]But when they went to bury her, they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands. [36]When they came back and told him, he said, "This is the word of the LORD, which he spoke by his servant Elijah the Tishbite: In the territory of Jezreel the dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel;[*] [37]the corpse of Jezebel shall be like dung on the field in the territory of Jezreel, so that no one can say, 'This is Jezebel.' "[*]

2 Kings 10

MASSACRE OF AHAB'S DESCENDANTS

1 Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. So Jehu wrote letters and sent
them to Samaria, to the rulers of the city,[x] to the elders, and to the guardians
of the sons of[y] Ahab, saying,* [2]"Since your master's sons are with you and
you have at your disposal chariots and horses, a fortified city, and weapons,
[3]select the son of your master who is the best qualified, set him on his
father's throne, and fight for your master's house." [4]But they were utterly
terrified and said, "Look, two kings could not withstand him; how then can
we stand?" [5]So the steward of the palace and the governor of the city, along
with the elders and the guardians, sent word to Jehu, "We are your servants;
we will do anything you say. We will not make anyone king; do whatever
you think right."* [6]Then he wrote them a second letter, saying, "If you are
on my side and if you are ready to obey me, take the heads of your master's
sons and come to me at Jezreel tomorrow at this time." Now the king's
sons, seventy persons, were with the leaders of the city, who were charged
with their upbringing. [7]When the letter reached them, they took the king's
sons and killed them, seventy persons; they put their heads in baskets and
sent them to him at Jezreel.* [8]When the messenger came and told him,
"They have brought the heads of the king's sons," he said, "Lay them in
two heaps at the entrance of the gate until the morning." [9]Then in the
morning when he went out, he stood and said to all the people, "You are
innocent. It was I who conspired against my master and killed him, but who
struck down all these?* [10]Know, then, that there shall fall to the earth
nothing of the word of the LORD that the LORD spoke concerning the house
of Ahab, for the LORD has done what he said through his servant Elijah."*
[11]So Jehu killed all who were left of the house of Ahab in Jezreel, all his
leaders, close friends, and priests, until he left him no survivor.

12 Then he set out and went to Samaria. On the way, when he was at
Beth-eked of the Shepherds, [13]Jehu met relatives of King Ahaziah of Judah
and said, "Who are you?" They answered, "We are kin of Ahaziah; we have
come down to visit the royal princes and the sons of the queen mother."*

[14]He said, “Take them alive.” They took them alive and slaughtered them at the pit of Beth-eked, forty-two in all; he spared none of them.

15 When he left there, he met Jehonadab son of Rechab coming to meet him; he greeted him and said to him, “Is your heart as true to mine as mine is to yours?”[z] Jehonadab answered, “It is.” Jehu said,[a] “If it is, give me your hand.” So he gave him his hand. Jehu took him up with him into the chariot.* [16]He said, “Come with me and see my zeal for the LORD.” So he[b] had him ride in his chariot.* [17]When he came to Samaria, he killed all who were left to Ahab in Samaria, until he had wiped them out according to the word of the LORD that he spoke to Elijah.*

SLAUGHTER OF WORSHIPERS OF BAAL

18 Then Jehu assembled all the people and said to them, “Ahab offered Baal small service, but Jehu will offer much more.* [19]Now therefore summon to me all the prophets of Baal, all his servants, and all his priests; let none be missing, for I have a great sacrifice to offer to Baal; whoever is missing shall not live.” But Jehu was acting with cunning in order to destroy the servants of Baal.* [20]Jehu decreed, “Sanctify a solemn assembly for Baal.” So they proclaimed it.* [21]Jehu sent word throughout all Israel; all the servants of Baal came, so that there was no one left who did not come. They entered the temple of Baal until the temple of Baal was filled from wall to wall.* [22]He said to the keeper of the wardrobe, “Bring out the vestments for all the servants of Baal.” So he brought out the vestments for them. [23]Then Jehu entered the temple of Baal with Jehonadab son of Rechab; he said to the servants of Baal, “Search and see that there is no servant of the LORD here among you but only servants of Baal.” [24]Then they proceeded to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings.

Now Jehu had stationed eighty men outside, saying, “Whoever allows any of those to escape whom I deliver into your hands shall forfeit his life.”* [25]As soon as he had finished presenting the burnt offering, Jehu said to the guards and to the officers, “Come in and kill them; let no one escape.” So they put them to the sword. The guards and the officers threw them out and then went into the citadel of the temple of Baal.* [26]They brought out the pillar[c] that was in the temple of Baal and burned it.* [27]Then

they demolished the pillar of Baal and destroyed the temple of Baal and made it a latrine to this day.*

28 Thus Jehu wiped out Baal from Israel. [29]But Jehu did not turn aside from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to commit: the golden calves that were in Bethel and in Dan.* [30]The LORD said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in carrying out what I consider right and in accordance with all that was in my heart have dealt with the house of Ahab, your sons of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel."* [31]But Jehu was not careful to follow the law of the LORD the God of Israel with all his heart; he did not turn from the sins of Jeroboam that he caused Israel to commit.*

DEATH OF JEHU

32 In those days the LORD began to trim off parts of Israel. Hazael defeated them throughout the territory of Israel:* [33]from the Jordan eastward, all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the Wadi Arnon, that is, Gilead and Bashan. [34]Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, all that he did, and all his power, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?* [35]So Jehu slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in Samaria. His son Jehoahaz succeeded him. [36]The time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty-eight years.

2 Kings 11

ATHALIAH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

1 Now when Athaliah, Ahaziah's mother, saw that her son was dead, she set
about to destroy all the royal family.* 2But Jehosheba, King Joram's
daughter, Ahaziah's sister, took Joash son of Ahaziah and stole him away
from among the king's children who were about to be killed; she put[d] him
and his nurse in a bedroom. Thus she[e] hid him from Athaliah, so that he
was not killed;* 3he remained with her six years, hidden in the house of the
LORD, while Athaliah reigned over the land.

JEHOIADA ANOINTS THE CHILD JOASH

4 But in the seventh year Jehoiada summoned the captains of the Carites
and of the guards and had them come to him in the house of the LORD. He
made a covenant with them and put them under oath in the house of the
LORD; then he showed them the king's son.* 5He commanded them, "This is
what you are to do: one-third of you, those who go off duty on the Sabbath
and guard the king's house* 6(another third being at the gate Sur and a third
at the gate behind the guards), shall guard the palace, 7and your two
divisions that come on duty in force on the Sabbath and guard the house of
the LORD[f] 8shall surround the king, each with weapons in hand, and
whoever approaches the ranks is to be killed. Be with the king in his
comings and goings."

9 The captains did according to all that the priest Jehoiada commanded;
each brought his men who were to go off duty on the Sabbath, with those
who were to come on duty on the Sabbath, and came to the priest Jehoiada.*
10The priest delivered to the captains the spears and shields that had been
King David's, which were in the house of the LORD;* 11the guards stood,
every man with his weapons in his hand, from the south side of the house to
the north side of the house, around the altar and the house, to guard the king
on every side. 12Then he brought out the king's son, put the crown on him,
and gave him the covenant; they proclaimed him king and anointed him;
they clapped their hands and shouted, "Long live the king!"*

DEATH OF ATHALIAH

13 When Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she
went into the house of the LORD to the people;* 14when she looked, there
was the king standing by the pillar, according to custom, with the captains
and the trumpeters beside the king, and all the people of the land rejoicing
and blowing trumpets. Athaliah tore her clothes and cried, "Treason!
Treason!"* 15Then the priest Jehoiada commanded the captains who were
set over the army, "Bring her out between the ranks and kill with the sword
anyone who follows her." For the priest said, "Let her not be killed in the
house of the LORD." 16So they laid hands on her; she went through the
horses' entrance to the king's house, and there she was put to death.

17 Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD and the king and people,
that they should be the LORD's people; also between the king and the
people.* 18Then all the people of the land went to the house of Baal and tore
it down; his altars and his images they broke in pieces, and they killed
Mattan, the priest of Baal, in front of the altars. The priest posted guards
over the house of the LORD.* 19He took the captains, the Carites, the guards,
and all the people of the land; then they brought the king down from the
house of the LORD, marching through the gate of the guards to the king's
house. He took his seat on the throne of the kings.* 20So all the people of
the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet after Athaliah had been killed with
the sword at the king's house.

21 [g]Jehoash was seven years old when he began to reign.*

2 Kings 12

THE TEMPLE REPAIRED

1 In the seventh year of Jehu, Jehoash began to reign; he reigned forty years
in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah of Beer-sheba. [2]Jehoash did
what was right in the sight of the LORD all his days because the priest
Jehoiada instructed him. [3]Nevertheless, the high places were not taken
away; the people continued to sacrifice and make offerings on the high
places.*

4 Jehoash said to the priests, "All the silver offered as sacred donations
that is brought into the house of the LORD—the census tax, personal
redemption payments, and silver from voluntary offerings brought into the
house of the LORD*—[5]let the priests receive from each of the donors, and let
them repair the house wherever any need of repairs is discovered." [6]But by
the twenty-third year of King Jehoash the priests had made no repairs on the
house.* [7]Therefore King Jehoash summoned the priest Jehoiada with the
other priests and said to them, "Why are you not repairing the house? Now
therefore do not accept any more silver from your donors but hand it over
for the repair of the house."* [8]So the priests agreed that they would neither
accept more silver from the people nor repair the house.

9 Then the priest Jehoiada took a chest, made a hole in its lid, and set it
beside the altar on the right side as one entered the house of the LORD; the
priests who guarded the threshold put in it all the silver that was brought
into the house of the LORD.* [10]Whenever they saw that there was a great
deal of silver in the chest, the king's secretary and the high priest went up,
cast the silver that was found in the house of the LORD into ingots, and
counted it.* [11]They gave the silver that was weighed out into the hands of
the workers who had the oversight of the house of the LORD; then they paid
it out to the carpenters and the builders who worked on the house of the
LORD, [12]to the masons and the stonecutters, as well as to buy timber and
quarried stone for making repairs on the house of the LORD, as well as for
any outlay for repairs of the house.* [13]But for the house of the LORD no
basins of silver, snuffers, bowls, trumpets, or any vessels of gold or of silver

were made from the silver that was brought into the house of the LORD,* 14for that was given to the workers who were repairing the house of the LORD with it. 15They did not ask an accounting from those into whose hand they delivered the silver to pay out to the workers, for they dealt honestly.* 16The silver from the guilt offerings and the silver from the sin offerings was not brought into the house of the LORD; it belonged to the priests.*

HAZAEL THREATENS JERUSALEM

17 At that time King Hazael of Aram went up, fought against Gath, and took it. But when Hazael set his face to go up against Jerusalem,* 18King Jehoash of Judah took all the votive gifts that Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his ancestors, the kings of Judah, had dedicated, as well as his own votive gifts, all the gold that was found in the treasuries of the house of the LORD and of the king's house, and sent these to King Hazael of Aram. Then Hazael withdrew from Jerusalem.*

DEATH OF JOASH

19 Now the rest of the acts of Joash and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? 20His servants arose, devised a conspiracy, and killed Joash in the house of Millo, on the way that goes down to Silla.* 21It was Jozacar son of Shimeath and Jehozabad son of Shomer, his servants, who struck him down, so that he died. He was buried with his ancestors in the city of David; then his son Amaziah succeeded him.*

2 Kings 13

JEHOAHAZ REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

1 In the twenty-third year of King Joash son of Ahaziah of Judah, Jehoahaz
son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned seventeen
years. [2]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and followed the sins
of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to sin; he did not depart
from them.* [3]The anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, so he gave
them repeatedly into the hand of King Hazael of Aram, then into the hand
of Ben-hadad son of Hazael.* [4]But Jehoahaz entreated the LORD, and the
LORD heeded him, for he saw the oppression of Israel, how the king of
Aram oppressed them.* [5]Therefore the LORD gave Israel a savior, so they
escaped from the hand of the Arameans, and the people of Israel lived in
their homes as formerly.* [6]Nevertheless, they did not depart from the sins of
the house of Jeroboam that he caused Israel to sin but walked[h] in them; the
sacred pole[i] also remained in Samaria.* [7]So Jehoahaz was left with an army
of not more than fifty horsemen, ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen, for
the king of Aram had destroyed them and made them like the dust at
threshing.* [8]Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz and all that he did,
including his might, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the
Kings of Israel? [9]So Jehoahaz slept with his ancestors, and they buried him
in Samaria; then his son Joash succeeded him.*

JEHOASH REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

10 In the thirty-seventh year of King Joash of Judah, Jehoash son of
Jehoahaz began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned sixteen years.
[11]He also did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not depart from
all the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to sin, but he
walked in them. [12]Now the rest of the acts of Joash and all that he did, as
well as the might with which he fought against King Amaziah of Judah, are
they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?* [13]So
Joash slept with his ancestors, and Jeroboam sat upon his throne; Joash was
buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

DEATH OF ELISHA

14 Now when Elisha had fallen sick with the illness of which he was to
die, King Joash of Israel went down to him and wept before him, crying,
"My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"* [15]Elisha
said to him, "Take a bow and arrows," so he took a bow and arrows. [16]Then
he said to the king of Israel, "Draw the bow," and he drew it. Elisha laid his
hands on the king's hands. [17]Then he said, "Open the window eastward,"
and he opened it. Elisha said, "Shoot," and he shot. Then he said, "The
LORD's arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Aram! For you shall fight
the Arameans in Aphek until you have made an end of them."* [18]He
continued, "Take the arrows," and he took them. He said to the king of
Israel, "Strike the ground with them"; he struck three times and stopped.
[19]Then the man of God was angry with him and said, "You should have
struck five or six times; then you would have struck down Aram until you
had made an end of it, but now you will strike down Aram only three
times."*

20 So Elisha died, and they buried him. Now bands of Moabites used to
invade the land in the spring of the year.* [21]As a man was being buried, a
marauding band was seen and the man was thrown into the grave of Elisha;
as soon as the man touched the bones of Elisha, he came to life and stood
on his feet.

ISRAEL RECAPTURES CITIES FROM ARAM

22 Now King Hazael of Aram oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.*
[23]But the LORD was gracious to them and had compassion on them; he
turned toward them because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and
Jacob and would not destroy them, nor has he banished them from his
presence until now.*

24 When King Hazael of Aram died, his son Ben-hadad succeeded him.
[25]Then Jehoash son of Jehoahaz took again from Ben-hadad son of Hazael
the towns that he had taken from his father Jehoahaz in war. Three times
Joash defeated him and recovered the towns of Israel.*

2 Kings 14

AMAZIAH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

1 In the second year of King Joash son of Joahaz of Israel, King Amaziah
son of Joash of Judah began to reign.* [2]He was twenty-five years old when
he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His
mother's name was Jehoaddin of Jerusalem. [3]He did what was right in the
sight of the LORD, yet not like his ancestor David; in all things he did as his
father Joash had done. [4]But the high places were not removed; the people
still sacrificed and made offerings on the high places.* [5]As soon as the royal
power was firmly in his hand, he killed his servants who had murdered his
father the king.* [6]But he did not put to death the children of the murderers,
according to what is written in the book of the law of Moses, where the
LORD commanded, "The parents shall not be put to death for the children or
the children be put to death for the parents, but all shall be put to death for
their own sins."*

7 He killed ten thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt and took Sela by
storm; he called it Jokthe-el, which is its name to this day.*

8 Then Amaziah sent messengers to King Jehoash son of Jehoahaz son of
Jehu of Israel, saying, "Come, let us look one another in the face."* [9]King
Jehoash of Israel sent word to King Amaziah of Judah, "A thornbush on
Lebanon sent to a cedar on Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son
for a wife,' but a wild animal of Lebanon passed by and trampled down the
thornbush.* [10]You have indeed defeated Edom, and your heart has lifted
you up. Be content with your glory and stay at home, for why should you
provoke trouble so that you fall, you and Judah with you?"*

11 But Amaziah would not listen. So King Jehoash of Israel went up; he
and King Amaziah of Judah faced one another in battle at Beth-shemesh,
which belongs to Judah.* [12]Judah was defeated by Israel; everyone fled
home.* [13]King Jehoash of Israel captured King Amaziah of Judah son of
Jehoash son of Ahaziah at Beth-shemesh; he came to Jerusalem and broke
down the wall of Jerusalem from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate, a
distance of four hundred cubits.* [14]He seized all the gold and silver and all

the vessels that were found in the house of the LORD and in the treasuries of the king's house, as well as hostages; then he returned to Samaria.*

15 Now the rest of the acts that Jehoash did, his might, and how he fought with King Amaziah of Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?* [16]Jehoash slept with his ancestors and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel; then his son Jeroboam succeeded him.

17 King Amaziah son of Joash of Judah lived fifteen years after the death of King Jehoash son of Jehoahaz of Israel.* [18]Now the rest of the deeds of Amaziah, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? [19]They made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish. But they sent after him to Lachish and killed him there.* [20]They brought him on horses; he was buried in Jerusalem with his ancestors in the city of David. [21]All the people of Judah took Azariah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king to succeed his father Amaziah. [22]He rebuilt Elath and restored it to Judah, after King Amaziah[j] slept with his ancestors.*

JEROBOAM II REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

23 In the fifteenth year of King Amaziah son of Joash of Judah, King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel began to reign in Samaria; he reigned forty-one years. [24]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to sin. [25]He restored the border of Israel from Lebo-hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, which he spoke by his servant Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet who was from Gath-hepher.* [26]For the LORD saw that the distress of Israel was very bitter; there was no one left, bond or free, and no one to help Israel.* [27]But the LORD had not said that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam son of Joash.*

28 Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam and all that he did, and his might, how he fought, and how he recovered for Israel Damascus and Hamath, which had belonged to Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?* [29]Jeroboam slept with his ancestors, the kings of Israel; his son Zechariah succeeded him.*

2 Kings 15

AZARIAH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

1 In the twenty-seventh year of King Jeroboam of Israel, King Azariah son
of Amaziah of Judah began to reign.* [2]He was sixteen years old when he
began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's
name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem.* [3]He did what was right in the sight of the
LORD, just as his father Amaziah had done. [4]Nevertheless, the high places
were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and made offerings on the
high places.* [5]The LORD struck the king so that he had a defiling skin
disease to the day of his death and lived in a separate house. Jotham the
king's son was in charge of the palace, governing the people of the land.*
[6]Now the rest of the acts of Azariah and all that he did, are they not written
in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? [7]Azariah slept with his
ancestors; they buried him with his ancestors in the city of David; his son
Jotham succeeded him.*

ZECHARIAH REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

8 In the thirty-eighth year of King Azariah of Judah, Zechariah son of
Jeroboam reigned over Israel in Samaria six months. [9]He did what was evil
in the sight of the LORD, as his ancestors had done. He did not depart from
the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to sin. [10]Shallum
son of Jabesh conspired against him and struck him down in Ibleam[k] and
killed him and reigned in place of him.* [11]Now the rest of the deeds of
Zechariah are written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.
[12]This was the promise of the LORD that he gave to Jehu, "Your sons shall
sit on the throne of Israel to the fourth generation." And so it happened.*

SHALLUM REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

13 Shallum son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirty-ninth year of King
Uzziah of Judah; he reigned one month in Samaria.* [14]Then Menahem son
of Gadi came up from Tirzah and came to Samaria; he struck down Shallum

son of Jabesh in Samaria and killed him; he reigned in place of him.* 15Now the rest of the deeds of Shallum, including the conspiracy that he made, are written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel. 16At that time Menahem sacked Tiphsah, all who were in it and its territory from Tirzah on; because they did not open it to him, he sacked it. He ripped open all the pregnant women in it.*

MENAHEM REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

17 In the thirty-ninth year of King Azariah of Judah, Menahem son of Gadi began to reign over Israel; he reigned ten years in Samaria.* 18He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not depart all his days from any of the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to sin. 19King Pul of Assyria came against the land; Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, so that he might help him confirm his hold on the royal power.* 20Menahem exacted the silver from Israel, that is, from all the wealthy, fifty shekels of silver from each one, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back and did not stay there in the land. 21Now the rest of the deeds of Menahem and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel? 22Menahem slept with his ancestors, and his son Pekahiah succeeded him.

PEKAHIAH REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

23 In the fiftieth year of King Azariah of Judah, Pekahiah son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned two years.* 24He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not turn away from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to sin. 25Pekah son of Remaliah, his captain, conspired against him with fifty of the Gileadites and attacked him in Samaria, in the citadel of the palace along with Argob and Arieh; he killed him and reigned in place of him.* 26Now the rest of the deeds of Pekahiah and all that he did are written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

PEKAH REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

27 In the fifty-second year of King Azariah of Judah, Pekah son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria; he reigned twenty years.* [28]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; he did not depart from the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat that he caused Israel to sin.

29 In the days of King Pekah of Israel, King Tiglath-pileser of Assyria came and captured Ijon, Abel-beth-maacah, Janoah, Kedesh, Hazor, Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and he carried the people captive to Assyria.* [30]Then Hoshea son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah son of Remaliah, attacked him, and killed him; he reigned in place of him, in the twentieth year of Jotham son of Uzziah. [31]Now the rest of the acts of Pekah and all that he did are written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

JOTHAM REIGNS OVER JUDAH

32 In the second year of King Pekah son of Remaliah of Israel, King Jotham son of Uzziah of Judah began to reign.* [33]He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jerusha daughter of Zadok. [34]He did what was right in the sight of the LORD, just as his father Uzziah had done.* [35]Nevertheless, the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and made offerings on the high places. He built the upper gate of the house of the LORD.* [36]Now the rest of the acts of Jotham and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? [37]In those days the LORD began to send King Rezin of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah against Judah.* [38]Jotham slept with his ancestors and was buried with his ancestors in the city of David, his ancestor; his son Ahaz succeeded him.

2 Kings 16

AHAZ REIGNS OVER JUDAH

1 In the seventeenth year of Pekah son of Remaliah, King Ahaz son of
Jotham of Judah began to reign.* [2]Ahaz was twenty years old when he
began to reign; he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. He did not do what
was right in the sight of the LORD his God, as his ancestor David had done,
[3]but he walked in the way of the kings of Israel. He even made his son pass
through fire, according to the abominable practices of the nations whom the
LORD had driven out before the people of Israel.* [4]He sacrificed and made
offerings on the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree.*

5 Then King Rezin of Aram and King Pekah son of Remaliah of Israel
came up to wage war on Jerusalem; they besieged Ahaz but could not
conquer him.* [6]At that time King Rezin of Aram recovered Elath for Edom[1]
and drove the Judeans from Elath, and the Edomites came to Elath, where
they live to this day.* [7]Ahaz sent messengers to King Tiglath-pileser of
Assyria, saying, "I am your servant and your son. Come up and rescue me
from the hand of the king of Aram and from the hand of the king of Israel,
who are attacking me."* [8]Ahaz also took the silver and gold found in the
house of the LORD and in the treasures of the king's house and sent a present
to the king of Assyria.* [9]The king of Assyria listened to him; the king of
Assyria marched up against Damascus and took it, carrying its people
captive to Kir; then he killed Rezin.*

10 When King Ahaz went to Damascus to meet King Tiglath-pileser of
Assyria, he saw the altar that was at Damascus. King Ahaz sent to the priest
Uriah a model of the altar and its pattern exact in all its details.* [11]The priest
Uriah built the altar; in accordance with all that King Ahaz had sent from
Damascus, so did the priest Uriah build it, before King Ahaz arrived from
Damascus. [12]When the king came from Damascus, the king viewed the
altar. Then the king drew near to the altar, went up on it, [13]and offered his
burnt offering and his grain offering, poured his drink offering, and dashed
the blood of his offerings of well-being against the altar. [14]The bronze altar
that was before the LORD he removed from the front of the house, from the

place between his altar and the house of the LORD, and put it on the north side of his altar.* 15King Ahaz commanded the priest Uriah, saying, "Upon the great altar offer the morning burnt offering and the evening grain offering and the king's burnt offering and his grain offering, with the burnt offering of all the people of the land, their grain offering, and their drink offering; then dash against it all the blood of the burnt offering and all the blood of the sacrifice, but the bronze altar shall be for me to inquire by."* 16The priest Uriah did everything that King Ahaz commanded.

17 Then King Ahaz cut off the frames of the stands and removed the laver from them; he removed the sea from the bronze oxen that were under it and put it on a pediment of stone.* 18The covered portal for use on the Sabbath that had been built inside the palace and the outer entrance for the king he removed from[m] the house of the LORD. He did this because of the king of Assyria. 19Now the rest of the acts of Ahaz that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? 20Ahaz slept with his ancestors and was buried with his ancestors in the city of David; his son Hezekiah succeeded him.*

2 Kings 17

HOSHEA REIGNS OVER ISRAEL

1 In the twelfth year of King Ahaz of Judah, Hoshea son of Elah began to
reign in Samaria over Israel; he reigned nine years.* [2]He did what was evil
in the sight of the LORD, yet not like the kings of Israel who were before
him. [3]King Shalmaneser of Assyria came up against him; Hoshea became
his vassal and paid him tribute.* [4]But the king of Assyria found treachery in
Hoshea, for he had sent messengers to King So of Egypt and offered no
tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year; therefore the
king of Assyria confined him and imprisoned him.

ISRAEL CARRIED CAPTIVE TO ASSYRIA

5 Then the king of Assyria invaded all the land and came to Samaria; for
three years he besieged it. [6]In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria
captured Samaria; he carried the Israelites away to Assyria. He placed them
in Halah, on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.*

7 This occurred because the people of Israel had sinned against the LORD
their God, who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt from under
the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. They had worshiped other gods* [8]and
walked in the customs of the nations whom the LORD had driven out before
the people of Israel and in the customs that the kings of Israel had
introduced.[n],* [9]The people of Israel did[o] things that were not right against
the LORD their God. They built for themselves high places at all their towns,
from watchtower to fortified city;* [10]they set up for themselves pillars and
sacred poles[p] on every high hill and under every green tree;* [11]there they
made offerings on all the high places, as the nations did whom the LORD had
carried away before them. They did wicked things, provoking the LORD to
anger; [12]they served idols, of which the LORD had said to them, "You shall
not do this."* [13]Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah by every prophet and
every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep my commandments
and my statutes, in accordance with all the law that I commanded your
ancestors and that I sent to you by my servants the prophets."* [14]They

would not listen but were stubborn, as their ancestors had been, who did not believe in the LORD their God.* 15They despised his statutes and his covenant that he had made with their ancestors and the warnings that he had given them. They went after false idols and became false; they followed the nations that were around them, concerning whom the LORD had commanded them that they should not do as they did.* 16They rejected all the commandments of the LORD their God and made for themselves cast images of two calves; they made a sacred pole,[q] worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.* 17They made their sons and their daughters pass through fire, used divination and augury, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger.* 18Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them out of his sight; none was left but the tribe of Judah alone.*

19 Judah also did not keep the commandments of the LORD their God but walked in the customs that Israel had introduced. 20The LORD rejected all the descendants of Israel; he punished them and gave them into the hand of plunderers, until he had banished them from his presence.*

21 When he had torn Israel from the house of David, they made Jeroboam son of Nebat king. Jeroboam drove Israel from following the LORD and made them commit great sin.* 22The people of Israel continued in all the sins that Jeroboam committed; they did not depart from them 23until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had foretold through all his servants the prophets. So Israel was exiled from their own land to Assyria until this day.

ASSYRIA RESETTLES SAMARIA

24 The king of Assyria brought people from Babylon, Cuthah, Avva, Hamath, and Sepharvaim and placed them in the cities of Samaria in place of the people of Israel; they took possession of Samaria and settled in its cities.* 25When they first settled there, they did not worship the LORD; therefore the LORD sent lions among them that killed some of them. 26So the king of Assyria was told, "The nations that you have carried away and placed in the cities of Samaria do not know the law of the god of the land; therefore he has sent lions among them; they are killing them because they do not know the law of the god of the land." 27Then the king of Assyria

commanded, “Send there one of the priests whom you carried away from there; let him[r] go and live there and teach them the law of the god of the land.”* 28So one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and lived in Bethel; he taught them how they should worship the LORD.

29 But every nation still made gods of its own and put them in the shrines of the high places that the people of Samaria had made, every nation in the cities in which they lived; 30the people of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, the people of Cuth made Nergal, the people of Hamath made Ashima;* 31the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak; the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.* 32They also worshiped the LORD and appointed from among themselves all sorts of people as priests of the high places, who sacrificed for them in the shrines of the high places.* 33So they worshiped the LORD but also served their own gods, after the manner of the nations from among whom they had been carried away.* 34To this day they continue to practice their former customs.

They do not worship the LORD, and they do not follow the statutes or the ordinances or the law or the commandment that the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel.* 35The LORD had made a covenant with them and commanded them, “You shall not worship other gods or bow yourselves to them or serve them or sacrifice to them,* 36but you shall worship the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt with great power and with an outstretched arm; you shall bow yourselves to him, and to him you shall sacrifice.* 37The statutes and the ordinances and the law and the commandment that he wrote for you, you shall always be careful to observe. You shall not worship other gods;* 38you shall not forget the covenant that I have made with you. You shall not worship other gods,* 39but you shall worship the LORD your God; he will deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.” 40They would not listen, however, but continued to practice their former custom.

41 So these nations worshiped the LORD but also served their carved images; to this day their children and their children’s children continue to do as their ancestors did.*

2 Kings 18

HEZEKIAH'S REIGN OVER JUDAH

1 In the third year of King Hoshea son of Elah of Israel, Hezekiah son of
King Ahaz of Judah began to reign.* [2]He was twenty-five years old when he
began to reign; he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's
name was Abi daughter of Zechariah.* [3]He did what was right in the sight
of the LORD, just as his ancestor David had done. [4]He removed the high
places, broke down the pillars, and cut down the sacred pole.[s] He broke in
pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the
people of Israel had made offerings to it; it was called Nehushtan.* [5]He
relied on the LORD, the God of Israel, so that there was no one like him
among all the kings of Judah after him or among those who were before
him.* [6]For he held fast to the LORD; he did not depart from following him
but kept the commandments that the LORD had commanded Moses.* [7]The
LORD was with him; wherever he went, he prospered. He rebelled against
the king of Assyria and would not serve him.* [8]He attacked the Philistines
as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city.*

9 In the fourth year of King Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of
King Hoshea son of Elah of Israel, King Shalmaneser of Assyria came up
against Samaria, besieged it,* [10]and at the end of three years took it. In the
sixth year of Hezekiah, which was the ninth year of King Hoshea of Israel,
Samaria was taken.* [11]The king of Assyria carried the Israelites away to
Assyria and settled them in Halah, on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in
the cities of the Medes,* [12]because they did not obey the voice of the LORD
their God but transgressed his covenant—all that Moses the servant of the
LORD had commanded; they neither listened nor obeyed.

SENNACHERIB INVADES JUDAH

13 In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, King Sennacherib of Assyria
came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them.* [14]King
Hezekiah of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have
done wrong; withdraw from me; whatever you impose on me I will bear."

The king of Assyria demanded of King Hezekiah of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. [15]Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD and in the treasuries of the king's house.* [16]At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD and from the doorposts that King Hezekiah of Judah had overlaid and gave it to the king of Assyria. [17]The king of Assyria sent the Tartan, the Rabsaris, and the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. They went up and came to Jerusalem. When they arrived, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is on the highway to the fuller's field.* [18]When they called for the king, there came out to them Eliakim son of Hilkiah, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebnah the secretary, and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder.*

19 The Rabshakeh said to them, "Say to Hezekiah: Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: On what do you base this reliance of yours?* [20]Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war? On whom do you now rely, that you have rebelled against me? [21]See, you are relying now on Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of anyone who leans on it. Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who rely on him.* [22]But if you say to me, 'We rely on the LORD our God,' is it not he whose high places and altars Hezekiah has removed, saying to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem'?* [23]Come now, make a wager with my master the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them. [24]How then can you repulse a single captain among the least of my master's servants when you rely on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?* [25]Moreover, is it without the LORD that I have come up against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, 'Go up against this land, and destroy it.' "

26 Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah, Shebnah, and Joah said to the Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in the Aramaic language, for we understand it; do not speak to us in the language of Judah within the hearing of the people who are on the wall."* [27]But the Rabshakeh said to them, "Has my master sent me to speak these words to your master and to you and not to the people sitting on the wall, who are doomed with you to eat their own dung and to drink their own urine?"

28 Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the
language of Judah, “Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria:
29 Thus says the king: Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be
able to deliver you out of my hand.* 30 Do not let Hezekiah make you rely
on the LORD by saying, ‘The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city will
not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.’ 31 Do not listen to
Hezekiah, for thus says the king of Assyria: Make your peace with me and
come out to me; then every one of you will eat from your own vine and
your own fig tree and drink water from your own cistern,* 32 until I come
and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a
land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive oil and honey, that you may live
and not die. Do not listen to Hezekiah when he misleads you by saying,
‘The LORD will deliver us.’* 33 Has any of the gods of the nations ever
delivered its land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?* 34 Where are the
gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and
Ivvah? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?* 35 Who among all the
gods of the countries have delivered their countries out of my hand, that the
LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?”

36 But the people were silent and answered him not a word, for the
king’s command was, “Do not answer him.” 37 Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah,
who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah son of
Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn and told him
the words of the Rabshakeh.*

2 Kings 19

HEZEKIAH CONSULTS ISAIAH

1 When King Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes, covered himself with
sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.* 2And he sent Eliakim, who
was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests,
covered with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz.* 3They said to
him, "Thus says Hezekiah: This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of
disgrace; children have come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring
them forth. 4It may be that the LORD your God heard all the words of the
Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the
living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard;
therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left."* 5When the
servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, 6Isaiah said to them, "Say to
your master: Thus says the LORD: Do not be afraid because of the words that
you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled
me.* 7I myself will put a spirit in him so that he shall hear a rumor and
return to his own land; I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own
land."*

SENNACHERIB'S THREAT

8 The Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against
Libnah, for he had heard that the king had left Lachish.* 9When the king[t]
heard concerning King Tirhakah of Cush, "See, he has set out to fight
against you," he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying, 10"Thus shall
you speak to King Hezekiah of Judah: Do not let your God on whom you
rely deceive you by promising that Jerusalem will not be given into the
hand of the king of Assyria.* 11See, you have heard what the kings of
Assyria have done to all lands, destroying them utterly. Shall you be
delivered? 12Have the gods of the nations delivered them, the nations that
my predecessors destroyed: Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the people of Eden
who were in Telassar?* 13Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad,

the king of the city of Sepharvaim, the king of Hena, or the king of Ivvah?”*

HEZEKIAH’S PRAYER

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it; then Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD and spread it before the LORD.* 15And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD and said, “O LORD the God of Israel, who are enthroned above the cherubim, you are God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth.* 16Incline your ear, O LORD, and hear; open your eyes, O LORD, and see; hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.* 17Truly, O LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands 18and have hurled their gods into the fire, though they were no gods but the work of human hands—wood and stone—and so they were destroyed.* 19So now, O LORD our God, save us, I pray you, from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O LORD, are God alone.”*

20 Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I have heard your prayer to me about King Sennacherib of Assyria.* 21This is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him:

She despises you; she scorns you—
virgin daughter Zion;
she tosses her head—behind your back,
daughter Jerusalem.*

22Whom have you mocked and reviled?
Against whom have you raised your voice
and haughtily lifted your eyes?
Against the Holy One of Israel!*
23By your messengers you have mocked the Lord,
and you have said, ‘With my many chariots
I have gone up the heights of the mountains,

to the far recesses of Lebanon;
I felled its tallest cedars,
its choicest cypresses;
I entered its farthest retreat,
its densest forest.*
24I dug wells
and drank foreign waters,
I dried up with the sole of my foot
all the streams of Egypt.'*

25Have you not heard
that I determined it long ago?
I planned from days of old
what now I bring to pass,
that you should make fortified cities
crash into heaps of ruins,*
26while their inhabitants, shorn of strength,
are dismayed and confounded;
they have become like plants of the field
and like tender grass,
like grass on the housetops
that is scorched before the east wind.u,*

27But I know your sitting
and your going out and your coming in
and your raging against me.
28Because you have raged against me
and your arrogance has come to my ears,
I will put my hook in your nose
and my bit in your mouth;
I will turn you back on the way

by which you came.*

29 "And this shall be the sign for you: This year you shall eat what grows of itself and in the second year what springs from that; then in the third year sow, reap, plant vineyards, and eat their fruit.* 30The surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward,* 31for from Jerusalem a remnant shall go out and from Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

32 "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria: He shall not come into this city, shoot an arrow there, come before it with a shield, or cast up a siege ramp against it. 33By the way that he came, by the same he shall return; he shall not come into this city, says the LORD.* 34For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David."*

SENNACHERIB'S DEFEAT AND DEATH

35 That very night the angel of the LORD set out and struck down one hundred eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians; when morning dawned, they were all dead bodies.* 36Then King Sennacherib of Assyria left, went home, and lived at Nineveh.* 37As he was worshiping in the house of his god Nisroch, his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer killed him with the sword, and they escaped into the land of Ararat. His son Esar-haddon succeeded him.*

2 Kings 20

HEZEKIAH'S ILLNESS

1 In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. The
prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came to him and said to him, "Thus says the
LORD: Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover."*
2Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD,
3"Remember now, O LORD, I implore you, how I have walked before you in
faithfulness with a whole heart and have done what is good in your sight."
Hezekiah wept bitterly.* 4Before Isaiah had gone out of the middle court,
the word of the LORD came to him, 5"Turn back and say to Hezekiah prince
of my people: Thus says the LORD, the God of your ancestor David: I have
heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; indeed, I will heal you; on the
third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD.* 6I will add fifteen years
to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of
Assyria; I will defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David's
sake."* 7Then Isaiah said, "Bring a lump of figs. Let them take it and apply
it to the boil, so that he may recover."*

8 Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal
me and that I shall go up to the house of the LORD on the third day?" 9Isaiah
said, "This is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing
that he has promised: Shall the shadow advance[v] ten intervals, or shall it
retreat ten intervals?" 10Hezekiah answered, "It is normal for the shadow to
lengthen ten intervals; rather, let the shadow retreat ten intervals." 11The
prophet Isaiah cried to the LORD, and he brought the shadow back the ten
intervals, by which the sun[w] had declined on the dial of Ahaz.*

ENVOYS FROM BABYLON

12 At that time King Merodach-baladan son of Baladan of Babylon sent
envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he had heard that
Hezekiah had been sick.* 13Hezekiah welcomed them;[x] he showed them all
his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his
armory, all that was found in his storehouses; there was nothing in his house

or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them.* 14Then the prophet Isaiah came to King Hezekiah and said to him, "What did these men say? From where did they come to you?" Hezekiah answered, "They have come from a far country, from Babylon." 15He said, "What have they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them."*

16 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD: 17Days are coming when all that is in your house and that which your ancestors have stored up until this day shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left, says the LORD.* 18Some of your own sons who are born to you shall be taken away; they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon."* 19Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD that you have spoken is good." For he thought, "Why not, if there will be peace and security in my days?"*

DEATH OF HEZEKIAH

20 The rest of the deeds of Hezekiah, all his power, how he made the pool and the conduit and brought water into the city, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?* 21Hezekiah slept with his ancestors, and his son Manasseh succeeded him.*

2 Kings 21

MANASSEH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign; he reigned fifty-
five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah.* [2]He did what
was evil in the sight of the LORD, following the abominable practices of the
nations that the LORD drove out before the people of Israel.* [3]For he rebuilt
the high places that his father Hezekiah had destroyed; he erected altars for
Baal, made a sacred pole,[y] as King Ahab of Israel had done, worshiped all
the host of heaven and served them.* [4]He built altars in the house of the
LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put my name."* [5]He
built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the
LORD. [6]He made his son pass through fire; he practiced soothsaying and
augury and dealt with mediums and with wizards. He did much evil in the
sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger.* [7]The carved image of Asherah
that he had made he set in the house of which the LORD said to David and to
his son Solomon, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out
of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever;* [8]I will not cause the
feet of Israel to wander any more out of the land that I gave to their
ancestors, if only they will be careful to do according to all that I have
commanded them and according to all the law that my servant Moses
commanded them."* [9]But they did not listen; Manasseh misled them to do
more evil than the nations had done that the LORD destroyed before the
people of Israel.*

10 The LORD said by his servants the prophets, [11]"Because King
Manasseh of Judah has committed these abominations, has done things
more wicked than all that the Amorites who were before him did, and has
caused Judah also to sin with his idols,* [12]therefore thus says the LORD, the
God of Israel: I am bringing upon Jerusalem and Judah such evil that the
ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle.* [13]I will stretch over Jerusalem
the measuring line for Samaria and the plummet for the house of Ahab; I
will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside
down.* [14]I will cast off the remnant of my heritage and give them into the

hand of their enemies; they shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies [15]because they have done what is evil in my sight and have provoked me to anger, since the day their ancestors came out of Egypt even to this day."

16 Moreover, Manasseh shed very much innocent blood, until he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides the sin that he caused Judah to sin so that they did what was evil in the sight of the LORD.*

17 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, all that he did and the sin that he committed, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?* [18]Manasseh slept with his ancestors and was buried in the garden of his house, in the garden of Uzza. His son Amon succeeded him.*

AMON REIGNS OVER JUDAH

19 Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Meshullemeth daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.* [20]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh had done.* [21]He walked in all the way in which his father walked, served the idols that his father served, and worshiped them; [22]he abandoned the LORD, the God of his ancestors, and did not walk in the way of the LORD.* [23]The servants of Amon conspired against him and killed the king in his house.* [24]But the people of the land killed all those who had conspired against King Amon, and the people of the land made his son Josiah king in place of him. [25]Now the rest of the acts of Amon that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? [26]He was buried in his tomb in the garden of Uzza; then his son Josiah succeeded him.*

2 Kings 22

JOSIAH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign; he reigned thirty-one
years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah of
Bozkath.* [2]He did what was right in the sight of the LORD and walked in all
the way of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.*

HILKIAH FINDS THE BOOK OF THE LAW

3 In the eighteenth year of King Josiah, the king sent Shaphan son of
Azaliah son of Meshullam, the secretary, to the house of the LORD, saying,*
[4]"Go up to the high priest Hilkiah and have him add up the entire sum of
the silver that has been brought into the house of the LORD that the keepers
of the threshold have collected from the people;* [5]let it be given into the
hand of the workers who have the oversight of the house of the LORD; let
them give it to the workers who are at the house of the LORD repairing the
house,* [6]that is, to the carpenters, to the builders, to the masons; and let
them use it to buy timber and quarried stone to repair the house. [7]But no
accounting shall be asked from them for the silver that is delivered into
their hand, for they deal honestly."*

8 The high priest Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the
book of the law in the house of the LORD." When Hilkiah gave the book to
Shaphan, he read it.* [9]Then Shaphan the secretary came to the king and
reported to the king, "Your servants have melted down the silver that was
found in the house and have delivered it into the hand of the workers who
have oversight of the house of the LORD." [10]Shaphan the secretary informed
the king, "The priest Hilkiah has given me a book." Shaphan then read it
aloud to the king.

11 When the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his
clothes. [12]Then the king commanded the priest Hilkiah, Ahikam son of
Shaphan, Achbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the secretary, and the king's
servant Asaiah, saying,* [13]"Go, inquire of the LORD for me, for the people,
and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found,

for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us, because our ancestors did not obey the words of this book to do according to all that is written concerning us."*

14 So the priest Hilkiah, Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to the prophet Huldah the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe; she resided in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter, where they consulted her.* 15She declared to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Tell the man who sent you to me: 16'Thus says the LORD: I will indeed bring disaster on this place and on its inhabitants—all the words of the book that the king of Judah has read. 17Because they have abandoned me and have made offerings to other gods, so that they have provoked me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore my wrath will be kindled against this place, and it will not be quenched.'* 18But as to the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall you say to him: 'Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Regarding the words that you have heard, 19because your heart was penitent and you humbled yourself before the LORD, when you heard how I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and because you have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you, says the LORD.* 20Therefore, I will gather you to your ancestors, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace; your eyes shall not see all the disaster that I will bring on this place.' " They took the message back to the king.

2 Kings 23

JOSIAH'S REFORMATION

1 Then the king directed that all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem should be gathered to him.* 2The king went up to the house of the LORD, and with him went all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the LORD.* 3The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to follow the LORD, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant.*

4 The king commanded the high priest Hilkiah, the priests of the second order, and the guardians of the threshold to bring out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven; he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron and carried their ashes to Bethel.* 5He deposed the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to make offerings in the high places at the cities of Judah and around Jerusalem, those also who made offerings to Baal, to the sun, the moon, the constellations, and all the host of the heavens. 6He brought out the image of[z] Asherah from the house of the LORD, outside Jerusalem, to the Wadi Kidron, burned it at the Wadi Kidron, beat it to dust, and threw the dust of it upon the graves of the common people.* 7He broke down the houses of the illicit priests who were in the house of the LORD, where the women did weaving for Asherah.* 8He brought all the priests out of the towns of Judah and defiled the high places where the priests had made offerings, from Geba to Beer-sheba; he broke down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on the left at the gate of the city.* 9The priests of the high places, however, did not come up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem but ate unleavened bread among their kindred.* 10He defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of Ben-hinnom, so that no one would make a son or a daughter pass through fire as an offering to Molech.*

[11]He removed the horses that the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun at the entrance to the house of the LORD, by the chamber of the eunuch Nathan-melech, which was in the precincts;[a] then he burned the chariots of the sun with fire. [12]The altars on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz that the kings of Judah had made and the altars that Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD he pulled down from there and broke in pieces and threw the rubble into the Wadi Kidron.* [13]The king defiled the high places that were east of Jerusalem, to the south of the Mount of Destruction, which King Solomon of Israel had built for Astarte the abomination of the Sidonians, for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.* [14]He broke the pillars in pieces, cut down the sacred poles,[b] and covered the sites with human bones.*

15 Moreover, the altar at Bethel, the high place erected by Jeroboam son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin—he pulled down that altar along with the high place. He burned the high place, crushing it to dust; he also burned the sacred pole.[c,*] [16]As Josiah turned, he saw the tombs there on the mount, and he sent and took the bones out of the tombs and burned them on the altar and defiled it, according to the word of the LORD that the man of God proclaimed when Jeroboam stood by the altar at the festival; he turned and looked up at the tomb of the man of God who had proclaimed these things.[d,*] [17]Then he said, "What is that monument that I see?" The people of the city told him, "It is the tomb of the man of God who came from Judah and proclaimed these things that you have done against the altar at Bethel."* [18]He said, "Let him rest; let no one move his bones." So they let his bones alone, with the bones of the prophet who came out of Samaria.* [19]Moreover, Josiah removed all the shrines of the high places that were in the towns of Samaria that kings of Israel had made, provoking the LORD to anger; he did to them just as he had done at Bethel.* [20]He slaughtered on the altars all the priests of the high places who were there and burned human bones on them. Then he returned to Jerusalem.*

THE PASSOVER CELEBRATED

21 The king commanded all the people, "Keep the Passover to the LORD your God as prescribed in this book of the covenant."* [22]No such Passover

had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, even during all the days of the kings of Israel and of the kings of Judah,* 23but in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to the LORD in Jerusalem.

24 Moreover, Josiah put away the mediums, wizards, teraphim,e idols, and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, so that he established the words of the law that were written in the book that the priest Hilkiah had found in the house of the LORD.* 25Before him there was no king like him who turned to the LORD with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.*

26 Still the LORD did not turn from the fierceness of his great wrath by which his anger was kindled against Judah because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked him.* 27The LORD said, "I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and I will reject this city that I have chosen, Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, 'My name shall be there.' "*

JOSIAH DIES IN BATTLE

28 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? 29In his days Pharaoh Neco king of Egypt went up to the king of Assyria to the River Euphrates. King Josiah went to meet him, but when Pharaoh Neco met him at Megiddo, he killed him.* 30His servants carried him dead in a chariot from Megiddo, brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own tomb. The people of the land took Jehoahaz son of Josiah, anointed him, and made him king in place of his father.*

REIGN AND CAPTIVITY OF JEHOAHAZ

31 Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign; he reigned three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.* 32He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just as his ancestors had done. 33Pharaoh Neco confined him at Riblah in the land of Hamath, so that he might not reign in Jerusalem, and

imposed tribute on the land of one hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold.* 34Pharaoh Neco made Eliakim son of Josiah king in place of his father Josiah and changed his name to Jehoiakim. But he took Jehoahaz away; he came to Egypt and died there.* 35Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh, but he taxed the land in order to meet Pharaoh's demand for money. He exacted the silver and the gold from the people of the land, from all according to their assessment, to give it to Pharaoh Neco.*

JEHOIAKIM REIGNS OVER JUDAH

36 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zebidah daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.* 37He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just as all his ancestors had done.

2 Kings 24

JUDAH OVERRUN BY ENEMIES

1 In his days King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came up; Jehoiakim became
his servant for three years, then turned and rebelled against him.* [2]He[f] sent
against him bands of the Chaldeans, bands of the Arameans, bands of the
Moabites, and bands of the Ammonites; he sent them against Judah to
destroy it, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by his servants
the prophets.* [3]Surely this came upon Judah at the command of the LORD, to
remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, for all that he had
committed,* [4]and also for the innocent blood that he had shed, for he filled
Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the LORD was not willing to pardon.*
[5]Now the rest of the deeds of Jehoiakim and all that he did, are they not
written in the Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? [6]So Jehoiakim
slept with his ancestors; then his son Jehoiachin succeeded him.* [7]The king
of Egypt did not come again out of his land, for the king of Babylon had
taken over all that belonged to the king of Egypt from the Wadi of Egypt to
the River Euphrates.*

REIGN AND CAPTIVITY OF JEHOIACHIN

8 Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign; he reigned
three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Nehushta daughter of
Elnathan of Jerusalem.* [9]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just
as his father had done.

10 At that time the servants of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came
up to Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.* [11]King Nebuchadnezzar of
Babylon came to the city while his servants were besieging it; [12]King
Jehoiachin of Judah gave himself up to the king of Babylon: himself, his
mother, his servants, his officers, and his palace officials. The king of
Babylon took him prisoner in the eighth year of his reign.*

CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM

13 He carried off all the treasures of the house of the LORD and the
treasures of the king's house; he cut in pieces all the vessels of gold in the
temple of the LORD that King Solomon of Israel had made, all this as the
LORD had foretold.* 14He carried away all Jerusalem, all the officials, all the
warriors, ten thousand captives, all the artisans and the smiths; no one
remained except the poorest people of the land.* 15He carried away
Jehoiachin to Babylon; the king's mother, the king's wives, his officials, and
the elite of the land, he took into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.*
16The king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon all the men of valor,
seven thousand, the artisans and the smiths, one thousand, all of them
strong and fit for war.* 17The king of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's
uncle, king in his place and changed his name to Zedekiah.*

ZEDEKIAH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

18 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign; he
reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal
daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.* 19He did what was evil in the sight of the
LORD, just as Jehoiakim had done.* 20Indeed, Jerusalem and Judah so
angered the LORD that he expelled them from his presence.

THE FALL AND CAPTIVITY OF JUDAH

Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.*

2 Kings 25

1 And in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of
the month, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came with all his army
against Jerusalem and laid siege to it; they built siegeworks against it all
around.* 2So the city was besieged until the eleventh year of King
Zedekiah. 3On the ninth day of the fourth month, the famine became so
severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land.* 4Then a
breach was made in the city wall;[g] the king with all the soldiers fled[h] by
night by the way of the gate between the two walls, by the King's Garden,
though the Chaldeans were all around the city. They went in the direction of
the Arabah.* 5But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king and overtook
him in the plains of Jericho; all his army was scattered, deserting him.
6Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at
Riblah, who passed sentence on him.* 7They slaughtered the sons of
Zedekiah before his eyes, then put out the eyes of Zedekiah; they bound
him in fetters and took him to Babylon.*

8 In the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month—which was the
nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon—Nebuzaradan,
the captain of the bodyguard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to
Jerusalem.* 9He burned the house of the LORD, the king's house, and all the
houses of Jerusalem; every great house he burned down.* 10All the army of
the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down the walls
around Jerusalem.* 11Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried into
exile the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who
had defected to the king of Babylon—all the rest of the multitude.* 12But
the captain of the guard left some of the poorest people of the land to be
vinedressers and tillers of the soil.*

13 The bronze pillars that were in the house of the LORD, as well as the
stands and the bronze sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans
broke in pieces and carried the bronze to Babylon.* 14They took away the
pots, the shovels, the snuffers, the dishes for incense, and all the bronze
vessels used in the temple service,* 15as well as the firepans and the basins.

What was made of gold the captain of the guard took away for the gold and what was made of silver for the silver. 16As for the two pillars, the one sea, and the stands that Solomon had made for the house of the LORD, the bronze of all these vessels was beyond weighing.* 17The height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits, and on it was a bronze capital; the height of the capital was three cubits; latticework and pomegranates, all of bronze, were on the capital all around. The second pillar had the same, with the latticework.*

18 The captain of the guard took the chief priest Seraiah, the second priest Zephaniah, and the three guardians of the threshold;* 19from the city he took an officer who had been in command of the soldiers and five men of the king's council who were found in the city; the secretary who was the commander of the army who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the city. 20Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. 21The king of Babylon struck them down and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah went into exile out of its land.*

GEDALIAH MADE GOVERNOR OF JUDAH

22 He appointed Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan as governor over the people who remained in the land of Judah, whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had left.* 23Now when all the captains of the forces and their men heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah as governor, they came with their men to Gedaliah at Mizpah, namely, Ishmael son of Nethaniah, Johanan son of Kareah, Seraiah son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah son of the Maacathite.* 24Gedaliah swore to them and their men, saying, "Do not be afraid because of the Chaldean officials; live in the land, serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you." 25But in the seventh month, Ishmael son of Nethaniah son of Elishama, of the royal family, came with ten men; they struck down Gedaliah so that he died, along with the Judeans and Chaldeans who were with him at Mizpah.* 26Then all the people, high and low,[i] and the captains of the forces set out and went to Egypt, for they were afraid of the Chaldeans.*

JEHOIACHIN RELEASED FROM PRISON

27 In the thirty-seventh year of the exile of King Jehoiachin of Judah, in
the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, King Evil-
merodach of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, released King
Jehoiachin of Judah from prison;* 28he spoke kindly to him and gave him a
seat above the other seats of the kings who were with him in Babylon. 29So
Jehoiachin put aside his prison clothes. Every day of his life he dined
regularly in the king's presence.* 30For his allowance, a regular allowance
was given him by the king, a portion every day, as long as he lived.

2 Kings 1

* **1.1** 2 Sam 8.2; 2 Kings 3.5
* **1.2** vv 3, 6; 2 Kings 8.7–10; Mt 10.25
* **1.4** vv 6, 16
* **1.8** Zech 13.4; Mt 3.4
* **1.10** 1 Kings 18.36–38; Lk 9.54

a **1.11** Gk: Heb *He answered*

b **1.12** Gk: Heb *them*

* **1.13** 1 Sam 26.21; Ps 72.14
* **1.15** v 3
* **1.16** v 3

c **1.17** Gk Syr: Heb lacks *His brother*

* **1.17** 2 Kings 3.1; 8.16

2 Kings 2

* **2.1** Gen 5.24; 1 Kings 19.21; Heb 11.5
* **2.2** vv 4, 6; Ruth 1.15, 16; 1 Sam 1.26; 2 Kings 4.30
* **2.3** vv 5, 7, 15; 2 Kings 4.1, 38
* **2.4** v 2; Josh 6.26
* **2.5** v 3
* **2.6** v 2; Josh 3.8, 15–17
* **2.7** vv 15, 16
* **2.8** v 14; Ex 14.21, 22; 1 Kings 19.13, 19
* **2.11** 2 Kings 6.17; Ps 104.4
* **2.12** 2 Kings 13.14
* **2.14** v 8
* **2.15** v 7
* **2.16** 1 Kings 18.12; Acts 8.39
* **2.17** 2 Kings 8.11
* **2.21** Ex 15.25; 2 Kings 4.41; 6.6
* **2.24** Neh 13.25–27
* **2.25** 1 Kings 18.19, 20; 2 Kings 4.25

2 Kings 3

* **3.1** 2 Kings 1.17
* **3.2** 1 Kings 16.31, 32; 2 Kings 10.18, 26–28
* **3.3** 1 Kings 12.28–32; 14.9, 16
* **3.4** 2 Sam 8.2; Isa 16.1

* **3.5** 2 Kings 1.1
* **3.7** 1 Kings 22.4
* **3.9** vv 1, 7; 1 Kings 22.47
* **3.11** 1 Kings 19.21; 22.7
* **3.13** 1 Kings 18.19; Ezek 14.3–5
* **3.14** 1 Kings 17.1; 2 Kings 5.16
* **3.15** 1 Sam 16.23; Ezek 1.3
d **3.17** Gk: Heb *cattle*
* **3.19** v 25
* **3.20** Ex 29.39, 40
* **3.21** Gen 19.37
e **3.24** Compare Gk Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.25** v 19; Isa 16.7, 11; Jer 48.31, 36
* **3.27** Am 2.1; Mic 6.7

2 Kings 4

* **4.1** Lev 25.39; 2 Kings 2.3; Mt 18.25
* **4.7** 1 Kings 12.22
* **4.8** Josh 19.18
* **4.9** v 7
* **4.12** vv 29–31; 2 Kings 5.20–27; 8.4, 5
* **4.16** v 28; Gen 18.10, 14
* **4.21** vv 7, 32
* **4.23** Num 10.10; 28.11; 1 Chr 23.31
* **4.25** 2 Kings 2.25
* **4.28** v 16
* **4.29** Ex 7.19; 14.16; 1 Kings 18.46; 2 Kings 2.8, 14; 9.1; Lk 10.4
* **4.30** 2 Kings 2.2
* **4.33** v 4; 1 Kings 17.20; Mt 6.6
f **4.34** Heb lacks *on the bed*
* **4.34** 1 Kings 17.21; Acts 20.10
* **4.35** 1 Kings 17.21; 2 Kings 8.1, 5
g **4.36** Heb *he*
* **4.37** 1 Kings 17.23; Heb 11.35
* **4.38** 2 Kings 2.1, 3; 8.1; Lk 10.39; Acts 22.3
* **4.41** Ex 15.25; 2 Kings 2.21
* **4.42** 1 Sam 9.4, 7
* **4.44** Mt 14.16–21; 15.32–38

2 Kings 5

* **5.1** Lk 4.27
h **5.4** Heb *he*
* **5.5** 1 Sam 9.8; 2 Kings 8.8, 9
* **5.7** Gen 30.2; 37.29; Deut 32.39; 1 Sam 2.6; 1 Kings 20.7
* **5.8** 1 Kings 12.22
* **5.10** Jn 9.7
i **5.12** Another reading is *Amana*
* **5.13** 1 Sam 28.23; 2 Kings 6.21; 8.9
* **5.14** v 10; Job 33.25; Lk 4.27
* **5.15** 1 Sam 25.27; Dan 2.47; 3.29
* **5.16** vv 20, 26; Gen 14.22, 23; 2 Kings 3.14
* **5.18** 2 Kings 7.2, 17
* **5.20** 2 Kings 4.12, 31, 36
* **5.22** Josh 24.33; 2 Kings 4.26
j **5.23** Heb *him*
k **5.24** Heb lacks *the bags*
* **5.25** v 22
* **5.26** v 16
* **5.27** Ex 4.6; Num 12.10; 2 Kings 15.5

2 Kings 6

* **6.1** 2 Kings 4.38
* **6.6** 2 Kings 2.21
* **6.9** v 12
l **6.10** Heb *warned it*
m **6.11** Cn Compare Gk Tg: Heb *among us is with*
* **6.13** Gen 37.17
* **6.16** 2 Chr 32.7, 8; Ps 55.18; Rom 8.31
* **6.17** 2 Kings 2.11; Ps 68.17; Zech 6.1–7
n **6.18** Heb *they*
* **6.18** Gen 19.11
* **6.20** v 17
* **6.21** 2 Kings 2.12; 5.13; 8.9
* **6.22** Deut 20.11–16; Rom 12.20
* **6.23** vv 8, 9; 2 Kings 5.2
* **6.24** 1 Kings 20.1
* **6.29** Lev 26.27–29; Deut 28.52, 53, 57
* **6.30** 1 Kings 21.27
* **6.31** Ruth 1.17; 1 Kings 19.2
* **6.32** 1 Kings 18.4, 13, 14; Ezek 8.1; 20.1
o **6.33** Cn: Heb *messenger*

* **6.33** Job 2.9

2 Kings 7

* **7.1** v 18
* **7.2** vv 17, 19, 20; Mal 3.10
* **7.3** Lev 13.46
* **7.4** 2 Kings 6.24
* **7.6** 2 Sam 5.24; 19.7; 1 Kings 10.29
* **7.7** Ps 48.4–6
* **7.9** 2 Sam 18.27
* **7.12** 2 Kings 6.25–29

p **7.13** Compare Gk Syr Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **7.16** v 1
* **7.18** v 1
* **7.19** v 2

2 Kings 8

* **8.1** 2 Kings 4.35; Ps 105.16; Hag 1.11
* **8.4** 2 Kings 4.12; 5.20–27
* **8.5** 2 Kings 4.35
* **8.7** 1 Kings 11.24; 2 Kings 6.24
* **8.8** 1 Kings 14.3; 19.15; 2 Kings 1.2
* **8.10** vv 14, 15
* **8.12** 2 Kings 10.32; 12.17; 13.3, 7; 15.16; Hos 13.16; Am 1.13
* **8.13** 1 Sam 17.43; 1 Kings 19.15

q **8.14** Heb lacks *Ben-hadad*

* **8.15** v 10

r **8.16** Gk Syr: Heb adds *Jehoshaphat being king of Judah,*

* **8.16** 2 Kings 1.17; 3.1; 2 Chr 21.3, 4
* **8.17** 2 Chr 21.5–10
* **8.18** v 27
* **8.19** 2 Sam 7.13; 1 Kings 11.36; 2 Chr 21.7
* **8.20** 1 Kings 22.47; 2 Kings 3.27; 2 Chr 21.8–10

s **8.21** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **8.21** 2 Sam 18.17; 19.8
* **8.22** 2 Chr 21.10
* **8.24** 2 Chr 21.20; 22.1
* **8.25** 2 Chr 22.1–6
* **8.28** v 15; 1 Kings 22.3, 29
* **8.29** 2 Kings 9.15; 2 Chr 22.6, 7

2 Kings 9

* **9.1** 2 Kings 2.3; 4.29; 8.28, 29
* **9.2** vv 5, 11
* **9.3** 2 Chr 22.7
t **9.6** Heb *he*
* **9.6** v 3; 1 Kings 19.16; 2 Chr 22.7
* **9.7** v 32; Deut 32.35; 1 Kings 18.4; 21.15
* **9.8** Deut 32.36; 1 Sam 25.22; 1 Kings 21.21; 2 Kings 10.17; 14.26
* **9.9** 1 Kings 14.10; 15.29; 16.3–5, 11, 12
* **9.10** vv 35, 36; 1 Kings 21.23
u **9.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.13** 2 Sam 15.10; 1 Kings 1.34, 39; Mt 21.7
* **9.14** 2 Kings 8.28
* **9.15** 2 Kings 8.29
* **9.16** 2 Kings 8.29
* **9.18** vv 19, 22
* **9.20** 2 Sam 18.27; 1 Kings 19.17
* **9.21** v 26; 1 Kings 21.1–7, 15–19; 2 Chr 22.7
v **9.22** Or *idolatries*
* **9.22** 1 Kings 16.30–33; 18.19; 2 Chr 21.13
* **9.24** 1 Kings 22.34
* **9.25** 1 Kings 21.1, 19, 24–29
* **9.26** 1 Kings 21.19
w **9.27** Syr Vg Compare Gk: Heb lacks *and they shot him*
* **9.27** 2 Chr 22.9
* **9.28** 2 Kings 23.30
* **9.30** Jer 4.30; Ezek 23.40
* **9.31** 1 Kings 16.9–20
* **9.34** 1 Kings 16.31; 21.25
* **9.36** 1 Kings 21.23
* **9.37** Jer 8.1–3

2 Kings 10

x **10.1** Lucianic Vg: Heb *of Jezreel*
y **10.1** Gk: Heb lacks *of the sons of*
* **10.1** 1 Kings 16.24–29
* **10.5** 1 Kings 20.4, 32
* **10.7** 1 Kings 21.21
* **10.9** v 6; 2 Kings 9.14–24
* **10.10** 1 Kings 21.19–29; 2 Kings 9.7–10

* **10.13** 2 Kings 8.24, 29; 2 Chr 22.8
z **10.15** Gk: Heb *Is it right with your heart, as my heart is with your heart?*
a **10.15** Gk: Heb lacks *Jehu said*
* **10.15** 1 Chr 2.55; Ezra 10.19; Jer 35.6ff
b **10.16** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *they*
* **10.16** 1 Kings 19.10
* **10.17** v 10; 2 Kings 9.8; 2 Chr 22.8
* **10.18** 1 Kings 16.31, 32
* **10.19** 1 Kings 22.6
* **10.20** Ex 32.4–6; Joel 1.14
* **10.21** 1 Kings 16.32; 2 Kings 11.18
* **10.24** 1 Kings 20.39
* **10.25** 1 Kings 18.40
c **10.26** Gk Vg Syr Tg: Heb *pillars*
* **10.26** 1 Kings 14.23
* **10.27** Ezra 6.11; Dan 2.5; 3.29
* **10.29** 1 Kings 12.28, 29
* **10.30** v 35; 2 Kings 15.8, 12
* **10.31** v 29
* **10.32** 2 Kings 8.12
* **10.34** Am 1.3–5

2 Kings 11

* **11.1** 2 Chr 22.10–12
d **11.2** Heb lacks *she put*
e **11.2** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *they*
* **11.2** v 21; 2 Kings 12.1
* **11.4** v 19; 2 Chr 23.1ff
* **11.5** 1 Chr 9.25
f **11.7** Heb *the* LORD *to the king*
* **11.9** 2 Chr 23.8
* **11.10** 2 Sam 8.7; 1 Chr 18.7
* **11.12** 1 Sam 10.24
* **11.13** 2 Chr 23.12ff
* **11.14** 1 Kings 1.39, 40; 2 Kings 9.23; 23.3; 2 Chr 34.31
* **11.17** 2 Sam 5.3; 2 Chr 15.12–14; 23.16
* **11.18** Deut 12.3; 2 Kings 10.26; 2 Chr 23.17ff
* **11.19** vv 4, 6
g **11.21** 12.1 in Heb
* **11.21** 2 Chr 24.1

2 Kings 12

* **12.3** 2 Kings 14.4; 15.35
* **12.4** Ex 35.5; 2 Kings 22.4; 1 Chr 29.3–9
* **12.6** 2 Chr 24.5
* **12.7** 2 Chr 24.6
* **12.9** 2 Chr 24.8; Mk 12.41; Lk 21.1
* **12.10** 2 Kings 19.2
* **12.12** 2 Kings 22.5, 6
* **12.13** 1 Kings 7.48, 50; 2 Chr 24.14
* **12.15** 2 Kings 22.7
* **12.16** Lev 4.24, 29; 5.15–18; Num 18.9, 19
* **12.17** 2 Kings 8.12; 2 Chr 24.23
* **12.18** 1 Kings 15.18; 2 Kings 18.15, 16
* **12.20** 1 Kings 11.27; 2 Kings 14.5; 2 Chr 24.25
* **12.21** 2 Kings 14.1; 2 Chr 24.26, 27

2 Kings 13

* **13.2** 1 Kings 12.26–33
* **13.3** Judg 2.14; 2 Kings 8.12; 12.17
* **13.4** Ex 3.7; Num 21.7–9; 2 Kings 14.26; Ps 78.34
* **13.5** v 25; 2 Kings 14.25, 27

h **13.6** Gk Syr Tg Vg: Heb *he walked*

i **13.6** Or *Asherah*

* **13.6** v 2; 1 Kings 16.33
* **13.7** Am 1.3
* **13.9** 2 Kings 10.35
* **13.12** vv 14–19; 2 Kings 14.8–15; 2 Chr 25.17ff
* **13.14** 2 Kings 2.12
* **13.17** 1 Kings 20.26
* **13.19** v 25
* **13.20** 2 Kings 3.7; 24.2
* **13.22** 2 Kings 8.12
* **13.23** Gen 13.16, 17; Ex 2.24, 25; 2 Kings 14.27
* **13.25** vv 18, 19; 2 Kings 10.32, 33; 14.25

2 Kings 14

* **14.1** 2 Kings 13.10; 2 Chr 25.1
* **14.4** 2 Kings 12.3; 16.4
* **14.5** 2 Kings 12.20
* **14.6** Deut 24.16; Ezek 18.4, 20

* **14.7** Josh 15.38; 2 Sam 8.13; 2 Chr 25.11
* **14.8** 2 Chr 25.17–24
* **14.9** Judg 9.8–15
* **14.10** v 7; Deut 8.14; 2 Chr 26.16; 32.25
* **14.11** Josh 19.38
* **14.12** 2 Sam 18.17
* **14.13** 2 Chr 25.23; Neh 8.16; 12.39
* **14.14** 2 Kings 12.18
* **14.15** 2 Kings 13.12
* **14.17** 2 Chr 25.25–28
* **14.19** Josh 10.31; 2 Kings 18.14, 17
j **14.22** Heb *the king*
* **14.22** 2 Kings 16.6; 2 Chr 26.2
* **14.25** Deut 3.17; Josh 19.13; 1 Kings 8.65; 2 Kings 10.32; Jon 1.1; Mt 12.39, 40
* **14.26** Deut 32.36; 2 Kings 13.4
* **14.27** 2 Kings 13.5, 23
* **14.28** 2 Sam 8.6; 1 Kings 11.24; 2 Chr 8.3
* **14.29** 2 Kings 15.8

2 Kings 15

* **15.1** 2 Kings 14.21; 2 Chr 26.1, 3, 4
* **15.2** 2 Chr 26.3, 4
* **15.4** 2 Kings 12.3; 14.4
* **15.5** 2 Chr 26.19–21
* **15.7** 2 Chr 26.23
k **15.10** Lucianic: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **15.10** Am 7.9
* **15.12** 2 Kings 10.30
* **15.13** vv 1, 8
* **15.14** 1 Kings 14.17
* **15.16** 1 Kings 4.24; 2 Kings 8.12
* **15.17** vv 1, 8, 13
* **15.19** 1 Chr 5.26
* **15.23** vv 1, 8, 13, 17
* **15.25** 1 Kings 16.18
* **15.27** v 23; Isa 7.1
* **15.29** v 19; 2 Kings 17.6; 1 Chr 5.26
* **15.32** 2 Chr 27.1ff
* **15.34** v 3; 2 Chr 26.4, 5
* **15.35** v 4; 2 Chr 27.3
* **15.37** v 27; 2 Kings 16.5; Isa 7.1

2 Kings 16

* **16.1** 2 Chr 28.1ff
* **16.3** Lev 18.21; Deut 12.31; 2 Kings 17.17; 21.2, 6, 11
* **16.4** Deut 12.2; 2 Kings 14.4
* **16.5** 2 Kings 15.37; 2 Chr 28.5, 6; Isa 7.1

l **16.6** Cn: Heb *Aram*

* **16.6** 2 Kings 14.22; 2 Chr 26.2
* **16.7** 2 Kings 15.29; 2 Chr 28.16ff
* **16.8** 2 Kings 12.17, 18
* **16.9** 2 Chr 28.21; Am 1.3–5
* **16.10** 2 Kings 15.29; Isa 8.2
* **16.14** 2 Chr 4.1
* **16.15** Ex 29.39–41
* **16.17** 1 Kings 7.23–28

m **16.18** Cn: Heb lacks *from*

* **16.20** 2 Chr 28.27

2 Kings 17

* **17.1** 2 Kings 15.30
* **17.3** 2 Kings 18.9–12
* **17.6** Deut 28.64; 29.27, 28; 2 Kings 18.10, 11; 1 Chr 5.26; Hos 13.16
* **17.7** Ex 14.15–30; Josh 23.16; Judg 6.10

n **17.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **17.8** Lev 18.3; Deut 18.9; 2 Kings 16.3

o **17.9** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **17.9** 2 Kings 18.8

p **17.10** Or *Asherahs*

* **17.10** Ex 34.12–14; 1 Kings 14.23; Mic 5.14
* **17.12** Ex 20.3, 4
* **17.13** 1 Sam 9.9; Jer 18.11; 25.5; 35.15
* **17.14** Ex 32.9; Deut 31.27; Acts 7.51
* **17.15** Deut 12.30, 31; 29.25; 32.21; Jer 8.9

q **17.16** Or *Asherah*

* **17.16** 1 Kings 12.28; 14.15, 23; 16.31; 2 Kings 21.3
* **17.17** Lev 19.26; Deut 18.10–12; 1 Kings 21.20; 2 Kings 16.3
* **17.18** v 6; 1 Kings 11.13, 32, 36
* **17.20** 2 Kings 15.29
* **17.21** 1 Kings 11.11, 31; 12.20, 28–33
* **17.24** 2 Kings 18.34; Ezra 4.2, 10

r **17.27** Syr Vg: Heb *them*

* **17.27** Mic 3.11
* **17.30** v 24
* **17.31** vv 17, 24
* **17.32** 1 Kings 12.31
* **17.33** Zeph 1.5
* **17.34** Gen 32.28; 35.10
* **17.35** Ex 20.5; Judg 6.10
* **17.36** Ex 6.6; Deut 10.20
* **17.37** Deut 5.32
* **17.38** Deut 4.23
* **17.41** vv 32, 33

2 Kings 18

* **18.1** 2 Kings 17.1; 2 Chr 28.27
* **18.2** 2 Chr 29.1, 2

s **18.4** Or *Asherah*

* **18.4** Num 21.8, 9; 2 Chr 31.1
* **18.5** 2 Kings 19.10; 23.25
* **18.6** Deut 10.20
* **18.7** Gen 39.2, 3; 1 Sam 18.14; 2 Kings 16.7
* **18.8** 2 Kings 17.9; 1 Chr 4.41; Isa 14.29
* **18.9** 2 Kings 17.3
* **18.10** 2 Kings 17.6
* **18.11** 2 Kings 17.6
* **18.13** 2 Chr 32.1ff; Isa 36.1ff
* **18.15** 2 Kings 16.8
* **18.17** Isa 7.3; 20.1
* **18.18** 2 Kings 19.2; Isa 22.15, 20
* **18.19** 2 Chr 32.10ff
* **18.21** Ezek 29.6, 7
* **18.22** v 4; 2 Chr 31.1; 32.12
* **18.24** Isa 31.1
* **18.26** Ezra 4.7
* **18.29** 2 Chr 32.15
* **18.31** 1 Kings 4.20, 25
* **18.32** Deut 8.7–9
* **18.33** 2 Kings 19.12; 2 Chr 32.14; Isa 10.10, 11
* **18.34** 2 Kings 17.24; 19.13
* **18.37** vv 18, 26; 2 Kings 6.30

2 Kings 19

* **19.1** 1 Kings 21.27; 2 Kings 18.37; 2 Chr 32.20–22; Isa 37.1–38
* **19.2** Isa 1.1; 2.1
* **19.4** 2 Sam 16.12; 2 Kings 18.35; Isa 1.9
* **19.6** 2 Kings 18.17, 22–25, 30; Isa 37.6ff
* **19.7** vv 35–37
* **19.8** Josh 10.29; 2 Kings 18.14

t **19.9** Heb *he*

* **19.10** 2 Kings 18.5, 30
* **19.12** 2 Kings 18.33
* **19.13** 2 Kings 18.34
* **19.14** Isa 37.14
* **19.15** 1 Sam 4.4; 1 Kings 18.39
* **19.16** v 4; 2 Chr 6.40; Ps 31.2
* **19.18** Ps 115.4; Jer 10.3
* **19.19** v 15; Ps 83.18
* **19.20** 2 Kings 20.5; Isa 37.21
* **19.21** Job 16.4; Ps 22.7, 8; Lam 2.13
* **19.22** vv 4, 6; Ps 71.22; Isa 5.24
* **19.23** 2 Kings 18.17; Ps 20.7; Isa 10.18
* **19.24** Isa 19.6
* **19.25** Isa 10.5; 45.7

u **19.26** Cn Compare Isa 37.27 Q ms: Meaning of MT uncertain

* **19.26** Ps 129.6
* **19.28** vv 33, 36; Job 41.2; Ezek 29.4
* **19.29** 1 Sam 2.34; 2 Kings 20.8, 9; Lk 2.12
* **19.30** 2 Chr 32.22, 23
* **19.31** Isa 9.7
* **19.33** v 28
* **19.34** 1 Kings 11.12, 13; 2 Kings 20.6
* **19.35** 2 Chr 32.21; Isa 37.36
* **19.36** vv 7, 28, 33; Jon 1.2
* **19.37** v 7; 2 Chr 32.21; Ezra 4.2

2 Kings 20

* **20.1** 2 Sam 17.23; 2 Chr 32.24; Isa 38.1
* **20.3** 2 Kings 18.3–6; Neh 13.22
* **20.5** 1 Sam 9.16; 10.1; 2 Kings 19.20; Ps 39.12
* **20.6** 2 Kings 19.34
* **20.7** Isa 38.21

v **20.9** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *the shadow has advanced*
w **20.11** Heb *it*
* **20.11** Josh 10.12–14
* **20.12** Isa 39.1ff
x **20.13** Gk Vg Syr: Heb *When Hezekiah heard about them*
* **20.13** 2 Chr 32.27
* **20.15** v 13
* **20.17** 2 Kings 24.13; 25.13; Jer 52.17
* **20.18** 2 Kings 24.12; 2 Chr 33.11; Dan 1.3–7
* **20.19** 1 Sam 3.18
* **20.20** 2 Chr 32.32; Neh 3.16
* **20.21** 2 Chr 32.33

2 Kings 21

* **21.1** 2 Chr 33.1ff
* **21.2** 2 Kings 16.3
y **21.3** Or *Asherah*
* **21.3** Deut 17.3; 1 Kings 16.32, 33; 2 Kings 17.16; 18.4
* **21.4** 2 Sam 7.13; 1 Kings 8.29; Jer 32.34
* **21.6** Lev 18.21; 19.26, 31; Deut 18.10, 11; 2 Kings 16.3; 17.17
* **21.7** 1 Kings 8.29; 9.3; 2 Kings 23.27; Jer 32.34
* **21.8** 2 Sam 7.10
* **21.9** Prov 29.12
* **21.11** v 16; 1 Kings 21.26; 2 Kings 24.3, 4
* **21.12** 1 Sam 3.11; Jer 19.3
* **21.13** Isa 34.11; Am 7.7, 8
* **21.16** 2 Kings 24.4
* **21.17** 2 Chr 33.11–19
* **21.18** 2 Chr 33.20
* **21.19** 2 Chr 33.21–23
* **21.20** vv 2–6, 11, 16
* **21.22** 1 Kings 11.33
* **21.23** 2 Chr 33.24, 25
* **21.26** v 18

2 Kings 22

* **22.1** Josh 15.39; 2 Chr 34.1
* **22.2** Deut 5.32
* **22.3** 2 Chr 34.8ff
* **22.4** 2 Kings 12.4, 9, 10

* **22.5** 2 Kings 12.11–14
* **22.7** 2 Kings 12.15
* **22.8** Deut 31.24–26; 2 Chr 34.14, 15
* **22.12** 2 Kings 25.22; 2 Chr 34.20
* **22.13** Deut 29.27
* **22.14** 2 Chr 34.22
* **22.17** Deut 29.25–27
* **22.19** Lev 26.31; 1 Kings 21.29; Ps 51.17; Isa 57.15; Jer 26.6

2 Kings 23

* **23.1** 2 Chr 34.29–32
* **23.2** Deut 31.10–13; 2 Kings 22.8
* **23.3** Deut 13.4; 2 Kings 11.14, 17
* **23.4** 2 Kings 21.3, 7
z **23.6** Heb lacks *image of*
* **23.6** v 15; 2 Chr 34.4
* **23.7** 1 Kings 14.24; 15.12; Ezek 16.16
* **23.8** 1 Kings 15.22
* **23.9** Ezek 44.10–14
* **23.10** Lev 18.21; Deut 18.10; Isa 30.33; Jer 7.31
a **23.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **23.12** vv 4, 6; 2 Kings 21.5; Jer 19.13; Zeph 1.5
* **23.13** 1 Kings 11.7
b **23.14** Or *Asherahs*
* **23.14** Ex 23.24; Deut 7.5, 25
c **23.15** Or *Asherah*
* **23.15** 1 Kings 12.28–33
d **23.16** Gk: Heb *proclaimed, who had proclaimed these things*
* **23.16** 1 Kings 13.2
* **23.17** 1 Kings 13.1, 30
* **23.18** 1 Kings 13.31
* **23.19** 2 Chr 34.6, 7
* **23.20** 2 Kings 10.25; 11.18; 2 Chr 34.5
* **23.21** Ex 12.3; Num 9.2; Deut 16.2; 2 Chr 35.1
* **23.22** 2 Chr 35.18, 19
e **23.24** Or *household gods*
* **23.24** Deut 18.10–12; 2 Kings 21.6, 11, 21
* **23.25** 2 Kings 18.5
* **23.26** 2 Kings 21.11, 12; Jer 15.4
* **23.27** 2 Kings 18.11; 21.13, 14
* **23.29** 2 Chr 35.20; Zech 12.11

* **23.30** 2 Chr 35.24; 36.1
* **23.31** 2 Kings 24.18; 1 Chr 3.15; Jer 22.11
* **23.33** 2 Kings 25.6; 2 Chr 36.3; Jer 52.27
* **23.34** 2 Kings 24.17; 2 Chr 36.4; Ezek 19.3, 4
* **23.35** v 33
* **23.36** 2 Chr 36.5

2 Kings 24

* **24.1** 2 Chr 36.6; Jer 25.1
f **24.2** Gk: Heb *the* LORD
* **24.2** 2 Kings 23.27; Jer 25.9; 35.11
* **24.3** 2 Kings 18.25; 23.26
* **24.4** 2 Kings 21.16
* **24.6** Jer 22.18, 19
* **24.7** Jer 37.5–7; 46.2
* **24.8** 1 Chr 3.16; 2 Chr 36.9
* **24.10** Dan 1.1
* **24.12** 2 Kings 25.27; Jer 24.1; 25.1; 29.1, 2; 52.28
* **24.13** 2 Kings 20.17; 25.13–15; Isa 39.6; Jer 20.5
* **24.14** 2 Kings 25.12; Jer 24.1; 40.7; 52.28
* **24.15** 2 Chr 36.10; Jer 22.24–28
* **24.16** Jer 52.28
* **24.17** 1 Chr 3.15; 2 Chr 36.4, 10; Jer 37.1
* **24.18** 2 Kings 23.31; 2 Chr 36.11; Jer 52.1ff
* **24.19** 2 Chr 36.12
* **24.20** 2 Chr 36.13

2 Kings 25

* **25.1** 2 Chr 36.3, 17–20; Jer 39.1–7; Ezek 24.1, 2
* **25.3** Jer 39.1, 2
g **25.4** Heb lacks *wall*
h **25.4** Lucianic: Heb lacks *the king* and *fled*
* **25.4** Jer 39.4–7
* **25.6** 2 Kings 23.33; Jer 34.21, 22
* **25.7** Jer 39.6, 7; Ezek 12.13
* **25.8** Jer 39.9; 52.12–14
* **25.9** 2 Chr 36.19; Ps 74.3–7; Am 2.5
* **25.10** Neh 1.3; Jer 52.14
* **25.11** 2 Chr 36.20; Jer 39.9; 52.15
* **25.12** 2 Kings 24.14; Jer 40.7

* **25.13** 2 Chr 36.18
* **25.14** 1 Kings 7.47–50
* **25.16** 1 Kings 7.47
* **25.17** 1 Kings 7.15–22
* **25.18** 1 Chr 6.14; Ezra 7.1; Jer 21.1; 29.25
* **25.21** Deut 28.64; 2 Kings 23.27
* **25.22** Jer 40.5
* **25.23** Jer 40.7–9
* **25.25** Jer 41.1, 2

i **25.26** Or *young and old*

* **25.26** Jer 43.4–7
* **25.27** Gen 40.13, 20; Jer 52.31–34
* **25.29** 2 Sam 9.7

1 Chronicles

1 Chronicles 1

FROM ADAM TO ABRAHAM

1 Adam, Seth, Enosh;[*] [2]Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared; [3]Enoch, Methuselah,
Lamech; [4]Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

5 The descendants of Japheth: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal,
Meshech, and Tiras.[*] [6]The descendants of Gomer: Ashkenaz, Diphath, and
Togarmah. [7]The descendants of Javan: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and
Rodanim.

8 The descendants of Ham: Cush and Egypt, Put, and Canaan.[*] [9]The
descendants of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabta, Raama, and Sabteca. The
descendants of Raama: Sheba and Dedan. [10]Cush became the father of
Nimrod; he was the first to be a mighty one on the earth.[*]

11 Egypt became the father of Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim,
[12]Pathrusim, Casluhim, and Caphtorim, from whom the Philistines come.[a]

13 Canaan became the father of Sidon his firstborn, and Heth, [14]and the
Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, [15]the Hivites, the Arkites, the
Sinites, [16]the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites.

17 The descendants of Shem: Elam, Asshur, Arpachshad, Lud, and
Aram. The sons of Aram:[b] Uz, Hul, Gether, and Meshech.[*] [18]Arpachshad
became the father of Shelah, and Shelah became the father of Eber. [19]To
Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Peleg (for in his days the
earth was divided), and the name of his brother was Joktan. [20]Joktan
became the father of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, [21]Hadoram,
Uzal, Diklah, [22]Ebal, Abimael, Sheba, [23]Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab; all
these were the descendants of Joktan.

24 Shem, Arpachshad, Shelah;[*] [25]Eber, Peleg, Reu; [26]Serug, Nahor,
Terah; [27]Abram, that is, Abraham.

FROM ABRAHAM TO JACOB

28 The sons of Abraham: Isaac and Ishmael. [29]These are their genealogies: the firstborn of Ishmael was Nebaioth, then Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam,* [30]Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Tema, [31]Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These are the sons of Ishmael. [32]The sons of Keturah, Abraham's concubine: she bore Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. The sons of Jokshan: Sheba and Dedan.* [33]The sons of Midian: Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the descendants of Keturah.

34 Abraham became the father of Isaac. The sons of Isaac: Esau and Israel.* [35]The sons of Esau: Eliphaz, Reuel, Jeush, Jalam, and Korah.* [36]The sons of Eliphaz: Teman, Omar, Zephi, Gatam, Kenaz, Timna, and Amalek. [37]The sons of Reuel: Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

38 The sons of Seir: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan.* [39]The sons of Lotan: Hori and Homam; and Lotan's sister was Timna. [40]The sons of Shobal: Alian, Manahath, Ebal, Shephi, and Onam. The sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. [41]The son of Anah: Dishon. The sons of Dishon: Hamran, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran. [42]The sons of Ezer: Bilhan, Zaavan, and Jaakan.[c] The sons of Dishan:[d] Uz and Aran.

43 These are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom before any king reigned over the Israelites: Bela son of Beor, whose city was called Dinhabah.* [44]When Bela died, Jobab son of Zerah of Bozrah succeeded him. [45]When Jobab died, Husham of the land of the Temanites succeeded him. [46]When Husham died, Hadad son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in the country of Moab, succeeded him, and the name of his city was Avith. [47]When Hadad died, Samlah of Masrekah succeeded him. [48]When Samlah died, Shaul[e] of Rehoboth on the River succeeded him. [49]When Shaul[f] died, Baal-hanan son of Achbor succeeded him. [50]When Baal-hanan died, Hadad succeeded him; the name of his city was Pai, and his wife's name was Mehetabel daughter of Matred daughter of Me-zahab. [51]And Hadad died.

The clans[g] of Edom were: clans[h] Timna, Aliah,[i] Jetheth, [52]Oholibamah, Elah, Pinon, [53]Kenaz, Teman, Mibzar, [54]Magdiel, and Iram; these are the clans[j] of Edom.

1 Chronicles 2

THE SONS OF ISRAEL AND THE DESCENDANTS OF JUDAH

1 These are the sons of Israel: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar,
Zebulun,* [2]Dan, Joseph, Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.* [3]The sons of
Judah: Er, Onan, and Shelah; these three the Canaanite woman Bath-shua
bore to him. Now Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the LORD,
and he put him to death. [4]His daughter-in-law Tamar also bore him Perez
and Zerah. Judah had five sons in all.*

5 The sons of Perez: Hezron and Hamul.* [6]The sons of Zerah: Zimri,
Ethan, Heman, Calcol, and Darda,[k] five in all.* [7]The son of Carmi: Achar,
the troubler of Israel, who transgressed in the matter of the devoted thing;*
[8]and Ethan's son was Azariah.

9 The sons of Hezron who were born to him: Jerahmeel, Ram, and
Chelubai.[l] [10]Ram became the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab
became the father of Nahshon, prince of the sons of Judah.* [11]Nahshon
became the father of Salma, Salma of Boaz, [12]Boaz of Obed, Obed of Jesse.
[13]Jesse became the father of Eliab his firstborn, Abinadab the second,
Shimea the third,* [14]Nethanel the fourth, Raddai the fifth, [15]Ozem the sixth,
David the seventh; [16]and their sisters were Zeruiah and Abigail. The sons of
Zeruiah: Abishai, Joab, and Asahel, three.* [17]Abigail bore Amasa, and the
father of Amasa was Jether the Ishmaelite.*

18 Caleb son of Hezron had children by his wife Azubah and by
Jerioth;[m] these were her sons: Jesher, Shobab, and Ardon. [19]When Azubah
died, Caleb married Ephrath, who bore him Hur.* [20]Hur became the father
of Uri, and Uri became the father of Bezalel.*

21 Afterward Hezron went in to the daughter of Machir father of Gilead,
whom he married when he was sixty years old, and she bore him Segub,*
[22]and Segub became the father of Jair, who had twenty-three towns in the
land of Gilead. [23]But Geshur and Aram took from them Havvoth-jair,
Kenath and its villages, sixty towns. All these were descendants of Machir,

father of Gilead.* 24After the death of Hezron in Caleb-ephrathah, Abijah wife of Hezron bore him Ashhur, father of Tekoa.*

25 The sons of Jerahmeel, the firstborn of Hezron: Ram his firstborn, Bunah, Oren, Ozem, and Ahijah. 26Jerahmeel also had another wife, whose name was Atarah; she was the mother of Onam. 27The sons of Ram, the firstborn of Jerahmeel: Maaz, Jamin, and Eker. 28The sons of Onam: Shammai and Jada. The sons of Shammai: Nadab and Abishur. 29The name of Abishur's wife was Abihail, and she bore him Ahban and Molid. 30The sons of Nadab: Seled and Appaim; and Seled died childless. 31The son of Appaim: Ishi. The son of Ishi: Sheshan. The son of Sheshan: Ahlai.* 32The sons of Jada, Shammai's brother: Jether and Jonathan; and Jether died childless. 33The sons of Jonathan: Peleth and Zaza. These were the descendants of Jerahmeel. 34Now Sheshan had no sons, only daughters, but Sheshan had an Egyptian slave whose name was Jarha. 35So Sheshan gave his daughter in marriage to his slave Jarha, and she bore him Attai. 36Attai became the father of Nathan, and Nathan of Zabad.* 37Zabad became the father of Ephlal, and Ephlal of Obed. 38Obed became the father of Jehu, and Jehu of Azariah. 39Azariah became the father of Helez, and Helez of Eleasah. 40Eleasah became the father of Sismai, and Sismai of Shallum. 41Shallum became the father of Jekamiah, and Jekamiah of Elishama.

42 The sons of Caleb brother of Jerahmeel: Mesha his firstborn, who was father of Ziph. The sons of Mareshah father of Hebron.* 43The sons of Hebron: Korah, Tappuah, Rekem, and Shema. 44Shema became father of Raham, father of Jorkeam; and Rekem became the father of Shammai. 45The son of Shammai: Maon; and Maon was the father of Beth-zur. 46Ephah also, Caleb's concubine, bore Haran, Moza, and Gazez; and Haran became the father of Gazez. 47The sons of Jahdai: Regem, Jotham, Geshan, Pelet, Ephah, and Shaaph. 48Maacah, Caleb's concubine, bore Sheber and Tirhanah. 49She also bore Shaaph father of Madmannah, Sheva father of Machbenah and father of Gibea; and the daughter of Caleb was Achsah. 50These were the descendants of Caleb.

The sons of Hur the firstborn of Ephrathah: Shobal father of Kiriath-jearim,* 51Salma father of Bethlehem, and Hareph father of Beth-gader. 52Shobal father of Kiriath-jearim had other sons: Haroeh, half of the

Menuhoth. [53]And the families of Kiriath-jearim: the Ithrites, the Puthites, the Shumathites, and the Mishraites; from these came the Zorathites and the Eshtaolites. [54]The sons of Salma: Bethlehem, the Netophathites, Atroth-beth-joab, and half of the Manahathites, the Zorites. [55]The families also of the scribes that lived at Jabez: the Tirathites, the Shimeathites, and the Sucathites. These are the Kenites who came from Hammath, father of the house of Rechab.*

1 Chronicles 3

DESCENDANTS OF DAVID AND SOLOMON

1 These are the sons of David who were born to him in Hebron: the
firstborn Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelite; the second Daniel, by Abigail
the Carmelite;* [2]the third Absalom, son of Maacah daughter of King Talmai
of Geshur; the fourth Adonijah, son of Haggith; [3]the fifth Shephatiah, by
Abital; the sixth Ithream, by his wife Eglah;* [4]six were born to him in
Hebron, where he reigned for seven years and six months. And he reigned
thirty-three years in Jerusalem.* [5]These were born to him in Jerusalem:
Shimea, Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon, four by Bath-shua daughter of
Ammiel;* [6]then Ibhar, Elishama, Eliphelet, [7]Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia,
[8]Elishama, Eliada, and Eliphelet, nine. [9]All these were David's sons,
besides the sons of the concubines, and Tamar was their sister.*

10 The descendants of Solomon: Rehoboam, Abijah his son, Asa his son,
Jehoshaphat his son,* [11]Joram his son, Ahaziah his son, Joash his son,
[12]Amaziah his son, Azariah his son, Jotham his son, [13]Ahaz his son,
Hezekiah his son, Manasseh his son, [14]Amon his son, Josiah his son. [15]The
sons of Josiah: Johanan the firstborn, the second Jehoiakim, the third
Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum. [16]The descendants of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah his
son, Zedekiah his son;* [17]and the sons of Jeconiah the captive: Shealtiel his
son, [18]Malchiram, Pedaiah, Shenazzar, Jekamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah.
[19]The sons of Pedaiah: Zerubbabel and Shimei; and the sons of Zerubbabel:
Meshullam and Hananiah, and Shelomith was their sister; [20]and Hashubah,
Ohel, Berechiah, Hasadiah, and Jushab-hesed, five. [21]The sons of Hananiah:
Pelatiah and Jeshaiah, his son Rephaiah, his son Arnan, his son Obadiah,
his son Shecaniah. [22]The son of Shecaniah: Shemaiah, and the sons of
Shemaiah: Hattush, Igal, Bariah, Neariah, and Shaphat—six.* [23]The sons of
Neariah: Elioenai, Hizkiah, and Azrikam, three. [24]The sons of Elioenai:
Hodaviah, Eliashib, Pelaiah, Akkub, Johanan, Delaiah, and Anani, seven.

1 Chronicles 4

DESCENDANTS OF JUDAH

1 The sons of Judah: Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur, and Shobal.* 2Reaiah son
of Shobal became the father of Jahath, and Jahath became the father of
Ahumai and Lahad. These were the families of the Zorathites. 3These were
the sons[n] of Etam: Jezreel, Ishma, and Idbash; and the name of their sister
was Hazzelelponi, 4and Penuel was the father of Gedor, and Ezer was the
father of Hushah. These were the sons of Hur, the firstborn of Ephrathah,
the father of Bethlehem.* 5Ashhur father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah
and Naarah;* 6Naarah bore him Ahuzzam, Hepher, Temeni, and
Haahashtari.[o] These were the sons of Naarah. 7The sons of Helah: Zereth,
Izhar,[p] and Ethnan. 8Koz became the father of Anub, Zobebah, and the
families of Aharhel son of Harum. 9Jabez was honored more than his
brothers, and his mother named him Jabez, saying, "Because I bore him in
pain."* 10Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, "Oh, that you would
bless me and enlarge my territory and that your hand might be with me and
that you would keep me from hurt and harm!" And God granted what he
asked. 11Chelub the brother of Shuhah became the father of Mehir, who was
the father of Eshton. 12Eshton became the father of Beth-rapha, Paseah, and
Tehinnah the father of Ir-nahash. These are the men of Recah. 13The sons of
Kenaz: Othniel and Seraiah; and the sons of Othniel: Hathath and
Meonothai.[q,*] 14Meonothai became the father of Ophrah, and Seraiah
became the father of Joab father of Ge-harashim,[r] so-called because they
were artisans.* 15The sons of Caleb son of Jephunneh: Iru, Elah, and Naam;
and the son of Elah: Kenaz. 16The sons of Jehallelel: Ziph, Ziphah, Tiria,
and Asarel. 17The sons of Ezrah: Jether, Mered, Epher, and Jalon. These are
the sons of Bithiah, daughter of Pharaoh, whom Mered married,[s] and she
conceived and bore[t] Miriam, Shammai, and Ishbah father of Eshtemoa.
18And his Judean wife bore Jered father of Gedor, Heber father of Soco, and
Jekuthiel father of Zanoah. 19The sons of the wife of Hodiah, the sister of
Naham, were the fathers of Keilah the Garmite and Eshtemoa the
Maacathite. 20The sons of Shimon: Amnon, Rinnah, Ben-hanan, and Tilon.

The sons of Ishi: Zoheth and Ben-zoheth. [21]The sons of Shelah son of Judah: Er father of Lecah, Laadah father of Mareshah, and the families of the guild of linen workers at Beth-ashbea;* [22]and Jokim, and the men of Cozeba, and Joash, and Saraph, who married into Moab but returned to Lehem[u] (the records[v] are ancient). [23]These were the potters and inhabitants of Netaim and Gederah; they lived there with the king in his service.

DESCENDANTS OF SIMEON

24 The sons of Simeon: Nemuel, Jamin, Jarib, Zerah, Shaul;[w],* [25]Shallum was his son, Mibsam his son, Mishma his son. [26]The sons of Mishma: Hammuel his son, Zaccur his son, Shimei his son. [27]Shimei had sixteen sons and six daughters, but his brothers did not have many children, nor did all their family multiply like the Judeans. [28]They lived in Beer-sheba, Moladah, Hazar-shual,* [29]Bilhah, Ezem, Tolad, [30]Bethuel, Hormah, Ziklag,* [31]Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susim, Beth-biri, and Shaaraim. These were their towns until David became king. [32]And their villages were Etam, Ain, Rimmon, Tochen, and Ashan, five towns, [33]along with all their villages that were around these towns as far as Baal. These were their settlements. And they kept a genealogical record.

34 Meshobab, Jamlech, Joshah son of Amaziah, [35]Joel, Jehu son of Joshibiah son of Seraiah son of Asiel, [36]Elioenai, Jaakobah, Jeshohaiah, Asaiah, Adiel, Jesimiel, Benaiah, [37]Ziza son of Shiphi son of Allon son of Jedaiah son of Shimri son of Shemaiah—[38]these mentioned by name were leaders in their families, and their clans increased greatly. [39]They journeyed to the entrance of Gedor, to the east side of the valley, to seek pasture for their flocks, [40]where they found rich, good pasture, and the land was very broad, quiet, and peaceful, for the former inhabitants there belonged to Ham.* [41]These, registered by name, came in the days of King Hezekiah of Judah and attacked their tents and the Meunim who were found there and exterminated them to this day and settled in their place, because there was pasture there for their flocks.* [42]And some of them, five hundred men of the Simeonites, went to Mount Seir, having as their leaders Pelatiah, Neariah, Rephaiah, and Uzziel, sons of Ishi; [43]they destroyed the remnant of the Amalekites who had escaped, and they have lived there to this day.*

1 Chronicles 5

DESCENDANTS OF REUBEN

1 The sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel. (He was the firstborn, but
because he defiled his father's bed his birthright was given to the sons of
Joseph son of Israel, so that he is not enrolled in the genealogy according to
the birthright;* 2though Judah became prominent among his brothers and a
ruler came from him, yet the birthright belonged to Joseph.)* 3The sons of
Reuben, the firstborn of Israel: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi.* 4The
sons of Joel: Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son, 5Micah his
son, Reaiah his son, Baal his son, 6Beerah his son, whom King Tiglath-
pileser[x] of Assyria carried away into exile; he was a chieftain of the
Reubenites. 7And his kindred by their families, when the genealogy of their
generations was reckoned: the chief, Jeiel, and Zechariah,* 8and Bela son of
Azaz, son of Shema, son of Joel, who lived in Aroer, as far as Nebo and
Baal-meon.* 9He also lived to the east as far as the beginning of the desert
this side of the Euphrates, because their cattle had multiplied in the land of
Gilead.* 10And in the days of Saul they made war on the Hagrites, who fell
by their hand, and they lived in their tents throughout all the region east of
Gilead.*

DESCENDANTS OF GAD

11 The sons of Gad lived beside them in the land of Bashan as far as
Salecah:* 12Joel the chief, Shapham the second, Janai, and Shaphat in
Bashan. 13And their kindred according to their clans: Michael, Meshullam,
Sheba, Jorai, Jacan, Zia, and Eber, seven. 14These were the sons of Abihail
son of Huri, son of Jaroah, son of Gilead, son of Michael, son of Jeshishai,
son of Jahdo, son of Buz; 15Ahi son of Abdiel, son of Guni, was chief in
their clan, 16and they lived in Gilead, in Bashan and in its towns, and in all
the pasturelands of Sharon to their limits.* 17All of these were enrolled by
genealogies in the days of King Jotham of Judah and in the days of King
Jeroboam of Israel.*

18 The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh had
valiant warriors who carried shield and sword and drew the bow, expert in
war, forty-four thousand seven hundred sixty, ready for service. [19]They
made war on the Hagrites, Jetur, Naphish, and Nodab,* [20]and when they
received help against them, the Hagrites and all who were with them were
given into their hands, for they cried to God in the battle, and he granted
their entreaty because they trusted in him.* [21]They captured their livestock:
fifty thousand of their camels, two hundred fifty thousand sheep, two
thousand donkeys, and one hundred thousand captives. [22]Many fell slain
because the war was of God. And they lived in their territory until the
exile.*

THE HALF-TRIBE OF MANASSEH

23 The members of the half-tribe of Manasseh lived in the land; they
were very numerous from Bashan to Baal-hermon, Senir, and Mount
Hermon. [24]These were the heads of their clans: Epher,[y] Ishi, Eliel, Azriel,
Jeremiah, Hodaviah, and Jahdiel, mighty warriors, famous men, heads of
their clans. [25]But they transgressed against the God of their ancestors and
prostituted themselves to the gods of the peoples of the land whom God had
destroyed before them.* [26]So the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of King
Pul of Assyria, the spirit of King Tiglath-pileser[z] of Assyria, and he carried
them away, namely, the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of
Manasseh, and brought them to Halah, Habor, Hara, and the River Gozan,
to this day.*

1 Chronicles 6

DESCENDANTS OF LEVI

1 [a]The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.* [2]The sons of Kohath:
Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. [3]The children of Amram: Aaron,
Moses, and Miriam. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and
Ithamar.* [4]Eleazar became the father of Phinehas, Phinehas of Abishua,
[5]Abishua of Bukki, Bukki of Uzzi, [6]Uzzi of Zerahiah, Zerahiah of
Meraioth, [7]Meraioth of Amariah, Amariah of Ahitub, [8]Ahitub of Zadok,
Zadok of Ahimaaz,* [9]Ahimaaz of Azariah, Azariah of Johanan, [10]and
Johanan of Azariah (it was he who served as priest in the house that
Solomon built in Jerusalem). [11]Azariah became the father of Amariah,
Amariah of Ahitub, [12]Ahitub of Zadok, Zadok of Shallum, [13]Shallum of
Hilkiah, Hilkiah of Azariah, [14]Azariah of Seraiah, Seraiah of Jehozadak;*
[15]and Jehozadak went into exile when the LORD sent Judah and Jerusalem
into exile by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.*

16 [b]The sons of Levi: Gershom, Kohath, and Merari.* [17]These are the
names of the sons of Gershom: Libni and Shimei. [18]The sons of Kohath:
Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. [19]The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi.
These are the clans of the Levites according to their ancestry. [20]Of
Gershom: Libni his son, Jahath his son, Zimmah his son,* [21]Joah his son,
Iddo his son, Zerah his son, Jeatherai his son. [22]The sons of Kohath:
Amminadab his son, Korah his son, Assir his son, [23]Elkanah his son,
Ebiasaph his son, Assir his son, [24]Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uzziah his
son, and Shaul his son. [25]The sons of Elkanah: Amasai and Ahimoth,*
[26]Elkanah his son, Zophai his son, Nahath his son,* [27]Eliab his son,
Jeroham his son, Elkanah his son, Samuel his son.[c] [28]The sons of Samuel:
Joel[d] his firstborn, the second Abijah.[e] [29]The sons of Merari: Mahli, Libni
his son, Shimei his son, Uzzah his son, [30]Shimea his son, Haggiah his son,
and Asaiah his son.

MUSICIANS APPOINTED BY DAVID

31 These are the men whom David put in charge of the service of song in the house of the LORD, after the ark came to rest there.* [32]They ministered with song before the tabernacle of the tent of meeting until Solomon had built the house of the LORD in Jerusalem, and they performed their service in due order. [33]These are the men who served, and their sons were: Of the Kohathites: Heman, the singer, son of Joel, son of Samuel, [34]son of Elkanah, son of Jeroham, son of Eliel, son of Toah, [35]son of Zuph, son of Elkanah, son of Mahath, son of Amasai, [36]son of Elkanah, son of Joel, son of Azariah, son of Zephaniah, [37]son of Tahath, son of Assir, son of Ebiasaph, son of Korah,* [38]son of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi, son of Israel; [39]and his kinsman Asaph, who stood on his right, namely, Asaph son of Berechiah, son of Shimea, [40]son of Michael, son of Baaseiah, son of Malchijah, [41]son of Ethni, son of Zerah, son of Adaiah,* [42]son of Ethan, son of Zimmah, son of Shimei, [43]son of Jahath, son of Gershom, son of Levi. [44]On the left were their kindred the sons of Merari: Ethan son of Kishi, son of Abdi, son of Malluch, [45]son of Hashabiah, son of Amaziah, son of Hilkiah, [46]son of Amzi, son of Bani, son of Shemer, [47]son of Mahli, son of Mushi, son of Merari, son of Levi; [48]and their kindred the Levites were appointed for all the service of the tabernacle of the house of God.

49 But Aaron and his sons made offerings on the altar of burnt offering and on the altar of incense, doing all the work of the most holy place, to make atonement for Israel, according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded.* [50]These are the sons of Aaron: Eleazar his son, Phinehas his son, Abishua his son,* [51]Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, Zerahiah his son, [52]Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son, [53]Zadok his son, Ahimaaz his son.

SETTLEMENTS OF THE LEVITES

54 These are their dwelling places according to their settlements within their territories: to the sons of Aaron of the families of Kohathites—for the lot fell to them first*—[55]to them they gave Hebron in the land of Judah and its surrounding pasturelands,* [56]but the fields of the city and its villages they gave to Caleb son of Jephunneh.* [57]To the sons of Aaron they gave the cities of refuge: Hebron, Libnah with its pasturelands, Jattir, Eshtemoa with

its pasturelands,* 58Hilen[f] with its pasturelands, Debir with its pasturelands,
59Ashan with its pasturelands, and Beth-shemesh with its pasturelands.
60From the tribe of Benjamin, Geba with its pasturelands, Alemeth with its
pasturelands, and Anathoth with its pasturelands. All their towns throughout
their families were thirteen.

61 To the rest of the Kohathites were given by lot out of the family of the
tribe, out of the half-tribe, the half of Manasseh, ten towns.* 62To the
Gershomites according to their families were allotted thirteen towns out of
the tribes of Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Manasseh in Bashan. 63To the
Merarites according to their families were allotted twelve towns out of the
tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Zebulun.* 64So the people of Israel gave the
Levites the towns with their pasturelands.* 65They also gave them by lot out
of the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin these towns that are
mentioned by name.*

66 And some of the families of the sons of Kohath had towns of their
territory out of the tribe of Ephraim.* 67They were given the cities of
refuge: Shechem with its pasturelands in the hill country of Ephraim, Gezer
with its pasturelands,* 68Jokmeam with its pasturelands, Beth-horon with its
pasturelands,* 69Aijalon with its pasturelands, Gath-rimmon with its
pasturelands; 70and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh, Aner with its
pasturelands, and Bileam with its pasturelands, for the rest of the families of
the Kohathites.

71 To the Gershomites: out of the half-tribe of Manasseh: Golan in
Bashan with its pasturelands and Ashtaroth with its pasturelands; 72and out
of the tribe of Issachar: Kedesh with its pasturelands, Daberath[g] with its
pasturelands, 73Ramoth with its pasturelands, and Anem with its
pasturelands;* 74out of the tribe of Asher: Mashal with its pasturelands,
Abdon with its pasturelands, 75Hukok with its pasturelands, and Rehob with
its pasturelands; 76and out of the tribe of Naphtali: Kedesh in Galilee with
its pasturelands, Hammon with its pasturelands, and Kiriathaim with its
pasturelands.* 77To the rest of the Merarites out of the tribe of Zebulun:
Rimmono with its pasturelands, Tabor with its pasturelands,* 78and across
the Jordan from Jericho, on the east side of the Jordan, out of the tribe of
Reuben: Bezer in the steppe with its pasturelands, Jahzah with its
pasturelands, 79Kedemoth with its pasturelands, and Mephaath with its

pasturelands; [80]and out of the tribe of Gad: Ramoth in Gilead with its pasturelands, Mahanaim with its pasturelands, [81]Heshbon with its pasturelands, and Jazer with its pasturelands.

1 Chronicles 7

DESCENDANTS OF ISSACHAR

1 The sons[h] of Issachar: Tola, Puah, Jashub, and Shimron, four.* [2]The sons of Tola: Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Ibsam, and Shemuel, heads of their ancestral houses, namely, of Tola, mighty warriors of their generations, their number in the days of David being twenty-two thousand six hundred.* [3]The son of Uzzi: Izrahiah. And the sons of Izrahiah: Michael, Obadiah, Joel, and Isshiah, five, all of them chiefs; [4]and along with them, by their generations, according to their ancestral houses, were units of the fighting force, thirty-six thousand, for they had many wives and sons. [5]Their kindred belonging to all the families of Issachar were in all eighty-seven thousand mighty warriors, enrolled by genealogy.*

DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN

6 The sons of[i] Benjamin: Bela, Becher, and Jediael, three.* [7]The sons of Bela: Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth, and Iri, five, heads of ancestral houses, mighty warriors; and their enrollment by genealogies was twenty-two thousand thirty-four. [8]The sons of Becher: Zemirah, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah, Anathoth, and Alemeth. All these were the sons of Becher; [9]and their enrollment by genealogies, according to their generations, as heads of their ancestral houses, mighty warriors, was twenty thousand two hundred. [10]The son of Jediael: Bilhan. And the sons of Bilhan: Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish, and Ahishahar. [11]All these were the sons of Jediael according to the heads of their ancestral houses, mighty warriors, seventeen thousand two hundred, ready for service in war. [12]And Shuppim and Huppim were the sons of Ir, Hushim the son of Aher.*

DESCENDANTS OF NAPHTALI

13 The descendants of Naphtali: Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shallum, the descendants of Bilhah.*

DESCENDANTS OF MANASSEH

14 The sons of Manasseh: Asriel, whom his Aramean concubine bore;
she bore Machir the father of Gilead. [15]And Machir took a wife for Huppim
and for Shuppim. The name of his sister was Maacah. And the name of the
second was Zelophehad; and Zelophehad had daughters. [16]Maacah the wife
of Machir bore a son, and she named him Peresh; the name of his brother
was Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rekem. [17]The son of Ulam:
Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh.*
[18]And his sister Hammolecheth bore Ishhod, Abiezer, and Mahlah. [19]The
sons of Shemida were Ahian, Shechem, Likhi, and Aniam.

DESCENDANTS OF EPHRAIM

20 The sons of Ephraim: Shuthelah, and Bered his son, Tahath his son,
Eleadah his son, Tahath his son,* [21]Zabad his son, Shuthelah his son, and
Ezer and Elead. Now the people of Gath who were born in the land killed
them, because they came down to raid their cattle. [22]And their father
Ephraim mourned many days, and his brothers came to comfort him.
[23]Ephraim[j] went in to his wife, and she conceived and bore a son, and he
named him Beriah,[k] because disaster had befallen his house. [24]His daughter
was Sheerah, who built both Lower and Upper Beth-horon and Uzzen-
sheerah.* [25]Rephah was his son, Resheph his son, Telah his son, Tahan his
son, [26]Ladan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son, [27]Nun[l] his son,
Joshua his son.* [28]Their possessions and settlements were Bethel and its
towns, and eastward Naaran, and westward Gezer and its towns, Shechem
and its towns, as far as Ayyah and its towns;* [29]also along the borders of the
Manassites, Beth-shean and its towns, Taanach and its towns, Megiddo and
its towns, Dor and its towns. In these lived the sons of Joseph son of Israel.

DESCENDANTS OF ASHER

30 The sons of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beriah, and their sister
Serah.* [31]The sons of Beriah: Heber and Malchiel, who was the father of
Birzaith. [32]Heber became the father of Japhlet, Shomer, Hotham, and their
sister Shua. [33]The sons of Japhlet: Pasach, Bimhal, and Ashvath. These are
the sons of Japhlet. [34]The sons of Shemer: Ahi, Rohgah, Hubbah, and

Aram. [35]The sons of Helem[m] his brother: Zophah, Imna, Shelesh, and Amal. [36]The sons of Zophah: Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah, [37]Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Ithran, and Beera. [38]The sons of Jether: Jephunneh, Pispa, and Ara. [39]The sons of Ulla: Arah, Hanniel, and Rizia. [40]All of these were men of Asher, heads of ancestral houses, select mighty warriors, chief of the princes. Their number enrolled by genealogies, for service in war, was twenty-six thousand men.[*]

1 Chronicles 8

DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN

1 Benjamin became the father of Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second,
Aharah the third,* 2Nohah the fourth, and Rapha the fifth. 3And Bela had
sons: Addar, Gera, Abihud,[n] 4Abishua, Naaman, Ahoah, 5Gera,
Shephuphan, and Huram. 6These are the sons of Ehud (they were heads of
ancestral houses of the inhabitants of Geba, and they were carried into exile
to Manahath):* 7Naaman,[o] Ahijah, and Gera, that is, Heglam,[p] who became
the father of Uzza and Ahihud. 8And Shaharaim had sons in the country of
Moab after he had sent away his wives Hushim and Baara. 9He had sons by
his wife Hodesh: Jobab, Zibia, Mesha, Malcam, 10Jeuz, Sachia, and
Mirmah. These were his sons, heads of ancestral houses. 11He also had sons
by Hushim: Abitub and Elpaal. 12The sons of Elpaal: Eber, Misham, and
Shemed, who built Ono and Lod with its towns, 13and Beriah and Shema
(they were heads of ancestral houses of the inhabitants of Aijalon who put
to flight the inhabitants of Gath),* 14and Ahio, Shashak, and Jeremoth.
15Zebadiah, Arad, Eder, 16Michael, Ishpah, and Joha were the sons of
Beriah. 17Zebadiah, Meshullam, Hizki, Heber, 18Ishmerai, Izliah, and Jobab
were the sons of Elpaal. 19Jakim, Zichri, Zabdi, 20Elienai, Zillethai, Eliel,
21Adaiah, Beraiah, and Shimrath were the sons of Shimei.* 22Ishpan, Eber,
Eliel, 23Abdon, Zichri, Hanan, 24Hananiah, Elam, Anthothijah, 25Iphdeiah,
and Penuel were the sons of Shashak. 26Shamsherai, Shehariah, Athaliah,
27Jaareshiah, Elijah, and Zichri were the sons of Jeroham. 28These were the
heads of ancestral houses, according to their generations, chiefs. These
lived in Jerusalem.

29 Jeiel[q] the father of Gibeon lived in Gibeon, and the name of his wife
was Maacah.* 30His firstborn son: Abdon, then Zur, Kish, Baal, Nadab,
31Gedor, Ahio, Zecher, 32and Mikloth, who became the father of Shimeah.
Now these also lived opposite their kindred in Jerusalem, with their
kindred. 33Ner became the father of Kish, Kish of Saul,[r] Saul[s] of Jonathan,
Malchishua, Abinadab, and Esh-baal;* 34and the son of Jonathan was

Merib-baal; and Merib-baal became the father of Micah.[*] [35]The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech, Tarea, and Ahaz. [36]Ahaz became the father of Jehoaddah; and Jehoaddah became the father of Alemeth, Azmaveth, and Zimri; Zimri became the father of Moza. [37]Moza became the father of Binea; Raphah was his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. [38]Azel had six sons, and these are their names: Azrikam, Bocheru,[t] Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan; all these were the sons of Azel. [39]The sons of his brother Eshek: Ulam his firstborn, Jeush the second, and Eliphelet the third. [40]The sons of Ulam were mighty warriors, archers, having many children and grandchildren, one hundred fifty. All these were Benjaminites.

1 Chronicles 9

1 So all Israel was enrolled by genealogies, and these are written in the
Book of the Kings of Israel. And Judah was taken into exile in Babylon
because of their unfaithfulness.* [2]Now the first to live again in their
possessions in their towns were Israelites, priests, Levites, and temple
servants.*

INHABITANTS OF JERUSALEM AFTER THE EXILE

3 And some of the people of Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Manasseh
lived in Jerusalem:* [4]Uthai son of Ammihud, son of Omri, son of Imri, son
of Bani, from the sons of Perez son of Judah. [5]And of the Shilonites: Asaiah
the firstborn and his sons. [6]Of the sons of Zerah: Jeuel and their kin, six
hundred ninety. [7]Of the Benjaminites: Sallu son of Meshullam, son of
Hodaviah, son of Hassenuah, [8]Ibneiah son of Jeroham, Elah son of Uzzi,
son of Michri, and Meshullam son of Shephatiah, son of Reuel, son of
Ibnijah; [9]and their kindred according to their generations, nine hundred
fifty-six. All these were heads of families according to their ancestral
houses.

PRIESTLY FAMILIES

10 Of the priests: Jedaiah, Jehoiarib, Jachin,* [11]and Azariah son of
Hilkiah, son of Meshullam, son of Zadok, son of Meraioth, son of Ahitub,
the chief officer of the house of God; [12]and Adaiah son of Jeroham, son of
Pashhur, son of Malchijah, and Maasai son of Adiel, son of Jahzerah, son of
Meshullam, son of Meshillemith, son of Immer; [13]besides their kindred,
heads of their ancestral houses, one thousand seven hundred sixty, qualified
for the work of the service of the house of God.

LEVITICAL FAMILIES

14 Of the Levites: Shemaiah son of Hasshub, son of Azrikam, son of
Hashabiah, of the sons of Merari;* [15]and Bakbakkar, Heresh, Galal, and

Mattaniah son of Mica, son of Zichri, son of Asaph; [16]and Obadiah son of Shemaiah, son of Galal, son of Jeduthun, and Berechiah son of Asa, son of Elkanah, who lived in the villages of the Netophathites.

17 The gatekeepers were: Shallum, Akkub, Talmon, Ahiman; and their kinsman Shallum was the chief, [18]stationed previously in the king's gate on the east side. These were the gatekeepers of the camp of the Levites.* [19]Shallum son of Kore, son of Ebiasaph, son of Korah, and his kindred of his ancestral house, the Korahites, were in charge of the work of the service, guardians of the thresholds of the tent, as their ancestors had been in charge of the camp of the LORD, guardians of the entrance. [20]And Phinehas son of Eleazar was chief over them in former times; the LORD was with him.* [21]Zechariah son of Meshelemiah was gatekeeper at the entrance of the tent of meeting.* [22]All these who were chosen as gatekeepers at the thresholds were two hundred twelve. They were enrolled by genealogies in their villages. David and the seer Samuel established them in their office of trust.* [23]So they and their descendants were in charge of the gates of the house of the LORD, that is, the house of the tent, as guards. [24]The gatekeepers were on the four sides: east, west, north, and south; [25]and their kindred who were in their villages were obliged to come in every seven days, in turn, to be with them,* [26]for the four chief gatekeepers, who were Levites, were in charge of the chambers and the treasures of the house of God. [27]And they would spend the night near the house of God, for on them lay the duty of watching, and they had charge of opening it every morning.*

28 Some of them had charge of the utensils of service, for they were required to count them when they were brought in and taken out. [29]Others of them were appointed over the furniture and over all the holy utensils, also over the choice flour, the wine, the oil, the incense, and the spices.* [30]Others of the sons of the priests prepared the mixing of the spices,* [31]and Mattithiah, one of the Levites, the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, was in charge of making the flat cakes. [32]Also some of their kindred of the Kohathites had charge of the rows of bread, to prepare them for each Sabbath.*

33 Now these are the singers, the heads of ancestral houses of the Levites, living in the chambers of the temple free from other service, for they were on duty day and night.* [34]These were heads of ancestral houses

of the Levites, according to their generations; these leaders lived in Jerusalem.

THE FAMILY OF KING SAUL

35 In Gibeon lived the father of Gibeon, Jeiel, and the name of his wife was Maacah.* [36]His firstborn son was Abdon, then Zur, Kish, Baal, Ner, Nadab, [37]Gedor, Ahio, Zechariah, and Mikloth; [38]and Mikloth became the father of Shimeam; and these also lived opposite their kindred in Jerusalem, with their kindred. [39]Ner became the father of Kish, Kish of Saul, Saul of Jonathan, Malchishua, Abinadab, and Esh-baal;* [40]and the son of Jonathan was Merib-baal; and Merib-baal became the father of Micah. [41]The sons of Micah: Pithon, Melech, Tahrea, and Ahaz;[u,*] [42]and Ahaz became the father of Jarah, and Jarah of Alemeth, Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri became the father of Moza. [43]Moza became the father of Binea; and Rephaiah was his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. [44]Azel had six sons, and these are their names: Azrikam, Bocheru,[v] Ishmael, Sheariah, Obadiah, and Hanan; these were the sons of Azel.

1 Chronicles 10

DEATH OF SAUL AND HIS SONS

1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel, and the men of Israel fled before
the Philistines and fell slain on Mount Gilboa.* [2]The Philistines overtook
Saul and his sons, and the Philistines killed Jonathan and Abinadab and
Malchishua, the sons of Saul. [3]The battle pressed hard on Saul, and the
archers found him, and he was wounded by the archers. [4]Then Saul said to
his armor-bearer, "Draw your sword and thrust me through with it, so that
these uncircumcised may not come and make sport of me." But his armor-
bearer was unwilling, for he was terrified. So Saul took his own sword and
fell on it.* [5]When his armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on
his sword and died. [6]Thus Saul died; he and his three sons and all his house
died together. [7]When all the men of Israel who were in the valley saw that
the army[w] had fled and that Saul and his sons were dead, they abandoned
their towns and fled, and the Philistines came and occupied them.

8 The next day when the Philistines came to strip the dead, they found
Saul and his sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. [9]They stripped him and took his
head and his armor and sent messengers throughout the land of the
Philistines to carry the good news to their idols and to the people. [10]They
put his armor in the temple of their gods and fastened his head in the temple
of Dagon.* [11]But when all Jabesh-gilead heard everything that the
Philistines had done to Saul, [12]all the valiant warriors got up and took away
the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons and brought them to Jabesh.
Then they buried their bones under the oak in Jabesh and fasted seven days.

13 So Saul died for his unfaithfulness; he was unfaithful to the LORD in
that he did not keep the command of the LORD; moreover, he had consulted
a medium, seeking guidance,* [14]and did not seek guidance from the LORD.
Therefore the LORD[x] put him to death and turned the kingdom over to David
son of Jesse.*

1 Chronicles 11

DAVID ANOINTED KING OF ALL ISRAEL

1 Then all Israel gathered together to David at Hebron and said, “Look, we
are your bone and flesh.* 2For some time now, even while Saul was king, it
was you who commanded the army of Israel. The LORD your God said to
you, ‘It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be
ruler over my people Israel.’ ”* 3So all the elders of Israel came to the king
at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the
LORD. And they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of
the LORD by Samuel.*

JERUSALEM CAPTURED

4 David and all Israel marched to Jerusalem, that is, Jebus, where the
Jebusites were, the inhabitants of the land.* 5The inhabitants of Jebus said
to David, “You will not come in here.” Nevertheless, David took the
stronghold of Zion, now the city of David. 6David had said, “Whoever
attacks the Jebusites first shall be chief and commander.” And Joab son of
Zeruiah went up first, so he became chief.* 7David resided in the
stronghold; therefore it was called the city of David. 8He built the city all
around, from the Millo in complete circuit, and Joab repaired the rest of the
city. 9And David became greater and greater, for the LORD of hosts was with
him.*

DAVID’S MIGHTY MEN AND THEIR EXPLOITS

10 Now these are the chiefs of David’s warriors, who gave him strong
support in his kingdom, together with all Israel, to make him king,
according to the word of the LORD concerning Israel.* 11This is an account
of David’s mighty warriors: Jashobeam, son of Hachmoni,[y] was chief of the
Three;[z] he wielded his spear against three hundred whom he killed at one
time.*

12 And next to him among the three warriors was Eleazar son of Dodo,
the Ahohite. [13]He was with David at Pas-dammim when the Philistines
were gathered there for battle. There was a plot of ground full of barley.
Now the people had fled from the Philistines,* [14]but he and David took their
stand in the middle of the plot, defended it, and killed the Philistines, and
the LORD saved them by a great victory.

15 Three of the thirty chiefs went down to the rock to David at the cave
of Adullam while the army of Philistines was encamped in the valley of
Rephaim.* [16]David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the
Philistines was then at Bethlehem. [17]David said longingly, "Oh, that
someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem that is
by the gate!" [18]Then the Three broke through the camp of the Philistines
and drew water from the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate, and they
brought it to David. But David would not drink of it; he poured it out to the
LORD [19]and said, "My God forbid that I should do this. Can I drink the
blood of these men? For at the risk of their lives they brought it." Therefore
he would not drink it. The three warriors did these things.

20 Now Abishai,[a] the brother of Joab, was chief of the Thirty.[b] With his
spear he fought against three hundred and killed them and won a name[c]
beside the Three.* [21]He was the most renowned[d] of the Thirty[e] and became
their commander, but he did not attain to the Three.*

22 Benaiah son of Jehoiada was a valiant man[f] of Kabzeel, a doer of
great deeds; he struck down two sons of[g] Ariel of Moab. He also went
down and killed a lion in a pit on a day when snow had fallen.* [23]And he
killed an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits tall. The Egyptian had
in his hand a spear like a weaver's beam, but Benaiah went against him
with a staff, snatched the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and killed him
with his own spear.* [24]Such were the things Benaiah son of Jehoiada did,
and he won a name beside the three warriors. [25]He was renowned among
the Thirty, but he did not attain to the Three. And David put him in charge
of his bodyguard.

26 The warriors of the armies were Asahel brother of Joab, Elhanan son
of Dodo of Bethlehem,* [27]Shammoth of Harod,[h] Helez the Pelonite, [28]Ira
son of Ikkesh of Tekoa, Abiezer of Anathoth, [29]Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai
the Ahohite, [30]Maharai of Netophah, Heled son of Baanah of Netophah,

[31]Ithai son of Ribai of Gibeah of the Benjaminites, Benaiah of Pirathon,
[32]Hurai of the wadis of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite, [33]Azmaveth of
Bahurim, Eliahba of Shaalbon, [34]Hashem[i] the Gizonite, Jonathan son of
Shagee the Hararite, [35]Ahiam son of Sachar the Hararite, Eliphal son of Ur,
[36]Hepher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite, [37]Hezro of Carmel, Naarai
son of Ezbai, [38]Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar son of Hagri, [39]Zelek the
Ammonite, Naharai of Beeroth (the armor-bearer of Joab son of Zeruiah),[*]
[40]Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, [41]Uriah the Hittite, Zabad son of Ahlai,
[42]Adina son of Shiza the Reubenite, a leader of the Reubenites, and thirty
with him, [43]Hanan son of Maacah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite, [44]Uzzia the
Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel sons of Hotham the Aroerite, [45]Jediael son of
Shimri and his brother Joha the Tizite, [46]Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai and
Joshaviah sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite, [47]Eliel, and Obed, and
Jaasiel the Mezobaite.

1 Chronicles 12

DAVID'S FOLLOWERS IN THE WILDERNESS

1 The following are those who came to David at Ziklag, while he could not
move about freely because of Saul son of Kish; they were among the
mighty warriors who helped him in war.* [2]They were archers and could
shoot arrows and sling stones with either the right hand or the left; they
were Benjaminites, Saul's kindred.* [3]The chief was Ahiezer, then Joash,
both sons of Shemaah of Gibeah; also Jeziel and Pelet sons of Azmaveth;
Beracah, Jehu of Anathoth, [4]Ishmaiah of Gibeon, a warrior among the
Thirty and a leader over the Thirty; Jeremiah,[j] Jahaziel, Johanan, Jozabad of
Gederah, [5]Eluzai,[k] Jerimoth, Bealiah, Shemariah, Shephatiah the Haruphite;
[6]Elkanah, Isshiah, Azarel, Joezer, and Jashobeam, the Korahites; [7]and
Joelah and Zebadiah, sons of Jeroham of Gedor.

8 From the Gadites there went over to David at the stronghold in the
wilderness mighty and experienced warriors, expert with shield and spear,
whose faces were like the faces of lions and who were swift as gazelles on
the mountains:* [9]Ezer the chief, Obadiah second, Eliab third,
[10]Mishmannah fourth, Jeremiah fifth, [11]Attai sixth, Eliel seventh, [12]Johanan
eighth, Elzabad ninth, [13]Jeremiah tenth, Machbannai eleventh. [14]These
Gadites were officers of the army, the least equal to a hundred and the
greatest to a thousand. [15]These are the men who crossed the Jordan in the
first month, when it was overflowing all its banks, and put to flight all those
in the valleys to the east and to the west.*

16 Some Benjaminites and Judahites came to the stronghold to David.
[17]David went out to meet them and said to them, "If you have come to me
in friendship, to help me, then my heart will be knit to you, but if you have
come to betray me to my adversaries, though my hands have done no
wrong, then may the God of our ancestors see and give judgment." [18]Then
the spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the Thirty, and he said,[l]

"We are yours, O David,
and with you, O son of Jesse!

Peace, peace to you,
and peace to the one who helps you!
For your God is the one who helps you."

Then David received them and made them officers of his troops.*

19 Some of the Manassites deserted to David when he came with the Philistines for the battle against Saul. (Yet he did not help them, for the rulers of the Philistines took counsel and sent him away, saying, "He will desert to his master Saul at the cost of our heads.")* 20As he went to Ziklag these Manassites deserted to him: Adnah, Jozabad, Jediael, Michael, Jozabad, Elihu, and Zillethai, chiefs of the thousands in Manasseh. 21They helped David against the band of raiders,[m] for they were all warriors and commanders in the army.* 22Indeed, from day to day people kept coming to David to help him until there was a great army, like an army of God.

DAVID'S ARMY AT HEBRON

23 These are the numbers of the divisions of the armed troops who came to David in Hebron to turn the kingdom of Saul over to him, according to the word of the LORD.* 24The people of Judah bearing shield and spear numbered six thousand eight hundred armed troops. 25Of the Simeonites, mighty warriors, seven thousand one hundred. 26Of the Levites four thousand six hundred. 27Jehoiada, leader of the house of[n] Aaron, and with him three thousand seven hundred. 28Zadok, a young warrior, and twenty-two commanders from his own ancestral house.* 29Of the Benjaminites, the kindred of Saul, three thousand, of whom the majority had continued to keep their allegiance to the house of Saul.* 30Of the Ephraimites, twenty thousand eight hundred, mighty warriors, notables in their ancestral houses. 31Of the half-tribe of Manasseh, eighteen thousand, who were expressly named to come and make David king. 32Of Issachar, those who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, two hundred chiefs, and all their kindred under their command.* 33Of Zebulun, fifty thousand seasoned troops equipped for battle with all the weapons of war to help David[o] with singleness of purpose.* 34Of Naphtali, a thousand commanders, with whom there were thirty-seven thousand armed with

shield and spear. [35]Of the Danites, twenty-eight thousand six hundred equipped for battle. [36]Of Asher, forty thousand seasoned troops ready for battle. [37]Of the Reubenites and Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh from beyond the Jordan, one hundred twenty thousand armed with all the weapons of war.

38 All these, warriors arrayed in battle order, came to Hebron with full intent to make David king over all Israel; likewise all the rest of Israel were of a single mind to make David king.* [39]They were there with David for three days, eating and drinking, for their kindred had provided for them. [40]And also their neighbors from as far away as Issachar and Zebulun and Naphtali came bringing food on donkeys, camels, mules, and oxen—abundant provisions of meal, cakes of figs, clusters of raisins, wine, oil, oxen, and sheep, for there was joy in Israel.*

1 Chronicles 13

THE ARK BROUGHT FROM KIRIATH-JEARIM

1 David consulted with the commanders of the thousands and of the
hundreds, with every leader. 2David said to the whole assembly of Israel,
"If it seems good to you, and if it is the will of the LORD our God, let us
send abroad to our kindred who remain in all the land of Israel, including
the priests and Levites in the cities that have pasturelands, that they may
come together to us.* 3Then let us bring again the ark of our God to us, for
we did not seek it in the days of Saul."* 4The whole assembly agreed to do
so, for the thing pleased all the people.

5 So David assembled all Israel from the Shihor of Egypt to Lebo-
hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim.* 6And David and all
Israel went up to Baalah, that is, to Kiriath-jearim, which belongs to Judah,
to bring up from there the ark of God, the LORD, who is enthroned on the
cherubim, which is called by his[p] name.* 7They carried the ark of God on a
new cart from the house of Abinadab, and Uzzah and Ahio[q] were driving
the cart.* 8David and all Israel were dancing before God with all their
might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and cymbals and
trumpets.*

9 When they came to the threshing floor of Chidon, Uzzah put out his
hand to hold the ark, for the oxen lurched.* 10The anger of the LORD was
kindled against Uzzah; he struck him down because he put out his hand to
the ark, and he died there before God.* 11David was angry because the LORD
had burst out against Uzzah, so that place is called Perez-uzzah[r] to this day.
12David was afraid of God that day; he said, "How can I bring the ark of
God into my care?" 13So David did not take the ark into his care into the
city of David; he took it instead to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite.
14The ark of God remained with the household of Obed-edom in his house
three months, and the LORD blessed the household of Obed-edom and all
that he had.*

1 Chronicles 14

DAVID ESTABLISHED AT JERUSALEM

1 King Hiram of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar logs and
masons and carpenters to build a house for him.* [2]David then perceived that
the LORD had established him as king over Israel and that his kingdom was
highly exalted for the sake of his people Israel.

3 David took more wives in Jerusalem, and David became the father of
more sons and daughters. [4]These are the names of the children whom he
had in Jerusalem: Shammua, Shobab, and Nathan; Solomon,* [5]Ibhar,
Elishua, and Elpelet; [6]Nogah, Nepheg, and Japhia; [7]Elishama, Beeliada, and
Eliphelet.

DEFEAT OF THE PHILISTINES

8 When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all
Israel, all the Philistines went up in search of David, but David heard about
it and went out against them.* [9]Now the Philistines had come and made a
raid in the valley of Rephaim.* [10]David inquired of God, "Shall I go up
against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" The LORD said
to him, "Go up, and I will give them into your hand." [11]So they went up to
Baal-perazim, and David defeated them there. David said, "God has burst
forth against my enemies by my hand, like a bursting flood." Therefore that
place is called Baal-perazim.s [12]They abandoned their gods there, and at
David's command they were burned.

13 Once again the Philistines made a raid in the valley.* [14]When David
again inquired of God, God said to him, "You shall not go up after them; go
around and come upon them opposite the balsam trees.* [15]When you hear
the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then go out to battle,
for God has gone out before you to strike down the army of the Philistines."
[16]David did as God had commanded him, and they struck down the
Philistine army from Gibeon to Gezer.* [17]The fame of David went out into
all lands, and the LORD brought the fear of him on all nations.*

1 Chronicles 15

THE ARK BROUGHT TO JERUSALEM

1 David[t] built houses for himself in the city of David, and he prepared a
place for the ark of God and pitched a tent for it.* [2]Then David commanded
that no one but the Levites were to carry the ark of God, for the LORD had
chosen them to carry the ark of the LORD and to minister to him forever.*
[3]David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the LORD to
its place, which he had prepared for it.* [4]Then David gathered together the
descendants of Aaron and the Levites: [5]of the sons of Kohath, Uriel the
chief, with one hundred twenty of his kindred; [6]of the sons of Merari,
Asaiah the chief, with two hundred twenty of his kindred; [7]of the sons of
Gershom, Joel the chief, with one hundred thirty of his kindred; [8]of the sons
of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the chief, with two hundred of his kindred;* [9]of the
sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief, with eighty of his kindred;* [10]of the sons of
Uzziel, Amminadab the chief, with one hundred twelve of his kindred.

11 David summoned the priests Zadok and Abiathar and the Levites
Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab.* [12]He said to them,
"You are the heads of families of the Levites; sanctify yourselves, you and
your kindred, so that you may bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of
Israel, to the place that I have prepared for it.* [13]Because you did not carry
it[u] the first time,[v] the LORD our God burst out against us because we did not
give it proper care."* [14]So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves
to bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel.* [15]And the Levites
carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles, as Moses had
commanded according to the word of the LORD.*

16 David also commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their
kindred as singers to raise loud sounds of joy on musical instruments, on
harps and lyres and cymbals.* [17]So the Levites appointed Heman son of
Joel; and of his kindred Asaph son of Berechiah; and of the sons of Merari,
their kindred, Ethan son of Kushaiah;* [18]and with them their kindred of the
second order, Zechariah, Jaaziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab,
Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, and Mikneiah, and the

gatekeepers Obed-edom and Jeiel. [19]The singers Heman, Asaph, and Ethan were to sound bronze cymbals; [20]Zechariah, Aziel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Unni, Eliab, Maaseiah, and Benaiah were to play harps according to Alamoth, [21]but Mattithiah, Eliphelehu, Mikneiah, Obed-edom, Jeiel, and Azaziah were to lead with lyres according to the Sheminith.[w] [22]Chenaniah, leader of the Levites in music, was to direct the music, for he understood it. [23]Berechiah and Elkanah were to be gatekeepers for the ark. [24]Shebaniah, Joshaphat, Nethanel, Amasai, Zechariah, Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, were to blow the trumpets before the ark of God. Obed-edom and Jehiah also were to be gatekeepers for the ark.[*]

25 So David and the elders of Israel and the commanders of the thousands went to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD from the house of Obed-edom with rejoicing.[*] [26]And because God helped the Levites who were carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD, they sacrificed seven bulls and seven rams. [27]David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, as also were all the Levites who were carrying the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the leader of the music of the singers, and David wore a linen ephod. [28]So all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting, to the sound of the horn, trumpets, and cymbals, and made loud music on harps and lyres.[*]

29 As the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing, and she despised him in her heart.[*]

1 Chronicles 16

THE ARK PLACED IN THE TENT

1 They brought in the ark of God and set it inside the tent that David had
pitched for it, and they offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being
before God.* [2]When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the
offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD, [3]and
he distributed to every person in Israel—man and woman alike—to each a
loaf of bread, a portion of meat,[x] and a cake of raisins.

4 He appointed certain of the Levites as ministers before the ark of the
LORD, to invoke, to thank, and to praise the LORD, the God of Israel. [5]Asaph
was the chief, and second to him was Zechariah, Jeiel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel,
Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, Obed-edom, and Jeiel, with harps and lyres;
Asaph was to sound the cymbals,* [6]and the priests Benaiah and Jahaziel
were to blow trumpets regularly before the ark of the covenant of God.

DAVID'S PSALM OF THANKSGIVING

7 Then on that day David first appointed the singing of praises to the
LORD by Asaph and his kindred.*

[8]O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.*
[9]Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
[10]Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
[11]Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.*
[12]Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles and the judgments he uttered,*

13 O offspring of his servant Israel,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

14 He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.*
15 Remember his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded for a thousand generations,
16 the covenant that he made with Abraham,
his sworn promise to Isaac,*
17 which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,*
18 saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan
as your portion for an inheritance."

19 When they were few in number,
of little account, and strangers in the land,y,*
20 wandering from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another people,
21 he allowed no one to oppress them;
he rebuked kings on their account,*
22 saying, "Do not touch my anointed ones;
do my prophets no harm."

23 Sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Tell of his salvation from day to day.*
24 Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
25 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.*
26 For all the gods of the peoples are idols,

but the LORD made the heavens.*
27 Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and joy are in his place.

28 Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.*
29 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come before him.
Worship the LORD in holy splendor;
30 tremble before him, all the earth.
The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.
31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
and let them say among the nations, "The LORD is king!"*
32 Let the sea roar and all that fills it;
let the field exult and everything in it.*
33 Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.
34 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

35 Say also,
"Save us, O God of our salvation,
and gather and rescue us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.*
36 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting."
Then all the people said "Amen!" and praised the LORD.*

REGULAR WORSHIP MAINTAINED

37 David[z] left Asaph and his kinsfolk there before the ark of the covenant
of the LORD to minister regularly before the ark as each day required,* [38]and
also Obed-edom and his[a] sixty-eight kinsfolk, while Obed-edom son of
Jeduthun and Hosah were to be gatekeepers.* [39]And he left the priest Zadok
and his kindred the priests before the tabernacle of the LORD in the high
place that was at Gibeon,* [40]to offer burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar
of burnt offering regularly, morning and evening, according to all that is
written in the law of the LORD that he commanded Israel.* [41]With them were
Heman and Jeduthun and the rest of those chosen and expressly named to
render thanks to the LORD, for his steadfast love endures forever.* [42]Heman
and Jeduthun had with them trumpets and cymbals for the music and
instruments for sacred song. The sons of Jeduthun were appointed to the
gate.

43 Then all the people departed to their homes, and David went home to
bless his household.

1 Chronicles 17

GOD'S COVENANT WITH DAVID

1 Now when David settled in his house, David said to the prophet Nathan,
"I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD is
under a tent."* [2]Nathan said to David, "Do all that you have in mind, for
God is with you."

3 But that same night the word of God came to Nathan, saying, [4]"Go and
tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: You shall not build me a house
to live in.* [5]For I have not lived in a house since the day I brought out Israel
to this very day, but I have lived in a tent and a tabernacle.[b,*] [6]Wherever I
have moved about among all Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the
judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people, saying, 'Why
have you not built me a house of cedar?'* [7]Now therefore thus you shall say
to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the
pasture, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people Israel, [8]and I
have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies
before you, and I will make for you a name like the name of the great ones
of the earth. [9]I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them,
so that they may live in their own place and be disturbed no more, and
evildoers shall wear them down no more, as they did formerly, [10]from the
time that I appointed judges over my people Israel, and I will subdue all
your enemies. Moreover, I declare to you that the LORD will build you a
house.* [11]When your days are fulfilled to go to be with your ancestors, I
will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will
establish his kingdom. [12]He shall build a house for me, and I will establish
his throne forever. [13]I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. I
will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from him who was
before you,* [14]but I will confirm him in my house and in my kingdom
forever, and his throne shall be established forever."* [15]In accordance with
all these words and all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

DAVID'S PRAYER

16 Then King David went in and sat before the LORD and said, “Who am
I, O LORD God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?*
17And even this was a small thing in your sight, O God; you have also
spoken of your servant’s house into the distant future. You regard me as
someone of high rank,[c] O LORD God! 18And what more can David say to
you for honoring your servant? You know your servant. 19For your servant’s
sake, O LORD, and according to your own heart, you have done all these
great deeds, making known all these great things.* 20There is no one like
you, O LORD, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have
heard with our ears. 21Who is like your people Israel, one nation on the
earth whom God went to redeem to be his people, making for yourself a
name for great and awesome things, in driving out nations before your
people whom you redeemed from Egypt? 22And you made your people
Israel to be your people forever, and you, O LORD, became their God.*
23And now, O LORD, as for the word that you have spoken concerning your
servant and concerning his house, let it be established forever, and do as
you have promised. 24Thus your name will be established and magnified
forever in the saying, ‘The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, is Israel’s God,’
and the house of your servant David will be established in your presence.*
25For you, my God, have revealed to your servant that you will build a
house for him; therefore your servant has found it possible to pray before
you. 26And now, O LORD, you are God, and you have promised this good
thing to your servant; 27therefore may it please you to bless the house of
your servant so that it may continue forever before you. For you, O LORD,
have blessed and are blessed[d] forever.”

1 Chronicles 18

DAVID'S KINGDOM ESTABLISHED AND EXTENDED

1 Some time afterward, David attacked the Philistines and subdued them;
he took Gath and its villages from the Philistines.*

2 He defeated Moab, and the Moabites became subject to David and
brought tribute.

3 David also struck down King Hadadezer of Zobah, toward Hamath,[e] as
he went to set up a monument at the River Euphrates. [4]David took from him
one thousand chariots, seven thousand cavalry, and twenty thousand foot
soldiers. David hamstrung all the chariot horses but left one hundred of
them. [5]When the Arameans of Damascus came to help King Hadadezer of
Zobah, David killed twenty-two thousand Arameans.* [6]Then David put
garrisons[f] in Aram of Damascus, and the Arameans became subject to
David and brought tribute. The LORD gave victory to David wherever he
went. [7]David took the gold shields that were carried by the servants of
Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem. [8]From Tibhath and from Cun,
cities of Hadadezer, David took a vast quantity of bronze; with it Solomon
made the bronze sea and the pillars and the vessels of bronze.*

9 When King Tou of Hamath heard that David had defeated the whole
army of King Hadadezer of Zobah, [10]he sent his son Hadoram to King
David, to greet him and to congratulate him because he had fought against
Hadadezer and defeated him. Now Hadadezer had often been at war with
Tou. He sent all sorts of articles of gold, of silver, and of bronze;* [11]these
also King David dedicated to the LORD, together with the silver and gold
that he had carried off from all the nations, from Edom, Moab, the
Ammonites, the Philistines, and Amalek.

12 Abishai son of Zeruiah killed eighteen thousand Edomites in the
Valley of Salt.* [13]He put garrisons in Edom, and all the Edomites became
subject to David. And the LORD gave victory to David wherever he went.

DAVID'S ADMINISTRATION

14 So David reigned over all Israel, and he administered justice and
equity to all his people. [15]Joab son of Zeruiah was over the army;
Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder;* [16]Zadok son of Ahitub and
Ahimelech son of Abiathar were priests; Shavsha was secretary; [17]Benaiah
son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and David's
sons were the chief officials in the service of the king.*

1 Chronicles 19

DEFEAT OF THE AMMONITES AND ARAMEANS

1 Some time afterward, King Nahash of the Ammonites died, and his son
succeeded him.* [2]David said, "I will deal loyally with Hanun son of
Nahash, for his father dealt loyally with me." So David sent messengers to
console him concerning his father. When David's servants came to Hanun
in the land of the Ammonites to console him, [3]the officials of the
Ammonites said to Hanun, "Do you think, because David has sent consolers
to you, that he is honoring your father? Have not his servants come to you
to search and to overthrow and to spy out the land?"* [4]So Hanun seized
David's servants, shaved them, cut off their garments in the middle at their
waists, and sent them away,* [5]and they departed. When David was told
about the men, he sent messengers to them, for they felt greatly humiliated.
The king said, "Remain at Jericho until your beards have grown and then
return."

6 When the Ammonites saw that they had made themselves odious to
David, Hanun and the Ammonites sent a thousand talents of silver to hire
chariots and cavalry from Aram-naharaim, from Aram-maacah, and from
Zobah.* [7]They hired thirty-two thousand chariots and the king of Maacah
with his army, who came and camped before Medeba. And the Ammonites
were mustered from their cities and came to battle.* [8]When David heard of
it, he sent Joab and all the army of the warriors.* [9]The Ammonites came out
and drew up in battle array at the entrance of the city, and the kings who
had come were by themselves in the open country.

10 When Joab saw that the line of battle was set against him both in front
and in the rear, he chose some of the picked men of Israel and arrayed them
against the Arameans; [11]the rest of his troops he put in the charge of his
brother Abishai, and they were arrayed against the Ammonites.* [12]He said,
"If the Arameans are too strong for me, then you shall help me, but if the
Ammonites are too strong for you, then I will help you.* [13]Be strong, and
let us be courageous for our people and for the cities of our God, and may
the LORD do what seems good to him." [14]So Joab and the troops who were

with him advanced toward the Arameans for battle, and they fled before him.* 15When the Ammonites saw that the Arameans fled, they likewise fled before Abishai, Joab's brother, and entered the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem.

16 But when the Arameans saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they sent messengers and brought out the Arameans who were beyond the River, with Shophach the commander of the army of Hadadezer at their head.* 17When David was informed, he gathered all Israel together, crossed the Jordan, came to them, and drew up his forces against them. When David set the battle in array against the Arameans, they fought with him.* 18The Arameans fled before Israel, and David killed seven thousand Aramean charioteers and forty thousand foot soldiers and also Shophach the commander of their army.* 19When the servants of Hadadezer saw that they had been defeated by Israel, they made peace with David and became subject to him. So the Arameans were not willing to help the Ammonites any more.*

1 Chronicles 20

SIEGE AND CAPTURE OF RABBAH

1 In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, Joab led out
the army, ravaged the country of the Ammonites, and came and besieged
Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. Joab attacked Rabbah and
overthrew it.* 2David took the crown of Milcom[g] from his head; he found
that it weighed a talent of gold, and in it was a precious stone, and it was
placed on David's head. He also brought out the spoil of the city, a very
great amount.* 3He brought out the people who were in it and set them to
work[h] with saws and iron picks and axes.[i] Thus David did to all the cities of
the Ammonites. Then David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.*

EXPLOITS AGAINST THE PHILISTINES

4 After this, war broke out with the Philistines at Gezer; then Sibbecai
the Hushathite killed Sippai, who was one of the descendants of the giants,
and the Philistines were subdued.* 5Again there was war with the
Philistines, and Elhanan son of Jair killed Lahmi the brother of Goliath the
Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.* 6Again there
was war at Gath, where there was a man of great size who had six fingers
on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; he also was
descended from the giants.[j,*] 7When he taunted Israel, Jonathan son of
Shimea, David's brother, killed him. 8These were descended from the
giants[k] in Gath; they fell by the hand of David and his servants.

1 Chronicles 21

THE CENSUS AND PLAGUE

1 Satan stood up against Israel and incited David to count the people of
Israel.* [2]So David said to Joab and the commanders of the army, "Go,
number Israel, from Beer-sheba to Dan, and bring me a report, so that I may
know their number."* [3]But Joab said, "May the LORD increase the number
of his people a hundredfold! Are they not, my lord the king, all of them my
lord's servants? Why then should my lord require this? Why should he
bring guilt on Israel?"* [4]But the king's word prevailed against Joab. So Joab
departed and went throughout all Israel and came back to Jerusalem. [5]Joab
gave the total count of the people to David. In all Israel there were one
million one hundred thousand men who drew the sword, and in Judah four
hundred seventy thousand who drew the sword.* [6]But he did not include
Levi and Benjamin in the numbering, for the king's command was
abhorrent to Joab.*

7 But God was displeased with this thing, and he struck Israel. [8]David
said to God, "I have sinned greatly in that I have done this thing. But now,
please remove the guilt of your servant, for I have done very foolishly."*
[9]The LORD spoke to Gad, David's seer, saying, [10]"Go and say to David:
Thus says the LORD: Three things I offer you; choose one of them, so that I
may do it to you."* [11]So Gad came to David and said to him, "Thus says the
LORD: Take your choice: [12]either three years of famine; or three months of
devastation by your foes, while the sword of your enemies overtakes you;
or three days of the sword of the LORD, pestilence on the land, and the angel
of the LORD destroying throughout all the territory of Israel. Now decide
what answer I shall return to the one who sent me."* [13]Then David said to
Gad, "I am in great distress; let me fall into the hand of the LORD, for his
mercy is very great, but let me not fall into human hands."*

14 So the LORD sent a pestilence on Israel, and seventy thousand persons
fell in Israel.* [15]And God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy it, but when
he was about to destroy it, the LORD took note and relented concerning the
calamity; he said to the destroying angel, "Enough! Stay your hand." The

angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.* 16David looked up and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven and in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell on their faces.* 17And David said to God, "Was it not I who gave the command to count the people? It is I who have sinned and done very wickedly. But these sheep, what have they done? Let your hand, I pray, O LORD my God, be against me and against my father's house, but do not let your people be plagued!"*

DAVID'S ALTAR AND SACRIFICE

18 Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to tell David that he should go up and erect an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.* 19So David went up following Gad's instructions, which he had spoken in the name of the LORD. 20Ornan turned and saw the king,[1] and while his four sons who were with him hid themselves, Ornan continued to thresh wheat. 21As David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David; he went out from the threshing floor and prostrated himself before David with his face to the ground.* 22David said to Ornan, "Give me the site of the threshing floor that I may build on it an altar to the LORD—give it to me at its full price—so that the plague may be averted from the people." 23Then Ornan said to David, "Take it, and let my lord the king do what seems good to him; see, I present the oxen for burnt offerings and the threshing sledges for the wood and the wheat for a grain offering. I give it all." 24But King David said to Ornan, "No, but I will buy them for the full price. I will not take for the LORD what is yours nor offer burnt offerings that cost me nothing." 25So David paid Ornan six hundred shekels of gold by weight for the site.* 26David built there an altar to the LORD and presented burnt offerings and offerings of well-being. He called upon the LORD, and he answered him with fire from heaven on the altar of burnt offering.* 27Then the LORD commanded the angel, and he put his sword back into its sheath.

THE PLACE CHOSEN FOR THE TEMPLE

28 At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered him at the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, he made his sacrifices there. [29]For the tabernacle of the LORD that Moses had made in the wilderness and the altar of burnt offering were at that time in the high place at Gibeon,* [30]but David could not go before it to inquire of God, for he was afraid of the sword of the angel of the LORD.

1 Chronicles 22

1 Then David said, “Here shall be the house of the LORD God and here the altar of burnt offering for Israel.”*

DAVID PREPARES TO BUILD THE TEMPLE

2 David gave orders to gather together the aliens who were residing in the land of Israel, and he set stonecutters to prepare dressed stones for building the house of God.* 3David also provided great stores of iron for nails for the doors of the gates and for clamps, as well as bronze in quantities beyond weighing,* 4and cedar logs without number—for the Sidonians and Tyrians brought great quantities of cedar to David.* 5For David said, “My son Solomon is young and inexperienced, and the house that is to be built for the LORD must be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorified throughout all lands; I will therefore make preparation for it.” So David provided materials in great quantity before his death.*

DAVID’S CHARGE TO SOLOMON AND THE LEADERS

6 Then he called for his son Solomon and charged him to build a house for the LORD, the God of Israel. 7David said to Solomon, “My son, I had planned to build a house to the name of the LORD my God.* 8But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘You have shed much blood and have waged great wars; you shall not build a house to my name because you have shed so much blood in my sight on the earth.* 9See, a son shall be born to you; he shall be a man of rest. I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side; indeed, his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace[m] and quiet to Israel in his days.* 10He shall build a house for my name. He shall be a son to me, and I will be a father to him, and I will establish his royal throne in Israel forever.’* 11Now, my son, the LORD be with you, so that you may succeed in building the house of the LORD your God, as he has spoken concerning you.* 12Only, may the LORD grant you discretion and understanding, so that when he gives you charge over Israel you may keep the law of the LORD your God.* 13Then you will prosper, if you are careful

to observe the statutes and the ordinances that the LORD commanded Moses for Israel. Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid or dismayed.* 14With great pains I have provided for the house of the LORD one hundred thousand talents of gold, one million talents of silver, and bronze and iron beyond weighing, for there is so much of it; timber and stone also I have provided. To these you must add more.* 15You have an abundance of workers: stonecutters, masons, carpenters, and all kinds of artisans without number, skilled in working 16gold, silver, bronze, and iron. Now begin the work, and the LORD be with you."*

17 David also commanded all the leaders of Israel to help his son Solomon, saying,* 18"Is not the LORD your God with you? Has he not given you rest on every side? For he has delivered the inhabitants of the land into my hand, and the land is subdued before the LORD and his people.* 19Now set your mind and heart to seek the LORD your God. Go and build the sanctuary of the LORD God so that the ark of the covenant of the LORD and the holy vessels of God may be brought into the house built for the name of the LORD."*

1 Chronicles 23

FAMILIES OF THE LEVITES AND THEIR FUNCTIONS

1 When David was old and full of days, he made his son Solomon king over
Israel.*

2 David assembled all the leaders of Israel and the priests and the
Levites. 3The Levites, thirty years old and up, were counted, and the total
head count of men was thirty-eight thousand.* 4"Twenty-four thousand of
these," David said, "shall have charge of the work in the house of the LORD,
six thousand shall be officers and judges,* 5four thousand gatekeepers, and
four thousand shall offer praises to the LORD with the instruments that I
have made for praise."* 6And David organized them in divisions
corresponding to the sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.*

7 The sons of Gershon[n] were Ladan and Shimei. 8The sons of Ladan:
Jehiel the chief, Zetham, and Joel, three. 9The sons of Shimei: Shelomoth,
Haziel, and Haran, three. These were the heads of families of Ladan. 10And
the sons of Shimei: Jahath, Zina, Jeush, and Beriah. These four were the
sons of Shimei. 11Jahath was the chief and Zizah the second, but Jeush and
Beriah did not have many sons, so they were enrolled as a single family.

12 The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, four.* 13The
sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses. Aaron was set apart to consecrate the
most holy things, so that he and his sons forever should make offerings
before the LORD and minister to him and pronounce blessings in his name
forever,* 14but as for Moses the man of God, his sons were to be reckoned
among the tribe of Levi. 15The sons of Moses: Gershom and Eliezer. 16The
son of Gershom: Shebuel the chief.* 17The son of Eliezer: Rehabiah the
chief; Eliezer had no other sons, but the sons of Rehabiah were very
numerous. 18The son of Izhar: Shelomith the chief. 19The sons of Hebron:
Jeriah the chief, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the
fourth. 20The sons of Uzziel: Micah the chief and Isshiah the second.

21 The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli: Eleazar and
Kish.* 22Eleazar died having no sons but only daughters; their kindred, the

sons of Kish, married them. [23]The sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder, and Jeremoth, three.

24 These were the sons of Levi by their ancestral houses, the heads of families as they were enrolled according to the number of the names of the individuals from twenty years old and up who were to do the work for the service of the house of the LORD.* [25]For David said, "The LORD, the God of Israel, has given rest to his people, and he resides in Jerusalem forever.* [26]And so the Levites no longer need to carry the tabernacle or any of the things for its service"*—[27]for according to the last words of David these were the number of the Levites from twenty years old and up—[28]"but their duty shall be to assist the descendants of Aaron for the service of the house of the LORD, having the care of the courts and the chambers, the cleansing of all that is holy, and any work for the service of the house of God; [29]to assist also with the rows of bread, the choice flour for the grain offering, the wafers of unleavened bread, the baked offering, the offering mixed with oil, and all measures of quantity or size.* [30]And they shall stand every morning thanking and praising the LORD, and likewise at evening, [31]and whenever burnt offerings are offered to the LORD on Sabbaths, new moons, and appointed festivals, according to the number required of them, regularly before the LORD.* [32]Thus they shall keep charge of the tent of meeting and the sanctuary and shall attend the descendants of Aaron, their kindred, for the service of the house of the LORD."*

1 Chronicles 24

DIVISIONS OF THE PRIESTS

1 The divisions of the descendants of Aaron were these. The sons of Aaron:
Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.* [2]But Nadab and Abihu died before
their father and had no sons, so Eleazar and Ithamar became the priests.*
[3]Along with Zadok of the sons of Eleazar and Ahimelech of the sons of
Ithamar, David organized them according to the appointed duties in their
service. [4]Since more chief men were found among the sons of Eleazar than
among the sons of Ithamar, they organized them under sixteen heads of
ancestral houses of the sons of Eleazar and eight of the sons of Ithamar.
[5]They organized them by lot, all alike, for there were officers of the
sanctuary and officers of God among both the sons of Eleazar and the sons
of Ithamar.* [6]The scribe Shemaiah son of Nethanel, a Levite, recorded them
in the presence of the king, and the officers, and Zadok the priest, and
Ahimelech son of Abiathar, and the heads of ancestral houses of the priests
and of the Levites—one ancestral house being chosen for Eleazar and one
chosen for Ithamar.

7 The first lot fell to Jehoiarib, the second to Jedaiah, [8]the third to Harim,
the fourth to Seorim, [9]the fifth to Malchijah, the sixth to Mijamin, [10]the
seventh to Hakkoz, the eighth to Abijah,* [11]the ninth to Jeshua, the tenth to
Shecaniah, [12]the eleventh to Eliashib, the twelfth to Jakim, [13]the thirteenth
to Huppah, the fourteenth to Jeshebeab, [14]the fifteenth to Bilgah, the
sixteenth to Immer, [15]the seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to Happizzez,
[16]the nineteenth to Pethahiah, the twentieth to Jehezkel, [17]the twenty-first to
Jachin, the twenty-second to Gamul, [18]the twenty-third to Delaiah, the
twenty-fourth to Maaziah. [19]These had as their appointed duty in their
service to enter the house of the LORD according to the procedure
established for them by their ancestor Aaron, as the LORD God of Israel had
commanded him.*

OTHER LEVITES

20 And of the rest of the sons of Levi: of the sons of Amram, Shubael; of
the sons of Shubael, Jehdeiah. [21]Of Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah,
Isshiah the chief.* [22]Of the Izharites, Shelomoth; of the sons of Shelomoth,
Jahath. [23]The sons of Hebron:[o] Jeriah the chief,[p] Amariah the second,
Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth.* [24]The sons of Uzziel, Micah; of
the sons of Micah, Shamir. [25]The brother of Micah, Isshiah; of the sons of
Isshiah, Zechariah. [26]The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. The sons of
Jaaziah: Beno.[q,*] [27]The sons of Merari: of Jaaziah, Beno,[r] Shoham, Zaccur,
and Ibri. [28]Of Mahli: Eleazar, who had no sons. [29]Of Kish, the sons of Kish:
Jerahmeel. [30]The sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder, and Jerimoth. These were the
sons of the Levites according to their ancestral houses. [31]These also cast
lots corresponding to their kindred, the descendants of Aaron, in the
presence of King David, Zadok, Ahimelech, and the heads of ancestral
houses of the priests and of the Levites, the chief as well as the youngest
brother.*

1 Chronicles 25

THE TEMPLE MUSICIANS

1 David and the officers of the army also set apart for the service the sons of
Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with lyres,
harps, and cymbals. The list of those who did the work and of their duties
was:* [2]Of the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah, and Asarelah, sons
of Asaph, under the direction of Asaph, who prophesied under the direction
of the king. [3]Of Jeduthun, the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiah,
Shimei,[s] Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six, under the direction of their father
Jeduthun, who prophesied with the lyre in thanksgiving and praise to the
LORD.* [4]Of Heman, the sons of Heman: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel,
Shebuel, and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, and Romamti-
ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, Mahazioth.* [5]All these were the sons
of Heman the king's seer, according to the promise of God to exalt him, for
God had given Heman fourteen sons and three daughters. [6]They were all
under the direction of their father for the music in the house of the LORD
with cymbals, harps, and lyres for the service of the house of God. Asaph,
Jeduthun, and Heman were under the order of the king.* [7]They and their
kindred, who were trained in singing to the LORD, all of whom were skillful,
numbered two hundred eighty-eight. [8]And they cast lots for their duties,
small and great, teacher and pupil alike.*

9 The first lot fell for Asaph to Joseph; the second to Gedaliah, to him
and his brothers and his sons, twelve;* [10]the third to Zaccur, his sons and his
brothers, twelve; [11]the fourth to Izri, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [12]the
fifth to Nethaniah, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [13]the sixth to Bukkiah,
his sons and his brothers, twelve; [14]the seventh to Jesarelah,[t] his sons and
his brothers, twelve; [15]the eighth to Jeshaiah, his sons and his brothers,
twelve; [16]the ninth to Mattaniah, his sons and his brothers, twelve;* [17]the
tenth to Shimei, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [18]the eleventh to Azarel,
his sons and his brothers, twelve; [19]the twelfth to Hashabiah, his sons and
his brothers, twelve; [20]to the thirteenth, Shubael, his sons and his brothers,
twelve; [21]to the fourteenth, Mattithiah, his sons and his brothers, twelve;

[22]to the fifteenth, to Jeremoth, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [23]to the sixteenth, to Hananiah, his sons and his brothers, twelve;* [24]to the seventeenth, to Joshbekashah, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [25]to the eighteenth, to Hanani, his sons and his brothers, twelve;* [26]to the nineteenth, to Mallothi, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [27]to the twentieth, to Eliathah, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [28]to the twenty-first, to Hothir, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [29]to the twenty-second, to Giddalti, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [30]to the twenty-third, to Mahazioth, his sons and his brothers, twelve; [31]to the twenty-fourth, to Romamti-ezer, his sons and his brothers, twelve.

1 Chronicles 26

THE GATEKEEPERS

1 As for the divisions of the gatekeepers: of the Korahites, Meshelemiah
son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph.* [2]Meshelemiah had sons: Zechariah the
firstborn, Jediael the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth, [3]Elam
the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Eliehoenai the seventh. [4]Obed-edom had
sons: Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, Sachar
the fourth, Nethanel the fifth,* [5]Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh,
Peullethai the eighth; for God blessed him. [6]Also to his son Shemaiah sons
were born who exercised authority in their ancestral houses, for they were
men of great ability. [7]The sons of Shemaiah: Othni, Rephael, Obed, and
Elzabad, whose brothers were able men, Elihu and Semachiah. [8]All these,
sons of Obed-edom with their sons and brothers, were able men qualified
for the service; sixty-two of Obed-edom. [9]Meshelemiah had sons and
brothers, able men, eighteen. [10]Hosah, of the sons of Merari, had sons:
Shimri the chief (for though he was not the firstborn, his father made him
chief),* [11]Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth; all
the sons and brothers of Hosah totaled thirteen.

12 These divisions of the gatekeepers, corresponding to their leaders, had
duties, just as their kindred did, ministering in the house of the LORD,* [13]and
they cast lots by ancestral houses, small and great alike, for their gates.*
[14]The lot for the east fell to Shelemiah. They cast lots also for his son
Zechariah, a prudent counselor, and his lot came out for the north. [15]Obed-
edom's came out for the south, and to his sons was allotted the storehouse.
[16]For Shuppim and Hosah it came out for the west, at the gate of
Shallecheth on the ascending road. Guard corresponded to guard. [17]On the
east there were six Levites each day,[u] on the north four each day, on the
south four each day, as well as two and two at the storehouse, [18]and for the
colonnade[v] on the west there were four at the road and two at the
colonnade.[w] [19]These were the divisions of the gatekeepers among the
Korahites and the sons of Merari.

THE TREASURERS, OFFICERS, AND JUDGES

20 And of the Levites, Ahijah had charge of the treasuries of the house of
God and the treasuries of the dedicated gifts.* 21The sons of Ladan, the sons
of the Gershonites belonging to Ladan, the heads of families belonging to
Ladan the Gershonite: Jehieli.[x]

22 The sons of Jehieli, Zetham and his brother Joel, were in charge of the
treasuries of the house of the LORD. 23Of the Amramites, the Izharites, the
Hebronites, and the Uzzielites: 24Shebuel son of Gershom, son of Moses,
was chief officer in charge of the treasuries.* 25His brothers: from Eliezer
were his son Rehabiah, his son Jeshaiah, his son Joram, his son Zichri, and
his son Shelomoth.* 26This Shelomoth and his brothers were in charge of all
the treasuries of the dedicated gifts that King David, and the heads of
families, and the officers of the thousands and the hundreds, and the
commanders of the army had dedicated.* 27From spoil won in battles they
dedicated gifts for the maintenance of the house of the LORD. 28Also all that
Samuel the seer, and Saul son of Kish, and Abner son of Ner, and Joab son
of Zeruiah had dedicated—all dedicated gifts were in the care of
Shelomoth[y] and his brothers.*

29 Of the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons were appointed to outside
duties for Israel, as officers and judges.* 30Of the Hebronites, Hashabiah
and his brothers, one thousand seven hundred men of ability, had the
oversight of Israel west of the Jordan for all the work of the LORD and for
the service of the king.* 31Of the Hebronites, Jerijah was chief of the
Hebronites. (In the fortieth year of David's reign search was made of
whatever genealogy or family and men of great ability among them were
found at Jazer in Gilead.)* 32King David appointed him and his brothers,
two thousand seven hundred men of ability, heads of families, to have the
oversight of the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of the
Manassites for everything pertaining to God and for the affairs of the king.*

1 Chronicles 27

THE MILITARY DIVISIONS

1 This is the list of the people of Israel, the heads of families, the commanders of the thousands and the hundreds, and their officers who served the king in all matters concerning the divisions that came and went, month after month throughout the year, each division numbering twenty-four thousand:

2 Jashobeam son of Zabdiel was in charge of the first division in the first month; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 3He was a descendant of Perez and was chief of all the commanders of the army for the first month. 4Dodai the Ahohite was in charge of the division of the second month; Mikloth was the chief officer of his division. In his division were twenty-four thousand. 5The third commander, for the third month, was Benaiah son of the chief priest Jehoiada; in his division were twenty-four thousand. 6This is the Benaiah who was a mighty man of the Thirty and in command of the Thirty; his son Ammizabad was in charge of his division.z,* 7Asahel brother of Joab was fourth, for the fourth month, and his son Zebadiah after him; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 8The fifth commander, for the fifth month, was Shamhuth, the Izrahite; in his division were twenty-four thousand. 9Sixth, for the sixth month, was Ira son of Ikkesh the Tekoite; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 10Seventh, for the seventh month, was Helez the Pelonite, of the Ephraimites; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 11Eighth, for the eighth month, was Sibbecai the Hushathite, of the Zerahites; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 12Ninth, for the ninth month, was Abiezer of Anathoth, a Benjaminite; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 13Tenth, for the tenth month, was Maharai of Netophah, of the Zerahites; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 14Eleventh, for the eleventh month, was Benaiah of Pirathon, of the Ephraimites; in his division were twenty-four thousand.* 15Twelfth, for the twelfth month, was Heldai the Netophathite, of Othniel; in his division were twenty-four thousand.

LEADERS OF TRIBES

16 Over the tribes of Israel, for the Reubenites, Eliezer son of Zichri was
chief officer; for the Simeonites, Shephatiah son of Maacah; [17]for Levi,
Hashabiah son of Kemuel; for Aaron, Zadok; [18]for Judah, Elihu, one of
David's brothers; for Issachar, Omri son of Michael; [19]for Zebulun,
Ishmaiah son of Obadiah; for Naphtali, Jerimoth son of Azriel; [20]for the
Ephraimites, Hoshea son of Azaziah; for the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joel
son of Pedaiah; [21]for the half-tribe of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo son of
Zechariah; for Benjamin, Jaasiel son of Abner; [22]for Dan, Azarel son of
Jeroham. These were the leaders of the tribes of Israel.* [23]David did not
count those below twenty years of age, for the LORD had promised to make
Israel as numerous as the stars of heaven.* [24]Joab son of Zeruiah began to
count them but did not finish, yet wrath came upon Israel for this, and the
number was not entered into the account of the Annals of King David.*

OTHER CIVIC OFFICIALS

25 Over the king's treasuries was Azmaveth son of Adiel. Over the
treasuries in the country, in the cities, in the villages and in the towers was
Jonathan son of Uzziah. [26]Over those who did the work of the field, tilling
the soil, was Ezri son of Chelub. [27]Over the vineyards was Shimei the
Ramathite. Over the produce of the vineyards for the wine cellars was
Zabdi the Shiphmite. [28]Over the olive and sycamore trees in the Shephelah
was Baal-hanan the Gederite. Over the stores of oil was Joash.* [29]Over the
herds that pastured in Sharon was Shitrai the Sharonite. Over the herds in
the valleys was Shaphat son of Adlai. [30]Over the camels was Obil the
Ishmaelite. Over the donkeys was Jehdeiah the Meronothite. [31]Over the
flocks was Jaziz the Hagrite. All these were stewards of King David's
property.

32 Jonathan, David's uncle, was a counselor, being a man of
understanding and a scribe; Jehiel son of Hachmoni attended the king's
sons. [33]Ahithophel was the king's counselor, and Hushai the Archite was
the king's friend.* [34]After Ahithophel came Jehoiada son of Benaiah and
Abiathar. Joab was commander of the king's army.*

1 Chronicles 28

SOLOMON INSTRUCTED TO BUILD THE TEMPLE

1 David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the officials of the
tribes, the officers of the divisions that served the king, the commanders of
the thousands, the commanders of the hundreds, the stewards of all the
property and cattle of the king, and his sons, together with the palace
officials, the mighty warriors, and all the warriors.* [2]Then King David rose
to his feet and said, "Hear me, my brothers and my people. I had planned to
build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, for the
footstool of our God, and I made preparations for building.* [3]But God said
to me, 'You shall not build a house for my name, for you are a warrior and
have shed blood.'* [4]Yet the LORD God of Israel chose me from all my
ancestral house to be king over Israel forever, for he chose Judah as leader,
and in the house of Judah my father's house, and among my father's sons
he took delight in making me king over all Israel.* [5]And of all my sons, for
the LORD has given me many, he has chosen my son Solomon to sit upon the
throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel.* [6]He said to me, 'It is your
son Solomon who shall build my house and my courts, for I have chosen
him to be a son to me, and I will be a father to him.* [7]I will establish his
kingdom forever, if he continues resolute in keeping my commandments
and my ordinances, as he is today.'* [8]Now therefore in the sight of all
Israel, the assembly of the LORD, and in the hearing of our God, observe and
search out all the commandments of the LORD your God, that you may
possess this good land and leave it for an inheritance to your children after
you forever.

9 "And you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve
him with single mind and willing heart, for the LORD searches every mind
and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found
by you, but if you forsake him, he will abandon you forever.* [10]Take heed,
now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house as the sanctuary; be
strong, and act."*

11 Then David gave his son Solomon the plan of the vestibule and of its
houses, its treasuries, its upper rooms, and its inner chambers, and of the

room for the cover,* 12and the plan of all that he had in mind for the courts of the house of the LORD, all the surrounding chambers, the treasuries of the house of God, and the treasuries for dedicated gifts;* 13for the divisions of the priests and of the Levites, and all the work of the service in the house of the LORD; for all the vessels for the service in the house of the LORD,* 14the weight of gold for all golden vessels for each service, the weight of silver vessels for each service, 15the weight of the golden lampstands and their lamps, the weight of gold for each lampstand and its lamps, the weight of silver for a lampstand and its lamps, according to the use of each in the service,* 16the weight of gold for each table for the rows of bread, the silver for the silver tables, 17and pure gold for the forks, the basins, and the cups; for the golden bowls and the weight of each; for the silver bowls and the weight of each; 18for the altar of incense made of refined gold and its weight; also his plan for the golden chariot of the cherubim that spread their wings and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD.*

19 "All this, in writing at the LORD's direction, he made clear to me—the plan of all the works."*

20 David said further to his son Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage, and act. Do not be afraid or dismayed, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the LORD is finished.* 21Here are the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of the house of God, and with you in all the work will be every volunteer who has skill for any kind of service; also the officers and all the people will be wholly at your command."*

1 Chronicles 29

OFFERINGS FOR BUILDING THE TEMPLE

1 King David said to the whole assembly, "My son Solomon, whom alone
God has chosen, is young and inexperienced, and the work is great, for the
temple[a] will not be for mortals but for the LORD God.* [2]So I have provided
for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of
gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of
bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood,
besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting, antimony, colored
stones, all sorts of precious stones, and marble in abundance.* [3]Moreover,
in addition to all that I have provided for the holy house, I have a treasure of
my own of gold and silver, and because of my devotion to the house of my
God I give it to the house of my God: [4]three thousand talents of gold, of the
gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for overlaying
the walls of the house,* [5]and for all the work to be done by artisans, gold for
the things of gold and silver for the things of silver. Who then will offer
willingly, consecrating themselves today to the LORD?"

6 Then the leaders of ancestral houses made their freewill offerings, as
did also the leaders of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of the thousands
and of the hundreds, and the officers over the king's work.* [7]They gave for
the service of the house of God five thousand talents and ten thousand
darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of
bronze, and one hundred thousand talents of iron.* [8]Whoever had precious
stones gave them to the treasury of the house of the LORD, into the care of
Jehiel the Gershonite.* [9]Then the people rejoiced because these had given
willingly, for with single mind they had offered freely to the LORD; King
David also rejoiced greatly.*

DAVID'S PRAISE TO GOD

10 Then David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly;
David said, "Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of our ancestor Israel,
forever and ever. [11]Yours, O LORD, are the greatness, the power, the glory,

the victory, and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.* 12Riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all.* 13And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name.

14 "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. 15For we are aliens and transients before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope.* 16O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. 17I know, my God, that you search the heart and take pleasure in uprightness; in the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people who are present here offering freely and joyously to you.* 18O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our ancestors, keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of your people, and direct their hearts toward you. 19Grant to my son Solomon that with single mind he may keep your commandments, your decrees, and your statutes, performing all of them, and that he may build the temple[b] for which I have made provision."*

20 Then David said to the whole assembly, "Bless the LORD your God." And all the assembly blessed the LORD, the God of their ancestors, and bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD and the king. 21On the next day they offered sacrifices and burnt offerings to the LORD, a thousand bulls, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs, with their libations, and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel,* 22and they ate and drank before the LORD on that day with great joy.

SOLOMON ANOINTED KING

They made David's son Solomon king a second time; they anointed him as the LORD's prince and Zadok as priest.* 23Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD, succeeding his father David as king; he prospered, and all Israel obeyed him. 24All the leaders and the mighty warriors and also all the sons of King David pledged their allegiance to King Solomon. 25The

LORD highly exalted Solomon in the sight of all Israel and bestowed upon him such royal majesty as had not been on any king before him in Israel.*

SUMMARY OF DAVID'S REIGN

26 Thus David son of Jesse reigned over all Israel.* [27]The period that he reigned over Israel was forty years; he reigned seven years in Hebron, and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.* [28]He died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honor, and his son Solomon succeeded him.* [29]Now the acts of King David, from first to last, are written in the records of the seer Samuel, and in the records of the prophet Nathan, and in the records of the seer Gad, [30]with accounts of all his rule and his might and of the events that befell him and Israel and all the kingdoms of the earth.*

1 Chronicles 1

* **1.1** Gen 4.25–5.32
* **1.5** Gen 10.2–4
* **1.8** Gen 10.6ff
* **1.10** Gen 10.8, 13ff
a **1.12** Heb *Casluhim, from which the Philistines come, Caphtorim*
b **1.17** Cn: Heb omits *and Aram. The sons of*
* **1.17** Gen 10.22ff
* **1.24** Gen 11.10ff
* **1.29** Gen 25.13–16
* **1.32** Gen 25.1–4
* **1.34** Gen 21.2, 3; 25.25, 26
* **1.35** Gen 36.9, 10
* **1.38** Gen 36.20–28
c **1.42** Or *and Akan*
d **1.42** Heb *Dishon*
* **1.43** Gen 36.31–43
e **1.48** Or *Saul*
f **1.49** Or *Saul*
g **1.51** Or *chiefs*
h **1.51** Or *chiefs*
i **1.51** Or *Alvah*
j **1.54** Or *chiefs*

1 Chronicles 2

* **2.1** Gen 35.23–26; 46.8–25
* **2.2** Gen 38.2–10
* **2.4** Gen 38.29, 30
* **2.5** Gen 46.12
k **2.6** Heb mss Gk Vg Syr: MT *Dara*
* **2.6** Josh 7.1; 1 Kings 4.31
* **2.7** Josh 6.18
l **2.9** Or *Caleb*
* **2.10** Ruth 4.19, 20; Mt 1.4
* **2.13** 1 Sam 16.6, 9
* **2.16** 2 Sam 2.18
* **2.17** 2 Sam 17.25
m **2.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **2.19** v 50

* **2.20** Ex 31.2
* **2.21** Num 27.1
* **2.23** Num 32.41; Deut 3.14; Josh 13.30
* **2.24** 1 Chr 4.5
* **2.31** vv 34, 35
* **2.36** 1 Chr 11.41
* **2.42** vv 18, 19
* **2.50** 1 Chr 4.4
* **2.55** Judg 1.16; Jer 35.2

1 Chronicles 3

* **3.1** Josh 15.56; 2 Sam 3.2, 3
* **3.3** 2 Sam 3.5
* **3.4** 2 Sam 2.11; 5.5
* **3.5** 2 Sam 5.14–16; 11.3; 12.24
* **3.9** 2 Sam 13.1
* **3.10** 1 Kings 11.43
* **3.16** Mt 1.11
* **3.22** Ezek 8.2

1 Chronicles 4

* **4.1** Gen 46.12
n **4.3** Gk Compare Vg: Heb *the father*
* **4.4** 1 Chr 2.50
* **4.5** 1 Chr 2.24
o **4.6** Or *the Ahashtarite*
p **4.7** Or *Zohar*
* **4.9** Gen 34.19
q **4.13** Gk Vg: Heb lacks *and Meonothai*
* **4.13** Josh 15.17
r **4.14** That is, *valley of artisans*
* **4.14** Neh 11.35
s **4.17** The clause: *These are . . . married* is transposed from 4.18
t **4.17** Heb lacks *and bore*
* **4.21** Gen 38.1, 5
u **4.22** Vg Compare Gk: Heb *and Jashubi-lahem*
v **4.22** Or *matters*
w **4.24** Or *Saul*
* **4.24** Gen 29.33
* **4.28** Josh 19.2

* **4.30** 1 Chr 12.1
* **4.40** Judg 18.7–10
* **4.41** 2 Kings 18.8
* **4.43** 1 Sam 15.8; 30.17; 2 Sam 8.12

1 Chronicles 5

* **5.1** Gen 29.32; 35.22; 48.15, 22; 49.4
* **5.2** Gen 49.8, 10; Mic 5.2; Mt 2.6
* **5.3** Gen 46.9; Num 26.5

x **5.6** Heb *Tilgath-pilneser*

* **5.7** v 17
* **5.8** Josh 13.15, 16
* **5.9** Josh 22.9
* **5.10** vv 18–21
* **5.11** Josh 13.11, 24
* **5.16** 1 Chr 27.29
* **5.17** 2 Kings 14.16, 28; 15.5, 32
* **5.19** v 10; 1 Chr 1.31
* **5.20** 2 Chr 4.11–13; Ps 22.4, 5
* **5.22** 2 Kings 15.29; 17.6

y **5.24** Gk Vg: Heb *and Epher*

* **5.25** 2 Kings 17.7

z **5.26** Heb *Tilgath-pilneser*

* **5.26** 2 Kings 15.19, 29; 17.6; 18.11

1 Chronicles 6

a **6.1** 5.27 in Heb

* **6.1** Ex 6.16; Num 26.57; 1 Chr 23.6
* **6.3** Lev 10.1
* **6.8** 2 Sam 8.17; 15.27
* **6.14** Neh 11.11
* **6.15** 2 Kings 25.18

b **6.16** 6.1 in Heb

* **6.16** Ex 6.16
* **6.20** v 42
* **6.25** vv 35, 36
* **6.26** v 35

c **6.27** Gk mss: Heb lacks *Samuel his son*

d **6.28** Gk Syr: Heb lacks *Joel*

e **6.28** Lucianic Syr: Heb *Vashni, and Abijah*

* **6.31** 1 Chr 15.16–16.6
* **6.37** Ex 6.24
* **6.41** v 21
* **6.49** Ex 27.1–8; 30.1–7, 10
* **6.50** vv 4–8
* **6.54** Josh 21.4, 10
* **6.55** Josh 21.11, 12
* **6.56** Josh 14.13; 15.13
* **6.57** Josh 21.13

f **6.58** Heb mss: MT *Hilez*

* **6.61** vv 66–70; Josh 21.5
* **6.63** Josh 21.7, 34
* **6.64** Josh 21.3, 41, 42
* **6.65** vv 57–60
* **6.66** v 61
* **6.67** Josh 21.21
* **6.68** Josh 21.22–35

g **6.72** Or *Dobrath*

* **6.73** Josh 19.21; 21.29
* **6.76** v 62
* **6.77** v 63

1 Chronicles 7

h **7.1** Syr Compare Vg: Heb *And to the sons*

* **7.1** Gen 46.13; Num 26.23
* **7.2** 2 Sam 24.1, 2
* **7.5** 1 Chr 6.62, 72

i **7.6** Heb mss Lucianic Vg Tg Syr: MT lacks *sons of*

* **7.6** Gen 46.21; Num 26.38; 1 Chr 8.1–40
* **7.12** Num 26.39
* **7.13** Gen 46.24
* **7.17** 1 Sam 12.11
* **7.20** Num 26.35

j **7.23** Heb *He*

k **7.23** In Heb *Beriah* is related to the word for *disaster*

* **7.24** Josh 16.3, 5

l **7.27** Heb *Non*

* **7.27** Ex 17.9–14; 24.13
* **7.28** Josh 16.7
* **7.30** Gen 46.17; Num 26.44

m **7.35** Or *Hotham*

* **7.40** v 30

1 Chronicles 8

* **8.1** Gen 46.21; 1 Chr 7.6
n **8.3** Or *father of Ehud*
* **8.6** 1 Chr 2.52
o **8.7** Heb *and Naaman*
p **8.7** Or *he carried them into exile*
* **8.13** v 21
* **8.21** v 13
q **8.29** Heb lacks *Jeiel*
* **8.29** 1 Chr 9.35
r **8.33** Or *Shaul*
s **8.33** Or *Shaul*
* **8.33** 1 Chr 9.35–38
* **8.34** 2 Sam 9.12
t **8.38** Or *his firstborn*

1 Chronicles 9

* **9.1** 1 Chr 5.25, 26
* **9.2** Ezra 2.43; 8.20; Neh 11.3–22
* **9.3** Neh 11.1
* **9.10** Neh 11.10–14
* **9.14** Neh 11.15–19
* **9.18** Ezek 46.1, 2
* **9.20** Num 25.7–13
* **9.21** 1 Chr 26.2, 14
* **9.22** 1 Chr 26.1, 2; 2 Chr 31.15, 18
* **9.25** v 16; 2 Kings 11.5, 7; 2 Chr 23.8
* **9.27** 1 Chr 23.30–32
* **9.29** 1 Chr 23.9
* **9.30** Ex 30.23–25
* **9.32** Lev 24.8
* **9.33** 1 Chr 6.31; 25.1; Ps 134.1
* **9.35** 1 Chr 8.29
* **9.39** 1 Chr 8.33
u **9.41** Heb lacks *and Ahaz*
* **9.41** 1 Chr 8.35
v **9.44** Or *firstborn*

1 Chronicles 10

* **10.1** 1 Sam 31.1, 2
* **10.4** 1 Sam 31.4–7
w **10.7** Heb *they*
* **10.10** 1 Sam 31.10
* **10.13** 1 Sam 13.13; 15.23; 28.7
x **10.14** Heb *he*
* **10.14** 1 Sam 15.28; 1 Chr 12.23

1 Chronicles 11

* **11.1** 2 Sam 5.1
* **11.2** 2 Sam 5.2; Ps 78.71
* **11.3** 1 Sam 16.1, 12, 13; 2 Sam 5.3
* **11.4** Judg 1.21; 19.10
* **11.6** 2 Sam 8.16
* **11.9** 2 Sam 3.1
* **11.10** v 3; 2 Sam 23.8–39
y **11.11** Or *a Hachmonite*
z **11.11** Heb *Thirty*
* **11.11** 2 Sam 23.8
* **11.13** 2 Sam 23.11, 12
* **11.15** 2 Sam 23.13; 1 Chr 14.9
a **11.20** Gk Vg Tg: Heb *Abshai*
b **11.20** Syr: Heb *Three*
c **11.20** Gk Vg Tg Syr: Heb *did not attain*
* **11.20** 2 Sam 23.18
d **11.21** Heb *more renowned among the two*
e **11.21** Syr: Heb *Three*
* **11.21** 2 Sam 23.19
f **11.22** Syr: Heb *the son of a valiant man*
g **11.22** Lucianic: Heb lacks *sons of*
* **11.22** 2 Sam 23.20
* **11.23** 1 Sam 17.7
* **11.26** 2 Sam 23.24
h **11.27** Heb *the Harorite*
i **11.34** Compare Gk: Heb *the sons of Hashem*
* **11.39** 1 Chr 18.15

1 Chronicles 12

* **12.1** 1 Sam 27.2–6

* **12.2** Judg 20.16
j **12.4** Heb 12.5
k **12.5** Heb 12.6
* **12.8** 2 Sam 2.18
* **12.15** Josh 3.15
l **12.18** Gk: Heb lacks *and he said*
* **12.18** Judg 6.34; 2 Sam 17.25
* **12.19** 1 Sam 29.2, 4
m **12.21** Or *as officers of his troops*
* **12.21** 1 Sam 30.1, 9, 10
* **12.23** 1 Sam 16.1, 3; 2 Sam 2.3, 4; 1 Chr 10.14; 11.1
n **12.27** Vg: Heb lacks *the house of*
* **12.28** 2 Sam 8.17
* **12.29** 2 Sam 2.8, 9
* **12.32** Esth 1.13
o **12.33** Gk: Heb lacks *David*
* **12.33** Ps 12.2
* **12.38** 2 Sam 5.1–3
* **12.40** 1 Sam 25.18

1 Chronicles 13

* **13.2** 1 Sam 31.1; Isa 37.4
* **13.3** 1 Sam 7.1, 2
* **13.5** 1 Sam 6.21; 7.1; 2 Sam 6.1; 1 Chr 15.3
p **13.6** Heb lacks *his*
* **13.6** Josh 15.9; 2 Kings 19.15
q **13.7** Or *and his brother*
* **13.7** 1 Sam 7.1
* **13.8** 2 Sam 6.5
* **13.9** 2 Sam 6.6
* **13.10** 1 Chr 15.13, 15
r **13.11** That is, *bursting out against Uzzah*
* **13.14** 1 Chr 26.4, 5

1 Chronicles 14

* **14.1** 2 Sam 5.11
* **14.4** 1 Chr 3.5
* **14.8** 2 Sam 5.17
* **14.9** 1 Chr 11.15
s **14.11** That is, *lord of bursting forth*

* **14.13** v 9; 2 Sam 5.22
* **14.14** 2 Sam 5.23
* **14.16** 2 Sam 5.25
* **14.17** Deut 2.25; Josh 6.27; 2 Chr 26.8

1 Chronicles 15

t **15.1** Heb *He*
* **15.1** 1 Chr 16.1
* **15.2** Num 4.15; Deut 10.8; 31.9
* **15.3** 1 Kings 8.1; 1 Chr 13.5
* **15.8** Ex 6.22
* **15.9** Ex 6.18
* **15.11** 1 Sam 22.20–23; 1 Chr 12.28
* **15.12** Ex 19.14, 15; 2 Chr 35.6
u **15.13** Cn: Heb lacks *carry it*
v **15.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **15.13** 2 Sam 6.3; 1 Chr 13.7, 10, 11
* **15.14** v 12
* **15.15** Ex 25.14; Num 4.5
* **15.16** 1 Chr 25.1
* **15.17** 1 Chr 6.33, 39, 44
w **15.21** Or *set for the eighth* (octave)
* **15.24** v 28; 1 Chr 16.6
* **15.25** 2 Sam 6.12, 15; 1 Chr 13.13
* **15.28** 1 Chr 13.8
* **15.29** 2 Sam 6.16

1 Chronicles 16

* **16.1** 2 Sam 6.17–19
x **16.3** Compare Gk Syr Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16.5** Ps 50; 73
* **16.7** 2 Sam 23.1
* **16.8** Ps 105.1–15
* **16.11** Ps 24.6
* **16.12** Ps 77.11; 78.43–68
* **16.14** Isa 26.9
* **16.16** Gen 17.2; 26.3; 28.13; 35.11
* **16.17** Gen 35.11, 12
y **16.19** Heb *in it*
* **16.19** Gen 34.30

* **16.21** Gen 12.17; 20.3; Ex 7.15–18
* **16.23** Ps 96.1–13
* **16.25** Ps 48.1; 89.7
* **16.26** Ps 96.5
* **16.28** Ps 29.1, 2
* **16.31** Ps 93.1; Isa 49.13
* **16.32** Ps 98.7
* **16.34** Ps 106.1
* **16.35** Ps 106.47, 48
* **16.36** Deut 27.15; 1 Kings 8.15

z **16.37** Heb *He*

* **16.37** vv 4, 5; 2 Chr 8.14

a **16.38** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *their*

* **16.38** 1 Chr 13.14; 26.10
* **16.39** 1 Kings 3.4; 1 Chr 15.11
* **16.40** Ex 29.38; Num 28.3
* **16.41** 1 Chr 6.33; 25.1–6; 2 Chr 5.13

1 Chronicles 17

* **17.1** 2 Sam 7.1–29
* **17.4** 1 Chr 28.2, 3

b **17.5** Gk: Heb *but I have been from tent to tent and from tabernacle*

* **17.5** 2 Sam 7.6
* **17.6** 2 Sam 7.7
* **17.10** Judg 2.16
* **17.13** 2 Sam 7.14, 15; Heb 1.5
* **17.14** Lk 1.33
* **17.16** 2 Sam 7.18

c **17.17** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **17.19** Isa 37.35
* **17.22** Ex 19.5, 6
* **17.24** Ps 46.7, 11

d **17.27** Or *and it is blessed*

1 Chronicles 18

* **18.1** 2 Sam 8.1–18

e **18.3** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **18.5** 1 Chr 19.6

f **18.6** Gk Vg Compare Syr: Heb lacks *garrisons*

* **18.8** 1 Kings 7.15, 23; 2 Chr 4.12, 15, 16

* **18.10** 2 Sam 10.16
* **18.12** 2 Sam 8.13
* **18.15** 1 Chr 11.6
* **18.17** 2 Sam 8.18

1 Chronicles 19

* **19.1** 2 Sam 10.1
* **19.3** 2 Sam 10.3
* **19.4** 2 Sam 10.4
* **19.6** 1 Chr 18.5, 9
* **19.7** Num 21.30; Josh 13.9, 16
* **19.8** 2 Sam 10.7
* **19.11** 2 Sam 10.10
* **19.12** 2 Sam 10.11
* **19.14** 2 Sam 10.13
* **19.16** 2 Sam 10.16
* **19.17** 2 Sam 10.17
* **19.18** 2 Sam 10.18
* **19.19** 2 Sam 10.19

1 Chronicles 20

* **20.1** 2 Sam 11.1; 12.26
g **20.2** Gk Vg: Heb *of their king*
* **20.2** 2 Sam 12.30, 31
h **20.3** Heb *and he sawed*
i **20.3** Heb *saws*
* **20.3** 2 Sam 12.31
* **20.4** 2 Sam 21.18
* **20.5** 1 Sam 17.7; 2 Sam 21.19
j **20.6** Gk: Heb *from the Raphah*
* **20.6** 2 Sam 21.20
k **20.8** Gk: Heb *from the Raphah*

1 Chronicles 21

* **21.1** 2 Sam 24.1–25
* **21.2** 1 Chr 27.23
* **21.3** Deut 1.11
* **21.5** 2 Sam 24.9
* **21.6** 1 Chr 27.24
* **21.8** 2 Sam 12.13; 24.10

* **21.10** 1 Sam 9.9; 1 Chr 29.29
* **21.12** 2 Sam 24.13
* **21.13** Ps 51.1; 130.4, 7
* **21.14** 1 Chr 27.24
* **21.15** 2 Sam 24.16
* **21.16** 2 Chr 3.1
* **21.17** 2 Sam 7.8; Ps 74.1
* **21.18** 2 Chr 3.1

l **21.20** Heb ms Gk: MT *angel*

* **21.21** 2 Chr 3.1
* **21.25** 2 Sam 24.24
* **21.26** Lev 9.24; Judg 6.21
* **21.29** 1 Kings 3.4; 1 Chr 16.39

1 Chronicles 22

* **22.1** 1 Chr 21.18–19; 2 Chr 3.1
* **22.2** 1 Kings 5.17, 18; 9.21
* **22.3** v 14; 1 Chr 29.2, 7
* **22.4** 1 Kings 5.6
* **22.5** 1 Chr 29.1
* **22.7** Deut 12.5, 11; 2 Sam 7.2; 1 Chr 17.1
* **22.8** 1 Kings 5.3; 1 Chr 28.3

m **22.9** The Heb word for *peace* is related to *Solomon*

* **22.9** 2 Sam 12.24; 1 Kings 4.20, 25
* **22.10** 2 Sam 7.13; 1 Chr 17.12, 13
* **22.11** v 16
* **22.12** 1 Kings 3.9–12; 2 Chr 1.10
* **22.13** Josh 1.6–9; 1 Chr 28.7, 20
* **22.14** v 3
* **22.16** v 11
* **22.17** 1 Chr 28.1–6
* **22.18** 2 Sam 7.1; 1 Chr 23.25
* **22.19** v 7; 1 Kings 8.6; 1 Chr 28.9; 2 Chr 5.7

1 Chronicles 23

* **23.1** 1 Kings 1.33–39; 1 Chr 28.5; 29.28
* **23.3** v 24; Num 4.3–49
* **23.4** 2 Chr 19.8
* **23.5** 1 Chr 15.16
* **23.6** 2 Chr 8.14; 29.25

n **23.7** Vg Compare Gk Syr: Heb *to the Gershonite*
* **23.12** Ex 6.18
* **23.13** Ex 6.20; 28.1; 30.6–10; Deut 21.5
* **23.16** 1 Chr 26.24ff
* **23.21** 1 Chr 24.26ff
* **23.24** v 3; Num 10.17, 21
* **23.25** 1 Chr 22.18
* **23.26** Num 4.5
* **23.29** Ex 25.30; Lev 2.4–7; 6.20; 19.35; 24.5–9
* **23.31** Lev 23.2–4; Isa 1.13, 14
* **23.32** Num 1.53; 3.6; 1 Chr 9.27

1 Chronicles 24

* **24.1** Ex 6.23
* **24.2** Lev 10.2; Num 3.4
* **24.5** v 31
* **24.10** Neh 12.4, 17; Lk 1.5
* **24.19** 1 Chr 9.25
* **24.21** 1 Chr 23.17
o **24.23** Heb lacks *Hebron*
p **24.23** Heb lacks *the chief*
* **24.23** 1 Chr 23.19
q **24.26** Or *his son*: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **24.26** 1 Chr 23.21
r **24.27** Or *his son*: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **24.31** vv 5, 6

1 Chronicles 25

* **25.1** 1 Chr 6.33, 39; 15.16
s **25.3** Gk ms: MT lacks *Shimei*
* **25.3** 1 Chr 16.41, 42
* **25.4** v 25; 1 Chr 6.33
* **25.6** 1 Chr 15.16, 19
* **25.8** 1 Chr 26.13
* **25.9** 1 Chr 6.39
t **25.14** Or *Asarelah*
* **25.16** v 4
* **25.23** v 4
* **25.25** v 4

1 Chronicles 26

* **26.1** v 19
* **26.4** 1 Chr 15.18
* **26.10** 1 Chr 16.38
* **26.12** v 1
* **26.13** 1 Chr 24.5, 31; 25.8
u **26.17** Gk: Heb lacks *each day*
v **26.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain
w **26.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **26.20** 1 Chr 28.12
x **26.21** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **26.24** 1 Chr 23.16
* **26.25** 1 Chr 23.18
* **26.26** 2 Sam 8.11
y **26.28** Gk: Heb *Shelomith*
* **26.28** 1 Sam 9.9
* **26.29** 1 Chr 23.4; Neh 11.16
* **26.30** 1 Chr 27.17
* **26.31** 1 Chr 23.19
* **26.32** 2 Chr 19.11

1 Chronicles 27

* **27.2** 2 Sam 23.8–30; 1 Chr 11.11–31
z **27.6** Gk Vg: Heb *Ammizabad was his division*
* **27.6** 1 Chr 11.22ff
* **27.7** 1 Chr 11.26
* **27.9** 1 Chr 11.28
* **27.10** 1 Chr 11.27
* **27.11** 1 Chr 11.29
* **27.12** 1 Chr 11.28
* **27.13** 1 Chr 11.30
* **27.14** 1 Chr 11.31
* **27.22** 1 Chr 28.1
* **27.23** Gen 15.5
* **27.24** 2 Sam 24.15; 1 Chr 21.7
* **27.28** 1 Kings 10.27; 2 Chr 1.15
* **27.33** 2 Sam 15.12
* **27.34** 1 Kings 1.7; 1 Chr 11.6

1 Chronicles 28

* **28.1** 1 Chr 11.10–47; 27.1–31
* **28.2** 2 Sam 7.2; 1 Chr 17.1, 2; Ps 132.7
* **28.3** 2 Sam 7.5, 13; 1 Chr 22.8
* **28.4** Gen 49.8–10; 1 Sam 16.6–13; 1 Chr 5.2; 17.23, 27
* **28.5** 1 Chr 3.1–9; 22.9, 10
* **28.6** 2 Sam 7.13, 14; 1 Chr 22.9, 10
* **28.7** 1 Chr 22.13
* **28.9** 1 Sam 16.7; 1 Chr 29.17–19; 2 Chr 15.2; Jer 9.24; 29.13
* **28.10** 1 Chr 22.13
* **28.11** vv 12, 19; Ex 25.40
* **28.12** 1 Chr 26.20
* **28.13** 1 Chr 23.6; 24.1
* **28.15** Ex 25.31–39
* **28.18** Ex 25.18–22; 30.1–10
* **28.19** vv 11, 12
* **28.20** Josh 1.5, 6, 7, 9; 1 Chr 22.13
* **28.21** v 13; Ex 35.25–35; 36.1, 2

1 Chronicles 29

a **29.1** Heb *fortress*
* **29.1** v 19; 1 Chr 22.5
* **29.2** 1 Chr 22.3–5
* **29.4** 1 Kings 9.28; 1 Chr 22.14
* **29.6** 1 Chr 27.1, 25ff; 28.1
* **29.7** Ezra 2.69; Neh 7.70
* **29.8** 1 Chr 26.21
* **29.9** 1 Kings 8.61; 2 Cor 9.7
* **29.11** Mt 6.13; 1 Tim 1.17; Rev 5.13
* **29.12** 2 Chr 1.12; Rom 11.36
* **29.15** Lev 25.23; Job 14.2; Ps 39.12; Heb 11.13; 1 Pet 2.11
* **29.17** 1 Chr 28.9; Prov 11.20
b **29.19** Heb *fortress*
* **29.19** v 2; 1 Chr 22.14; 28.9; Ps 72.1
* **29.21** 1 Kings 8.62, 63
* **29.22** 1 Kings 1.33–39; 1 Chr 23.1
* **29.25** 1 Kings 3.13; 2 Chr 1.1, 12
* **29.26** 1 Chr 18.14
* **29.27** 2 Sam 5.4, 5; 1 Kings 2.11
* **29.28** Gen 15.15; 25.8; 1 Chr 23.1
* **29.30** Dan 2.21; 4.23, 25

2 Chronicles

2 Chronicles 1

SOLOMON REQUESTS WISDOM

1 Solomon son of David strengthened himself in his kingdom; the LORD his God was with him and made him exceedingly great.*

2 Solomon summoned all Israel, the commanders of the thousands and of the hundreds, the judges, and all the leaders of all Israel, the heads of families.* 3Then Solomon and the whole assembly with him went to the high place that was at Gibeon, for God's tent of meeting, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness, was there.* 4(But David had brought the ark of God up from Kiriath-jearim to the place that David had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem.)* 5Moreover, the bronze altar that Bezalel son of Uri son of Hur had made was there in front of the tabernacle of the LORD. And Solomon and the assembly inquired at it.* 6Solomon went up there to the bronze altar before the LORD, which was at the tent of meeting, and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.*

7 That night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, "Ask what I should give you."* 8Solomon said to God, "You have shown great and steadfast love to my father David and have made me succeed him as king.* 9O LORD God, let your promise to my father David now be fulfilled, for you have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth.* 10Give me now wisdom and knowledge to go out and come in before this people, for who can rule this great people of yours?"* 11God answered Solomon, "Because this was in your heart and you have not asked for possessions, wealth, honor, or the life of those who hate you and have not even asked for long life but have asked for wisdom and knowledge for yourself that you may rule my people over whom I have made you king,* 12wisdom and knowledge are granted to you. I will also give you riches, possessions, and honor, such as none of the kings had who were before you,

and none after you shall have the like."* 13So Solomon came from[a] the high place at Gibeon, from the tent of meeting, to Jerusalem. And he reigned over Israel.

SOLOMON'S MILITARY AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

14 Solomon gathered together chariots and horses; he had fourteen hundred chariots and twelve thousand horses, which he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.* 15The king made silver and gold as common in Jerusalem as stone, and he made cedar as plentiful as the sycamores of the Shephelah.* 16Solomon's import of horses was from Egypt and Kue; the king's traders received them from Kue at the prevailing price.* 17They imported from Egypt (and then exported) a chariot for six hundred shekels of silver and a horse for one hundred fifty, so through them these were exported to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Aram.

2 Chronicles 2

PREPARATIONS FOR BUILDING THE TEMPLE

1 [b]Solomon decided to build a temple for the name of the LORD and a royal
palace for himself.* [2c]Solomon conscripted seventy thousand laborers and
eighty thousand stonecutters in the hill country, with three thousand six
hundred to oversee them.*

ALLIANCE WITH HURAM OF TYRE

3 Solomon sent word to King Huram of Tyre, "Once you dealt with my
father David and sent him cedar to build himself a house to live in.* [4]I am
now about to build a house for the name of the LORD my God and dedicate
it to him for offering fragrant incense before him, and for the regular
offering of the rows of bread, and for burnt offerings morning and evening,
on the Sabbaths and the new moons and the appointed festivals of the LORD
our God, as ordained forever for Israel.* [5]The house that I am about to build
will be great, for our God is greater than other gods.* [6]But who is able to
build him a house, since heaven, even highest heaven, cannot contain him?
Who am I to build a house for him except as a place to make offerings
before him?* [7]So now send me an artisan skilled to work in gold, silver,
bronze, and iron and in purple, crimson, and blue fabrics, trained also in
engraving, to join the skilled workers who are with me in Judah and
Jerusalem, whom my father David provided.* [8]Send me also cedar, cypress,
and algum timber from Lebanon, for I know that your servants are skilled in
cutting Lebanon timber. My servants will work with your servants* [9]to
prepare timber for me in abundance, for the house I am about to build will
be great and wonderful. [10]I will provide for your servants, those who cut the
timber, twenty thousand cors of crushed wheat, twenty thousand cors of
barley, twenty thousand baths[d] of wine, and twenty thousand baths[e] of oil."*

11 Then King Huram of Tyre answered in a letter that he sent to
Solomon, "Because the LORD loves his people, he has made you king over
them."* [12]Huram also said, "Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who made
heaven and earth, who has given King David a wise son endowed with

discretion and understanding who will build a temple for the LORD and a royal palace for himself.*

13 "I have dispatched Huram-abi, a skilled artisan endowed with understanding, [14]the son of one of the Danite women, his father a Tyrian. He is trained to work in gold, silver, bronze, iron, stone, and wood and in purple, blue, and crimson fabrics and fine linen and to do all sorts of engraving and execute any design that may be assigned him, with your artisans, the artisans of my lord, your father David.* [15]Now, as for the wheat, barley, oil, and wine of which my lord has spoken, let him send them to his servants.* [16]We will cut whatever timber you need from Lebanon and bring it to you as rafts by sea to Joppa; you will take it up to Jerusalem."*

17 Then Solomon took a census of all the aliens who were residing in the land of Israel, after the census that his father David had taken, and there were found to be one hundred fifty-three thousand six hundred.* [18]Seventy thousand of them he assigned as laborers, eighty thousand as stonecutters in the hill country, and three thousand six hundred as overseers to make the people work.*

2 Chronicles 3

SOLOMON BUILDS THE TEMPLE

1 Solomon began to build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem on Mount
Moriah, where the LORD had appeared to his father David, at the place that
David had designated, on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.* [2]He
began to build on the second day of the second month of the fourth year of
his reign. [3]These are Solomon's measurements[f] for building the house of
God: the length, in cubits of the old standard, was sixty cubits and the width
twenty cubits. [4]The vestibule in front of the nave of the house was twenty
cubits long, across the width of the house,[g] and its height was one hundred
twenty cubits. He overlaid it on the inside with pure gold. [5]The great hall he
lined with cypress, covered it with fine gold, and made palms and chains on
it.* [6]He adorned the house with settings of precious stones. The gold was
gold from Parvaim. [7]So he lined the house with gold: its beams, its
thresholds, its walls, and its doors; and he carved cherubim on the walls.*

8 He made the most holy place; its length, corresponding to the width of
the house, was twenty cubits, and its width was twenty cubits; he overlaid it
with six hundred talents of fine gold.* [9]The weight of the nails was fifty
shekels of gold. He overlaid the upper chambers with gold.

10 In the most holy place he made two carved cherubim and overlaid[h]
them with gold.* [11]The wings of the cherubim together extended twenty
cubits: one wing of the one, five cubits long, touched the wall of the house,
and its other wing, five cubits long, touched the wing of the other cherub;
[12]and of this cherub, one wing, five cubits long, touched the wall of the
house, and the other wing, also five cubits long, was joined to the wing of
the first cherub. [13]The wings of these cherubim extended twenty cubits; the
cherubim[i] stood on their feet facing the main hall. [14]And Solomon[j] made
the curtain of blue and purple and crimson fabrics and fine linen and
worked cherubim into it.*

15 In front of the house he made two pillars thirty-five cubits high, each
with a capital of five cubits on its top.* [16]He made encircling[k] chains and
put them on the tops of the pillars, and he made one hundred pomegranates

and put them on the chains. [17]He set up the pillars in front of the temple,
one on the right, the other on the left; the one on the right he called Jachin,
and the one on the left, Boaz.*

2 Chronicles 4

FURNISHINGS OF THE TEMPLE

1 He made an altar of bronze, twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and
ten cubits high.* 2Then he made the molten sea; it was round, ten cubits
from rim to rim and five cubits high. A line of thirty cubits would encircle it
completely.* 3Under it were figures of bulls all around, each of ten cubits,
surrounding the sea; there were two rows of bulls, cast when it was cast.* 4It
stood on twelve bulls, three facing north, three facing west, three facing
south, and three facing east; the sea was set on them. The hindquarters of
each were toward the inside. 5Its thickness was a handbreadth; its rim was
made like the rim of a cup, like the flower of a lily; it held three thousand
baths.[1,*] 6He also made ten basins in which to wash and set five on the right
side and five on the left. In these they were to rinse what was used for the
burnt offering. The sea was for the priests to wash in.*

7 He made ten golden lampstands as prescribed and set them in the
temple, five on the right side and five on the left.* 8He also made ten tables
and placed them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left.
And he made one hundred basins of gold.* 9He made the court of the priests
and the great court and doors for the court; he overlaid their doors with
bronze.* 10He set the sea at the southeast corner of the house.*

11 And Huram made the pots, the shovels, and the basins. Thus Huram
finished the work that he did for King Solomon on the house of God:* 12the
two pillars, the bowls, and the two capitals on the top of the pillars; and the
two latticeworks to cover the two bowls of the capitals that were on the top
of the pillars;* 13the four hundred pomegranates for the two latticeworks,
two rows of pomegranates for each latticework, to cover the two bowls of
the capitals that were on the pillars.* 14He made the stands, the basins on
the stands,* 15the one sea, and the twelve bulls underneath it. 16The pots, the
shovels, the forks, and all the equipment for these Huram-abi made of
burnished bronze for King Solomon for the house of the LORD.* 17In the
plain of the Jordan the king cast them, in the clay ground between Succoth

and Zeredah.* 18Solomon made all these things in great quantities, so that the weight of the bronze was not determined.*

19 So Solomon made all the things that were in the house of God: the golden altar, the tables for the bread of the Presence,* 20the lampstands and their lamps of pure gold to burn before the inner sanctuary, as prescribed;* 21the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs, of purest gold; 22the snuffers, basins, ladles, and firepans, of pure gold. As for the entrance to the temple: the inner doors to the most holy place and the doors of the main hall of the temple were of gold.

2 Chronicles 5

1 Thus all the work that Solomon did for the house of the LORD was
finished. Solomon brought in the things that his father David had dedicated
and stored the silver, the gold, and all the vessels in the treasuries of the
house of God.*

THE ARK BROUGHT INTO THE TEMPLE

2 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the
tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the people of Israel, in
Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of
David, which is Zion.* [3]And all the Israelites assembled before the king at
the festival that is in the seventh month. [4]And all the elders of Israel came,
and the Levites carried the ark.* [5]So they brought up the ark, the tent of
meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the
Levites brought them up. [6]King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel,
who had assembled before him, were before the ark, sacrificing so many
sheep and oxen that they could not be numbered or counted. [7]Then the
priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner
sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the
cherubim. [8]For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the
ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. [9]The
poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy
place[m] in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen from
outside; they are there to this day.* [10]There was nothing in the ark except
the two tablets that Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a
covenant[n] with the people of Israel when they came out of Egypt.*

11 Now when the priests came out of the holy place (for all the priests
who were present had sanctified themselves, without regard to their
divisions),* [12]all the Levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun, their
sons and kindred, arrayed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps, and lyres,
stood east of the altar with one hundred twenty priests who were
trumpeters.* [13]It was the duty of the trumpeters and singers together to

make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the LORD, and when the song was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the LORD,

"For he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever,"

the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud,* 14so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.*

2 Chronicles 6

DEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE

1 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would reside in thick
darkness.* 2I have built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell
forever."

3 Then the king turned around and blessed all the assembly of Israel,
while all the assembly of Israel stood. 4And he said, "Blessed be the LORD,
the God of Israel, who with his hand has fulfilled what he promised with his
mouth to my father David, saying, 5'Since the day that I brought my people
out of the land of Egypt, I have not chosen a city from any of the tribes of
Israel in which to build a house, so that my name might be there, and I
chose no one as ruler over my people Israel, 6but I have chosen Jerusalem
in order that my name may be there, and I have chosen David to be over my
people Israel.'* 7My father David had it in mind to build a house for the
name of the LORD, the God of Israel.* 8But the LORD said to my father
David, 'You did well to consider building a house for my name;
9nevertheless, you shall not build the house, but your son who shall be born
to you shall build the house for my name.' 10Now the LORD has fulfilled his
promise that he made, for I have succeeded my father David and sit on the
throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the
name of the LORD, the God of Israel. 11There I have set the ark, in which is
the covenant of the LORD that he made with the people of Israel."*

SOLOMON'S PRAYER OF DEDICATION

12 Then Solomon[o] stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of
the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands.* 13Solomon had
made a bronze platform five cubits long, five cubits wide, and three cubits
high and had set it in the court, and he stood on it. Then he knelt on his
knees in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his
hands toward heaven.* 14He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God
like you in heaven or on earth, keeping covenant and steadfast love with
your servants who walk before you with all their heart*—15you who have

kept for your servant, my father David, what you promised to him. Indeed, you promised with your mouth and this day have fulfilled with your hand.* 16Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children keep to their way, to walk in my law as you have walked before me.'* 17Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, let your word be confirmed that you promised to your servant David.

18 "But will God indeed dwell with mortals on earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built!* 19Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you. 20May your eyes be open day and night toward this house, the place where you promised to set your name, and may you heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place. 21And hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; may you hear from heaven your dwelling place; hear and forgive.*

22 "If someone sins against a neighbor and is required to take an oath and comes and swears before your altar in this house,* 23may you hear from heaven, and act, and judge your servants, repaying the guilty by bringing their conduct on their own heads and vindicating the righteous by rewarding them according to their righteousness.

24 "When your people Israel, having sinned against you, are defeated before an enemy but turn again to you, confess your name, pray and plead with you in this house,* 25then hear from heaven, forgive the sin of your people Israel, and bring them again to the land that you gave to them and to their ancestors.

26 "When heaven is shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against you and then they pray toward this place, confess your name, and turn from their sin because you punish them,* 27then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel, when you teach them the good way in which they should walk, and grant rain on your land, which you have given to your people as an inheritance.

28 "If there is famine in the land, if there is plague, blight, mildew, locust, or caterpillar; if their enemies besiege them in any of the settlements

of the lands; whatever suffering, whatever sickness there is;* 29whatever prayer, whatever plea there is from any individual or from all your people Israel, all knowing their own suffering and their own sorrows so that they stretch out their hands toward this house; 30then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, forgive, and render to all whose hearts you know, according to all their ways, for only you know the human heart.* 31Thus may they fear you and walk in your ways all the days that they live in the land that you gave to our ancestors.

32 "Likewise when foreigners, who are not of your people Israel, come from a distant land because of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm, when they come and pray toward this house,* 33then hear from heaven your dwelling place and do whatever the foreigners ask of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.*

34 "If your people go out to battle against their enemies, by whatever way you shall send them, and they pray to you toward this city that you have chosen and the house that I have built for your name, 35then hear from heaven their prayer and their plea and maintain their cause.

36 "If they sin against you—for there is no one who does not sin—and you are angry with them and give them to an enemy, so that they are carried away captive to a land far off or near,* 37then if they come to their senses in the land to which they have been taken captive and repent and plead with you in the land of their captivity, saying, 'We have sinned and have done wrong; we have acted wickedly,'* 38if they repent with all their heart and soul in the land of their captivity, to which they were taken captive, and pray toward their land that you gave to their ancestors, the city that you have chosen, and the house that I have built for your name, 39then hear from heaven your dwelling place their prayer and their pleas, maintain their cause, and forgive your people who have sinned against you. 40Now, O my God, let your eyes be open and your ears attentive to prayer from this place.*

41Now rise up, O LORD God, and go to your resting place,
you and the ark of your might.
Let your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation,

and let your faithful rejoice in your goodness.*
42O LORD God, do not reject your anointed one.
Remember your steadfast love for your servant David.”

2 Chronicles 7

SOLOMON DEDICATES THE TEMPLE

1 When Solomon had ended his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple.* [2]The priests could not enter the house of the LORD because the glory of the LORD filled the LORD's house. [3]When all the people of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed down on the pavement with their faces to the ground and worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying,

"For he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever."*

4 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifice before the LORD.* [5]King Solomon offered as a sacrifice twenty-two thousand oxen and one hundred twenty thousand sheep. So the king and all the people dedicated the house of God. [6]The priests stood at their posts, the Levites also, with the instruments for music to the LORD that King David had made for giving thanks to the LORD—for his steadfast love endures forever—whenever David offered praises through their playing. Opposite them the priests sounded trumpets, and all Israel stood.*

7 Solomon consecrated the middle of the court that was in front of the house of the LORD, for there he offered the burnt offerings and the fat of the offerings of well-being because the bronze altar Solomon had made could not hold the burnt offering and the grain offering and the fat parts.*

8 At that time Solomon held the festival for seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great congregation, from Lebo-hamath to the Wadi of Egypt.* [9]On the eighth day they held a solemn assembly, for they had observed the dedication of the altar seven days and the festival seven days.* [10]On the twenty-third day of the seventh month he sent the people away to their homes, joyful and in good spirits because of the goodness that the LORD had shown to David and to Solomon and to his people Israel.*

11 Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king's house; all that Solomon had planned to do in the house of the LORD and in his own house he successfully accomplished.*

GOD'S SECOND APPEARANCE TO SOLOMON

12 Then the LORD appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him, "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.* 13When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain or command the locust to devour the land or send pestilence among my people,* 14if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* 15Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.* 16For now I have chosen and consecrated this house so that my name may be there forever; my eyes and my heart will be there for all time.* 17As for you, if you walk before me as your father David walked, doing according to all that I have commanded you and keeping my statutes and my ordinances,* 18then I will establish your royal throne, as I made a covenant[p] with your father David saying, 'You shall never lack a successor to rule over Israel.'*

19 "But if you[q] turn aside and forsake my statutes and my commandments that I have set before you and go and serve other gods and worship them,* 20then I will pluck you[r] up from the land that I have given you,[s] and this house, which I have consecrated for my name, I will cast out of my sight and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.* 21And regarding this house, now exalted, everyone passing by will be astonished and say, 'Why has the LORD done such a thing to this land and to this house?'* 22Then they will say, 'Because they abandoned the LORD the God of their ancestors who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and they embraced other gods and worshiped them and served them; therefore he has brought all this calamity upon them.' "

2 Chronicles 8

VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF SOLOMON

1 At the end of twenty years, during which Solomon had built the house of
the LORD and his own house,* 2Solomon rebuilt the cities that Huram had
given to him and settled the people of Israel in them.

3 Solomon went to Hamath-zobah and captured it. 4He built Tadmor in
the wilderness and all the storage towns that he built in Hamath. 5He also
built Upper Beth-horon and Lower Beth-horon, fortified cities, with walls,
gates, and bars,* 6and Baalath, as well as all Solomon's storage towns, and
all the towns for his chariots, the towns for his cavalry, and whatever
Solomon desired to build, in Jerusalem, in Lebanon, and in all the land of
his dominion. 7All the people who were left of the Hittites, the Amorites,
the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, who were not of Israel, 8from
their descendants who were still left in the land, whom the people of Israel
had not destroyed—these Solomon conscripted for forced labor, as is still
the case today.* 9But of the people of Israel Solomon made no slaves for his
work; they were soldiers and his officers, the commanders of his chariotry
and cavalry. 10These were the chief officers of King Solomon, two hundred
fifty of them, who exercised authority over the people.

11 Solomon brought Pharaoh's daughter from the city of David to the
house that he had built for her, for he said, "My wife shall not live in the
house of King David of Israel, for the places to which the ark of the LORD
has come are holy."*

12 Then Solomon offered up burnt offerings to the LORD on the altar of
the LORD that he had built in front of the vestibule,* 13as the duty of each
day required, offering according to the commandment of Moses for the
Sabbaths, the new moons, and the three annual festivals: the Festival of
Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks, and the Festival of Booths.*
14According to the ordinance of his father David, he appointed the divisions
of the priests for their service, and the Levites for their offices of praise and
ministry alongside the priests as the duty of each day required, and the
gatekeepers in their divisions for the several gates, for so David the man of

God had commanded.* 15They did not turn away from what the king had commanded the priests and Levites regarding anything at all or regarding the treasuries.

16 Thus all the work of Solomon was accomplished, from[t] the day the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid until the house of the LORD was finished completely.

17 Then Solomon went to Ezion-geber and Eloth on the shore of the sea, in the land of Edom.* 18Huram sent him, in the care of his servants, ships and servants familiar with the sea. They went to Ophir together with the servants of Solomon and imported from there four hundred fifty talents of gold and brought it to King Solomon.*

2 Chronicles 9

VISIT OF THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

1 When the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to
Jerusalem to test him with riddles, having a very great retinue and camels
bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. When she came to
Solomon, she discussed with him all that was on her mind.* [2]Solomon
answered all her questions; there was nothing hidden from Solomon that he
could not explain to her. [3]When the queen of Sheba had observed the
wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built,* [4]the food of his table, the
seating of his officials, and the attendance of his servants, and their
clothing, his valets, and their clothing, and his burnt offerings[u] that he
offered at the house of the LORD, it took her breath away.

5 So she said to the king, "The report was true that I heard in my own
land of your accomplishments and of your wisdom,* [6]but I did not believe
the[v] reports until I came and my own eyes saw it. Not even half of the
greatness of your wisdom had been told to me; you far surpass the report
that I had heard. [7]Happy are your people! Happy are these your servants
who continually attend you and hear your wisdom! [8]Blessed be the LORD
your God, who has delighted in you and set you on his throne as king for
the LORD your God. Because your God loved Israel and would establish
them forever, he has made you king over them, that you may execute justice
and righteousness."* [9]Then she gave the king one hundred twenty talents of
gold, a very great quantity of spices, and precious stones; there were no
spices such as those that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.*

10 Moreover, the servants of Huram and the servants of Solomon who
brought gold from Ophir brought algum wood and precious stones.* [11]From
the algum wood, the king made steps[w] for the house of the LORD and for the
king's house, lyres also and harps for the singers; there never was seen the
like of them before in the land of Judah.

12 Meanwhile, King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba every desire
that she expressed, well beyond what she had brought to the king. Then she
returned to her own land with her servants.

SOLOMON'S GREAT WEALTH

13 The weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred
sixty-six talents of gold,* [14]besides that which the traders and merchants
brought, and all the kings of Arabia and the governors of the land brought
gold and silver to Solomon. [15]King Solomon made two hundred large
shields of beaten gold; six hundred shekels[x] of beaten gold went into each
large shield. [16]He made three hundred shields of beaten gold; three hundred
shekels[y] of gold went into each shield, and the king put them in the House
of the Forest of Lebanon. [17]The king also made a great ivory throne and
overlaid it with pure gold. [18]The throne had six steps and a footstool of
gold, which were attached to the throne, and on each side of the seat were
arm rests and two lions standing beside the arm rests,* [19]while twelve lions
were standing, one on each end of a step on the six steps. The like of it was
never made in any kingdom.* [20]All King Solomon's drinking vessels were
of gold, and all the vessels of the House of the Forest of Lebanon were of
pure gold; silver was not considered as anything in the days of Solomon.
[21]For the king's ships went to Tarshish with the servants of Huram; once
every three years the ships of Tarshish used to come bringing gold, silver,
ivory, apes, and peacocks.[z,*]

22 Thus King Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth in riches and in
wisdom.* [23]All the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon to
hear his wisdom, which God had put into his mind. [24]Every one of them
brought a present, objects of silver and gold, garments, weaponry, spices,
horses, and mules, so much year by year. [25]Solomon had four thousand
stalls for horses and chariots and twelve thousand horses, which he
stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem.* [26]He ruled
over all the kings from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines and to the
territory of Egypt.* [27]The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as
stone and cedar as plentiful as the sycamore of the Shephelah.* [28]Horses
were imported for Solomon from Egypt and from all lands.*

DEATH OF SOLOMON

29 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, from first to last, are they not
written in the history of the prophet Nathan and in the prophecy of Ahijah

the Shilonite and in the visions of the seer Iddo concerning Jeroboam son of Nebat?* 30Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years.* 31Solomon slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of his father David, and his son Rehoboam succeeded him.*

2 Chronicles 10

THE REVOLT AGAINST REHOBOAM

1 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all Israel had come to Shechem to make
him king.* 2When Jeroboam son of Nebat heard of it (for he was in Egypt,
where he had fled from King Solomon), then Jeroboam returned from
Egypt.* 3They sent and called him, and Jeroboam and all Israel came and
said to Rehoboam, 4"Your father made our yoke heavy. Now, therefore,
lighten the hard service of your father and his heavy yoke that he placed on
us, and we will serve you." 5He said to them, "Come to me again in three
days." So the people went away.

6 Then King Rehoboam took counsel with the older men who had
attended his father Solomon while he was still alive, saying, "How do you
advise me to answer this people?"* 7They answered him, "If you will be
kind to this people and please them and speak good words to them, then
they will be your servants forever." 8But he rejected the advice that the
older men gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with
him and now attended him. 9He said to them, "What do you advise that we
answer this people who have said to me, 'Lighten the yoke that your father
put on us'?"* 10The young men who had grown up with him said to him,
"Thus should you speak to the people who said to you, 'Your father made
our yoke heavy, but you must lighten it for us'; tell them, 'My little finger is
thicker than my father's loins. 11Now, whereas my father laid on you a
heavy yoke, I will add to your yoke. My father disciplined you with whips,
but I will discipline you with scorpions.' "

12 So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as
the king had said, "Come to me again the third day."* 13The king answered
them harshly. King Rehoboam rejected the advice of the older men; 14he
spoke to them in accordance with the advice of the young men, "My father
made your yoke heavy, but I will add to it; my father disciplined you with
whips, but I will discipline you with scorpions." 15So the king did not listen
to the people because it was a turn of affairs brought about by God so that

the LORD might fulfill his word that he had spoken by Ahijah the Shilonite to Jeroboam son of Nebat.*

16 When all Israel saw that the king would not listen to them, the people answered the king,

"What share do we have in David?
We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse.
Each of you to your tents, O Israel!
Look now to your own house, O David."

So all Israel departed to their tents.* [17]But Rehoboam reigned over the people of Israel who were living in the cities of Judah. [18]When King Rehoboam sent Hadoram, who was taskmaster over the forced labor, the people of Israel stoned him to death. King Rehoboam hurriedly mounted his chariot to flee to Jerusalem. [19]So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.*

2 Chronicles 11

JUDAH AND BENJAMIN FORTIFIED

1 When Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, he assembled one hundred eighty
thousand chosen troops of the house of Judah and Benjamin to fight against
Israel, to restore the kingdom to Rehoboam.* [2]But the word of the LORD
came to Shemaiah the man of God:* [3]"Say to King Rehoboam of Judah, son
of Solomon, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin: [4]Thus says the LORD:
You shall not go up or fight against your kindred. Let everyone return home,
for this thing is from me." So they heeded the word of the LORD and turned
back from the expedition against Jeroboam.*

5 Rehoboam resided in Jerusalem, and he built cities for defense in
Judah. [6]He built up Bethlehem, Etam, Tekoa, [7]Beth-zur, Soco, Adullam,
[8]Gath, Mareshah, Ziph, [9]Adoraim, Lachish, Azekah, [10]Zorah, Aijalon, and
Hebron, fortified cities that are in Judah and in Benjamin. [11]He made the
fortresses strong and put commanders in them and stores of food, oil, and
wine. [12]He also put large shields and spears in all the cities and made them
very strong. So he held Judah and Benjamin.

PRIESTS AND LEVITES SUPPORT REHOBOAM

13 The priests and the Levites who were in all Israel presented
themselves to him from all their territories. [14]The Levites had left their
pasturelands and possessions and had come to Judah and Jerusalem because
Jeroboam and his sons had prevented them from serving as priests of the
LORD* [15]and had appointed his own priests for the high places and for the
goat-demons and for the calves that he had made.* [16]Those who had set
their hearts to seek the LORD God of Israel came after them from all the
tribes of Israel to Jerusalem to sacrifice to the LORD, the God of their
ancestors.* [17]They strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and for three years
they made Rehoboam son of Solomon secure, for they walked for three
years in the way of David and Solomon.*

REHOBOAM'S MARRIAGES

18 Rehoboam took as his wife Mahalath daughter of Jerimoth son of
David and of Abihail daughter of Eliab son of Jesse.* [19]She bore him sons:
Jeush, Shemariah, and Zaham. [20]After her he took Maacah daughter of
Absalom, who bore him Abijah, Attai, Ziza, and Shelomith. [21]Rehoboam
loved Maacah daughter of Absalom more than all his other wives and
concubines (he took eighteen wives and sixty concubines and became the
father of twenty-eight sons and sixty daughters).* [22]Rehoboam appointed
Abijah son of Maacah as chief prince among his brothers, for he intended to
make him king.* [23]He dealt wisely and distributed some of his sons through
all the districts of Judah and Benjamin, in all the fortified cities; he gave
them abundant provisions and found many wives for them.

2 Chronicles 12

EGYPT ATTACKS JUDAH

1 When the rule of Rehoboam was established and he grew strong, he
abandoned the law of the LORD, he and all Israel with him.* [2]In the fifth year
of King Rehoboam, because they had been unfaithful to the LORD, King
Shishak of Egypt came up against Jerusalem* [3]with twelve hundred chariots
and sixty thousand cavalry. A countless army came with him from Egypt:
Libyans, Sukkiim, and Cushites.* [4]He took the fortified cities of Judah and
came as far as Jerusalem. [5]Then the prophet Shemaiah came to Rehoboam
and to the officers of Judah who had gathered at Jerusalem because of
Shishak and said to them, "Thus says the LORD: You abandoned me, so I
have abandoned you to the hand of Shishak."* [6]Then the officers of Israel
and the king humbled themselves and said, "The LORD is in the right."*
[7]When the LORD saw that they had humbled themselves, the word of the
LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, "They have humbled themselves; I will
not destroy them, but I will grant them some deliverance, and my wrath
shall not be poured out on Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak.*
[8]Nevertheless, they shall be his servants, so that they may know the
difference between serving me and serving the kingdoms of other lands."*

9 So King Shishak of Egypt came up against Jerusalem; he took away the
treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house; he
took everything. He also took away the shields of gold that Solomon had
made,* [10]but King Rehoboam made in place of them shields of bronze and
committed them to the hands of the officers of the guard who kept the door
of the king's house. [11]Whenever the king went into the house of the LORD,
the guard would come along bearing them and would then bring them back
to the guardroom. [12]Because he humbled himself, the wrath of the LORD
turned from him, so as not to destroy them completely; moreover,
conditions were good in Judah.*

DEATH OF REHOBOAM

13 So King Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem and reigned. Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he began to reign; he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city that the LORD had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel to put his name there. His mother's name was Naamah the Ammonite.* [14]He did evil, for he did not set his heart to seek the LORD.*

15 Now the acts of Rehoboam, from first to last, are they not written in the records of the prophet Shemaiah and of the seer Iddo, recorded by genealogy? There were continual wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam.* [16]Rehoboam slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of David, and his son Abijah succeeded him.*

2 Chronicles 13

ABIJAH REIGNS OVER JUDAH

1 In the eighteenth year of King Jeroboam, Abijah began to reign over
Judah.* [2]He reigned for three years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was
Micaiah daughter of Uriel of Gibeah.

Now there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam.* [3]Abijah engaged in
battle, having an army of valiant warriors, four hundred thousand picked
men; and Jeroboam drew up his line of battle against him with eight
hundred thousand picked mighty warriors. [4]Then Abijah stood on the slope
of Mount Zemaraim that is in the hill country of Ephraim and said, "Listen
to me, Jeroboam and all Israel!* [5]Do you not know that the LORD God of
Israel gave the kingship over Israel forever to David and his sons by a
covenant of salt?* [6]Yet Jeroboam son of Nebat, a servant of Solomon son of
David, rose up and rebelled against his lord,* [7]and certain worthless
scoundrels gathered around him and defied Rehoboam son of Solomon
when Rehoboam was young and irresolute and could not withstand them.

8 "And now you think that you can withstand the kingdom of the LORD in
the hand of the sons of David, because you are a great multitude and have
with you the golden calves that Jeroboam made as gods for you.* [9]Have you
not driven out the priests of the LORD, the descendants of Aaron, and the
Levites and made priests for yourselves like the peoples of other lands?
Whoever comes to be consecrated with a young bull or seven rams becomes
a priest of what are no gods.* [10]But as for us, the LORD is our God, and we
have not abandoned him. We have priests ministering to the LORD who are
descendants of Aaron and Levites for their service. [11]They offer to the LORD
every morning and every evening burnt offerings and fragrant incense, set
out the rows of bread on the table of pure gold, and care for the golden
lampstand so that its lamps may burn every evening, for we keep the charge
of the LORD our God, but you have abandoned him.* [12]See, God is with us
at our head, and his priests have their battle trumpets to sound the call to
battle against you. O Israelites, do not fight against the LORD, the God of
your ancestors, for you cannot succeed."*

13 Jeroboam had sent an ambush around to come on them from behind;
thus his troops[a] were in front of Judah, and the ambush was behind them.
[14]When Judah turned, the battle was in front of them and behind them.
They cried out to the LORD, and the priests blew the trumpets.* [15]Then the
people of Judah raised the battle shout. And when the people of Judah
shouted, God defeated Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.*
[16]The Israelites fled before Judah, and God gave them into their hands.*
[17]Abijah and his army defeated them with great slaughter; five hundred
thousand picked men of Israel fell slain. [18]Thus the Israelites were subdued
at that time, and the people of Judah prevailed because they relied on the
LORD, the God of their ancestors.* [19]Abijah pursued Jeroboam and took
cities from him: Bethel with its villages and Jeshanah with its villages and
Ephron[b] with its villages. [20]Jeroboam did not recover his power in the days
of Abijah; the LORD struck him down, and he died.* [21]But Abijah
strengthened himself. He took fourteen wives and became the father of
twenty-two sons and sixteen daughters. [22]The rest of the acts of Abijah, his
behavior and his deeds, are written in the story of the prophet Iddo.*

2 Chronicles 14

ASA REIGNS

1 [c]So Abijah slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in the city of
David. His son Asa succeeded him. In his days the land was quiet for ten
years.* [2][d]Asa did what was good and right in the sight of the LORD his God.
[3]He took away the foreign altars and the high places, broke down the
pillars, cut down the sacred poles,[e,]* [4]and commanded Judah to seek the
LORD, the God of their ancestors, and to keep the law and the
commandment. [5]He also removed from all the cities of Judah the high
places and the incense altars. And the kingdom was quiet under him.* [6]He
built fortified cities in Judah while the land was quiet. He had no war in
those years, for the LORD gave him rest.* [7]He said to Judah, "Let us build
these cities and surround them with walls and towers, gates and bars; the
land is still ours because we have sought the LORD our God; we have sought
him, and he has given us rest on every side." So they built and prospered.
[8]Asa had an army of three hundred thousand from Judah armed with large
shields and spears and two hundred eighty thousand troops from Benjamin
who carried shields and drew bows; all these were mighty warriors.

ETHIOPIAN INVASION REPULSED

9 Zerah the Cushite came out against them with an army of a million men
and three hundred chariots and came as far as Mareshah.* [10]Asa went out to
meet him, and they drew up their lines of battle in the valley of Zephathah
at Mareshah. [11]Asa cried to the LORD his God, "O LORD, there is no
difference for you between helping the mighty and the weak. Help us,
O LORD our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come
against this multitude. O LORD, you are our God; let no mortal prevail
against you."* [12]So the LORD defeated the Cushites before Asa and before
Judah, and the Cushites fled.* [13]Asa and the army with him pursued them as
far as Gerar, and the Cushites fell until no one remained alive, for they were
broken before the LORD and his army. The people of Judah[f] carried away a
great quantity of spoil.* [14]They defeated all the cities around Gerar, for the

fear of the LORD was on them. They plundered all the cities, for there was much plunder in them.* 15They also attacked the tents of those who had livestock[g] and carried away sheep and goats in abundance and camels. Then they returned to Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 15

1 The spirit of God came upon Azariah son of Oded.* [2]He went out to meet
Asa and said to him, “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: The LORD
is with you while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by
you, but if you abandon him, he will abandon you.* [3]For a long time Israel
was without the true God and without a teaching priest and without law,*
[4]but when in their distress they turned to the LORD, the God of Israel, and
sought him, he was found by them.* [5]In those times it was not safe for
anyone to go or come, for great disturbances afflicted all the inhabitants of
the lands.* [6]They were broken in pieces, nation against nation and city
against city, for God troubled them with every sort of distress.* [7]But you,
take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be
rewarded.”*

8 When Asa heard these words, the prophecy of Azariah son of Oded,[h]
he took courage and put away the abominable idols from all the land of
Judah and Benjamin and from the towns that he had taken in the hill
country of Ephraim. He repaired the altar of the LORD that was in front of
the vestibule of the house of the LORD.[i,]* [9]He gathered all Judah and
Benjamin and those from Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon who were
residing as aliens with them, for great numbers had deserted to him from
Israel when they saw that the LORD his God was with him.* [10]They were
gathered at Jerusalem in the third month of the fifteenth year of the reign of
Asa. [11]They sacrificed to the LORD on that day, from the spoil that they had
brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep.* [12]They entered
into a covenant to seek the LORD, the God of their ancestors, with all their
heart and with all their soul,* [13]and whoever would not seek the LORD, the
God of Israel, was to be put to death, whether young or old, man or
woman.* [14]They took an oath to the LORD with a loud voice and with
shouting and with trumpets and with horns. [15]All Judah rejoiced over the
oath, for they had sworn with all their heart and had sought him with their
whole desire, and he was found by them, and the LORD gave them rest all
around.*

16 King Asa even removed his mother Maacah from being queen mother
because she had made an abominable image for Asherah. Asa cut down her
image, crushed it, and burned it at the Wadi Kidron.* [17]But the high places
were not taken out of Israel. Nevertheless, the heart of Asa was true all his
days. [18]He brought into the house of God the votive gifts of his father and
his own votive gifts: silver, gold, and utensils. [19]And there was no more war
until the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa.

2 Chronicles 16

ALLIANCE WITH ARAM CONDEMNED

1 In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, King Baasha of Israel went up
against Judah and built Ramah to prevent anyone from going out or coming
into the territory of[j] King Asa of Judah.* 2Then Asa took silver and gold
from the treasures of the house of the LORD and the king's house and sent
them to King Ben-hadad of Aram, who resided in Damascus, saying, 3"Let
there be an alliance between me and you, like that between my father and
your father; I am sending to you silver and gold; go, break your alliance
with King Baasha of Israel, so that he may withdraw from me." 4Ben-hadad
listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the
cities of Israel. They conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-maim, and all the store
cities of Naphtali.* 5When Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah
and let his work cease. 6Then King Asa brought all Judah, and they carried
away the stones of Ramah and its timber with which Baasha had been
building, and with them he built up Geba and Mizpah.

7 At that time the seer Hanani came to King Asa of Judah and said to
him, "Because you relied on the king of Aram and did not rely on the LORD
your God, the army of the king of Aram has escaped you.* 8Were not the
Cushites and the Libyans a huge army with exceedingly many chariots and
cavalry? Yet because you relied on the LORD, he gave them into your hand.*
9For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the entire earth to strengthen
those whose heart is true to him. You have done foolishly in this, for from
now on you will have wars."* 10Then Asa was angry with the seer and put
him in the stocks, in prison, for he was in a rage with him because of this.
And Asa inflicted cruelties on some of the people at the same time.

ASA'S DISEASE AND DEATH

11 The acts of Asa, from first to last, are written in the Book of the Kings
of Judah and Israel.* 12In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased
in his feet, and his disease became severe; yet even in his disease he did not
seek the LORD but sought help from physicians.* 13Then Asa slept with his

ancestors, dying in the forty-first year of his reign.* 14They buried him in the tomb that he had cut out for himself in the city of David. They laid him on a bier that had been filled with various kinds of spices prepared by the perfumer's art, and they made a very great fire in his honor.*

2 Chronicles 17

JEHOSHAPHAT'S REIGN

1 His son Jehoshaphat succeeded him and strengthened himself against
Israel.* [2]He placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah and set garrisons
in the land of Judah and in the cities of Ephraim that his father Asa had
taken.* [3]The LORD was with Jehoshaphat because he walked in the earlier
ways of his father;[k] he did not seek the Baals [4]but sought the God of his
father and walked in his commandments and not according to the ways of
Israel.* [5]Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand. All Judah
brought tribute to Jehoshaphat, and he had great riches and honor.* [6]His
heart was courageous in the ways of the LORD; furthermore, he removed the
high places and the sacred poles[l] from Judah.*

7 In the third year of his reign he sent his officials Ben-hail, Obadiah,
Zechariah, Nethanel, and Micaiah to teach in the cities of Judah.* [8]With
them were the Levites Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel,
Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah, and Tob-adonijah; and with
these Levites the priests Elishama and Jehoram.* [9]They taught in Judah,
having the book of the law of the LORD with them; they went around
through all the cities of Judah and taught among the people.*

10 The fear of the LORD fell on all the kingdoms of the lands around
Judah, and they did not make war against Jehoshaphat.* [11]Some of the
Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents and silver for tribute, and the
Arabs also brought him seven thousand seven hundred rams and seven
thousand seven hundred male goats.* [12]Jehoshaphat grew steadily greater.
He built fortresses and storage cities in Judah. [13]He carried out great works
in the cities of Judah. He had soldiers, mighty warriors, in Jerusalem. [14]This
was the muster of them by ancestral houses: Of Judah, the commanders of
the thousands: Adnah the commander, with three hundred thousand mighty
warriors, [15]and next to him Jehohanan the commander, with two hundred
eighty thousand, [16]and next to him Amasiah son of Zichri, a volunteer for
the service of the LORD, with two hundred thousand mighty warriors.* [17]Of
Benjamin: Eliada, a mighty warrior, with two hundred thousand armed with

bow and shield, [18]and next to him Jehozabad with one hundred eighty thousand armed for war. [19]These were in the service of the king, besides those whom the king had placed in the fortified cities throughout all Judah.

2 Chronicles 18

MICAIAH PREDICTS FAILURE

1 Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor, and he made a marriage
alliance with Ahab.* [2]After some years he went down to Ahab in Samaria.
Ahab slaughtered an abundance of sheep and oxen for him and for the
people who were with him and induced him to go up against Ramoth-
gilead.* [3]King Ahab of Israel said to King Jehoshaphat of Judah, "Will you
go with me to Ramoth-gilead?" He answered him, "I am as you are; my
people are your people. We will be with you in the war."

4 But Jehoshaphat also said to the king of Israel, "Inquire first for the
word of the LORD."* [5]Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together,
four hundred of them, and said to them, "Shall we go to battle against
Ramoth-gilead, or shall I refrain?" They said, "Go up, for God will give it
into the hand of the king." [6]But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there no other prophet
of the LORD here of whom we may inquire?" [7]The king of Israel said to
Jehoshaphat, "There is still one other by whom we may inquire of the LORD,
Micaiah son of Imlah, but I hate him, for he never prophesies anything
favorable about me but only disaster." Jehoshaphat said, "Let the king not
say such a thing."* [8]Then the king of Israel summoned an officer and said,
"Bring quickly Micaiah son of Imlah." [9]Now the king of Israel and King
Jehoshaphat of Judah were sitting on their thrones, arrayed in their robes,
and they were sitting at the threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of
Samaria, and all the prophets were prophesying before them.* [10]Zedekiah
son of Chenaanah made for himself horns of iron, and he said, "Thus says
the LORD: With these you shall gore the Arameans until they are destroyed."
[11]All the prophets were prophesying the same and saying, "Go up to
Ramoth-gilead and triumph; the LORD will give it into the hand of the
king."*

12 The messenger who had gone to summon Micaiah said to him, "Look,
the words of the prophets with one accord are favorable to the king; let your
word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably." [13]But Micaiah
said, "As the LORD lives, whatever my God says, that I will speak."*

14 When he had come to the king, the king said to him, "Micaiah, shall
we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I refrain?" He answered, "Go up
and triumph; they will be given into your hand." [15]But the king said to him,
"How many times must I make you swear to tell me nothing but the truth in
the name of the LORD?" [16]Then Micaiah[m] said, "I saw all Israel scattered on
the mountains like sheep without a shepherd, and the LORD said, 'These
have no master; let each one go home in peace.' "* [17]The king of Israel said
to Jehoshaphat, "Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy anything
favorable about me but only disaster?"

18 Then Micaiah[n] said, "Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the
LORD sitting on his throne, with all the host of heaven standing to the right
and to the left of him. [19]And the LORD said, 'Who will entice King Ahab of
Israel, so that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' Then one said one
thing, and another said another, [20]until a certain spirit came forward and
stood before the LORD, saying, 'I will entice him.' The LORD asked him,
'How?'* [21]He replied, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all
his prophets.' Then the LORD[o] said, 'You are to entice him, and you shall
succeed; go out and do it.' [22]So you see, the LORD has put a lying spirit in
the mouth of these your prophets; the LORD has decreed disaster for you."*

23 Then Zedekiah son of Chenaanah came up to Micaiah, slapped him on
the cheek, and said, "Which way did the spirit of the LORD pass from me to
speak to you?"* [24]Micaiah replied, "You will find out on that day when you
go in to hide in an inner chamber." [25]The king of Israel then ordered, "Take
Micaiah, and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the
king's son,* [26]and say: Thus says the king: Put this fellow in prison, and
feed him on reduced rations of bread and water until I return in peace."*
[27]Micaiah said, "If you return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me."
And he said, "Hear, you peoples, all of you!"*

DEFEAT AND DEATH OF AHAB

28 So the king of Israel and King Jehoshaphat of Judah went up to
Ramoth-gilead. [29]The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, "I will disguise
myself and go into battle, but you wear your robes." So the king of Israel
disguised himself, and they went into battle. [30]Now the king of Aram had

commanded the captains of his chariots, “Fight with no one small or great but only with the king of Israel.” 31When the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said, “It is the king of Israel.” So they turned to fight against him, and Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him. God drew them away from him,* 32for when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him. 33But a certain man drew his bow and unknowingly struck the king of Israel between the scale armor and the breastplate, so he said to the driver of his chariot, “Turn around, and carry me out of the battle, for I am wounded.”* 34The battle grew hot that day, and the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot facing the Arameans until evening; then at sunset he died.

2 Chronicles 19

1 King Jehoshaphat of Judah returned in peace to his house in Jerusalem.
[2]Jehu son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him and said to King
Jehoshaphat, "Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the
LORD? Because of this, wrath has gone out against you from the LORD.*
[3]Nevertheless, some good is found in you, for you destroyed the sacred
poles[p] out of the land and have set your heart to seek God."*

THE REFORMS OF JEHOSHAPHAT

4 Jehoshaphat resided at Jerusalem; then he went out again among the
people, from Beer-sheba to the hill country of Ephraim, and brought them
back to the LORD, the God of their ancestors.* [5]He appointed judges in the
land in all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city, [6]and said to the judges,
"Consider what you are doing, for you judge not on behalf of humans but
on the LORD's behalf; he is with you in giving judgment.* [7]Now, let the fear
of the LORD be upon you; take care what you do, for there is no perversion
of justice with the LORD our God or partiality or taking of bribes."*

8 Moreover, in Jerusalem Jehoshaphat appointed certain Levites and
priests and heads of families of Israel to give judgment for the LORD and to
decide disputed cases. They had their seat at Jerusalem.* [9]He charged them,
"This is how you shall act: in the fear of the LORD, in faithfulness, and with
your whole heart;* [10]whenever a case comes to you from your kindred who
live in their cities concerning bloodshed, law or commandment, statutes or
ordinances, then you shall instruct them, so that they may not incur guilt
before the LORD and wrath may not come on you and your kindred. Do so,
and you will not incur guilt.* [11]See, Amariah the chief priest is over you in
all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah son of Ishmael, the governor of the
house of Judah, in all the king's matters; and the Levites will serve you as
officers. Deal courageously, and may the LORD be with the good!"*

2 Chronicles 20

INVASION FROM THE EAST

1 After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of the
Meunites,[q] came against Jehoshaphat for battle. [2]Messengers[r] came and told
Jehoshaphat, "A great multitude is coming against you from Edom,[s] from
beyond the sea; already they are at Hazazon-tamar" (that is, En-gedi).*
[3]Jehoshaphat was afraid; he set himself to seek the LORD and proclaimed a
fast throughout all Judah.* [4]Judah assembled to seek help from the LORD;
from all the towns of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

JEHOSHAPHAT'S PRAYER AND VICTORY

5 Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house
of the LORD, before the new court, [6]and said, "O LORD, God of our
ancestors, are you not God in heaven? Do you not rule over all the
kingdoms of the nations? In your hand are power and might, so that no one
is able to withstand you.* [7]Did you not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants
of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants
of your friend Abraham?* [8]They have lived in it and in it have built you a
sanctuary for your name, saying, [9]'If disaster comes upon us, the sword,
judgment,[t] or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and
before you, for your name is in this house, and cry to you in our distress,
and you will hear and save.'* [10]See now, the people of Ammon, Moab, and
Mount Seir, whom you would not let Israel invade when they came from
the land of Egypt and whom they avoided and did not destroy,* [11]they
reward us by coming to drive us out of your possession that you have given
us to inherit.* [12]O our God, will you not execute judgment upon them? For
we are powerless against this great multitude that is coming against us. We
do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."*

13 Meanwhile, all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones,
their wives, and their children. [14]Then the spirit of the LORD came upon
Jahaziel son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a

Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the middle of the assembly.* 15He said, "Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you: Do not fear or be dismayed at this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's.* 16Tomorrow go down against them; they will come up by the ascent of Ziz; you will find them at the end of the valley, before the wilderness of Jeruel. 17This battle is not for you to fight; take your position, stand still, and see the victory of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, and the LORD will be with you."*

18 Then Jehoshaphat bowed down with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshiping the LORD.* 19And the Levites of the Kohathites and the Korahites stood up to praise the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice.

20 They rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa, and as they went out Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Listen to me, O Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the LORD your God and you will be established; believe his prophets and you will succeed."* 21When he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the LORD and praise him in holy splendor, as they went before the army, saying,

"Give thanks to the LORD,

for his steadfast love endures forever."*

22As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set an ambush against the Ammonites, Moab, and Mount Seir who had come against Judah, so that they were routed.* 23For the Ammonites and Moab attacked the inhabitants of Mount Seir, destroying them utterly, and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another.*

24 When Judah came to the watchtower of the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; they were corpses lying on the ground; no one had escaped. 25When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take the spoil from them, they found livestock[u] in great numbers, goods, clothing, and precious things, which they took for themselves until they could carry no more. They spent three days taking the spoil because of its abundance. 26On the fourth day they assembled in the Valley of Beracah, for there they blessed the

LORD; therefore that place has been called the Valley of Beracah[v] to this day. 27Then all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, with Jehoshaphat at their head, returned to Jerusalem with joy, for the LORD had enabled them to rejoice over their enemies.* 28They came to Jerusalem with harps and lyres and trumpets to the house of the LORD. 29The fear of God came on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard that the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel.* 30And the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet, for his God gave him rest all around.*

THE END OF JEHOSHAPHAT'S REIGN

31 So Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah. He was thirty-five years old when he began to reign; he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Azubah daughter of Shilhi.* 32He walked in the way of his father Asa and did not turn aside from it, doing what was right in the sight of the LORD. 33Yet the high places were not removed; the people had not yet set their hearts upon the God of their ancestors.*

34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, from first to last, are written in the Annals of Jehu son of Hanani, which are recorded in the Book of the Kings of Israel.*

35 After this King Jehoshaphat of Judah joined with King Ahaziah of Israel, who did wickedly.* 36He joined him in building ships to go to Tarshish; they built the ships in Ezion-geber. 37Then Eliezer son of Dodavahu of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, "Because you have joined with Ahaziah, the LORD will destroy what you have made." And the ships were wrecked and were not able to go to Tarshish.*

2 Chronicles 21

JEHORAM'S REIGN

1 Jehoshaphat slept with his ancestors and was buried with his ancestors in
the city of David; his son Jehoram succeeded him.* [2]He had brothers, the
sons of Jehoshaphat: Azariah, Jehiel, Zechariah, Azariah, Michael, and
Shephatiah; all these were the sons of King Jehoshaphat of Judah.w [3]Their
father gave them many gifts of silver, gold, and valuable possessions,
together with fortified cities in Judah, but he gave the kingdom to Jehoram
because he was the firstborn.* [4]Jehoram ascended the throne of his father,
and he strengthened himself, and he put all his brothers to the sword, as
well as some of the officials of Israel. [5]Jehoram was thirty-two years old
when he began to reign; he reigned eight years in Jerusalem.* [6]He walked in
the way of the kings of Israel, as the house of Ahab had done, for the
daughter of Ahab was his wife. He did what was evil in the sight of the
LORD. [7]Yet the LORD would not destroy the house of David because of the
covenant that he had made with David and since he had promised to give a
lamp to him and to his descendants forever.*

REVOLT OF EDOM

8 In his days Edom revolted against the rule of Judah and set up a king of
their own.* [9]Then Jehoram crossed over with his commanders and all his
chariots. He set out by night and attacked the Edomites, who had
surrounded him and his chariot commanders. [10]So Edom has been in revolt
against the rule of Judah to this day. At that time Libnah also revolted
against his rule because he had forsaken the LORD, the God of his ancestors.

ELIJAH'S LETTER

11 Moreover he made high places in the hill country of Judah and led the
inhabitants of Jerusalem into unfaithfulness and made Judah go astray.* [12]A
letter came to him from the prophet Elijah, saying, "Thus says the LORD, the
God of your father David: Because you have not walked in the ways of

your father Jehoshaphat or in the ways of King Asa of Judah* 13but have walked in the way of the kings of Israel and have led Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem into unfaithfulness, as the house of Ahab led Israel into unfaithfulness, and because you also have killed your brothers, members of your father's house, who were better than you,* 14see, the LORD will bring a great plague on your people, your children, your wives, and all your possessions, 15and you yourself will have a severe sickness with a disease of your bowels until your bowels come out, day after day, because of the disease."*

16 The LORD aroused against Jehoram the anger of the Philistines and of the Arabs who are near the Cushites.* 17They came up against Judah, invaded it, and carried away all the possessions they found that belonged to the king's house, along with his sons and his wives, so that no son was left to him except Jehoahaz, his youngest son.*

DISEASE AND DEATH OF JEHORAM

18 After all this the LORD struck him in his bowels with an incurable disease.* 19In the course of time, at the end of two years, his bowels came out because of the disease, and he died in great agony. His people made no fire in his honor like the fires made for his ancestors.* 20He was thirty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. He departed with no one's regret. They buried him in the city of David but not in the tombs of the kings.*

2 Chronicles 22

AHAZIAH'S REIGN

1 The inhabitants of Jerusalem made his youngest son Ahaziah king as his
successor, for the troops who came with the Arabs to the camp had killed all
the older sons. So Ahaziah son of Jehoram reigned as king of Judah.*
[2]Ahaziah was forty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned one
year in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Athaliah, a granddaughter of
Omri.* [3]He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother
was his counselor in doing wickedly. [4]He did what was evil in the sight of
the LORD like the house of Ahab, for after the death of his father they were
his counselors, to his ruin. [5]He even followed their advice and went with
Jehoram son of King Ahab of Israel to make war against King Hazael of
Aram at Ramoth-gilead. The Arameans wounded Joram,* [6]and he returned
to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds that he had received at Ramah, when
he fought King Hazael of Aram. And Ahaziah son of King Jehoram of
Judah went down to see Joram son of Ahab in Jezreel because he was sick.*

7 But it was ordained by God that the downfall of Ahaziah should come
about through his going to visit Joram. For when he came there he went out
with Jehoram to meet Jehu son of Nimshi, whom the LORD had anointed to
destroy the house of Ahab.* [8]When Jehu was executing judgment on the
house of Ahab, he met the officials of Judah and the sons of Ahaziah's
brothers, who attended Ahaziah, and he killed them.* [9]He searched for
Ahaziah, who was captured while hiding in Samaria and was brought to
Jehu and put to death. They buried him, for they said, "He is the grandson
of Jehoshaphat, who sought the LORD with all his heart." And the house of
Ahaziah had no one able to rule the kingdom.*

ATHALIAH SEIZES THE THRONE

10 Now when Athaliah, Ahaziah's mother, saw that her son was dead,
she set about to destroy all the royal family of the house of Judah.*
[11]But Jehoshabeath, the king's daughter, took Joash son of Ahaziah and stole him
away from among the king's children who were about to be killed; she put

him and his nurse in a bedroom. Thus Jehoshabeath daughter of King Jehoram and wife of the priest Jehoiada—because she was a sister of Ahaziah—hid him from Athaliah, so that she did not kill him; [12]he remained with them six years hidden in the house of God, while Athaliah reigned over the land.

2 Chronicles 23

1 But in the seventh year Jehoiada strengthened himself and entered into a
compact with the commanders of the hundreds, Azariah son of Jeroham,
Ishmael son of Jehohanan, Azariah son of Obed, Maaseiah son of Adaiah,
and Elishaphat son of Zichri.* [2]They went around through Judah and
gathered the Levites from all the towns of Judah and the heads of families
of Israel, and they came to Jerusalem. [3]Then the whole assembly made a
covenant with the king in the house of God. Jehoiada[x] said to them, "Here
is the king's son! Let him reign, as the LORD promised concerning the sons
of David.* [4]This is what you are to do: one-third of you, priests and Levites,
who come on duty on the Sabbath shall be gatekeepers,* [5]one-third shall be
at the king's house, and one-third at the Gate of the Foundation, and all the
people shall be in the courts of the house of the LORD. [6]Do not let anyone
enter the house of the LORD except the priests and ministering Levites; they
may enter, for they are holy, but all the other[y] people shall observe the
instructions of the LORD. [7]The Levites shall surround the king, each with his
weapons in his hand, and whoever enters the house shall be killed. Stay
with the king in his comings and goings."*

JOASH CROWNED KING

8 The Levites and all Judah did according to all that the priest Jehoiada
commanded; each brought his men who were to come on duty on the
Sabbath with those who were to go off duty on the Sabbath, for the priest
Jehoiada did not dismiss the divisions.* [9]The priest Jehoiada delivered to
the captains the spears and the large and small shields that had been King
David's, which were in the house of God,* [10]and he set all the people as a
guard for the king, everyone with weapon in hand, from the south side of
the house to the north side of the house, around the altar and the house.
[11]Then he brought out the king's son, put the crown on him, and gave him
the covenant; they proclaimed him king, and Jehoiada and his sons anointed
him, and they shouted, "Long live the king!"*

DEATH OF ATHALIAH

12 When Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and praising the king, she went into the house of the LORD to the people;* [13]when she looked, there was the king standing by his pillar at the entrance, and the captains and the trumpeters beside the king, and all the people of the land rejoicing and blowing trumpets, and the singers with their musical instruments leading in the celebration. Athaliah tore her clothes and cried, "Treason! Treason!" [14]Then the priest Jehoiada brought out the captains who were set over the army, saying to them, "Bring her out between the ranks; anyone who follows her is to be put to the sword." For the priest said, "Do not put her to death in the house of the LORD." [15]So they laid hands on her; she went into the entrance of the Horse Gate of the king's house, and there they put her to death.*

16 Jehoiada made a covenant between himself and all the people and the king that they should be the LORD's people. [17]Then all the people went to the house of Baal and tore it down; his altars and his images they broke in pieces, and they killed Mattan, the priest of Baal, in front of the altars.* [18]Jehoiada assigned the care of the house of the LORD to the Levitical priests whom David had organized to be in charge of the house of the LORD, to offer burnt offerings to the LORD, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, according to the order of David.* [19]He stationed the gatekeepers at the gates of the house of the LORD so that no one should enter who was in any way unclean.* [20]And he took the captains, the nobles, the governors of the people, and all the people of the land, and they brought the king down from the house of the LORD, marching through the upper gate to the king's house. They set the king on the royal throne.* [21]So all the people of the land rejoiced, and the city was quiet after Athaliah had been killed with the sword.

2 Chronicles 24

JOASH REPAIRS THE TEMPLE

1 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign; he reigned forty years
in Jerusalem; his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer-sheba.* [2]Joash did
what was right in the sight of the LORD all the days of the priest Jehoiada.*
[3]Jehoiada got two wives for him, and he became the father of sons and
daughters.

4 Some time afterward Joash decided to restore the house of the LORD.*
[5]He assembled the priests and the Levites and said to them, "Go out to the
cities of Judah and gather silver from all Israel to repair the house of your
God, year by year, and see that you act quickly." But the Levites did not act
quickly. [6]So the king summoned Jehoiada the chief and said to him, "Why
have you not required the Levites to bring in from Judah and Jerusalem the
tax levied by Moses, the servant of the LORD, on[z] the congregation of Israel
for the tent of the covenant?"* [7]For the children of Athaliah, that wicked
woman, had broken into the house of God and had even used all the
dedicated things of the house of the LORD for the Baals.*

8 So the king gave command, and they made a chest and set it outside the
gate of the house of the LORD. [9]A proclamation was made throughout Judah
and Jerusalem to bring in for the LORD the tax that Moses the servant of
God laid on Israel in the wilderness.* [10]All the leaders and all the people
rejoiced and brought their tax and dropped it into the chest until it was full.
[11]Whenever the chest was brought to the king's officers by the Levites,
when they saw that there was a large amount of silver in it, the king's
secretary and the officer of the chief priest would come and empty the chest
and take it and return it to its place. So they did day after day and collected
silver in abundance.* [12]The king and Jehoiada gave it to those who had
charge of the work of the house of the LORD, and they hired masons and
carpenters to restore the house of the LORD and also workers in iron and
bronze to repair the house of the LORD. [13]So those who were engaged in the
work labored, and the repairing went forward at their hands, and they
restored the house of God to its proper condition and strengthened it.*

14When they had finished, they brought the rest of the silver to the king and Jehoiada, and with it were made utensils for the house of the LORD, utensils for the service and for the burnt offerings, and ladles, and vessels of gold and silver. They offered burnt offerings in the house of the LORD regularly all the days of Jehoiada.

APOSTASY OF JOASH

15 But Jehoiada grew old and full of days and died; he was one hundred thirty years old at his death. 16And they buried him in the city of David among the kings, because he had done good in Israel and for God and his house.*

17 Now after the death of Jehoiada the officials of Judah came and did obeisance to the king; then the king listened to them. 18They abandoned the house of the LORD, the God of their ancestors, and served the sacred poles[a] and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs.* 19Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the LORD; they testified against them, but they would not listen.*

20 Then the spirit of God took possession of[b] Zechariah son of the priest Jehoiada; he stood above the people and said to them, "Thus says God: Why do you transgress the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has also forsaken you."* 21But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him to death in the court of the house of the LORD.* 22King Joash did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him but killed his son. As he was dying, he said, "May the LORD see and avenge!"*

DEATH OF JOASH

23 At the end of the year, the army of Aram came up against Joash. They came to Judah and Jerusalem and destroyed all the officials of the people from among them and sent all the spoil they took to the king of Damascus.* 24Although the army of Aram had come with few men, the LORD delivered into their hand a very great army because they had abandoned the LORD, the God of their ancestors. Thus they executed judgment on Joash.*

25 When they had withdrawn, leaving him severely wounded, his servants conspired against him because of the blood of the son[c] of the priest Jehoiada, and they killed him on his bed. So he died, and they buried him in the city of David, but they did not bury him in the tombs of the kings.* [26]Those who conspired against him were Zabad son of Shimeath the Ammonite and Jehozabad son of Shimrith the Moabite. [27]Accounts of his sons, and of the many oracles against him, and of the rebuilding[d] of the house of God are written in the Commentary on the Book of the Kings. And his son Amaziah succeeded him.*

2 Chronicles 25

REIGN OF AMAZIAH

1 Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he
reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jehoaddan
of Jerusalem.* [2]He did what was right in the sight of the LORD, yet not with
a true heart.* [3]As soon as the royal power was firmly in his hand, he killed
his servants who had murdered his father the king. [4]But he did not put their
children to death, according to what is written in the law, in the book of
Moses, where the LORD commanded, "The parents shall not be put to death
for the children or the children be put to death for the parents, but all shall
be put to death for their own sins."*

SLAUGHTER OF THE EDOMITES

5 Amaziah assembled the people of Judah and set them by ancestral
houses under commanders of the thousands and of the hundreds for all
Judah and Benjamin. He mustered those twenty years old and up and found
that they were three hundred thousand picked troops fit for war, able to
handle spear and shield.* [6]He also hired one hundred thousand mighty
warriors from Israel for one hundred talents of silver. [7]But a man of God
came to him and said, "O king, do not let the army of Israel go with you, for
the LORD is not with Israel—all these Ephraimites. [8]Rather, go by yourself
and act; be strong in battle, or God will fling you down before the enemy,
for God has power to help or to overthrow."* [9]Amaziah said to the man of
God, "But what shall we do about the hundred talents that I have given to
the army of Israel?" The man of God answered, "The LORD is able to give
you much more than this." [10]Then Amaziah discharged the army that had
come to him from Ephraim, letting them go home again. But they became
very angry with Judah and returned home in fierce anger.

11 Amaziah strengthened himself and led out his people; he went to the
Valley of Salt and struck down ten thousand men of Seir.* [12]The people of
Judah captured another ten thousand alive, took them to the top of Sela, and
threw them down from the top of Sela, so that all of them were dashed to

pieces. 13But the men of the army whom Amaziah sent back, not letting them go with him to battle, fell on the cities of Judah from Samaria to Beth-horon; they killed three thousand people in them and took much plunder.

14 Now after Amaziah came from the slaughter of the Edomites, he brought the gods of the people of Seir, set them up as his gods, and worshiped them, making offerings to them.* 15The LORD was angry with Amaziah and sent to him a prophet, who said to him, "Why have you resorted to a people's gods who could not deliver their own people from your hand?"* 16But as he was speaking, the king[e] said to him, "Have we made you a royal counselor? Stop! Why should you be put to death?" So the prophet stopped but said, "I know that God has determined to destroy you because you have done this and have not listened to my advice."

ISRAEL DEFEATS JUDAH

17 Then King Amaziah of Judah took counsel and sent to King Joash son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu of Israel, saying, "Come, let us look one another in the face."* 18King Joash of Israel sent word to King Amaziah of Judah, "A thornbush on Lebanon sent to a cedar on Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son for a wife,' but a wild animal of Lebanon passed by and trampled down the thornbush.* 19You say, 'See, I[f] have defeated Edom,' and your heart has lifted you up in boastfulness. Now stay at home; why should you provoke trouble so that you fall, you and Judah with you?"*

20 But Amaziah would not listen—it was God's doing, in order to hand them over because they had sought the gods of Edom.* 21So King Joash of Israel went up; he and King Amaziah of Judah faced one another in battle at Beth-shemesh, which belongs to Judah. 22Judah was defeated by Israel; everyone fled home. 23King Joash of Israel captured King Amaziah of Judah son of Joash son of Ahaziah at Beth-shemesh; he brought him to Jerusalem and broke down the wall of Jerusalem from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate, a distance of four hundred cubits.* 24He seized all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of God, and Obed-edom with them; he seized also the treasuries of the king's house, also hostages; then he returned to Samaria.

DEATH OF AMAZIAH

25 King Amaziah son of Joash of Judah lived fifteen years after the death
of King Joash son of Jehoahaz of Israel.* [26]Now the rest of the deeds of
Amaziah, from first to last, are they not written in the Book of the Kings of
Judah and Israel? [27]From the time that Amaziah turned away from the
LORD, they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to
Lachish. But they sent after him to Lachish and killed him there. [28]They
brought him back on horses; he was buried with his ancestors in the city of
David.

2 Chronicles 26

REIGN OF UZZIAH

1 Then all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king to succeed his father Amaziah.* [2]He rebuilt Eloth and restored it to Judah, after the king slept with his ancestors. [3]Uzziah was sixteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. [4]He did what was right in the sight of the LORD, just as his father Amaziah had done. [5]He set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear[g] of God, and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper.*

6 He went out and made war against the Philistines and broke down the wall of Gath and the wall of Jabneh and the wall of Ashdod; he built cities in the territory of Ashdod and elsewhere among the Philistines.* [7]God helped him against the Philistines, against the Arabs who lived in Gur-baal, and against the Meunites.* [8]The Ammonites paid tribute to Uzziah, and his fame spread even to the border of Egypt, for he became very strong.* [9]Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem at the Corner Gate, at the Valley Gate, and at the Angle and fortified them.* [10]He built towers in the wilderness and dug out many cisterns, for he had large herds, both in the Shephelah and in the plain, and he had farmers and vinedressers in the hills and in the fertile lands, for he loved the soil. [11]Moreover, Uzziah had an army of soldiers, fit for war, in divisions according to the numbers in the muster made by the secretary Jeiel and the officer Maaseiah, under the direction of Hananiah, one of the king's commanders. [12]The whole number of the heads of ancestral houses of mighty warriors was two thousand six hundred. [13]Under their command was an army of three hundred seven thousand five hundred, who could make war with mighty power to help the king against the enemy.* [14]Uzziah provided for all the army the shields, spears, helmets, coats of mail, bows, and stones for slinging. [15]In Jerusalem he set up machines, invented by skilled workers, on the towers and the corners for shooting arrows and large stones. And his fame spread far, for he was marvelously helped until he became strong.

PRIDE AND APOSTASY

16 But when he had become strong he grew proud, to his destruction. For
he acted unfaithfully toward the LORD his God and entered the temple of the
LORD to make offering on the altar of incense.* 17But the priest Azariah
went in after him, with eighty priests of the LORD who were men of valor;*
18they withstood King Uzziah and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to
make offering to the LORD, but for the priests the descendants of Aaron,
who are consecrated to make offering. Go out of the sanctuary, for you have
acted unfaithfully, and it will bring you no honor from the LORD God."*
19Then Uzziah was enraged. Now he had a censer in his hand to make
offering, and when he became enraged with the priests a defiling disease
broke out on his forehead, in the presence of the priests in the house of the
LORD, by the altar of incense.* 20When the chief priest Azariah, and all the
priests, looked at him, he was diseased on his forehead. They hurried him
out, and he himself hurried to get out, because the LORD had struck him.
21King Uzziah had a defiling disease to the day of his death, and being
diseased lived in a separate house, for he was excluded from the house of
the LORD. His son Jotham was in charge of the palace of the king, governing
the people of the land.*

22 Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, from first to last, the prophet Isaiah
son of Amoz wrote.* 23Uzziah slept with his ancestors; they buried him near
his ancestors in the burial field that belonged to the kings, for they said, "He
had a defiling disease." His son Jotham succeeded him.*

2 Chronicles 27

REIGN OF JOTHAM

1 Jotham was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; he reigned
sixteen years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jerushah daughter of
Zadok.* [2]He did what was right in the sight of the LORD just as his father
Uzziah had done—only he did not enter the temple of the LORD. But the
people still followed corrupt practices.* [3]He built the upper gate of the
house of the LORD and did extensive building on the wall of Ophel.*
[4]Moreover, he built cities in the hill country of Judah and forts and towers
on the wooded hills. [5]He fought with the king of the Ammonites and
prevailed against them. The Ammonites gave him that year one hundred
talents of silver, ten thousand cors of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. The
Ammonites paid him the same amount in the second and the third years.
[6]So Jotham strengthened himself because he ordered his ways before the
LORD his God.* [7]Now the rest of the acts of Jotham and all his wars and his
ways are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.* [8]He was
twenty-five years old when he began to reign; he reigned sixteen years in
Jerusalem.* [9]Jotham slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in the city
of David, and his son Ahaz succeeded him.

2 Chronicles 28

REIGN OF AHAZ

1 Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign; he reigned sixteen
years in Jerusalem. He did not do what was right in the sight of the LORD, as
his ancestor David had done,* 2but he walked in the ways of the kings of
Israel. He even made cast images for the Baals,* 3and he made offerings in
the valley of the son of Hinnom and made his sons pass through fire,
according to the abominable practices of the nations whom the LORD had
driven out before the people of Israel.* 4He sacrificed and made offerings on
the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree.*

ARAM AND ISRAEL DEFEAT JUDAH

5 Therefore the LORD his God gave him into the hand of the king of
Aram, who defeated him and took captive a great number of his people and
brought them to Damascus. He was also given into the hand of the king of
Israel, who defeated him with great slaughter.* 6Pekah son of Remaliah
killed one hundred twenty thousand in Judah in one day, all of them valiant
warriors, because they had abandoned the LORD, the God of their ancestors.*
7And Zichri, a mighty warrior of Ephraim, killed the king's son Maaseiah,
Azrikam the commander of the palace, and Elkanah the next in authority to
the king.

INTERVENTION OF ODED

8 The people of Israel took captive two hundred thousand of their kin:
women, sons, and daughters; they also took much spoil from them and
brought the spoil to Samaria.* 9But a prophet of the LORD was there whose
name was Oded; he went out to meet the army that came to Samaria and
said to them, "Because the LORD, the God of your ancestors, was angry with
Judah, he gave them into your hand, but you have killed them in a rage that
has reached up to heaven.* 10Now you intend to subjugate the people of
Judah and Jerusalem, male and female, as your slaves. But what have you

except sins against the LORD your God?* 11Now hear me, and send back the captives whom you have taken from your kindred, for the fierce wrath of the LORD is upon you."* 12Moreover, certain chiefs of the Ephraimites, Azariah son of Johanan, Berechiah son of Meshillemoth, Jehizkiah son of Shallum, and Amasa son of Hadlai, stood up against those who were coming from the war 13and said to them, "You shall not bring the captives in here, for you propose to bring on us guilt against the LORD in addition to our present sins and guilt. For our guilt is already great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel." 14So the warriors left the captives and the plunder before the officials and all the assembly. 15Then those who were mentioned by name got up and took the captives, and with the spoil they clothed all who were naked among them; they clothed them, gave them sandals, provided them with food and drink, and anointed them; and carrying all the feeble among them on donkeys, they brought them to their kindred at Jericho, the city of palm trees. Then they returned to Samaria.*

ASSYRIA REFUSES TO HELP JUDAH

16 At that time King Ahaz sent to the king[h] of Assyria for help.* 17For the Edomites had again invaded and defeated Judah and carried away captives. 18And the Philistines had made raids on the cities in the Shephelah and the Negeb of Judah and had taken Beth-shemesh, Aijalon, Gederoth, Soco with its villages, Timnah with its villages, and Gimzo with its villages, and they settled there.* 19For the LORD brought Judah low because of King Ahaz of Israel, for he had behaved without restraint in Judah and had been faithless to the LORD.* 20So King Tiglath-pileser[i] of Assyria came against him and oppressed him instead of strengthening him.* 21For Ahaz plundered the house of the LORD and the houses of the king and of the officials and gave tribute to the king of Assyria, but it did not help him.

APOSTASY AND DEATH OF AHAZ

22 In the time of his distress he became yet more faithless to the LORD—this same King Ahaz. 23For he sacrificed to the gods of Damascus that had defeated him and said, "Because the gods of the kings of Aram helped them, I will sacrifice to them so that they may help me." But they were the

ruin of him and of all Israel.* 24Ahaz gathered together the utensils of the house of God and cut in pieces the utensils of the house of God. He shut up the doors of the house of the LORD and made himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem.* 25In every city of Judah he made high places to make offerings to other gods, provoking to anger the LORD, the God of his ancestors. 26Now the rest of his acts and all his ways, from first to last, are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel.* 27Ahaz slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in the city, in Jerusalem, but they did not bring him into the tombs of the kings of Israel. His son Hezekiah succeeded him.*

2 Chronicles 29

REIGN OF HEZEKIAH

1 Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old; he reigned
twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abijah daughter of
Zechariah.* [2]He did what was right in the sight of the LORD, just as his
ancestor David had done.*

THE TEMPLE CLEANSED

3 In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of
the house of the LORD and repaired them.* [4]He brought in the priests and the
Levites and assembled them in the square on the east. [5]He said to them,
"Listen to me, Levites! Sanctify yourselves, and sanctify the house of the
LORD, the God of your ancestors, and carry out the filth from the holy
place.* [6]For our ancestors have been unfaithful and have done what was
evil in the sight of the LORD our God; they have forsaken him and have
turned away their faces from the dwelling of the LORD and turned their
backs.* [7]They also shut the doors of the vestibule and put out the lamps and
have not offered incense or made burnt offerings in the holy place to the
God of Israel. [8]Therefore the wrath of the LORD came upon Judah and
Jerusalem, and he has made them an object of horror, of astonishment, and
of hissing, as you see with your own eyes.* [9]Our fathers have fallen by the
sword and our sons and our daughters and our wives are in captivity for
this.* [10]Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the LORD, the God of
Israel, so that his fierce anger may turn away from us.* [11]My sons, do not
now be negligent, for the LORD has chosen you to stand in his presence to
minister to him and to be his ministers and offer incense."*

12 Then the Levites arose, Mahath son of Amasai and Joel son of
Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites; and of the sons of Merari, Kish son
of Abdi and Azariah son of Jehallelel; and of the Gershonites, Joah son of
Zimmah and Eden son of Joah;* [13]and of the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and
Jeuel; and of the sons of Asaph, Zechariah and Mattaniah; [14]and of the sons
of Heman, Jehuel and Shimei; and of the sons of Jeduthun, Shemaiah and

Uzziel. 15They gathered their brothers, sanctified themselves, and went in as the king had commanded, by the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD.* 16The priests went into the inner part of the house of the LORD to cleanse it, and they brought out all the unclean things that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD, and the Levites took them and carried them out to the Wadi Kidron. 17They began to sanctify on the first day of the first month, and on the eighth day of the month they came to the vestibule of the LORD; then for eight days they sanctified the house of the LORD, and on the sixteenth day of the first month they finished.* 18Then they went inside to King Hezekiah and said, "We have cleansed all the house of the LORD, the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and the table for the rows of bread and all its utensils. 19All the utensils that King Ahaz discarded during his reign when he was faithless, we have restored and sanctified; see, they are in front of the altar of the LORD."*

TEMPLE WORSHIP RESTORED

20 Then King Hezekiah rose early, assembled the officials of the city, and went up to the house of the LORD. 21They brought seven bulls, seven rams, seven lambs, and seven male goats for a sin offering for the kingdom and for the sanctuary and for Judah. He commanded the priests the descendants of Aaron to offer them on the altar of the LORD.* 22So they slaughtered the bulls, and the priests received the blood and dashed it against the altar; they slaughtered the rams, and their blood was dashed against the altar; they also slaughtered the lambs, and their blood was dashed against the altar.* 23Then the male goats for the sin offering were brought to the king and the assembly; they laid their hands on them,* 24and the priests slaughtered them and made a sin offering with their blood at the altar, to make atonement for all Israel. For the king commanded that the burnt offering and the sin offering should be made for all Israel.*

25 He stationed the Levites in the house of the LORD with cymbals, harps, and lyres, according to the commandment of David and of Gad the king's seer and of the prophet Nathan, for the commandment was from the LORD through his prophets.* 26The Levites stood with the instruments of David and the priests with the trumpets.* 27Then Hezekiah commanded that the

burnt offering be offered on the altar. When the burnt offering began, the song to the LORD began also, and the trumpets, accompanied by the instruments of King David of Israel.* 28The whole assembly worshiped, the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded; all this continued until the burnt offering was finished. 29When the offering was finished, the king and all who were present with him bowed down and worshiped.* 30King Hezekiah and the officials commanded the Levites to sing praises to the LORD with the words of David and of the seer Asaph. They sang praises with gladness, and they bowed down and worshiped.

31 Then Hezekiah said, "You have now consecrated yourselves to the LORD; come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings to the house of the LORD." The assembly brought sacrifices and thank offerings, and all who were of a willing heart brought burnt offerings.* 32The number of the burnt offerings that the assembly brought was seventy bulls, one hundred rams, and two hundred lambs; all these were for a burnt offering to the LORD. 33The consecrated offerings were six hundred bulls and three thousand sheep. 34But the priests were too few and could not skin all the burnt offerings, so, until other priests had sanctified themselves, their kindred, the Levites, helped them until the work was finished, for the Levites were more conscientious[j] than the priests in sanctifying themselves.* 35Besides the great number of burnt offerings there was the fat of the offerings of well-being, and there were the drink offerings for the burnt offerings. Thus the service of the house of the LORD was restored.* 36And Hezekiah and all the people rejoiced because of what God had done for the people, for the thing had come about suddenly.

2 Chronicles 30

THE GREAT PASSOVER

1 Hezekiah sent word to all Israel and Judah and wrote letters also to
Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of the LORD at
Jerusalem, to keep the Passover to the LORD the God of Israel. [2]For the king
and his officials and all the assembly in Jerusalem had taken counsel to
keep the Passover in the second month* [3](for they could not keep it at its
proper time because the priests had not sanctified themselves in sufficient
number, nor had the people assembled in Jerusalem).* [4]The plan seemed
right to the king and all the assembly. [5]So they decreed to make a
proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beer-sheba to Dan, that the people
should come and keep the Passover to the LORD the God of Israel, at
Jerusalem, for they had not kept it in great numbers as prescribed.* [6]So
couriers went throughout all Israel and Judah with letters from the king and
his officials, as the king had commanded, saying, "O people of Israel, return
to the LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, so that he may turn
again to the remnant of you who have escaped from the hand of the kings of
Assyria.* [7]Do not be like your ancestors and your kindred, who were
faithless to the LORD God of their ancestors, so that he made them a
desolation, as you see.* [8]Do not now be stiff-necked as your ancestors were,
but yield yourselves to the LORD and come to his sanctuary, which he has
sanctified forever, and serve the LORD your God, so that his fierce anger
may turn away from you.* [9]For as you return to the LORD, your kindred and
your children will find compassion with their captors and return to this land.
For the LORD your God is gracious and merciful and will not turn away his
face from you, if you return to him."*

10 So the couriers went from city to city through the country of Ephraim
and Manasseh, and as far as Zebulun, but they laughed them to scorn and
mocked them.* [11]Only a few from Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun humbled
themselves and came to Jerusalem.* [12]The hand of God was also on Judah
to give them one heart to do what the king and the officials commanded by
the word of the LORD.

13 Many people came together in Jerusalem to keep the Festival of
Unleavened Bread in the second month, a very large assembly.* 14They set
to work and removed the altars that were in Jerusalem, and all the altars for
offering incense they took away and threw into the Wadi Kidron.* 15They
slaughtered the Passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the second month.
The priests and the Levites were ashamed, and they sanctified themselves
and brought burnt offerings into the house of the LORD.* 16They took their
accustomed posts according to the law of Moses the man of God; the priests
dashed the blood that they received[k] from the hands of the Levites.* 17For
there were many in the assembly who had not sanctified themselves;
therefore the Levites had to slaughter the Passover lamb for everyone who
was not clean, to make it holy to the LORD.* 18For a multitude of the people,
many of them from Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not
cleansed themselves, yet they ate the Passover contrary to what was
prescribed. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, "May the good LORD
pardon all* 19who set their hearts to seek God, the LORD the God of their
ancestors, even though not in accordance with the sanctuary's rules of
cleanness."* 20The LORD heard Hezekiah and healed the people. 21The
people of Israel who were present at Jerusalem kept the Festival of
Unleavened Bread seven days with great gladness, and the Levites and the
priests praised the LORD day by day, accompanied by loud instruments for
the LORD.* 22Hezekiah spoke encouragingly to all the Levites who showed
good skill in the service of the LORD. So the people ate the food of the
festival for seven days, sacrificing offerings of well-being and giving thanks
to the LORD the God of their ancestors.*

23 Then the whole assembly agreed together to keep the festival for
another seven days, so they kept it for another seven days with gladness.*
24For King Hezekiah of Judah gave the assembly a thousand bulls and
seven thousand sheep for offerings, and the officials gave the assembly a
thousand bulls and ten thousand sheep. The priests sanctified themselves in
great numbers.* 25The whole assembly of Judah, the priests and the Levites,
and the whole assembly that came out of Israel, and the resident aliens who
came out of the land of Israel, and the resident aliens who lived in Judah
rejoiced. 26There was great joy in Jerusalem, for since the time of Solomon
son of King David of Israel there had been nothing like this in Jerusalem.

[27]Then the priests and the Levites stood up and blessed the people, and their voice was heard; their prayer came to his holy dwelling in heaven.*

2 Chronicles 31

PAGAN SHRINES DESTROYED

1 Now when all this was finished, all Israel who were present went out to the cities of Judah and broke down the pillars, cut down the sacred poles,[1] and pulled down the high places and the altars throughout all Judah and Benjamin, and in Ephraim and Manasseh, until they had destroyed them all. Then all the people of Israel returned to their cities, all to their individual properties.*

2 Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and of the Levites, division by division, everyone according to his service, the priests and the Levites, for burnt offerings and offerings of well-being, to minister in the gates of the camp of the LORD and to give thanks and praise.* 3The contribution of the king from his own possessions was for the burnt offerings: the burnt offerings of morning and evening, and the burnt offerings for the Sabbaths, the new moons, and the appointed festivals, as it is written in the law of the LORD.* 4He commanded the people who lived in Jerusalem to give the portion due to the priests and the Levites, so that they might devote themselves to the law of the LORD.* 5As soon as the word spread, the people of Israel gave in abundance the first fruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field, and they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything.* 6The people of Israel and Judah who lived in the cities of Judah also brought in the tithe of cattle and sheep and the tithe of the dedicated things that had been consecrated to the LORD their God and laid them in heaps.* 7In the third month they began to pile up the heaps and finished them in the seventh month. 8When Hezekiah and the officials came and saw the heaps, they blessed the LORD and his people Israel. 9Hezekiah questioned the priests and the Levites about the heaps. 10The chief priest Azariah, who was of the house of Zadok, answered him, "Since they began to bring the contributions into the house of the LORD, we have had enough to eat and have plenty to spare, for the LORD has blessed his people, so that we have this great supply left over."*

REORGANIZATION OF PRIESTS AND LEVITES

11 Then Hezekiah commanded them to prepare store chambers in the house of the LORD, and they prepared them. [12]Faithfully they brought in the contributions, the tithes, and the dedicated things. The chief officer in charge of them was Conaniah the Levite, with his brother Shimei as second; [13]while Jehiel, Azaziah, Nahath, Asahel, Jerimoth, Jozabad, Eliel, Ismachiah, Mahath, and Benaiah were overseers assisting Conaniah and his brother Shimei, by the appointment of King Hezekiah and of Azariah the chief officer of the house of God.* [14]Kore son of Imnah the Levite, keeper of the east gate, was in charge of the freewill offerings to God, to apportion the contribution reserved for the LORD and the most holy offerings. [15]Eden, Miniamin, Jeshua, Shemaiah, Amariah, and Shecaniah were faithfully assisting him in the cities of the priests, to distribute the portions to their kindred, old and young alike, by divisions,* [16]except those enrolled by genealogy, males from three years old and up, all who entered the house of the LORD as the duty of each day required, for their service according to their offices, by their divisions.* [17]The enrollment of the priests was according to their ancestral houses; that of the Levites from twenty years old and up was according to their offices, by their divisions.* [18]They were enrolled with all their little children, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, the whole multitude, for they were faithful in keeping themselves holy. [19]And for the descendants of Aaron, the priests, who were in the fields of pastureland belonging to their towns, town by town, the people designated by name were to distribute portions to every male among the priests and to everyone among the Levites who was enrolled.*

20 Hezekiah did this throughout all Judah; he did what was good and right and faithful before the LORD his God.* [21]And every work that he undertook in the service of the house of God and in accordance with the law and the commandments, to seek his God, he did with all his heart, and he prospered.

2 Chronicles 32

SENNACHERIB'S INVASION

1 After these things and these acts of faithfulness, King Sennacherib of
Assyria came and invaded Judah and encamped against the fortified cities,
thinking to win them for himself.* [2]When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib
had come and intended to fight against Jerusalem, [3]he planned with his
officers and his warriors to stop the flow of the springs that were outside the
city, and they helped him. [4]A great many people were gathered, and they
stopped all the springs and the wadi that flowed through the land, saying,
"Why should the Assyrian kings come and find water in abundance?"*
[5]Hezekiah[m] strengthened himself and built up the entire wall that was
broken down and raised towers on it,[n] and outside it he built another wall;
he also strengthened the Millo in the city of David and made weapons and
shields in abundance.* [6]He appointed combat commanders over the people
and gathered them together to him in the square at the gate of the city and
spoke encouragingly to them, saying,* [7]"Be strong and of good courage. Do
not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is
with him, for there is one greater with us than with him.* [8]With him is an
arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our
battles." The people were encouraged by the words of King Hezekiah of
Judah.*

9 After this, while King Sennacherib of Assyria was at Lachish with all
his forces, he sent his servants to Jerusalem to King Hezekiah of Judah and
to all the people of Judah who were in Jerusalem, saying, [10]"Thus says
King Sennacherib of Assyria: On what are you relying, that you undergo
the siege of Jerusalem? [11]Is not Hezekiah misleading you, handing you over
to die by famine and by thirst, when he tells you, 'The LORD our God will
save us from the hand of the king of Assyria'?* [12]Was it not this same
Hezekiah who took away his high places and his altars and commanded
Judah and Jerusalem, saying, 'Before one altar you shall worship, and upon
it you shall make your offerings'?* [13]Do you not know what I and my
ancestors have done to all the peoples of other lands? Were the gods of the

nations of those lands at all able to save their lands out of my hand?* 14Who among all the gods of those nations that my ancestors utterly destroyed was able to save his people from my hand, that your God should be able to save you from my hand?* 15Now, therefore, do not let Hezekiah deceive you or mislead you in this fashion, and do not believe him, for no god of any nation or kingdom has been able to save his people from my hand or from the hand of my ancestors. How much less will your God save you out of my hand!"*

16 His servants said still more against the Lord GOD and against his servant Hezekiah. 17He also wrote letters to throw contempt on the LORD the God of Israel and to speak against him, saying, "Just as the gods of the nations in other lands did not rescue their people from my hands, so the God of Hezekiah will not rescue his people from my hand."* 18They shouted it with a loud voice in the language of Judah to the people of Jerusalem who were on the wall, to frighten and terrify them, in order that they might take the city.* 19They spoke of the God of Jerusalem as if he were like the gods of the peoples of the earth, which are the work of human hands.*

SENNACHERIB'S DEFEAT AND DEATH

20 Then King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz prayed because of this and cried to heaven.* 21And the LORD sent an angel who cut off all the mighty warriors and commanders and officers in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned in disgrace to his own land. When he came into the house of his god, some of his own sons struck him down there with the sword.* 22So the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of King Sennacherib of Assyria and from the hand of all his enemies; he gave them rest[o] on every side. 23Many brought gifts to the LORD in Jerusalem and precious things to King Hezekiah of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations from that time onward.*

HEZEKIAH'S SICKNESS

24 In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. He prayed to the LORD, and he answered him and gave him a sign.* 25But

Hezekiah did not respond according to the benefit done to him, for his heart was proud. Therefore wrath came upon him and upon Judah and Jerusalem.* 26Then Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah.*

HEZEKIAH'S PROSPERITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS

27 Hezekiah had very great riches and honor, and he made for himself treasuries for silver, for gold, for precious stones, for spices, for shields, and for all kinds of costly objects; 28storehouses also for the yield of grain, wine, and oil; and stalls for all kinds of cattle and sheepfolds.p 29He likewise provided cities for himself and flocks and herds in abundance, for God had given him very great possessions.* 30This same Hezekiah closed the upper outlet of the waters of Gihon and directed them down to the west side of the city of David. Hezekiah prospered in all his works.* 31So also in the matter of the envoys of the officials of Babylon, who had been sent to him to inquire about the sign that had been done in the land, God left him to himself, in order to test him and to know all that was in his heart.*

32 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah and his good deeds are written in the vision of the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. 33Hezekiah slept with his ancestors, and they buried him on the ascent to the tombs of the descendants of David, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honor at his death. His son Manasseh succeeded him.*

2 Chronicles 33

REIGN OF MANASSEH

1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign; he reigned fifty-
five years in Jerusalem.* [2]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD,
according to the abominable practices of the nations whom the LORD had
driven out before the people of Israel.* [3]For he rebuilt the high places that
his father Hezekiah had pulled down and erected altars to the Baals, made
sacred poles,[q] worshiped all the host of heaven, and served them.* [4]He built
altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem
shall my name be forever."* [5]He built altars for all the host of heaven in the
two courts of the house of the LORD.* [6]He made his son pass through fire in
the valley of the son of Hinnom, practiced soothsaying and augury and
sorcery, and dealt with mediums and with wizards. He did much evil in the
sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger.* [7]The carved image of the idol
that he had made he set in the house of God, of which God had said to
David and to his son Solomon, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I
have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever;* [8]I
will never again remove the feet of Israel from the land that I appointed for
your ancestors, if only they will be careful to do all that I have commanded
them, all the law, the statutes, and the ordinances given through Moses."*
[9]Manasseh misled Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that they did
more evil than the nations whom the LORD had destroyed before the people
of Israel.

MANASSEH RESTORED AFTER REPENTANCE

10 The LORD spoke to Manasseh and to his people, but they gave no
heed. [11]Therefore the LORD brought against them the commanders of the
army of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh captive in manacles,
bound him with fetters, and brought him to Babylon.* [12]While he was in
distress, he entreated the favor of the LORD his God and humbled himself
greatly before the God of his ancestors.* [13]He prayed to him, and God

received his entreaty, heard his plea, and restored him again to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD indeed was God.*

14 Afterward he built an outer wall for the city of David west of Gihon, in the valley, reaching the entrance at the Fish Gate; he carried it around Ophel and raised it to a very great height. He also put commanders of the army in all the fortified cities in Judah.* [15]He took away the foreign gods and the idol from the house of the LORD and all the altars that he had built on the mountain of the house of the LORD and in Jerusalem, and he threw them out of the city.* [16]He also restored the altar of the LORD and offered on it sacrifices of well-being and of thanksgiving, and he commanded Judah to serve the LORD the God of Israel. [17]The people, however, still sacrificed at the high places, but only to the LORD their God.*

DEATH OF MANASSEH

18 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, his prayer to his God, and the words of the seers who spoke to him in the name of the LORD God of Israel, these are in the Annals of the Kings of Israel.* [19]His prayer, and how God received his entreaty, all his sin and his faithlessness, the sites on which he built high places and set up the sacred poles[r] and the images, before he humbled himself, these are written in the records of the seers.[s,*] [20]So Manasseh slept with his ancestors, and they buried him in his house. His son Amon succeeded him.*

AMON'S REIGN AND DEATH

21 Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign; he reigned two years in Jerusalem.* [22]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh had done. Amon sacrificed to all the images that his father Manasseh had made and served them.* [23]He did not humble himself before the LORD, as his father Manasseh had humbled himself, but this Amon incurred more and more guilt.* [24]His servants conspired against him and killed him in his house.* [25]But the people of the land killed all those who had conspired against King Amon, and the people of the land made his son Josiah king to succeed him.

2 Chronicles 34

REIGN OF JOSIAH

1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign; he reigned thirty-one
years in Jerusalem.* [2]He did what was right in the sight of the LORD and
walked in the ways of his ancestor David; he did not turn aside to the right
or to the left. [3]For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was still a boy, he
began to seek the God of his ancestor David, and in the twelfth year he
began to cleanse Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the sacred poles,[t]
and the carved and the cast images.* [4]In his presence they pulled down the
altars of the Baals; he demolished the incense altars that stood above them.
He broke down the sacred poles[u] and the carved and the cast images; he
made dust of them and scattered it over the graves of those who had
sacrificed to them.* [5]He also burned the bones of the priests on their altars
and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.* [6]In the towns of Manasseh, Ephraim,
and Simeon, and as far as Naphtali, in their ruins[v] all around,* [7]he broke
down the altars, beat the sacred poles[w] and the images into powder, and
demolished all the incense altars throughout all the land of Israel. Then he
returned to Jerusalem.*

DISCOVERY OF THE BOOK OF THE LAW

8 In the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had cleansed the land and
the house, he sent Shaphan son of Azaliah, Maaseiah the governor of the
city, and Joah son of Joahaz, the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD
his God.* [9]They came to the high priest Hilkiah and delivered the silver that
had been brought into the house of God, which the Levites, the keepers of
the threshold, had collected from Manasseh and Ephraim and from all the
remnant of Israel and from all Judah and Benjamin and from the inhabitants
of Jerusalem.* [10]They delivered it to the workers who had the oversight of
the house of the LORD, and the workers who were working in the house of
the LORD gave it for repairing and restoring the house. [11]They gave it to the
carpenters and the builders to buy quarried stone, and timber for binders,
and beams for the buildings that the kings of Judah had let go to ruin.*

12The people did the work faithfully. Over them were appointed the Levites
Jahath and Obadiah, of the sons of Merari, along with Zechariah and
Meshullam, of the sons of the Kohathites, to have oversight. Other Levites,
all skillful with instruments of music,* 13were over the burden bearers and
directed all who did work in every kind of service, and some of the Levites
were scribes, and officials, and gatekeepers.*

14 While they were bringing out the silver that had been brought into the
house of the LORD, the priest Hilkiah found the book of the law of the LORD
given through Moses.* 15Hilkiah said to the secretary Shaphan, "I have
found the book of the law in the house of the LORD," and Hilkiah gave the
book to Shaphan. 16Shaphan brought the book to the king and further
reported to the king, "All that was committed to your servants they are
doing.* 17They have emptied out the silver that was found in the house of
the LORD and have delivered it into the hand of the overseers and the
workers." 18The secretary Shaphan informed the king, "The priest Hilkiah
has given me a book." Shaphan then read it aloud to the king.

19 When the king heard the words of the law, he tore his clothes.* 20Then
the king commanded Hilkiah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Abdon son of
Micah, the secretary Shaphan, and the king's servant Asaiah, 21"Go, inquire
of the LORD for me and for those who are left in Israel and in Judah,
concerning the words of the book that has been found, for the wrath of the
LORD that is poured out on us is great, because our ancestors did not keep
the word of the LORD, to act in accordance with all that is written in this
book."*

THE PROPHET HULDAH CONSULTED

22 So Hilkiah and those whom the king had sent went to the prophet
Huldah, the wife of Shallum son of Tokhath son of Hasrah, keeper of the
wardrobe (who lived in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter) and spoke to her
to that effect.* 23She declared to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of
Israel: Tell the man who sent you to me: 24'Thus says the LORD: I will
indeed bring disaster upon this place and upon its inhabitants, all the curses
that are written in the book that was read before the king of Judah.*
25Because they have forsaken me and have made offerings to other gods, so
that they have provoked me to anger with all the works of their hands, my

wrath will be poured out on this place and will not be quenched.'* 26But as to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the LORD, thus shall you say to him: Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: 'Regarding the words that you have heard, 27because your heart was penitent and you humbled yourself before God when you heard his words against this place and its inhabitants, and you have humbled yourself before me and have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you, says the LORD.* 28I will gather you to your ancestors and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace; your eyes shall not see all the disaster that I will bring on this place and its inhabitants.' " They took the message back to the king.

THE COVENANT RENEWED

29 Then the king sent word and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.* 30The king went up to the house of the LORD, with all the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the Levites, all the people both great and small; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the LORD.* 31The king stood in his place and made a covenant before the LORD, to follow the LORD, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant that were written in this book.* 32Then he made all who were present in Jerusalem and in Benjamin pledge themselves to it. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem acted according to the covenant of God, the God of their ancestors. 33Josiah took away all the abominations from all the territory that belonged to the people of Israel and made all who were in Israel serve the LORD their God. All his days they did not turn away from following the LORD the God of their ancestors.*

2 Chronicles 35

CELEBRATION OF THE PASSOVER

1 Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem; they slaughtered the
Passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the first month.* [2]He appointed the
priests to their offices and encouraged them in the service of the house of
the LORD.* [3]He said to the Levites who taught all Israel and who were holy
to the LORD, "Put the holy ark in the house that Solomon son of David, king
of Israel, built; you need no longer carry it on your shoulders. Now serve
the LORD your God and his people Israel.* [4]Make preparations by your
ancestral houses by your divisions, following the written directions of King
David of Israel and the written directions of his son Solomon.* [5]Take
position in the holy place according to the groupings of the ancestral houses
of your kindred the people, and let there be Levites for each division of an
ancestral house.[x,*] [6]Slaughter the Passover lamb, sanctify yourselves, and
on behalf of your kindred make preparations, acting according to the word
of the LORD by Moses."*

7 Then Josiah contributed to the people, as Passover offerings for all who
were present, lambs and kids from the flock to the number of thirty
thousand and three thousand bulls; these were from the king's possessions.*
[8]His officials contributed willingly to the people, to the priests, and to the
Levites. Hilkiah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, the chief officers of the house of
God, gave to the priests for the Passover offerings two thousand six
hundred lambs and kids and three hundred bulls. [9]Conaniah also, and his
brothers Shemaiah and Nethanel, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, the
chiefs of the Levites, gave to the Levites for the Passover offerings five
thousand lambs and kids and five hundred bulls.*

10 When the service had been prepared, the priests stood in their place
and the Levites in their divisions according to the king's command.* [11]They
slaughtered the Passover lamb, and the priests dashed the blood that they
received[y] from them, while the Levites did the skinning.* [12]They set aside
the burnt offerings so that they might distribute them according to the
groupings of the ancestral houses of the people, to offer to the LORD, as it is

written in the book of Moses. And they did the same with the bulls. [13]They roasted the Passover lamb with fire according to the ordinance, and they boiled the holy offerings in pots, in caldrons, and in pans and carried them quickly to all the people.* [14]Afterward they made preparations for themselves and for the priests, because the priests the descendants of Aaron were occupied in offering the burnt offerings and the fat parts until night, so the Levites made preparations for themselves and for the priests, the descendants of Aaron. [15]The singers, the descendants of Asaph, were in their place according to the command of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and the king's seer Jeduthun. The gatekeepers were at each gate; they did not need to interrupt their service, for their kindred the Levites made preparations for them.*

16 So all the service of the LORD was prepared that day, to keep the Passover and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD, according to the command of King Josiah. [17]The people of Israel who were present kept the Passover at that time and the Festival of Unleavened Bread seven days.* [18]No Passover like it had been kept in Israel since the days of the prophet Samuel; none of the kings of Israel had kept such a Passover as was kept by Josiah, by the priests and the Levites, by all Judah and Israel who were present, and by the inhabitants of Jerusalem.* [19]In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah, this Passover was kept.

DEFEAT BY PHARAOH NECO AND DEATH OF JOSIAH

20 After all this, when Josiah had set the temple in order, King Neco of Egypt went up to fight at Carchemish on the Euphrates, and Josiah went out against him.* [21]But Neco[z] sent envoys to him, saying, "What have I to do with you, king of Judah? I am not coming against you today but against the house with which I am at war, and God has commanded me to hurry. Cease opposing God, who is with me, so that he will not destroy you." [22]But Josiah would not turn away from him but disguised himself in order to fight with him. He did not listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God but joined battle in the plain of Megiddo.* [23]The archers shot King Josiah, and the king said to his servants, "Take me away, for I am badly wounded." [24]So his servants took him out of the chariot and carried him in his second chariot[a] and brought him to Jerusalem. There he died and was buried in the

tombs of his ancestors. All Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.* [25]Jeremiah also uttered a lament for Josiah, and all the singing men and singing women have spoken of Josiah in their laments to this day. They made these a custom in Israel; they are recorded in the Laments.* [26]Now the rest of the acts of Josiah and his faithful deeds in accordance with what is written in the law of the LORD [27]and his acts, first and last, are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.

2 Chronicles 36

REIGN OF JEHOAHAZ

1 The people of the land took Jehoahaz son of Josiah and made him king to
succeed his father in Jerusalem.* [2]Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old
when he began to reign; he reigned three months in Jerusalem. [3]Then the
king of Egypt deposed him in Jerusalem and laid on the land a tribute of
one hundred talents of silver and one talent of gold. [4]The king of Egypt
made his brother Eliakim king over Judah and Jerusalem and changed his
name to Jehoiakim, but Neco took his brother Jehoahaz and carried him to
Egypt.

REIGN AND CAPTIVITY OF JEHOIAKIM

5 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign; he
reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the
LORD his God.* [6]Against him King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came up
and bound him with fetters to take him to Babylon.* [7]Nebuchadnezzar also
carried some of the vessels of the house of the LORD to Babylon and put
them in his palace in Babylon.* [8]Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim and
the abominations that he did and what was found against him are written in
the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah, and his son Jehoiachin
succeeded him.*

REIGN AND CAPTIVITY OF JEHOIACHIN

9 Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign; he reigned three
months and ten days in Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the
LORD.* [10]In the spring of the year King Nebuchadnezzar sent and brought
him to Babylon, along with the precious vessels of the house of the LORD,
and made his brother Zedekiah king over Judah and Jerusalem.*

REIGN OF ZEDEKIAH

11 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign; he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.* [12]He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. He did not humble himself before the prophet Jeremiah who spoke from the mouth of the LORD.* [13]He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God; he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD, the God of Israel.* [14]All the leading priests and the people also were exceedingly unfaithful, following all the abominations of the nations, and they polluted the house of the LORD that he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

15 The LORD, the God of their ancestors, sent persistently to them by his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place,* [16]but they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words, and scoffing at his prophets until the wrath of the LORD against his people became so great that there was no remedy.*

17 Therefore he brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their youths with the sword in the house of their sanctuary and had no compassion on young man or young woman, the aged or the feeble; he gave them all into his hand.* [18]All the vessels of the house of God, large and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king and of his officials, all these he brought to Babylon.* [19]They burned the house of God, broke down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious vessels.* [20]He took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia,* [21]to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had made up for its Sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years.*

CYRUS PROCLAIMS LIBERTY FOR THE EXILES

22 In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also in

writing, saying:* 23"Thus says King Cyrus of Persia: The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Let any of those among you who are of his people—may the LORD their God be with them! —go up."*

2 Chronicles 1

* **1.1** Gen 39.2; 1 Kings 2.12, 46; 1 Chr 29.25
* **1.2** 1 Chr 28.1
* **1.3** Ex 36.8; 1 Kings 3.4
* **1.4** 2 Sam 6.2, 17; 1 Chr 15.1
* **1.5** Ex 38.1, 2
* **1.6** 1 Kings 3.4
* **1.7** 1 Kings 3.5, 6
* **1.8** 1 Chr 28.5
* **1.9** 1 Kings 3.7, 8
* **1.10** 1 Kings 3.9
* **1.11** 1 Kings 3.11–13
* **1.12** 1 Chr 29.25; 2 Chr 9.22

a **1.13** Gk Vg: Heb *to*

* **1.14** 1 Kings 4.26; 10.26–29; 2 Chr 9.25
* **1.15** 1 Kings 10.27; 2 Chr 9.27
* **1.16** 1 Kings 10.28, 29; 2 Chr 9.28

2 Chronicles 2

b **2.1** 1.18 in Heb

* **2.1** 1 Kings 5.5

c **2.2** 2.1 in Heb

* **2.2** v 18; 1 Kings 5.15, 16
* **2.3** 1 Kings 5.2–11; 1 Chr 14.1
* **2.4** v 1; Ex 25.30; 30.7; Num 28.9, 10
* **2.5** 1 Chr 16.25; Ps 135.5
* **2.6** 1 Kings 8.27; 2 Chr 6.18
* **2.7** vv 13, 14; 1 Chr 22.15
* **2.8** 2 Chr 9.10, 11

d **2.10** A Hebrew measure of volume

e **2.10** A Hebrew measure of volume

* **2.10** 1 Kings 5.11
* **2.11** 1 Kings 10.9; 2 Chr 9.8
* **2.12** 1 Kings 5.7; Ps 33.6; 102.25
* **2.14** 1 Kings 7.13, 14
* **2.15** v 10
* **2.16** 1 Kings 5.8, 9
* **2.17** 1 Chr 22.2
* **2.18** v 2

2 Chronicles 3

* **3.1** 1 Kings 6.1ff; 1 Chr 21.18
f **3.3** Syr: Heb *foundations*
g **3.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.5** 1 Kings 6.17
* **3.7** 1 Kings 6.20–22, 29–35
* **3.8** 1 Kings 6.16
h **3.10** Heb *they overlaid*
* **3.10** 1 Kings 6.23–28
i **3.13** Heb *they*
j **3.14** Heb *he*
* **3.14** Ex 26.31; Heb 9.3
* **3.15** 1 Kings 7.15–20
k **3.16** Cn: Heb *in the inner sanctuary*
* **3.17** 1 Kings 7.21

2 Chronicles 4

* **4.1** Ex 27.1, 2; 2 Kings 16.14
* **4.2** 1 Kings 7.23
* **4.3** 1 Kings 7.24–26
l **4.5** A Hebrew measure of volume
* **4.5** 1 Kings 7.26
* **4.6** 1 Kings 7.38
* **4.7** Ex 25.31, 40; 1 Kings 7.49
* **4.8** 1 Kings 7.48
* **4.9** 1 Kings 6.36; 2 Kings 21.5
* **4.10** 1 Kings 7.39
* **4.11** 1 Kings 7.40
* **4.12** 1 Kings 7.41
* **4.13** 1 Kings 7.20
* **4.14** 1 Kings 7.27
* **4.16** 1 Kings 7.14
* **4.17** 1 Kings 7.46
* **4.18** 1 Kings 7.47
* **4.19** Ex 25.30; 1 Kings 7.48–50
* **4.20** Ex 25.31–37

2 Chronicles 5

* **5.1** 1 Kings 7.51
* **5.2** 2 Sam 6.12; 1 Kings 8.1–9

* **5.4** v 7
m **5.9** Gk Heb mss: MT *from the ark*
* **5.9** 1 Kings 8.8, 9
n **5.10** Heb lacks *a covenant*
* **5.10** Deut 10.2–5; Heb 9.4
* **5.11** 1 Chr 24.1–5
* **5.12** 1 Chr 15.24; 25.1–4
* **5.13** 1 Chr 16.34, 42; 2 Chr 7.3
* **5.14** 1 Kings 8.11; 2 Chr 7.2

2 Chronicles 6

* **6.1** 1 Kings 8.12–50
* **6.6** 1 Chr 28.4; 2 Chr 12.13
* **6.7** 1 Chr 28.2
* **6.11** 2 Chr 5.10
o **6.12** Heb *he*
* **6.12** 1 Kings 8.22
* **6.13** 1 Kings 8.54
* **6.14** Ex 15.11; Deut 7.9
* **6.15** 1 Chr 22.9, 10
* **6.16** 2 Sam 7.12, 16; 1 Kings 2.4; 2 Chr 7.18
* **6.18** 2 Chr 2.6
* **6.21** Mic 7.18
* **6.22** Mt 5.33
* **6.24** 2 Chr 7.14
* **6.26** 1 Kings 17.1
* **6.28** 2 Chr 20.9
* **6.30** 1 Sam 16.7; 1 Chr 28.9
* **6.32** Josh 12.20; Acts 8.27
* **6.33** 2 Chr 7.14
* **6.36** Job 15.14–16; Jas 3.2; 1 Jn 1.8–10
* **6.37** 2 Chr 7.14
* **6.40** 2 Chr 7.15; Ps 17.1
* **6.41** 1 Chr 28.2; Ps 132.8–10

2 Chronicles 7

* **7.1** 1 Kings 8.54; 18.24, 38; 2 Chr 5.13, 14
* **7.3** 1 Chr 16.41; 2 Chr 5.13; Ps 136.1
* **7.4** 1 Kings 8.62, 63
* **7.6** 1 Chr 15.16–21; 2 Chr 5.12

* **7.7** 1 Kings 8.64–66
* **7.8** 1 Kings 8.65
* **7.9** Lev 23.36
* **7.10** 1 Kings 8.66
* **7.11** 1 Kings 9.1–9
* **7.12** Deut 12.5, 11
* **7.13** 2 Chr 6.26–28
* **7.14** 2 Chr 6.27, 30, 37–39
* **7.15** 2 Chr 6.40
* **7.16** v 12; 1 Kings 9.3; 2 Chr 6.6
* **7.17** 1 Kings 9.4ff
p **7.18** Heb lacks *a covenant*
* **7.18** 2 Chr 6.16
q **7.19** The word *you* in this verse is plural
* **7.19** Lev 26.14, 33; Deut 28.15
r **7.20** Heb *them*
s **7.20** Heb *them*
* **7.20** Deut 29.28
* **7.21** Deut 29.24

2 Chronicles 8

* **8.1** 1 Kings 9.10–28
* **8.5** 1 Chr 7.24; 2 Chr 14.7
* **8.8** 1 Kings 4.6; 9.21
* **8.11** 1 Kings 3.1; 7.8
* **8.12** 2 Chr 4.1
* **8.13** Ex 23.14–17; 29.38; Num 28.3
* **8.14** 1 Chr 24.1; 25.1; 26.1; Neh 12.24, 36
t **8.16** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *to*
* **8.17** 1 Kings 9.26
* **8.18** 1 Kings 9.27; 2 Chr 9.10, 13

2 Chronicles 9

* **9.1** 1 Kings 10.1–13; Mt 12.42; Lk 11.31
* **9.3** 1 Kings 5.12
u **9.4** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *ascent*
* **9.5** 1 Kings 10.6
v **9.6** Heb *their*
* **9.8** 1 Chr 28.5; 29.23; 2 Chr 2.11
* **9.9** 1 Kings 10.10

* **9.10** 2 Chr 8.18
w **9.11** Gk Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.13** 1 Kings 10.14–28
x **9.15** Heb lacks *shekels*
y **9.16** Heb lacks *shekels*
* **9.18** 1 Kings 10.18
* **9.19** 1 Kings 10.20
z **9.21** Or *baboons*
* **9.21** 2 Chr 20.36, 37
* **9.22** 1 Kings 3.13; 2 Chr 1.12
* **9.25** 1 Kings 4.26; 10.26; 2 Chr 1.14
* **9.26** 1 Kings 4.21; Ps 72.8
* **9.27** 1 Kings 10.27; 2 Chr 1.15
* **9.28** 1 Kings 10.28; 2 Chr 1.16
* **9.29** 1 Kings 11.41; 1 Chr 29.29
* **9.30** 1 Kings 11.42, 43
* **9.31** 1 Kings 2.10

2 Chronicles 10

* **10.1** 1 Kings 12.1–20
* **10.2** 1 Kings 11.40
* **10.6** 1 Kings 12.6
* **10.9** 1 Kings 12.9
* **10.12** v 5
* **10.15** 1 Kings 11.29; 12.15, 24; 2 Chr 25.16–20
* **10.16** v 19; 2 Sam 20.1
* **10.19** 1 Kings 12.19

2 Chronicles 11

* **11.1** 1 Kings 12.21–24
* **11.2** 2 Chr 12.15
* **11.4** 2 Chr 10.15
* **11.14** Num 35.2–5; 2 Chr 13.9
* **11.15** 2 Chr 10.15
* **11.16** 2 Chr 15.9
* **11.17** 2 Chr 12.1
* **11.18** 1 Sam 16.6
* **11.21** Deut 17.17
* **11.22** Deut 21.15–17

2 Chronicles 12

* **12.1** 1 Kings 14.22–24; 2 Chr 11.17
* **12.2** 1 Kings 11.40; 14.24, 25
* **12.3** 2 Chr 16.8
* **12.5** Deut 28.15; 2 Chr 11.2; 15.2
* **12.6** Ex 9.27; Dan 9.14
* **12.7** 1 Kings 21.29
* **12.8** Deut 28.47, 48
* **12.9** 1 Kings 14.25, 26; 2 Chr 9.15, 16
* **12.12** 2 Chr 19.3
* **12.13** 1 Kings 14.21
* **12.14** 2 Chr 19.3
* **12.15** 1 Kings 14.29, 30; 2 Chr 9.29
* **12.16** 1 Kings 14.31; 2 Chr 11.20

2 Chronicles 13

* **13.1** 1 Kings 15.1, 2
* **13.2** 1 Kings 15.7; 2 Chr 11.20
* **13.4** Josh 18.22
* **13.5** Num 18.19; 2 Sam 7.12, 13, 16
* **13.6** 1 Kings 11.26
* **13.8** 1 Kings 12.28; 2 Chr 11.15
* **13.9** Ex 29.35; 2 Chr 11.14; Jer 2.11; 5.7
* **13.11** Lev 24.5–9; 2 Chr 2.4
* **13.12** Num 10.8, 9; Acts 5.39

a **13.13** Heb *they*

* **13.14** 2 Chr 14.11
* **13.15** 2 Chr 14.12
* **13.16** 2 Chr 16.8
* **13.18** 1 Chr 5.20; 2 Chr 14.11; Ps 22.5

b **13.19** Or *Ephrain*

* **13.20** 1 Sam 25.38; 1 Kings 14.20
* **13.22** 2 Chr 12.15

2 Chronicles 14

c **14.1** 13.23 in Heb

* **14.1** 1 Kings 15.8

d **14.2** 14.1 in Heb

e **14.3** Or *Asherahs*

* **14.3** Ex 34.13; Deut 7.5; 1 Kings 15.12–14

* **14.5** 2 Chr 34.4, 7
* **14.6** 2 Chr 15.15
* **14.9** 2 Chr 11.8; 16.8
* **14.11** 1 Sam 14.6; 17.45; 2 Chr 13.14, 18
* **14.12** 2 Chr 13.15
f **14.13** Heb *They*
* **14.13** Gen 10.19
* **14.14** Gen 35.5; 2 Chr 17.10
g **14.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain

2 Chronicles 15

* **15.1** Num 24.2; 2 Chr 20.14; 24.20
* **15.2** vv 4, 15; 2 Chr 24.20; Jas 4.8
* **15.3** Lev 10.11; 2 Chr 17.9; Hos 3.4
* **15.4** Deut 4.29
* **15.5** Judg 5.6
* **15.6** Mt 24.7
* **15.7** Josh 1.7, 9
h **15.8** Compare Syr Vg: Heb *the prophecy, the prophet Oded*
i **15.8** Heb *the vestibule of the* LORD
* **15.8** 2 Chr 13.19
* **15.9** 2 Chr 11.16
* **15.11** 2 Chr 14.13–15
* **15.12** 2 Chr 23.16; 34.31
* **15.13** Ex 22.20; Deut 13.5, 9, 15
* **15.15** v 2; 2 Chr 14.7
* **15.16** Ex 34.13; 1 Kings 15.13–15; 2 Chr 14.2–5

2 Chronicles 16

j **16.1** Heb lacks *the territory of*
* **16.1** 1 Kings 15.17–22
* **16.4** 1 Kings 15.18, 20
* **16.7** 2 Chr 14.11; 19.2; 32.7, 8
* **16.8** 2 Chr 12.3; 14.9
* **16.9** 1 Sam 13.13; Prov 15.3; Zech 4.10
* **16.11** 1 Kings 15.23
* **16.12** Jer 17.5
* **16.13** 1 Kings 15.24
* **16.14** Gen 50.2; 2 Chr 21.19; Jer 34.5; Jn 19.39, 40

2 Chronicles 17

* **17.1** 1 Kings 15.24
* **17.2** 2 Chr 15.8
k **17.3** Gk: Heb *his father David*
* **17.4** 1 Kings 12.28
* **17.5** 2 Chr 18.1
l **17.6** Or *Asherahs*
* **17.6** 2 Chr 15.17
* **17.7** 2 Chr 15.3
* **17.8** 2 Chr 19.8
* **17.9** Deut 6.4–9
* **17.10** 2 Chr 14.14
* **17.11** 2 Chr 9.14
* **17.16** Judg 5.2, 9; 1 Chr 29.9

2 Chronicles 18

* **18.1** 2 Chr 17.5
* **18.2** 1 Kings 22.2–35
* **18.4** 1 Sam 23.2, 4, 9; 2 Sam 2.1
* **18.7** 1 Kings 22.8
* **18.9** Ruth 4.1
* **18.11** 2 Chr 22.5
* **18.13** Num 22.18–20, 35
m **18.16** Heb *he*
* **18.16** Num 27.17; Ezek 34.5–8
n **18.18** Heb *he*
* **18.20** Job 1.6
o **18.21** Heb *he*
* **18.22** Job 12.16; Ezek 14.9
* **18.23** Jer 20.2; Mk 14.65; Acts 23.2
* **18.25** v 8
* **18.26** 2 Chr 16.10
* **18.27** Mic 1.2
* **18.31** 2 Chr 13.14, 15
* **18.33** 1 Kings 22.34

2 Chronicles 19

* **19.2** 1 Kings 16.1; 2 Chr 32.25; Ps 139.21
p **19.3** Or *Asherahs*
* **19.3** 2 Chr 12.12, 14; 17.6; Ezra 7.10

* **19.4** 2 Chr 15.8–13
* **19.6** Deut 1.17
* **19.7** Gen 18.25; Deut 10.17, 18; 32.4; Rom 2.11; Col 3.25
* **19.8** 2 Chr 17.8, 9
* **19.9** 2 Sam 23.3
* **19.10** v 2; Deut 17.8
* **19.11** v 8; 1 Chr 28.20

2 Chronicles 20

q **20.1** Heb *Ammonites*
r **20.2** Heb *They*
s **20.2** Heb ms: MT *Aram*
* **20.2** Gen 14.7
* **20.3** 2 Chr 19.3
* **20.6** Deut 4.39; 1 Chr 29.11, 12; Mt 6.9, 13
* **20.7** Isa 41.8
t **20.9** Or *the sword of judgment*
* **20.9** 1 Kings 8.33, 37; 2 Chr 6.20, 28–30
* **20.10** vv 1, 22; Num 20.21; Deut 2.4, 9, 19
* **20.11** Ps 83.12
* **20.12** Judg 11.27; Ps 25.15; 121.1, 2
* **20.14** 2 Chr 15.1; 24.20
* **20.15** Ex 14.13, 14; 1 Sam 17.47; 2 Chr 32.7, 8
* **20.17** Ex 14.13, 14; 2 Chr 15.2
* **20.18** Ex 4.31; 2 Chr 7.3
* **20.20** Isa 7.9
* **20.21** 1 Chr 16.29, 34, 41; Ps 29.2
* **20.22** Judg 7.22; 1 Chr 13.13
* **20.23** 1 Sam 14.20
u **20.25** Gk: Heb *among them*
v **20.26** That is, *blessing*
* **20.27** Neh 12.43
* **20.29** 2 Chr 14.14; 17.10
* **20.30** 2 Chr 14.6, 7; 15.15
* **20.31** 1 Kings 22.41–43
* **20.33** 2 Chr 17.6; 19.3
* **20.34** 1 Kings 16.1, 7
* **20.35** 1 Kings 22.48, 49
* **20.37** 2 Chr 9.21

2 Chronicles 21

* **21.1** 1 Kings 22.50
w **21.2** Gk Syr: Heb *Israel*
* **21.3** 2 Chr 11.5
* **21.5** 2 Kings 8.17–22
* **21.7** 2 Sam 7.12, 13; 1 Kings 11.36
* **21.8** 2 Kings 8.20–22
* **21.11** Lev 20.5
* **21.12** 2 Chr 14.2–5; 17.3, 4
* **21.13** v 4; 1 Kings 16.31–33; 2 Chr 6.11
* **21.15** vv 18, 19
* **21.16** 2 Chr 33.11
* **21.17** 2 Chr 25.23
* **21.18** v 15
* **21.19** 2 Chr 16.14
* **21.20** 2 Chr 24.25; 28.27; Jer 22.18, 28

2 Chronicles 22

* **22.1** 2 Kings 8.24–29; 2 Chr 21.16, 17
* **22.2** 2 Chr 21.6
* **22.5** 2 Kings 8.28ff
* **22.6** 2 Kings 9.15
* **22.7** 2 Kings 9.6, 7, 21; 2 Chr 10.15
* **22.8** 2 Kings 10.10–14
* **22.9** 2 Kings 9.27, 28; 2 Chr 17.4
* **22.10** 2 Kings 11.1–3

2 Chronicles 23

* **23.1** 2 Kings 11.4–20
x **23.3** Heb *He*
* **23.3** 2 Sam 7.12; 1 Kings 2.4; 2 Chr 6.16; 7.18; 21.7
* **23.4** 1 Chr 9.25
y **23.6** Heb lacks *other*
* **23.7** 1 Chr 23.28–32
* **23.8** 1 Chr 24.1
* **23.9** v 1
* **23.11** Ex 25.16; 1 Sam 10.24
* **23.12** 2 Kings 11.13
* **23.15** Neh 3.28; Jer 31.40
* **23.17** Deut 13.9

* **23.18** 1 Chr 23.6, 30, 31; 25.1, 2, 6; 2 Chr 5.5
* **23.19** 1 Chr 9.22
* **23.20** 2 Kings 11.19

2 Chronicles 24

* **24.1** 2 Kings 11.21; 12.1–15
* **24.2** 2 Chr 26.5
* **24.4** v 7
z **24.6** Compare Vg: Heb *and*
* **24.6** Ex 30.12–16
* **24.7** 2 Chr 21.17
* **24.9** v 6
* **24.11** 2 Kings 12.10
* **24.13** Neh 10.39
* **24.16** 2 Chr 21.2, 20
a **24.18** Or *Asherahs*
* **24.18** v 4; Ex 34.12–14; Josh 22.20; 1 Kings 14.23; 2 Chr 19.2
* **24.19** Jer 7.25
b **24.20** Heb *clothed itself with*
* **24.20** Num 14.41; 2 Chr 15.2; 20.14
* **24.21** Neh 9.26; Mt 23.35; Acts 7.58, 59
* **24.22** Gen 9.5
* **24.23** 2 Kings 12.17
* **24.24** Lev 26.25; Deut 28.25; 2 Chr 22.8; Isa 10.5
c **24.25** Gk Vg: Heb *sons*
* **24.25** v 21; 2 Kings 12.20
d **24.27** Heb *founding*
* **24.27** 2 Kings 12.18, 21

2 Chronicles 25

* **25.1** 2 Kings 14.1–6
* **25.2** v 14
* **25.4** Deut 24.16; 2 Kings 14.6
* **25.5** Num 1.3
* **25.8** 2 Chr 14.11; 20.6
* **25.11** 2 Kings 14.7
* **25.14** Ex 20.3, 5; 2 Chr 28.23
* **25.15** vv 11, 12; Ps 96.5
e **25.16** Heb *he*
* **25.17** 2 Kings 14.8–14

* **25.18** Judg 9.8–15
f **25.19** Gk ms OL Tg Vg: Heb *you*
* **25.19** 2 Chr 26.16; 32.25
* **25.20** 1 Kings 12.15; 2 Chr 22.7
* **25.23** 2 Chr 21.17; 22.1
* **25.25** 2 Kings 14.17–22

2 Chronicles 26

* **26.1** 2 Kings 14.21, 22; 15.2, 3
g **26.5** Gk: Heb *the visions*
* **26.5** 2 Chr 15.2; 24.2; Dan 1.17; 2.19
* **26.6** Isa 14.29
* **26.7** 2 Chr 21.16
* **26.8** 2 Chr 17.11
* **26.9** 2 Chr 25.23; Neh 3.13
* **26.13** 2 Chr 25.5
* **26.16** Deut 32.15; 2 Kings 16.12, 13; 2 Chr 25.19
* **26.17** 1 Chr 6.10
* **26.18** Ex 30.7, 8; Num 16.39, 40
* **26.19** 2 Kings 5.25–27
* **26.21** Lev 13.46; Num 5.2; 2 Kings 15.5–7
* **26.22** Isa 1.1
* **26.23** 2 Kings 15.7; Isa 6.1

2 Chronicles 27

* **27.1** 2 Kings 15.33–35
* **27.2** 2 Chr 26.16
* **27.3** 2 Chr 33.14; Neh 3.26
* **27.6** 2 Chr 26.5
* **27.7** 2 Kings 15.36
* **27.8** v 1

2 Chronicles 28

* **28.1** 2 Kings 16.2–4
* **28.2** Ex 34.17; 2 Chr 22.3
* **28.3** Lev 18.21; 2 Kings 16.3; 23.10; 2 Chr 33.6
* **28.4** v 25
* **28.5** 2 Kings 16.5, 6; Isa 7.1
* **28.6** 2 Kings 15.27
* **28.8** 2 Chr 11.4

* **28.9** 2 Chr 25.15; Ezra 9.6; Isa 10.5; 47.6; Rev 18.5
* **28.10** Lev 25.39, 42, 43, 46
* **28.11** v 8
* **28.15** v 12; Deut 34.3; Judg 1.16; 2 Kings 6.22; Prov 25.21, 22
h **28.16** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *kings*
* **28.16** 2 Kings 16.7
* **28.18** Ezek 16.57
* **28.19** 2 Chr 21.2
i **28.20** Heb *Tilgath-pilneser*
* **28.20** 2 Kings 16.8, 9; 1 Chr 5.26
* **28.23** 2 Chr 25.14; Jer 44.17, 18
* **28.24** 2 Kings 16.17; 2 Chr 29.7; 30.14; 33.3–5
* **28.26** 2 Kings 16.19, 20
* **28.27** 2 Chr 24.25

2 Chronicles 29

* **29.1** 2 Kings 18.1–3
* **29.2** 2 Chr 28.1
* **29.3** v 7; 2 Chr 28.24
* **29.5** vv 15, 34; 2 Chr 35.6
* **29.6** Jer 2.27; Ezek 8.16
* **29.8** Deut 28.25; 2 Chr 24.18; 28.5; Jer 25.9, 18
* **29.9** 2 Chr 28.5–8, 17
* **29.10** 2 Chr 15.12; 23.16
* **29.11** Num 3.6; 8.14
* **29.12** Num 3.19, 20; 2 Chr 31.13
* **29.15** v 5; 1 Chr 23.28; 2 Chr 30.12
* **29.17** v 3
* **29.19** 2 Chr 28.24
* **29.21** Lev 4.3–14
* **29.22** Lev 4.18; 8.14
* **29.23** Lev 4.15
* **29.24** Lev 4.26
* **29.25** 2 Sam 7.2; 24.11; 1 Chr 25.6; 2 Chr 8.14
* **29.26** 1 Chr 23.5; 2 Chr 5.12
* **29.27** 2 Chr 23.18
* **29.29** 2 Chr 20.18
* **29.31** Ex 35.5, 22; 2 Chr 13.9
j **29.34** Heb *upright in heart*
* **29.34** 2 Chr 30.3; 35.11
* **29.35** v 32; Lev 3.16; Num 15.5–10

2 Chronicles 30

* **30.2** vv 13, 15; Num 9.10, 11
* **30.3** Ex 12.6, 18; 2 Chr 29.34
* **30.5** Judg 20.1
* **30.6** 2 Chr 20.8; Esth 8.14; Job 9.25; Jer 51.31
* **30.7** 2 Chr 29.8; Ezek 20.18
* **30.8** Ex 32.9; 2 Chr 29.10
* **30.9** Ex 34.6, 7; Deut 30.2; Isa 55.7; Mic 7.18
* **30.10** 2 Chr 36.16
* **30.11** vv 18, 21, 25
* **30.13** v 2
* **30.14** 2 Chr 28.24
* **30.15** vv 2, 3; 2 Chr 29.34

k **30.16** Heb lacks *that they received*

* **30.16** 2 Chr 35.10, 15
* **30.17** 2 Chr 29.34
* **30.18** vv 11, 25; Ex 12.43–49
* **30.19** 2 Chr 19.3
* **30.21** Ex 12.15; 13.6
* **30.22** 2 Chr 32.6; Ezra 10.11
* **30.23** 1 Kings 8.65
* **30.24** 2 Chr 29.34; 35.7, 8
* **30.27** Num 6.23; Deut 26.15; 2 Chr 23.18; Ps 68.5

2 Chronicles 31

l **31.1** Or *Asherahs*

* **31.1** 2 Kings 18.4
* **31.2** 1 Chr 23.28–31; 24.1
* **31.3** Num 28.29
* **31.4** Num 18.8; Neh 13.10
* **31.5** Neh 13.12
* **31.6** Lev 27.30; Deut 14.28
* **31.10** Mal 3.10
* **31.13** 2 Chr 35.9
* **31.15** Josh 21.9–19; 2 Chr 29.12
* **31.16** Ezra 3.4
* **31.17** 1 Chr 23.24
* **31.19** vv 12–15; Lev 25.34; Num 35.2
* **31.20** 2 Kings 20.3; 22.2

2 Chronicles 32

* **32.1** 2 Kings 18.13–19; Isa 36.1ff
* **32.4** v 30; 2 Kings 20.20
m **32.5** Heb *He*
n **32.5** Vg: Heb *and raised on the towers*
* **32.5** 1 Kings 9.24; 2 Chr 25.23
* **32.6** 2 Chr 30.22
* **32.7** 2 Kings 6.16; 1 Chr 22.13
* **32.8** 2 Chr 13.12; 20.17; Jer 17.5
* **32.11** 2 Kings 18.30
* **32.12** 2 Kings 18.22; 2 Chr 31.1
* **32.13** 2 Kings 18.33–35
* **32.14** Isa 10.9–11
* **32.15** 2 Kings 18.29
* **32.17** 2 Kings 19.9, 12
* **32.18** 2 Kings 18.26–28
* **32.19** 2 Kings 19.18
* **32.20** 2 Kings 19.2, 4, 15
* **32.21** 2 Kings 19.3ff
o **32.22** Gk Vg: Heb *guided them*
* **32.23** 2 Chr 17.5
* **32.24** 2 Kings 20.1–11; Isa 38.1–8
* **32.25** 2 Chr 24.18; 26.16; Ps 116.12
* **32.26** Jer 26.18, 19
p **32.28** Gk Vg: Heb *flocks for folds*
* **32.29** 1 Chr 29.12
* **32.30** 1 Kings 1.33; 2 Kings 20.20
* **32.31** Deut 8.2, 16; 2 Kings 20.12; Isa 39.1
* **32.33** 2 Kings 20.21; Prov 10.7

2 Chronicles 33

* **33.1** 2 Kings 21.1–9
* **33.2** Deut 18.9; 2 Chr 28.3
q **33.3** Or *Asherahs*
* **33.3** Deut 16.21; 17.3; 2 Kings 23.5, 6; 2 Chr 31.1
* **33.4** 2 Chr 7.16; 28.24
* **33.5** 2 Chr 4.9
* **33.6** Lev 18.21; Deut 18.10, 11; 2 Kings 21.6; 2 Chr 28.3
* **33.7** vv 4, 15; 2 Kings 21.7
* **33.8** 2 Sam 7.10

* **33.11** Deut 28.36; Ps 107.10, 11
* **33.12** 2 Chr 32.26; 1 Pet 5.6
* **33.13** 1 Chr 5.20; Ezra 8.23; Dan 4.25, 32
* **33.14** 1 Kings 1.33; 2 Chr 27.3; Neh 3.3
* **33.15** vv 3–7
* **33.17** 2 Chr 32.12
* **33.18** vv 10, 12, 19
r **33.19** Or *Asherahs*
s **33.19** Heb ms Gk: MT *of Hozai*
* **33.19** vv 3, 13
* **33.20** 2 Kings 21.18
* **33.21** 2 Kings 21.19–24
* **33.22** vv 2–7
* **33.23** v 12
* **33.24** 2 Chr 25.27

2 Chronicles 34

* **34.1** 2 Kings 22.1, 2
t **34.3** Or *Asherahs*
* **34.3** 1 Kings 13.2; 2 Chr 15.2; 33.17, 22
u **34.4** Or *Asherahs*
* **34.4** Ex 32.20; Lev 26.30; 2 Kings 23.4
* **34.5** 1 Kings 13.2; 2 Kings 23.20
v **34.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **34.6** 2 Kings 23.15, 19
w **34.7** Or *Asherahs*
* **34.7** 2 Chr 31.1
* **34.8** 2 Kings 22.3–20
* **34.9** 2 Chr 35.8
* **34.11** 2 Chr 33.4–7
* **34.12** 1 Chr 25.1
* **34.13** 1 Chr 23.4, 5
* **34.14** v 9
* **34.16** v 8
* **34.19** Josh 7.6
* **34.21** 2 Chr 29.8
* **34.22** 2 Kings 22.14
* **34.24** Deut 28.15–68; 2 Chr 36.14–20
* **34.25** 2 Chr 33.3
* **34.27** 2 Chr 12.7; 32.26
* **34.29** 2 Kings 23.1–3

* **34.30** Neh 8.1–3
* **34.31** 2 Kings 11.14; 23.3; 2 Chr 23.3, 16; 29.10
* **34.33** vv 3–7; 2 Chr 33.2–7

2 Chronicles 35

* **35.1** Ex 12.6; Num 9.3; 2 Kings 23.21, 22
* **35.2** 2 Chr 23.18; 29.11
* **35.3** Deut 33.10; 1 Chr 23.26; 2 Chr 5.7
* **35.4** 1 Chr 9.10–13; 2 Chr 8.14

x **35.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **35.5** Ps 134.1
* **35.6** v 1; 2 Chr 29.5, 15; Ezra 6.20
* **35.7** 2 Chr 30.24
* **35.9** 2 Chr 31.12
* **35.10** v 5; Ezra 6.18

y **35.11** Heb lacks *that they received*

* **35.11** vv 1, 6; 2 Chr 29.22, 34
* **35.13** Ex 12.8, 9; Lev 6.28; 1 Sam 2.13–15
* **35.15** 1 Chr 25.1; 26.12–19
* **35.17** Ex 12.15; 2 Chr 30.21
* **35.18** 2 Kings 23.21–23
* **35.20** 2 Kings 23.29, 30; Isa 10.9; Jer 46.2

z **35.21** Heb *he*

* **35.22** Judg 5.19; 2 Chr 18.29

a **35.24** Or *the chariot of his deputy*

* **35.24** 2 Kings 23.30; Zech 12.11
* **35.25** Jer 22.20; Lam 4.20

2 Chronicles 36

* **36.1** 2 Kings 23.30–34; Jer 22.11
* **36.5** 2 Kings 23.36, 37
* **36.6** 2 Kings 24.1; 2 Chr 33.11
* **36.7** 2 Kings 24.13
* **36.8** 2 Kings 24.5; 1 Chr 3.16
* **36.9** 2 Kings 24.8–17
* **36.10** 2 Sam 11.1; Jer 37.1
* **36.11** 2 Kings 24.18–20; Jer 52.1
* **36.12** 2 Chr 33.23; Jer 21.3–7
* **36.13** 2 Kings 17.4; 2 Chr 30.8; Jer 52.3
* **36.15** Jer 25.3, 4; 35.15; 44.4

* **36.16** 2 Chr 30.10; Ezra 5.12; Prov 1.25; Jer 5.12, 13
* **36.17** 2 Kings 25.1–7
* **36.18** 2 Kings 25.13ff
* **36.19** 2 Kings 25.9; Jer 52.13
* **36.20** 2 Kings 25.11; Jer 27.7
* **36.21** Lev 25.4; 26.34; Jer 29.10
* **36.22** Ezra 1.1; Isa 44.28; Jer 25.12
* **36.23** Ezra 1.2, 3

Ezra

Ezra 1

END OF THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

1 In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, to fulfill the word of the LORD
from the mouth of Jeremiah, the LORD stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of
Persia so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also
in writing, saying:*

2 "Thus says King Cyrus of Persia: The LORD, the God of heaven, has
given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him
a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.* 3Let any of those among you who
are of his people—may their God be with them!—go up to Jerusalem in
Judah and rebuild the house of the LORD, the God of Israel; he is the God
who is in Jerusalem.* 4And let all survivors in whatever place they reside be
assisted by the people of their place with silver and gold, with goods, and
with livestock, besides freewill offerings for the house of God in
Jerusalem."

5 Then the heads of the families of Judah and Benjamin and the priests
and the Levites—everyone whose spirit God had stirred—got ready to go
up and rebuild the house of the LORD in Jerusalem.* 6All their neighbors
aided them with silver vessels, with gold, with goods, with livestock, and
with valuable gifts, besides all that was freely offered. 7King Cyrus himself
brought out the vessels of the house of the LORD that Nebuchadnezzar had
carried away from Jerusalem and placed in the house of his gods.* 8King
Cyrus of Persia had them released into the charge of Mithredath the
treasurer, who counted them out to Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah.* 9And
this was the inventory: gold basins, thirty; silver basins, one thousand;
knives,[a] twenty-nine; 10gold bowls, thirty; other silver bowls, four hundred
ten; other vessels, one thousand; 11the total of the gold and silver vessels
was five thousand four hundred. All these Sheshbazzar brought up when the
exiles were brought up from Babylonia to Jerusalem.

Ezra 2

LIST OF THE RETURNED EXILES

1 Now these are the people of the province who came from those captive
exiles whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had carried captive to
Babylon; they returned to Jerusalem and Judah, all to their own towns.*
2They came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah,
Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Rehum, and Baanah.

The number of the Israelite people: 3the descendants of Parosh, two
thousand one hundred seventy-two. 4Of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy-
two. 5Of Arah, seven hundred seventy-five.* 6Of Pahath-moab, namely, the
descendants of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred twelve.* 7Of
Elam, one thousand two hundred fifty-four. 8Of Zattu, nine hundred forty-
five. 9Of Zaccai, seven hundred sixty. 10Of Bani, six hundred forty-two.
11Of Bebai, six hundred twenty-three. 12Of Azgad, one thousand two
hundred twenty-two. 13Of Adonikam, six hundred sixty-six. 14Of Bigvai,
two thousand fifty-six. 15Of Adin, four hundred fifty-four. 16Of Ater,
namely, of Hezekiah, ninety-eight.* 17Of Bezai, three hundred twenty-three.
18Of Jorah, one hundred twelve. 19Of Hashum, two hundred twenty-three.
20Of Gibbar, ninety-five. 21Of Bethlehem, one hundred twenty-three.* 22The
people of Netophah, fifty-six. 23Of Anathoth, one hundred twenty-eight.
24The descendants of Azmaveth, forty-two. 25Of Kiriatharim, Chephirah,
and Beeroth, seven hundred forty-three. 26Of Ramah and Geba, six hundred
twenty-one. 27The people of Michmas, one hundred twenty-two. 28Of
Bethel and Ai, two hundred twenty-three. 29The descendants of Nebo, fifty-
two. 30Of Magbish, one hundred fifty-six. 31Of the other Elam, one
thousand two hundred fifty-four.* 32Of Harim, three hundred twenty. 33Of
Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty-five. 34Of Jericho, three
hundred forty-five. 35Of Senaah, three thousand six hundred thirty.

36 The priests: the descendants of Jedaiah, of the house of Jeshua, nine
hundred seventy-three.* 37Of Immer, one thousand fifty-two. 38Of Pashhur,

one thousand two hundred forty-seven.* 39Of Harim, one thousand seventeen.*

40 The Levites: the descendants of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the descendants of Hodaviah, seventy-four. 41The singers: the descendants of Asaph, one hundred twenty-eight. 42The descendants of the gatekeepers: of Shallum, of Ater, of Talmon, of Akkub, of Hatita, and of Shobai, in all one hundred thirty-nine.

43 The temple servants: the descendants of Ziha, Hasupha, Tabbaoth,* 44Keros, Siaha, Padon, 45Lebanah, Hagabah, Akkub, 46Hagab, Shamlai, Hanan, 47Giddel, Gahar, Reaiah, 48Rezin, Nekoda, Gazzam,* 49Uzza, Paseah, Besai, 50Asnah, Meunim, Nephisim, 51Bakbuk, Hakupha, Harhur, 52Bazluth, Mehida, Harsha, 53Barkos, Sisera, Temah, 54Neziah, and Hatipha.

55 The descendants of Solomon's servants: Sotai, Hassophereth, Peruda,* 56Jaalah, Darkon, Giddel, 57Shephatiah, Hattil, Pochereth-hazzebaim, and Ami.

58 All the temple servants and the descendants of Solomon's servants were three hundred ninety-two.*

59 The following were those who came up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addan, and Immer, though they could not prove their families or their descent, whether they belonged to Israel: 60the descendants of Delaiah, Tobiah, and Nekoda, six hundred fifty-two. 61Also, of the descendants of the priests: the descendants of Habaiah, Hakkoz, and Barzillai (who had married one of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and was called by their name).* 62These looked for their entries in the genealogical records, but they were not found there, so they were excluded from the priesthood as unclean;* 63the governor told them that they were not to partake of the most holy food until there should be a priest to consult Urim and Thummim.*

64 The whole assembly together was forty-two thousand three hundred sixty,* 65besides their male and female servants, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty-seven, and they had two hundred male and female singers. 66They had seven hundred thirty-six horses, two hundred forty-five mules, 67four hundred thirty-five camels, and six thousand seven hundred twenty donkeys.

68 As soon as they came to the house of the LORD in Jerusalem, some of
the heads of families made freewill offerings for the house of God, to erect
it on its site. [69]According to their resources they gave to the building fund
sixty-one thousand darics of gold, five thousand minas of silver, and one
hundred priestly robes.*

70 The priests, the Levites, and some of the people, as well as the
singers, the gatekeepers, and the temple servants, lived in their towns and
all Israel in their towns.

Ezra 3

WORSHIP RESTORED AT JERUSALEM

1 When the seventh month came and the Israelites were in their[b] towns, the
people gathered together as one in Jerusalem.* [2]Then Jeshua son of Jozadak
with his fellow priests and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel with his kin set out
to build the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings on it, as
prescribed in the law of Moses the man of God.* [3]They set up the altar on
its foundation because they were in dread of the people of the lands, and
they offered burnt offerings upon it to the LORD, morning and evening.*
[4]And they kept the Festival of Booths,[c] as prescribed, and offered the daily
burnt offerings by number according to the ordinance, as required for each
day,* [5]and after that the regular burnt offerings, the offerings at the new
moon and at all the sacred festivals of the LORD, and the offerings of
everyone who made a freewill offering to the LORD. [6]From the first day of
the seventh month they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD. But the
foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid. [7]So they gave money
to the masons and the carpenters, and food, drink, and oil to the Sidonians
and the Tyrians to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the sea, to Joppa,
according to the grant that they had from King Cyrus of Persia.*

FOUNDATION LAID FOR THE TEMPLE

8 In the second year after their arrival at the house of God at Jerusalem,
in the second month, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of Jozadak
made a beginning, together with the rest of their people, the priests and the
Levites and all who had come to Jerusalem from the captivity. They
appointed the Levites from twenty years old and up to have the oversight of
the work on the house of the LORD.* [9]And Jeshua with his sons and his kin,
and Kadmiel and his sons, Binnui and Hodaviah,[d] along with the sons of
Henadad, the Levites, their sons and kin, together took charge of the
workers in the house of God.*

10 When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the
priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the LORD with trumpets,

and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel;* 11and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD,

"For he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever toward Israel."

And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the LORD because the foundation of the house of the LORD had been laid.* 12But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, 13so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

Ezra 4

RESISTANCE TO REBUILDING THE TEMPLE

1 When the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the returned
exiles were building a temple to the LORD, the God of Israel,* [2]they
approached Zerubbabel and the heads of families and said to them, "Let us
build with you, for we worship your God as you do, and we have been
sacrificing to him ever since the days of King Esar-haddon of Assyria, who
brought us here."* [3]But Zerubbabel, Jeshua, and the rest of the heads of
families in Israel said to them, "You shall have no part with us in building a
house for our God, but we alone will build for the LORD, the God of Israel,
as King Cyrus of Persia has commanded us."*

4 Then the people of the land discouraged the people of Judah and made
them afraid to build,* [5]and they bribed officials to frustrate their plan
throughout the reign of King Cyrus of Persia and until the reign of King
Darius of Persia.

REBUILDING OF JERUSALEM OPPOSED

6 In the reign of Ahasuerus, in his accession year, they wrote an
accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.*

7 And in the days of Artaxerxes, Bishlam and Mithredath and Tabeel and
the rest of their associates wrote to King Artaxerxes of Persia; the letter was
written in Aramaic and translated.[e,*] [8]Rehum the royal deputy and Shimshai
the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to King Artaxerxes as follows
[9](then Rehum the royal deputy, Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their
associates, the judges, the envoys, the officials, the Persians, the people of
Erech, the Babylonians, the people of Susa, that is, the Elamites, [10]and the
rest of the nations whom the great and noble Osnappar deported and settled
in the cities of Samaria and in the rest of the province Beyond the River
wrote—and now* [11]this is a copy of the letter that they sent):

"To King Artaxerxes: Your servants, the people of the province Beyond
the River, send greeting. And now [12]may it be known to the king that the

Jews who came up from you to us have gone to Jerusalem. They are rebuilding that rebellious and wicked city; they are finishing the walls and repairing the foundations.* 13Now may it be known to the king that, if this city is rebuilt and the walls finished, they will not pay tribute, custom, or toll, and the royal revenue will be reduced.* 14Now because we share the salt of the palace and it is not fitting for us to witness the king's dishonor, therefore we send and inform the king, 15so that a search may be made in the annals of your ancestors. You will discover in the annals that this is a rebellious city, hurtful to kings and provinces, and that sedition was stirred up in it from long ago. On that account this city was laid waste. 16We make known to the king that, if this city is rebuilt and its walls finished, you will then have no possession in the province Beyond the River."

17 The king sent an answer: "To Rehum the royal deputy and Shimshai the scribe and the rest of their associates who live in Samaria and in the rest of the province Beyond the River, greeting. And now 18the letter that you sent to us has been read in translation before me.* 19So I made a decree, and someone searched and discovered that this city has risen against kings from long ago and that rebellion and sedition have been made in it. 20Jerusalem has had mighty kings who ruled over the whole province Beyond the River, to whom tribute, custom, and toll were paid.* 21Therefore issue an order that these people be made to cease and that this city not be rebuilt, until I make a decree. 22Moreover, take care not to be slack in this matter; why should damage grow to the hurt of the king?"

23 Then when the copy of King Artaxerxes's letter was read before Rehum and the scribe Shimshai and their associates, they hurried to the Jews in Jerusalem and by force and power made them cease. 24At that time the work on the house of God in Jerusalem stopped and was discontinued until the second year of the reign of King Darius of Persia.

Ezra 5

RESTORATION OF THE TEMPLE RESUMED

1 Now Haggai the prophet and Zechariah son of Iddo[f] prophesied to the
Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel
who was over them.* [2]Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of
Jozadak set out to rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem, and with them
were the prophets of God, helping them.*

3 At the same time Tattenai the governor of the province Beyond the
River and Shethar-bozenai and their associates came to them and spoke to
them thus, "Who gave you a decree to build this house and to finish this
structure?"* [4]They[g] also asked them this, "What are the names of the men
who are building this building?"* [5]But the eye of their God was upon the
elders of the Jews, and they did not stop them until a report reached Darius
and then answer was returned by letter in reply to it.*

6 The copy of the letter that Tattenai the governor of the province
Beyond the River and Shethar-bozenai and his associates the envoys who
were in the province Beyond the River sent to King Darius;* [7]they sent him
a report in which was written as follows: "To Darius the king, all peace!
[8]May it be known to the king that we went to the province of Judah, to the
house of the great God. It is being built of hewn stone, and timber is laid in
the walls; this work is being done diligently and prospers in their hands.
[9]Then we spoke to those elders and asked them, 'Who gave you a decree to
build this house and to finish this structure?'* [10]We also asked them their
names, for your information, so that we might write down the names of the
men at their head. [11]This was their reply to us: 'We are the servants of the
God of heaven and earth, and we are rebuilding the house that was built
many years ago, which a great king of Israel built and finished.* [12]But
because our ancestors had angered the God of heaven, he gave them into
the hand of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, the Chaldean, who destroyed
this house and carried away the people to Babylonia.* [13]However, King
Cyrus of Babylon, in the first year of his reign, made a decree that this
house of God should be rebuilt.* [14]Moreover, the gold and silver vessels of

the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem and had brought into the temple of Babylon, these King Cyrus took out of the temple of Babylon, and they were delivered to a man named Sheshbazzar, whom he had made governor.* 15He said to him, “Take these vessels; go and put them in the temple in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be rebuilt on its site.” 16Then this Sheshbazzar came and laid the foundations of the house of God in Jerusalem, and from that time until now it has been under construction, and it is not yet finished.’* 17And now, if it seems good to the king, have a search made in the royal archives there in Babylon, to see whether a decree was issued by King Cyrus for the rebuilding of this house of God in Jerusalem. Let the king send us his pleasure in this matter.”*

Ezra 6

THE DECREE OF DARIUS

1 Then King Darius made a decree, and they searched the archives where
the documents were stored in Babylon.* [2]But it was in Ecbatana, the capital
in the province of Media, that a scroll was found on which this was written:
"A record. [3]In the first year of his reign, King Cyrus issued a decree:
Concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, let the house be rebuilt, the
place where sacrifices are offered and burnt offerings are brought;[h] its
height shall be sixty cubits and its width sixty cubits,* [4]with three courses of
hewn stones and one course of timber; let the cost be paid from the royal
treasury.* [5]Moreover, let the gold and silver vessels of the house of God that
Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple in Jerusalem and brought to
Babylon be restored and brought back to the temple in Jerusalem, each to
its place; you shall put them in the house of God."*

6 "Now you, Tattenai, governor of the province Beyond the River,
Shethar-bozenai, and you, their associates, the envoys in the province
Beyond the River, keep away;* [7]let the work on this house of God alone; let
the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews rebuild this house of
God on its site. [8]Moreover, I make a decree regarding what you shall do for
these elders of the Jews for the rebuilding of this house of God: the cost is
to be paid to these people, in full and without delay, from the royal revenue,
the tribute of the province Beyond the River. [9]Whatever is needed—young
bulls, rams, or sheep for burnt offerings to the God of heaven, wheat, salt,
wine, or oil, as the priests in Jerusalem require—let that be given to them
day by day without fail, [10]so that they may offer pleasing sacrifices to the
God of heaven and pray for the life of the king and his children.*
[11]Furthermore, I decree that, if anyone alters this edict, a beam shall be
pulled out of the house of the perpetrator, who then shall be impaled on it.
The house shall be made a dunghill.* [12]May the God who has established
his name there overthrow any king or people who shall put forth a hand to
alter this or to destroy this house of God in Jerusalem. I, Darius, make a
decree; let it be done with all diligence."*

COMPLETION AND DEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE

13 Then, according to the word sent by King Darius, Tattenai, the governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai, and their associates did with all diligence what King Darius had ordered.* 14So the elders of the Jews built and prospered, through the prophesying of the prophet Haggai and Zechariah son of Iddo. They finished their building by command of the God of Israel and by decree of Cyrus, Darius, and King Artaxerxes of Persia,* 15and this house was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

16 The people of Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the rest of the returned exiles celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy.* 17They offered at the dedication of this house of God one hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, and as a sin offering for all Israel, twelve male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.* 18Then they set the priests in their divisions and the Levites in their courses for the service of God at Jerusalem, as it is written in the book of Moses.*

THE PASSOVER CELEBRATED

19 On the fourteenth day of the first month the returned exiles kept the Passover.* 20For both the priests and the Levites had purified themselves; all of them were clean. So they slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow priests, and for themselves.* 21It was eaten by the people of Israel who had returned from exile and also by all who had joined them and separated themselves from the pollutions of the nations of the land to seek the LORD, the God of Israel.* 22With joy they celebrated the Festival of Unleavened Bread seven days, for the LORD had made them joyful and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, so that he aided them in the work on the house of God, the God of Israel.*

Ezra 7

THE COMING AND WORK OF EZRA

1 After this, in the reign of King Artaxerxes of Persia, Ezra son of Seraiah,
son of Azariah, son of Hilkiah,* [2]son of Shallum, son of Zadok, son of
Ahitub, [3]son of Amariah, son of Azariah, son of Meraioth, [4]son of
Zerahiah, son of Uzzi, son of Bukki, [5]son of Abishua, son of Phinehas, son
of Eleazar, son of the chief priest Aaron—[6]this Ezra went up from
Babylonia. He was a scribe skilled in the law of Moses that the LORD the
God of Israel had given, and the king granted him all that he asked, for the
hand of the LORD his God was upon him.*

7 Some of the people of Israel and some of the priests and Levites, the
singers and gatekeepers, and the temple servants also went up to Jerusalem
in the seventh year of King Artaxerxes.* [8]They came to Jerusalem in the
fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king. [9]On the first day of
the first month the journey up from Babylon was begun, and on the first day
of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, for the gracious hand of his God
was upon him.* [10]For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the LORD
and to do it and to teach the statutes and ordinances in Israel.*

THE LETTER OF ARTAXERXES TO EZRA

11 This is a copy of the letter that King Artaxerxes gave to Ezra the priest
and scribe, a scholar of the words of the commandments of the LORD and
his statutes for Israel: [12]"Artaxerxes, king of kings, to the priest Ezra, the
scribe of the law of the God of heaven: Peace.[i] And now* [13]I decree that
any of the people of Israel or their priests or Levites in my kingdom who
freely offers to go to Jerusalem may go with you. [14]For you are sent by the
king and his seven counselors to make inquiries about Judah and Jerusalem
according to the law of your God, which is in your hand,* [15]and also to
convey the silver and gold that the king and his counselors have freely
offered to the God of Israel, whose dwelling is in Jerusalem,* [16]with all the
silver and gold that you shall find in the whole province of Babylonia and
with the freewill offerings of the people and the priests, given willingly for

the house of their God in Jerusalem.* 17With this money, then, you shall with all diligence buy bulls, rams, and lambs and their grain offerings and their drink offerings, and you shall offer them on the altar of the house of your God in Jerusalem.* 18Whatever seems good to you and your colleagues to do with the rest of the silver and gold, you may do, according to the will of your God. 19The vessels that have been given you for the service of the house of your God, you shall deliver before the God of Jerusalem. 20And whatever else is required for the house of your God that you are responsible for providing, you may provide out of the king's treasury.*

21 "I, King Artaxerxes, decree to all the treasurers in the province Beyond the River: Whatever the priest Ezra, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, requires of you, let it be done with all diligence,* 22up to one hundred talents of silver, one hundred cors of wheat, one hundred baths[j] of wine, one hundred baths[k] of oil, and unlimited salt. 23Whatever is commanded by the God of heaven, let it be done with zeal for the house of the God of heaven, or wrath will come upon the realm of the king and his heirs.* 24We also notify you that it shall not be lawful to impose tribute, custom, or toll on any of the priests, the Levites, the singers, the doorkeepers, the temple servants, or other servants of this house of God.

25 "And you, Ezra, according to the God-given wisdom you possess, appoint magistrates and judges who may judge all the people in the province Beyond the River who know the laws of your God, and you shall teach those who do not know them.* 26All who will not obey the law of your God and the law of the king, let judgment be strictly executed on them, whether for death or for banishment or for confiscation of their goods or for imprisonment."

27 Blessed be the LORD, the God of our ancestors, who put such a thing as this into the heart of the king to glorify the house of the LORD in Jerusalem* 28and who extended to me steadfast love before the king and his counselors and before all the king's mighty officers. I took courage, for the hand of the LORD my God was upon me, and I gathered leaders from Israel to go up with me.*

Ezra 8

HEADS OF FAMILIES WHO RETURNED WITH EZRA

1 These are their family heads, and this is the genealogy of those who went
up with me from Babylonia, in the reign of King Artaxerxes: [2]Of the
descendants of Phinehas, Gershom. Of Ithamar, Daniel. Of David, Hattush,*
[3]of the descendants of Shecaniah. Of Parosh, Zechariah, with whom were
registered one hundred fifty males.* [4]Of the descendants of Pahath-moab,
Eliehoenai son of Zerahiah, and with him two hundred males. [5]Of the
descendants of Zattu,[1] Shecaniah son of Jahaziel, and with him three
hundred males. [6]Of the descendants of Adin, Ebed son of Jonathan, and
with him fifty males. [7]Of the descendants of Elam, Jeshaiah son of
Athaliah, and with him seventy males. [8]Of the descendants of Shephatiah,
Zebadiah son of Michael, and with him eighty males. [9]Of the descendants
of Joab, Obadiah son of Jehiel, and with him two hundred eighteen males.
[10]Of the descendants of Bani,[m] Shelomith son of Josiphiah, and with him
one hundred sixty males. [11]Of the descendants of Bebai, Zechariah son of
Bebai, and with him twenty-eight males. [12]Of the descendants of Azgad,
Johanan son of Hakkatan, and with him one hundred ten males. [13]Of the
descendants of Adonikam, those who came later, their names being
Eliphelet, Jeuel, and Shemaiah, and with them sixty males. [14]Of the
descendants of Bigvai, Uthai and Zaccur, and with them seventy males.

SERVANTS FOR THE TEMPLE

15 I gathered them by the river that runs to Ahava, and there we camped
three days. As I reviewed the people and the priests, I found there none of
the descendants of Levi.* [16]Then I sent for Eliezer, Ariel, Shemaiah,
Elnathan, Jarib, Elnathan, Nathan, Zechariah, and Meshullam, who were
leaders, and for Joiarib and Elnathan, who were wise, [17]and sent them to
Iddo, the leader at the place called Casiphia, telling them what to say to
Iddo and his colleagues the temple servants at Casiphia, namely, to send us
ministers for the house of our God.* [18]Since the gracious hand of our God

was upon us, they brought us a man of discretion, of the descendants of Mahli son of Levi son of Israel, namely, Sherebiah, with his sons and kin, eighteen;* 19also Hashabiah and with him Jeshaiah of the descendants of Merari, with his kin and their sons, twenty; 20besides two hundred twenty of the temple servants, whom David and his officials had set apart to attend the Levites. These were all mentioned by name.*

FASTING AND PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the River Ahava, that we might humble ourselves[n] before our God, to seek from him a safe journey for ourselves, our children, and all our possessions.* 22For I was ashamed to ask the king for a band of soldiers and cavalry to protect us against the enemy on our way, since we had told the king that the hand of our God is gracious to all who seek him, but his power and his wrath are against all who forsake him.* 23So we fasted and petitioned our God for this, and he listened to our entreaty.*

GIFTS FOR THE TEMPLE

24 Then I set apart twelve of the leading priests: Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their kin with them. 25And I weighed out to them the silver and the gold and the vessels, the offering for the house of our God that the king, his counselors, his lords, and all Israel there present had offered;* 26I weighed out into their hand six hundred fifty talents of silver, and one hundred silver vessels worth . . . talents,[o] and one hundred talents of gold,* 27twenty gold bowls worth a thousand darics, and two vessels of fine polished bronze as precious as gold. 28And I said to them, "You are holy to the LORD, and the vessels are holy, and the silver and the gold are a freewill offering to the LORD, the God of your ancestors.* 29Guard them and keep them until you weigh them before the chief priests and the Levites and the heads of families in Israel at Jerusalem, within the chambers of the house of the LORD."* 30So the priests and the Levites took over the silver, the gold, and the vessels as they were weighed out, to bring them to Jerusalem, to the house of our God.

THE RETURN TO JERUSALEM

31 Then we left the River Ahava on the twelfth day of the first month to
go to Jerusalem; the hand of our God was upon us, and he delivered us from
the hand of the enemy and from ambushes along the way.* 32We came to
Jerusalem and remained there three days.* 33On the fourth day, within the
house of our God, the silver, the gold, and the vessels were weighed into the
hands of the priest Meremoth son of Uriah, and with him was Eleazar son
of Phinehas, and with them were the Levites, Jozabad son of Jeshua and
Noadiah son of Binnui.* 34The total was counted and weighed, and the
weight of everything was recorded.

35 At that time those who had come from captivity, the returned exiles,
offered burnt offerings to the God of Israel: twelve bulls for all Israel,
ninety-six rams, seventy-seven lambs, and as a sin offering twelve male
goats; all this was a burnt offering to the LORD.* 36They also delivered the
king's commissions to the king's satraps and to the governors of the
province Beyond the River, and they supported the people and the house of
God.*

Ezra 9

DENUNCIATION OF MIXED MARRIAGES

1 After these things had been done, the officials approached me and said,
"The people of Israel, the priests, and the Levites have not separated
themselves from the peoples of the lands with their abominations, from the
Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the
Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.* 2For they have taken some of
their daughters as wives for themselves and for their sons. Thus the holy
seed has mixed itself with the peoples of the lands, and in this faithlessness
the officials and leaders have led the way."* 3When I heard this, I tore my
garment and my mantle and pulled hair from my head and beard and sat
appalled.* 4Then all who trembled at the words of the God of Israel because
of the faithlessness of the returned exiles gathered around me while I sat
appalled until the evening sacrifice.*

EZRA'S PRAYER

5 At the evening sacrifice I got up from my fasting, with my garments
and my mantle torn, and fell on my knees, spread out my hands to the LORD
my God,* 6and said,

"O my God, I am too ashamed and embarrassed to lift my face to you,
my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt
has mounted up to the heavens.* 7From the days of our ancestors to this day
we have been deep in guilt, and for our iniquities we, our kings, and our
priests have been handed over to the kings of the lands, to the sword, to
captivity, to plundering, and to utter shame, as is now the case.* 8But now
for a brief moment favor has been shown by the LORD our God, who has left
us a remnant and given us a stake in his holy place, in order that he[p] may
brighten our eyes and grant us a little sustenance in our slavery.* 9For we
are slaves; yet our God has not forsaken us in our slavery but has extended
to us his steadfast love before the kings of Persia, to give us new life to set
up the house of our God, to repair its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judea
and Jerusalem.*

10 “And now, our God, what shall we say after this? For we have
forsaken your commandments, 11which you commanded by your servants
the prophets, saying, ‘The land that you are entering to possess is a land
unclean with the pollutions of the peoples of the lands, with their
abominations. They have filled it from end to end with their uncleanness.*
12Therefore, do not give your daughters to their sons, neither take their
daughters for your sons, and never seek their peace or prosperity, so that
you may be strong and eat the good of the land and leave it for an
inheritance to your children forever.’* 13After all that has come upon us for
our evil deeds and for our great guilt, seeing that you, our God, have
punished us less than our iniquities deserved and have given us such a
remnant as this,* 14shall we break your commandments again and
intermarry with the peoples who practice these abominations? Would you
not be angry with us until you destroy us without remnant or survivor?*
15O LORD, God of Israel, you are just, but we have escaped as a remnant, as
is now the case. Here we are before you in our guilt, though no one can face
you because of this.”*

Ezra 10

THE PEOPLE'S RESPONSE

1 While Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and throwing himself
down before the house of God, a very great assembly of men, women, and
children gathered to him out of Israel; the people also wept bitterly.*
2Shecaniah son of Jehiel, of the descendants of Elam, addressed Ezra,
saying, "We have broken faith with our God and have married foreign
women from the peoples of the land, but even now there is hope for Israel
in spite of this.* 3So now let us make a covenant with our God to send away
all these wives and their children, according to the counsel of my lord and
of those who tremble at the commandment of our God, and let it be done
according to the law.* 4Take action, for it is your duty, and we are with you;
be strong, and do it."* 5Then Ezra stood up and made the leading priests,
the Levites, and all Israel swear that they would do as had been said. So
they swore.*

FOREIGN WIVES AND THEIR CHILDREN REJECTED

6 Then Ezra withdrew from before the house of God and went to the
chamber of Jehohanan son of Eliashib, where he spent the night.[q] He did
not eat bread or drink water, for he was mourning over the faithlessness of
the exiles.* 7They made a proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem to
all the returned exiles that they should assemble at Jerusalem 8and that, if
any did not come within three days, by order of the officials and the elders
all their property should be forfeited and they themselves banned from the
congregation of the exiles.

9 Then all the people of Judah and Benjamin assembled at Jerusalem
within the three days; it was the ninth month, on the twentieth day of the
month. All the people sat in the open square before the house of God,
trembling because of this matter and because of the heavy rain.* 10Then
Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, "You have trespassed and married
foreign women and so increased the guilt of Israel. 11Now make confession
to the LORD the God of your ancestors and do his will; separate yourselves

from the peoples of the land and from the foreign wives."* 12Then all the assembly answered with a loud voice, "It is so; we must do as you have said. 13But the people are many, and it is a time of heavy rain; we cannot stand in the open. Nor is this a task for one day or for two, for many of us have transgressed in this matter. 14Let our officials represent the whole assembly, and let all in our towns who have taken foreign wives come at appointed times, and with them the elders and judges of every town, until the fierce wrath of our God on this account is averted from us."* 15Only Jonathan son of Asahel and Jahzeiah son of Tikvah opposed this, and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levites supported them.

16 Then the returned exiles did so. Ezra the priest selected men,[r] heads of families, according to their families, each of them designated by name. On the first day of the tenth month they sat down to examine the matter.* 17By the first day of the first month they had come to the end of all the men who had married foreign women.

18 There were found of the descendants of the priests who had married foreign women, of the descendants of Jeshua son of Jozadak and his brothers: Maaseiah, Eliezer, Jarib, and Gedaliah. 19They pledged themselves to send away their wives, and their guilt offering was a ram of the flock for their guilt.* 20Of the descendants of Immer: Hanani and Zebadiah. 21Of the descendants of Harim: Maaseiah, Elijah, Shemaiah, Jehiel, and Uzziah. 22Of the descendants of Pashhur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethanel, Jozabad, and Elasah.

23 Of the Levites: Jozabad, Shimei, Kelaiah (that is, Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer.* 24Of the singers: Eliashib. Of the gatekeepers: Shallum, Telem, and Uri.

25 And of Israel: of the descendants of Parosh: Ramiah, Izziah, Malchijah, Mijamin, Eleazar, Hashabiah,[s] and Benaiah.* 26Of the descendants of Elam: Mattaniah, Zechariah, Jehiel, Abdi, Jeremoth, and Elijah. 27Of the descendants of Zattu: Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, Jeremoth, Zabad, and Aziza. 28Of the descendants of Bebai: Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, and Athlai. 29Of the descendants of Bani: Meshullam, Malluch, Adaiah, Jashub, Sheal, and Jeremoth. 30Of the descendants of Pahath-moab: Adna, Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezalel, Binnui, and Manasseh. 31Of the descendants of Harim: Eliezer, Isshijah,

Malchijah, Shemaiah, Shimeon, [32]Benjamin, Malluch, and Shemariah. [33]Of the descendants of Hashum: Mattenai, Mattattah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, and Shimei. [34]Of the descendants of Bani: Maadai, Amram, Uel, [35]Benaiah, Bedeiah, Cheluhi, [36]Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib, [37]Mattaniah, Mattenai, and Jaasu. [38]Of the descendants of Binnui:[t] Shimei, [39]Shelemiah, Nathan, Adaiah, [40]Machnadebai, Shashai, Sharai, [41]Azarel, Shelemiah, Shemariah, [42]Shallum, Amariah, and Joseph. [43]Of the descendants of Nebo: Jeiel, Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jaddai, Joel, and Benaiah. [44]All these had married foreign women, and they sent them away with their children.[u,*]

Ezra 1

* **1.1** 2 Chr 36.22, 23; Ezra 5.13, 14; Jer 25.12; 29.10
* **1.2** Isa 44.28; 45.1, 12, 13
* **1.3** Dan 6.26
* **1.5** Phil 2.13
* **1.7** 2 Kings 24.13; 2 Chr 36.7; Ezra 5.14; 6.5
* **1.8** Ezra 5.14

a **1.9** Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain

Ezra 2

* **2.1** 2 Kings 24.14–16; 25.11; 2 Chr 36.20; Neh 7.6–73
* **2.5** Neh 7.10
* **2.6** Neh 7.11
* **2.16** Neh 7.21
* **2.21** Neh 7.26
* **2.31** v 7
* **2.36** 1 Chr 24.7–18
* **2.38** 1 Chr 9.12
* **2.39** 1 Chr 24.8
* **2.43** 1 Chr 9.2
* **2.48** Neh 7.50
* **2.55** Neh 7.57, 60; 11.3
* **2.58** v 55
* **2.61** 2 Sam 17.27
* **2.62** Num 3.10; 16.39, 40
* **2.63** Ex 28.30; Lev 2.3
* **2.64** Neh 7.66ff
* **2.69** Ezra 8.25–34

Ezra 3

b **3.1** Heb mss Gk Syr Vg: MT *the*

* **3.1** Neh 7.73; 8.1
* **3.2** Deut 12.5, 6; 1 Chr 3.17; Ezra 2.2; Neh 12.1, 8
* **3.3** Num 28.2–4; Ezra 4.4

c **3.4** Or *Tabernacles*

* **3.4** Ex 23.16; Num 29.12; Neh 8.14
* **3.7** 2 Chr 2.10, 16; Ezra 1.2; 6.3
* **3.8** v 2; 1 Chr 23.24, 27; Ezra 4.3

d **3.9** Heb *sons of Judah*
* **3.9** Ezra 2.40
* **3.10** 1 Chr 6.31; 16.5, 6, 42; 25.1
* **3.11** Ex 15.21; 1 Chr 16.34, 41; 2 Chr 7.3; Neh 12.24

Ezra 4

* **4.1** vv 7–10
* **4.2** 2 Kings 17.24, 32, 33; 19.37
* **4.3** Ezra 1.1–3; Neh 2.20
* **4.4** Ezra 3.3
* **4.6** Esth 1.1; Dan 9.1
e **4.7** Heb adds *in Aramaic*, indicating that 4.8–6.18 is in Aramaic. Another interpretation is *The letter was written in the Aramaic script and set forth in the Aramaic language*
* **4.7** 2 Kings 18.26; Dan 2.4
* **4.10** v 1
* **4.12** Ezra 5.3, 9
* **4.13** v 20; Ezra 7.24
* **4.18** Neh 8.8
* **4.20** 1 Kings 4.21; Ps 72.8

Ezra 5

f **5.1** Gk: Aram adds *the prophets*
* **5.1** Hag 1.1; Zech 1.1
* **5.2** Ezra 3.2
* **5.3** v 9; Ezra 1.3; 6.6
g **5.4** Gk Syr: Aram *We*
* **5.4** v 10
* **5.5** Ezra 7.6, 28; Ps 33.18
* **5.6** Ezra 4.9
* **5.9** vv 3, 4
* **5.11** 1 Kings 6.1
* **5.12** 2 Kings 24.2; 25.8, 9, 11; 2 Chr 36.16, 17
* **5.13** Ezra 1.1
* **5.14** v 16; Ezra 1.7, 8; 6.5; Dan 5.2
* **5.16** Ezra 3.8, 10; 6.15
* **5.17** Ezra 6.1, 2

Ezra 6

* **6.1** Ezra 5.17
h **6.3** Meaning of Aram uncertain

* **6.3** Ezra 1.1
* **6.4** 1 Kings 6.36
* **6.5** Ezra 1.7, 8; 5.14
* **6.6** v 13; Ezra 5.3
* **6.10** Ezra 7.23
* **6.11** Ezra 7.26; Dan 2.5; 3.29
* **6.12** Deut 12.5, 11
* **6.13** v 6
* **6.14** v 12; Ezra 1.1; 5.1, 2; 7.1
* **6.16** 1 Kings 8.63; 2 Chr 7.5
* **6.17** Ezra 8.35
* **6.18** Num 3.6; 8.9; 1 Chr 23.6; 2 Chr 35.5
* **6.19** Ex 12.6; Ezra 1.11
* **6.20** 2 Chr 29.34; 30.15; 35.11
* **6.21** Ezra 9.11; Neh 9.2; 10.28
* **6.22** v 1; Ex 12.15; Ezra 1.1; 7.27

Ezra 7

* **7.1** vv 12, 21; 1 Chr 6.4–14; Neh 2.1
* **7.6** vv 9, 11, 12, 21, 28
* **7.7** Ezra 8.1–20
* **7.9** v 6
* **7.10** v 25; Neh 8.1–8; Ps 119.45
i **7.12** Syr Vg: Aram *Perfect*
* **7.12** Ezek 26.7; Dan 2.37
* **7.14** Esth 1.14
* **7.15** 2 Chr 6.2; Ezra 6.12
* **7.16** 1 Chr 29.6, 9; Ezra 1.4, 6; 8.25
* **7.17** Num 15.4–13; Deut 12.5–11
* **7.20** Ezra 6.4
* **7.21** v 6
j **7.22** A Heb measure of volume
k **7.22** A Heb measure of volume
* **7.23** Ezra 6.10
* **7.25** v 10; Ex 18.21; Deut 16.18
* **7.27** 1 Chr 29.10; Ezra 6.22
* **7.28** vv 6, 9; Ezra 9.9

Ezra 8

* **8.2** 1 Chr 3.22

* **8.3** Ezra 2.3
l **8.5** Gk: Heb lacks *of Zattu*
m **8.10** Gk: Heb lacks *Bani*
* **8.15** vv 21, 31; Ezra 7.7
* **8.17** Ezra 2.43
* **8.18** Ezra 7.6
* **8.20** Ezra 2.43
n **8.21** Or *fast*
* **8.21** 2 Chr 20.3; Isa 58.3, 5
* **8.22** 2 Chr 15.2; Ezra 7.6, 9, 28; Ps 33.18, 19; 34.16
* **8.23** 2 Chr 33.13
* **8.25** Ezra 7.15, 16
o **8.26** The number of talents is lacking
* **8.26** Ezra 1.9–11
* **8.28** Lev 21.6–8; 22.2, 3
* **8.29** vv 33, 34
* **8.31** Ezra 7.6, 9, 28
* **8.32** Neh 2.11
* **8.33** vv 26, 30
* **8.35** Ezra 2.1; 6.17
* **8.36** Ezra 7.21

Ezra 9

* **9.1** Lev 18.24–30; Ezra 6.21; Neh 9.2
* **9.2** Ex 22.31; Ezra 10.2, 18; Neh 13.3
* **9.3** Neh 1.4; Job 1.20
* **9.4** Ex 29.39; Ezra 10.3
* **9.5** Ex 9.29, 33
* **9.6** 2 Chr 28.9; Dan 9.7, 8; Rev 18.5
* **9.7** Deut 28.36, 64; Dan 9.5–8
p **9.8** Heb *our God*
* **9.8** Ps 13.3; 34.5; Isa 22.23
* **9.9** Ezra 7.28; Neh 9.36
* **9.11** Ezra 6.21
* **9.12** Deut 7.3; 23.6; Prov 13.22
* **9.13** vv 6–8
* **9.14** v 2; Deut 9.8, 14; Neh 13.23, 27
* **9.15** v 6; Neh 9.33; Ps 130.3; Dan 9.14

Ezra 10

* **10.1** 2 Chr 20.9; Dan 9.4, 20
* **10.2** Ezra 9.2; Neh 13.27
* **10.3** v 44; Deut 7.2, 3; 2 Chr 34.31; Ezra 9.4
* **10.4** 1 Chr 28.10
* **10.5** Neh 5.12
q **10.6** 1 Esdras 9.2: Heb *where he went*
* **10.6** Deut 9.18
* **10.9** v 3; Ezra 9.4
* **10.11** v 3; Lev 26.40
* **10.14** 2 Chr 29.10; 30.8
r **10.16** Syr: Heb *And there were selected Ezra,*
* **10.16** Ezra 4.1
* **10.19** Lev 5.15; 6.6; 2 Kings 10.15; 2 Chr 30.8
* **10.23** Ex 6.25
s **10.25** Gk: Heb *Malchijah*
* **10.25** v 1
t **10.38** Gk: Heb *Bani, Binnui*
u **10.44** 1 Esdras 9.36; meaning of Heb uncertain
* **10.44** v 3

Nehemiah

Nehemiah 1

NEHEMIAH PRAYS FOR HIS PEOPLE

1 The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah. In the month of Chislev, in the
twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa,* 2one of my brothers,
Hanani, came with certain men from Judah, and I asked them about the
Jews who escaped, those who had survived the captivity, and about
Jerusalem. 3They replied, "The remnant there in the province who escaped
captivity are in great trouble and shame; the wall of Jerusalem is broken
down, and its gates have been destroyed by fire."*

4 When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days,
fasting and praying before the God of heaven.* 5I said, "O LORD God of
heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love
with those who love him and keep his commandments,* 6let your ear be
attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer of your servant that I now
pray before you day and night for your servants, the Israelites, confessing
the sins of the Israelites, which we have sinned against you. Both I and my
family have sinned.* 7We have offended you deeply, failing to keep the
commandments, the statutes, and the ordinances that you commanded
Moses your servant.* 8Remember the word that you commanded Moses
your servant, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples,*
9but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though
your outcasts are under the farthest skies, I will gather them from there and
bring them to the place where I have chosen to establish my name.'* 10They
are your servants and your people whom you redeemed by your great power
and your strong hand.* 11O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of
your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your
name. Give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight
of this man!"

At the time, I was cupbearer to the king.*

Nehemiah 2

NEHEMIAH SENT TO JUDAH

1 In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when
wine was served him, I carried the wine and gave it to the king. Now, I had
never been sad in his presence before.* [2]So the king said to me, "Why is
your face sad, since you are not sick? This can only be sadness of the
heart." Then I was very much afraid.* [3]I said to the king, "May the king live
forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my
ancestors' graves, lies waste and its gates have been destroyed by fire?"*
[4]Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God
of heaven.* [5]Then I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your
servant has found favor with you, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the
city of my ancestors' graves, so that I may rebuild it." [6]The king said to me
(the queen also was sitting beside him), "How long will you be gone, and
when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me, and I set him a
date.* [7]Then I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me
to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may grant me
passage until I arrive in Judah,* [8]and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the
king's forest, directing him to give me timber to make beams for the gates
of the temple fortress and for the wall of the city and for the house that I
shall occupy." And the king granted me what I asked, for the gracious hand
of my God was upon me.*

9 Then I came to the governors of the province Beyond the River and
gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent officers of the army and
cavalry with me.* [10]When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite
official[a] heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to
seek the welfare of the Israelites.*

NEHEMIAH'S INSPECTION OF THE WALLS

11 So I came to Jerusalem and was there for three days. [12]Then I got up
during the night, I and a few men with me; I told no one what my God had
put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. The only animal I took was the

animal I rode. [13]I went out by night by the Valley Gate past the Dragon's Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that had been broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire.* [14]Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but there was no place for the animal I was riding to continue.* [15]So I went up by way of the valley by night and inspected the wall. Then I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate and so returned. [16]The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing; I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest who were to do the work.

DECISION TO RESTORE THE WALLS

17 Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer suffer disgrace."* [18]I told them that the hand of my God had been gracious upon me and also the words that the king had spoken to me. Then they said, "Let us start building!" So they committed themselves to the common good.* [19]But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official[b] and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they mocked and ridiculed us, saying, "What is this that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"* [20]Then I replied to them, "The God of heaven is the one who will give us success, and we his servants are going to start building, but you have no share or claim or memorial in Jerusalem."*

Nehemiah 3

ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK

1 Then the high priest Eliashib set to work with his fellow priests and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and set up its doors; they consecrated it as far as the Tower of the Hundred and as far as the Tower of Hananel.* [2]And the men of Jericho built next to him. And next to them[c] Zaccur son of Imri built.*

3 The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate; they laid its beams and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.* [4]Next to them Meremoth son of Uriah son of Hakkoz made repairs. Next to them Meshullam son of Berechiah son of Meshezabel made repairs. Next to them Zadok son of Baana made repairs. [5]Next to them the Tekoites made repairs, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.[d]

6 Joiada son of Paseah and Meshullam son of Besodeiah repaired the Old Gate; they laid its beams and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.* [7]Next to them repairs were made by Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite—the men of Gibeon and of Mizpah—who were under the jurisdiction of[e] the governor of the province Beyond the River.* [8]Next to them Uzziel son of Harhaiah, one of the goldsmiths, made repairs. Next to him Hananiah, one of the perfumers, made repairs, and they restored Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.* [9]Next to them Rephaiah son of Hur, ruler of half the district of[f] Jerusalem, made repairs.* [10]Next to them Jedaiah son of Harumaph made repairs opposite his house, and next to him Hattush son of Hashabneiah made repairs. [11]Malchijah son of Harim and Hasshub son of Pahath-moab repaired another section and the Tower of the Ovens.* [12]Next to him Shallum son of Hallohesh, ruler of half the district of[g] Jerusalem, made repairs, he and his daughters.*

13 Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah repaired the Valley Gate; they rebuilt it and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars and repaired a thousand cubits of the wall, as far as the Dung Gate.*

14 Malchijah son of Rechab, ruler of the district of[h] Beth-haccherem, repaired the Dung Gate; he rebuilt it and set up its doors, its bolts, and its

bars.

15 And Shallum son of Col-hozeh, ruler of the district of[i] Mizpah, repaired the Fountain Gate; he rebuilt it and covered it and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and he built the wall of the Pool of Shelah of the King's Garden, as far as the stairs that go down from the city of David.* [16]After him Nehemiah son of Azbuk, ruler of half the district of[j] Beth-zur, repaired from a point opposite the graves of David, as far as the artificial pool and the House of the Warriors.* [17]After him the Levites made repairs: Rehum son of Bani; next to him Hashabiah, ruler of half the district of[k] Keilah, made repairs for his district. [18]After him their kin made repairs: Binnui,[l] son of Henadad, ruler of half the district of[m] Keilah; [19]next to him Ezer son of Jeshua, ruler[n] of Mizpah, repaired another section opposite the ascent to the armory at the Angle.* [20]After him Baruch son of Zabbai repaired another section from the Angle to the door of the house of the high priest Eliashib.* [21]After him Meremoth son of Uriah son of Hakkoz repaired another section from the door of the house of Eliashib to the end of the house of Eliashib. [22]After him the priests, the men of the surrounding area, made repairs.* [23]After them Benjamin and Hasshub made repairs opposite their house. After them Azariah son of Maaseiah son of Ananiah made repairs beside his own house. [24]After him Binnui son of Henadad repaired another section, from the house of Azariah to the Angle and to the corner.* [25]Palal son of Uzai repaired opposite the Angle and the tower projecting from the upper house of the king at the court of the guard. After him Pedaiah son of Parosh* [26]and the temple servants living[o] on Ophel made repairs up to a point opposite the Water Gate on the east and the projecting tower.* [27]After him the Tekoites repaired another section opposite the great projecting tower as far as the wall of Ophel.

28 Above the Horse Gate the priests made repairs, each one opposite his own house.* [29]After them Zadok son of Immer made repairs opposite his own house. After him Shemaiah son of Shecaniah, the keeper of the East Gate, made repairs. [30]After him Hananiah son of Shelemiah and Hanun sixth son of Zalaph repaired another section. After him Meshullam son of Berechiah made repairs opposite his living quarters. [31]After him Malchijah, one of the goldsmiths, made repairs as far as the house of the temple servants and of the merchants, opposite the Muster Gate,[p] and to the upper

room of the corner.* 32And between the upper room of the corner and the Sheep Gate the goldsmiths and the merchants made repairs.*

Nehemiah 4

HOSTILE PLOTS THWARTED

1 [q]Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry
and greatly enraged, and he mocked the Jews.[*] [2]He said in the presence of
his associates and of the army of Samaria, "What are these feeble Jews
doing? Will they restore it by themselves?[r] Will they offer sacrifice? Will
they finish it in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of
rubbish—burned ones at that?"[*] [3]Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him,
and he said, "That stone wall they are building—any fox going up on it
would break it down!"[*] [4]Hear, O our God, for we are despised; turn their
taunt back on their own heads, and give them over as plunder in a land of
captivity.[*] [5]Do not cover their guilt, and do not let their sin be blotted out
from your sight, for they have raged against the builders.[s,*]

6 So we rebuilt the wall, and all the wall was joined together to half its
height, for the people had a mind to work.

7 [t]But when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and
the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem was going
forward and the gaps were beginning to be closed, they were very angry[*]
[8]and all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause
confusion in it. [9]So we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection
against them day and night.[*]

10 But Judah said, "The strength of the burden bearers is failing, and
there is too much rubbish so that we are unable to work on the wall." [11]And
our enemies said, "They will not know or see anything before we come
upon them and kill them and stop the work." [12]When the Jews who lived
near them came, they said to us ten times, "From all the places where they
live[u] they will come up against us."[v] [13]So in the lowest parts of the space
behind the wall, in open places, I stationed the people according to their
families,[w] with their swords, their spears, and their bows.[*] [14]After I looked
these things over, I stood up and said to the nobles and the officials and the
rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the LORD, who is

great and awesome, and fight for your kin, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your households."*

15 When our enemies heard that their plot was known to us and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to his work.* [16]From that day on, half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows, and body-armor, and the leaders posted themselves behind the whole house of Judah [17]who were building the wall. The burden bearers carried their loads in such a way that each labored on the work with one hand and with the other held a weapon. [18]And each of the builders had his sword strapped at his side while he built. The man who sounded the trumpet was beside me. [19]And I said to the nobles, the officials, and the rest of the people, "The work is great and widely spread out, and we are separated far from one another on the wall. [20]Rally to us wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet. Our God will fight for us."*

21 So we labored at the work, and half of them held the spears from break of dawn until the stars came out. [22]I also said to the people at that time, "Let every man and his servant pass the night inside Jerusalem, so that they may be a guard for us by night and may labor by day." [23]So neither I nor my brothers nor my servants nor the men of the guard who followed me ever took off our clothes; each kept his weapon in his right hand.x

Nehemiah 5

NEHEMIAH DEALS WITH OPPRESSION

1 Now there was a great outcry of the people and of their wives against
their Jewish kin.* [2]For there were those who said, "With our sons and our
daughters, we are many; we must get grain, so that we may eat and stay
alive." [3]There were also those who said, "We are having to pledge our
fields, our vineyards, and our houses in order to get grain during the
famine." [4]And there were those who said, "We are having to borrow money
on our fields and vineyards to pay the king's tax.* [5]Now our flesh is the
same as that of our kindred; our children are the same as their children; and
yet we are forcing our sons and daughters to be slaves, and some of our
daughters have been ravished; we are powerless, and our fields and
vineyards now belong to others."*

6 I was very angry when I heard their outcry and these complaints. [7]After
thinking it over, I contended with the nobles and the officials; I said to
them, "You are all taking interest from your own people." And I called a
great assembly to deal with them* [8]and said to them, "As far as we were
able, we have bought back our Jewish kindred who had been sold to other
nations, but now you are selling your own kin, who must then be bought
back by us!" They were silent and could not find a word to say.* [9]So I said,
"The thing that you are doing is not good. Should you not walk in the fear
of our God, to prevent the taunts of the nations our enemies?* [10]Moreover I
and my brothers and my servants are lending them money and grain. Let us
stop this taking of interest. [11]Restore to them, this very day, their fields,
their vineyards, their olive orchards, and their houses, and the interest on
money, grain, wine, and oil that you have been exacting from them." [12]Then
they said, "We will restore everything and demand nothing more from
them. We will do as you say." And I called the priests and made them take
an oath to do as they had promised.* [13]I also shook out the fold of my
garment and said, "So may God shake out everyone from house and from
property who does not perform this promise. Thus may they be shaken out

and emptied." And all the assembly said, "Amen," and praised the LORD. And the people did as they had promised.*

THE GENEROSITY OF NEHEMIAH

14 Moreover, from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year to the thirty-second year of King Artaxerxes, twelve years, neither I nor my brothers ate the food allowance of the governor.* 15The former governors who were before me laid heavy burdens on the people and took food and wine from them, besides forty shekels of silver. Even their servants lorded it over the people. But I did not do so because of the fear of God.* 16Indeed, I devoted myself to the work on this wall and acquired no land, and all my servants were gathered there for the work. 17Moreover, there were at my table one hundred fifty people, Jews and officials, besides those who came to us from the nations around us.* 18Now that which was prepared for one day was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowls were prepared for me, and every ten days skins of wine in abundance, yet with all this I did not demand the food allowance of the governor, because of the heavy burden of labor on the people.* 19Remember for my good, O my God, all that I have done for this people.*

Nehemiah 6

INTRIGUES OF ENEMIES FOILED

1 Now when it was reported to Sanballat and Tobiah and to Geshem the
Arab and to the rest of our enemies that I had built the wall and that there
was no gap left in it (though up to that time I had not set up the doors in the
gates),* 2Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come and let us meet
together in one of the villages[y] in the plain of Ono." But they intended to do
me harm.* 3So I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work,
and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it to
come down to you?" 4They sent to me four times in this way, and I
answered them in the same manner. 5In the same way Sanballat for the fifth
time sent his servant to me with an open letter in his hand. 6In it was
written, "It is reported among the nations—and Geshem[z] also says it—that
you and the Jews intend to rebel; that is why you are building the wall; and
according to this report you wish to become their king.* 7You have also set
up prophets to proclaim in Jerusalem concerning you, 'There is a king in
Judah!' And now it will be reported to the king according to these words.
So come, therefore, and let us confer together." 8Then I sent to him, saying,
"No such things as you say have been done; you are inventing them out of
your own mind," 9for they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, "Their hands
will drop from the work, and it will not be done." But now, strengthen my
hands.

10 One day when I went into the house of Shemaiah son of Delaiah son
of Mehetabel, who was confined to his house, he said, "Let us meet together
in the house of God, within the temple, and let us close the doors of the
temple, for they are coming to kill you; indeed, tonight they are coming to
kill you."* 11But I said, "Should a man like me run away? Would a man like
me go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in!" 12Then I perceived
and saw that God had not sent him at all, but he had pronounced the
prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.* 13He
was hired for this purpose, to intimidate me and make me sin by acting in
this way, and so they could give me a bad name, in order to taunt me.*

[14]Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these things that they did, and also Noadiah the prophetess and the rest of the prophets who wanted to make me afraid.*

THE WALL COMPLETED

15 So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. [16]And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid[a] and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.* [17]Moreover, in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters to Tobiah, and Tobiah's letters came to them. [18]For many in Judah were bound by oath to him, because he was the son-in-law of Shecaniah son of Arah, and his son Jehohanan had married the daughter of Meshullam son of Berechiah. [19]Also they spoke of his good deeds in my presence and reported my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to intimidate me.

Nehemiah 7

1 Now when the wall had been built and I had set up the doors and the
gatekeepers, the singers, and the Levites had been appointed,* [2]I gave my
brother Hanani charge over Jerusalem, along with Hananiah the commander
of the citadel, for he was a faithful man and feared God more than many.*
[3]And I said to them, "The gates of Jerusalem are not to be opened while the
sun is hot; while the gatekeepers[b] are still standing guard, let them shut and
bar the doors. Appoint guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem,
some at their watch posts, and others before their own houses." [4]The city
was wide and large, but the people within it were few, and no houses had
been built.

LISTS OF THE RETURNED EXILES

5 Then my God put it into my mind to assemble the nobles and the
officials and the people to be enrolled by genealogy. And I found the book
of the genealogy of those who were the first to come back, and I found the
following written in it:

6 These are the people of the province who came up out of the captivity
of those exiles whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had carried into
exile; they returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his town.* [7]They came
with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani,
Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah.

The number of the Israelite people:* [8]the descendants of Parosh, two
thousand one hundred seventy-two. [9]Of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy-
two. [10]Of Arah, six hundred fifty-two. [11]Of Pahath-moab, namely, the
descendants of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred eighteen. [12]Of
Elam, one thousand two hundred fifty-four.* [13]Of Zattu, eight hundred
forty-five. [14]Of Zaccai, seven hundred sixty. [15]Of Binnui, six hundred forty-
eight. [16]Of Bebai, six hundred twenty-eight. [17]Of Azgad, two thousand
three hundred twenty-two.* [18]Of Adonikam, six hundred sixty-seven. [19]Of
Bigvai, two thousand sixty-seven. [20]Of Adin, six hundred fifty-five. [21]Of
Ater, namely, of Hezekiah, ninety-eight. [22]Of Hashum, three hundred

twenty-eight. [23]Of Bezai, three hundred twenty-four.* [24]Of Hariph, one hundred twelve. [25]Of Gibeon, ninety-five. [26]The people of Bethlehem and Netophah, one hundred eighty-eight. [27]Of Anathoth, one hundred twenty-eight.* [28]Of Beth-azmaveth, forty-two. [29]Of Kiriath-jearim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred forty-three. [30]Of Ramah and Geba, six hundred twenty-one. [31]Of Michmas, one hundred twenty-two. [32]Of Bethel and Ai, one hundred twenty-three. [33]Of the other Nebo, fifty-two. [34]The descendants of the other Elam, one thousand two hundred fifty-four.* [35]Of Harim, three hundred twenty. [36]Of Jericho, three hundred forty-five. [37]Of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty-one. [38]Of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred thirty.

39 The priests: the descendants of Jedaiah, namely, the house of Jeshua, nine hundred seventy-three.* [40]Of Immer, one thousand fifty-two. [41]Of Pashhur, one thousand two hundred forty-seven. [42]Of Harim, one thousand seventeen.

43 The Levites: the descendants of Jeshua, namely, of Kadmiel of the descendants of Hodevah, seventy-four.* [44]The singers: the descendants of Asaph, one hundred forty-eight. [45]The gatekeepers: the descendants of Shallum, of Ater, of Talmon, of Akkub, of Hatita, of Shobai, one hundred thirty-eight.

46 The temple servants: the descendants of Ziha, of Hasupha, of Tabbaoth,* [47]of Keros, of Sia, of Padon, [48]of Lebana, of Hagaba, of Shalmai, [49]of Hanan, of Giddel, of Gahar, [50]of Reaiah, of Rezin, of Nekoda, [51]of Gazzam, of Uzza, of Paseah, [52]of Besai, of Meunim, of Nephushesim, [53]of Bakbuk, of Hakupha, of Harhur, [54]of Bazlith, of Mehida, of Harsha, [55]of Barkos, of Sisera, of Temah, [56]of Neziah, of Hatipha.

57 The descendants of Solomon's servants: of Sotai, of Sophereth, of Perida,* [58]of Jaala, of Darkon, of Giddel, [59]of Shephatiah, of Hattil, of Pochereth-hazzebaim, of Amon.

60 All the temple servants and the descendants of Solomon's servants were three hundred ninety-two.*

61 The following were those who came up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer, but they could not prove their ancestral houses or their descent, whether they belonged to Israel: [62]the descendants of

Delaiah, of Tobiah, of Nekoda, six hundred forty-two. [63]Also, of the priests: the descendants of Hobaiah, of Hakkoz, of Barzillai (who had married one of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and was called by their name).* [64]These sought their registration among those enrolled in the genealogies, but it was not found there, so they were excluded from the priesthood as unclean; [65]the governor told them that they were not to partake of the most holy food until a priest with Urim and Thummim should come.*

66 The whole assembly together was forty-two thousand three hundred sixty, [67]besides their male and female slaves, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty-seven, and they had two hundred forty-five singers, male and female. [68]They had seven hundred thirty-six horses, two hundred forty-five mules,[c] [69][d]four hundred thirty-five camels, and six thousand seven hundred twenty donkeys.

70 Now some of the heads of ancestral houses contributed to the work. The governor gave to the treasury one thousand darics of gold, fifty basins, and five hundred thirty priestly robes.* [71]And some of the heads of ancestral houses gave into the building fund twenty thousand darics of gold and two thousand two hundred minas of silver.* [72]And what the rest of the people gave was twenty thousand darics of gold, two thousand minas of silver, and sixty-seven priestly robes.

73 So the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, some of the people, the temple servants, and all Israel settled in their towns.

EZRA SUMMONS THE PEOPLE TO OBEY THE LAW

When the seventh month came, the Israelites being settled in their towns,*

Nehemiah 8

1 all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate.
They told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the
LORD had given to Israel.* [2]Accordingly, Ezra the priest brought the law
before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with
understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month.* [3]He read
from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until
midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could
understand, and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the
law. [4]Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that had been made for
the purpose, and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah,
Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah,
Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. [5]And
Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing
above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. [6]Then
Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen,
Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped
the LORD with their faces to the ground.* [7]Also the Levites Jeshua, Bani,
Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah,
Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah helped the people to understand the law, while the
people remained in their places.* [8]So they read from the book, from the law
of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people
understood the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe,
and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is
holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept
when they heard the words of the law.* [10]Then he said to them, "Go your
way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for
whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD, and do not be
grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."* [11]So the Levites stilled
all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved."
[12]And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions

and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.*

THE FESTIVAL OF BOOTHS CELEBRATED

13 On the second day the heads of ancestral houses of all the people, with the priests and the Levites, came together to Ezra the scribe in order to study the words of the law. 14And they found it written in the law that the LORD had commanded by Moses that the Israelites should live in booths[e] during the festival of the seventh month* 15and that they should publish and proclaim in all their towns and in Jerusalem as follows, "Go out to the hills and bring branches of olive, wild olive, myrtle, palm, and other leafy trees to make booths,[f] as it is written."* 16So the people went out and brought them and made booths[g] for themselves, each on the roofs of their houses, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the square at the Water Gate and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim.* 17And all the assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths[h] and lived in them, for from the days of Jeshua son of Nun to that day the Israelites had not done so. And there was very great rejoicing.* 18And day by day, from the first day to the last day, Ezra[i] read from the book of the law of God. They kept the festival seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly, according to the ordinance.*

Nehemiah 9

NATIONAL CONFESSION

1 Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the Israelites were assembled
with fasting and in sackcloth and with earth on their heads.[j,*] [2]Then those of
Israelite descent separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and
confessed their sins and the iniquities of their ancestors.[*] [3]They stood up in
their place and read from the book of the law of the LORD their God for a
fourth part of the day, and for another fourth they made confession and
worshiped the LORD their God.[*] [4]Then Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah,
Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani stood on the stairs of the Levites and
cried out with a loud voice to the LORD their God.[*] [5]Then the Levites
Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and
Pethahiah said, "Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to
everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all
blessing and praise."[*]

6 And Ezra said,[k] "You are the LORD, you alone; you have made heaven,
the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the
seas and all that is in them. To all of them you give life, and the host of
heaven worships you.[*] [7]You are the LORD, the God who chose Abram and
brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham;[*]
[8]and you found his heart faithful before you and made with him a covenant
to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the
Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite, and you have
fulfilled your promise, for you are righteous.[*]

9 "And you saw the distress of our ancestors in Egypt and heard their cry
at the Red Sea.[l,*] [10]You performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and
all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted
insolently against our ancestors. You made a name for yourself that remains
to this day.[*] [11]And you divided the sea before them, so that they passed
through the sea on dry land, but you threw their pursuers into the depths
like a stone into mighty waters.[*] [12]Moreover, you led them by day with a
pillar of cloud and by night with a pillar of fire, to give them light on the

way in which they should go.* 13You came down also upon Mount Sinai
and spoke with them from heaven and gave them right ordinances and true
laws, good statutes and commandments,* 14and you made known your holy
Sabbath to them and gave them commandments and statutes and a law
through Moses your servant.* 15For their hunger you gave them bread from
heaven, and for their thirst you brought water for them out of the rock, and
you told them to go in to possess the land that you swore to give them.*

16 "But they, our ancestors, acted presumptuously and stiffened their
necks and did not obey your commandments;* 17they refused to obey and
were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them, but they
stiffened their necks and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in
Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to
anger and abounding in steadfast love, and you did not forsake them.*
18Even when they had cast an image of a calf for themselves and said, 'This
is your God who brought you up out of Egypt,' and had committed great
blasphemies,* 19you in your great mercies did not forsake them in the
wilderness; the pillar of cloud that led them in the way did not leave them
by day nor the pillar of fire by night that gave them light on the way by
which they should go.* 20You gave your good spirit to instruct them and did
not withhold your manna from their mouths and gave them water for their
thirst.* 21Forty years you sustained them in the wilderness so that they
lacked nothing; their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell.*
22And you gave them kingdoms and peoples and allotted to them every
corner,[m] so they took possession of the land of King Sihon of Heshbon and
the land of King Og of Bashan.* 23You multiplied their descendants like the
stars of heaven and brought them into the land that you had told their
ancestors to enter and possess.* 24So the descendants went in and possessed
the land, and you subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, the
Canaanites, and gave them into their hands, with their kings and the peoples
of the land, to do with them as they pleased.* 25And they captured fortress
cities and a rich land and took possession of houses filled with all sorts of
goods, hewn cisterns, vineyards, olive orchards, and fruit trees in
abundance; so they ate and were filled and became fat and delighted
themselves in your great goodness.*

26 "Nevertheless, they were disobedient and rebelled against you and cast your law behind their backs and killed your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to you, and they committed great blasphemies.* [27]Therefore you gave them into the hands of their enemies, who made them suffer. Then in the time of their suffering they cried out to you, and you heard them from heaven, and according to your great mercies you gave them saviors who saved them from the hands of their enemies. [28]But after they had rest, they again did evil before you, and you abandoned them to the hands of their enemies, so that they had dominion over them, yet when they turned and cried to you, you heard from heaven, and many times you rescued them according to your mercies. [29]And you warned them in order to turn them back to your law, yet they acted presumptuously and did not obey your commandments but sinned against your ordinances, by the observance of which a person shall live. They turned a stubborn shoulder and stiffened their neck and would not obey. [30]Many years you were patient with them and warned them by your spirit through your prophets, yet they would not listen. Therefore you handed them over to the peoples of the lands. [31]Nevertheless, in your great mercies you did not make an end of them or forsake them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

32 "Now therefore, our God—the great and mighty and awesome God, keeping covenant and steadfast love—do not treat lightly all the hardship that has come upon us, upon our kings, our officials, our priests, our prophets, our ancestors, and all your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria until today. [33]You have been just in all that has come upon us, for you have dealt faithfully and we have acted wickedly; [34]our kings, our officials, our priests, and our ancestors have not kept your law or heeded the commandments and the warnings that you gave them. [35]Even in their own kingdom, and in the great goodness you bestowed on them, and in the large and rich land that you set before them, they did not serve you and did not turn from their wicked works. [36]Here we are, slaves to this day, slaves in the land that you gave to our ancestors to enjoy its fruit and its good gifts.* [37]Its rich yield goes to the kings whom you have set over us because of our sins; they have power also over our bodies and over our livestock at their pleasure, and we are in great distress."*

THOSE WHO SIGNED THE COVENANT

38 [n]Because of all this we make a firm agreement in writing, and on that sealed document are inscribed the names of our officials, our Levites, and our priests.[*]

Nehemiah 10

1 [o]Upon the sealed document are the names of Nehemiah the governor, son of Hacaliah, and Zedekiah;[*] [2]Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah, [3]Pashhur, Amariah, Malchijah, [4]Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch, [5]Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah, [6]Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch, [7]Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin, [8]Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah; these are the priests. [9]And the Levites: Jeshua son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel; [10]and their associates Shebaniah, Hodiah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan, [11]Mica, Rehob, Hashabiah, [12]Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah, [13]Hodiah, Bani, Beninu. [14]The leaders of the people: Parosh, Pahath-moab, Elam, Zattu, Bani, [15]Bunni, Azgad, Bebai, [16]Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin, [17]Ater, Hezekiah, Azzur, [18]Hodiah, Hashum, Bezai, [19]Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai, [20]Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir, [21]Meshezabel, Zadok, Jaddua, [22]Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah, [23]Hoshea, Hananiah, Hasshub, [24]Hallohesh, Pilha, Shobek, [25]Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah, [26]Ahiah, Hanan, Anan, [27]Malluch, Harim, and Baanah.

SUMMARY OF THE COVENANT

28 The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple servants, and all who have separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to adhere to the law of God, their wives, their sons, their daughters, all who have knowledge and understanding,[*] [29]join with their kin, their nobles, and enter into a curse and an oath to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord and his ordinances and his statutes.[*] [30]We will not give our daughters to the peoples of the land or take their daughters for our sons,[*] [31]and if the peoples of the land bring in merchandise or any grain on the Sabbath day to sell, we will not buy it from them on the Sabbath or on a holy day, and we will forego the crops of the seventh year and the exaction of every debt.[*]

32 We also lay on ourselves the obligation to charge ourselves yearly one-third of a shekel for the service of the house of our God:[*] [33]for the rows

of bread, the regular grain offering, the regular burnt offering, the Sabbaths, the new moons, the appointed festivals, the sacred donations, and the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God. 34We have also cast lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, by ancestral houses, at appointed times, year by year, to burn on the altar of the LORD our God, as it is written in the law.* 35We obligate ourselves to bring the first fruits of our soil and the first fruits of all fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the LORD;* 36also to bring to the house of our God, to the priests who minister in the house of our God, the firstborn of our sons and of our livestock, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks;* 37and to bring the first of our dough, and our contributions, the fruit of every tree, the wine and the oil, to the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and to bring to the Levites the tithes from our soil, for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all our rural towns.* 38And the priest, the descendant of Aaron, shall be with the Levites when the Levites receive the tithes, and the Levites shall bring up a tithe of the tithes to the house of our God, to the chambers of the storehouse.* 39For the Israelites and the sons of Levi shall bring the contribution of grain, wine, and oil to the storerooms where the vessels of the sanctuary are and where the priests who minister and the gatekeepers and the singers are. We will not neglect the house of our God.*

Nehemiah 11

POPULATION OF THE CITY INCREASED

1 Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem, and the rest of the
people cast lots to bring one out of ten to live in the holy city Jerusalem,
while nine-tenths remained in the other towns.* [2]And the people blessed all
those who willingly offered to live in Jerusalem.

3 These are the leaders of the province who lived in Jerusalem, but in the
towns of Judah all lived on their property in their towns: Israel, the priests,
the Levites, the temple servants, and the descendants of Solomon's
servants.* [4]And in Jerusalem lived some of the Judahites and the
Benjaminites. Of the Judahites: Athaiah son of Uzziah son of Zechariah son
of Amariah son of Shephatiah son of Mahalalel, of the descendants of
Perez;* [5]and Maaseiah son of Baruch son of Col-hozeh son of Hazaiah son
of Adaiah son of Joiarib son of Zechariah son of the Shelahnite.[p] [6]All the
descendants of Perez who lived in Jerusalem were four hundred sixty-eight
valiant warriors.

7 And these are the Benjaminites: Sallu son of Meshullam son of Joed
son of Pedaiah son of Kolaiah son of Maaseiah son of Ithiel son of
Jeshaiah.* [8]And his brothers[q] Gabbai, Sallai: nine hundred twenty-eight.
[9]Joel son of Zichri was their overseer, and Judah son of Hassenuah was
second in charge of the city.

10 Of the priests: Jedaiah son of Joiarib, Jachin,* [11]Seraiah son of Hilkiah
son of Meshullam son of Zadok son of Meraioth son of Ahitub, officer of
the house of God, [12]and their associates who did the work of the house,
eight hundred twenty-two; and Adaiah son of Jeroham son of Pelaliah son
of Amzi son of Zechariah son of Pashhur son of Malchijah, [13]and his
associates, heads of ancestral houses, two hundred forty-two; and Amashsai
son of Azarel son of Ahzai son of Meshillemoth son of Immer, [14]and their
associates, valiant warriors, one hundred twenty-eight; their overseer was
Zabdiel son of Haggedolim.

15 And of the Levites: Shemaiah son of Hasshub son of Azrikam son of
Hashabiah son of Bunni; [16]and Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the leaders of

the Levites, who were over the outside work of the house of God;* 17and Mattaniah son of Mica son of Zabdi son of Asaph, who was the leader to begin the thanksgiving in prayer, and Bakbukiah, the second among his associates; and Abda son of Shammua son of Galal son of Jeduthun. 18All the Levites in the holy city were two hundred eighty-four.*

19 The gatekeepers Akkub, Talmon, and their associates, who kept watch at the gates, were one hundred seventy-two. 20And the rest of Israel, and of the priests and the Levites, were in all the towns of Judah, all of them in their inheritance. 21But the temple servants lived on Ophel, and Ziha and Gishpa were over the temple servants.*

22 The overseer of the Levites in Jerusalem was Uzzi son of Bani son of Hashabiah son of Mattaniah son of Mica, of the descendants of Asaph, the singers, in charge of the work of the house of God.* 23For there was a command from the king concerning them and a settled provision for the singers, as was required every day.* 24And Pethahiah son of Meshezabel, of the descendants of Zerah son of Judah, was at the king's hand in all matters concerning the people.

VILLAGES OUTSIDE JERUSALEM

25 And as for the villages, with their fields, some of the people of Judah lived in Kiriath-arba and its villages, and in Dibon and its villages, and in Jekabzeel and its villages,* 26and in Jeshua and in Moladah and Beth-pelet, 27in Hazar-shual, in Beer-sheba and its villages, 28in Ziklag, in Meconah and its villages, 29in En-rimmon, in Zorah, in Jarmuth, 30Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages, Lachish and its fields, and Azekah and its villages. So they camped from Beer-sheba to the valley of Hinnom. 31The people of Benjamin also lived from Geba onward, at Michmash, Aija, Bethel and its villages, 32Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah, 33Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim, 34Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat, 35Lod, and Ono, the valley of artisans. 36And certain divisions of the Levites in Judah were joined to Benjamin.

Nehemiah 12

A LIST OF PRIESTS AND LEVITES

1 These are the priests and the Levites who came up with Zerubbabel son of
Shealtiel and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra,* [2]Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,
[3]Shecaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, [4]Iddo, Ginnethoi, Abijah, [5]Mijamin,
Maadiah, Bilgah, [6]Shemaiah, Joiarib, Jedaiah, [7]Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah,
Jedaiah. These were the leaders of the priests and of their associates in the
days of Jeshua.*

8 And the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and
Mattaniah, who with his associates was in charge of the songs of
thanksgiving.* [9]And Bakbukiah and Unno their associates stood opposite
them in the service. [10]Jeshua was the father of Joiakim, Joiakim the father
of Eliashib, Eliashib the father of Joiada, [11]Joiada the father of Jonathan,
and Jonathan the father of Jaddua.

12 In the days of Joiakim the priests, the heads of the ancestral houses,
were: of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah; [13]of Ezra, Meshullam; of
Amariah, Jehohanan; [14]of Malluchi, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph; [15]of
Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai; [16]of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon,
Meshullam; [17]of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai; [18]of
Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan; [19]of Joiarib, Mattenai; of
Jedaiah, Uzzi; [20]of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber; [21]of Hilkiah, Hashabiah;
of Jedaiah, Nethanel.

22 As for the Levites, in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, Johanan, and
Jaddua, there were recorded the heads of ancestral houses, also the priests
until the reign of Darius the Persian. [23]The Levites, heads of ancestral
houses, were recorded in the Book of the Annals until the days of Johanan
son of Eliashib.* [24]And the leaders of the Levites: Hashabiah, Sherebiah,
and Jeshua son of Kadmiel, with their associates over against them, to
praise and to give thanks, according to the commandment of David the man
of God, section opposite to section.* [25]Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah,
Meshullam, Talmon, and Akkub were gatekeepers standing guard at the
storehouses of the gates.* [26]These were in the days of Joiakim son of Jeshua

son of Jozadak and in the days of Nehemiah the governor and of Ezra the priest and scribe.*

DEDICATION OF THE CITY WALL

27 Now at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought out the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with rejoicing, with thanksgivings and with singing, with cymbals, harps, and lyres.* [28]The companies of the singers gathered together from the circuit around Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites,* [29]also from Beth-gilgal and from the region of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built for themselves villages around Jerusalem. [30]And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and they purified the people and the gates and the wall.*

31 Then I brought the leaders of Judah up onto the wall and appointed two great companies that gave thanks and went in procession. One went to the right on the wall to the Dung Gate,* [32]and after them went Hoshaiah and half the officials of Judah, [33]and Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam, [34]Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, and Jeremiah, [35]and some of the young priests with trumpets: Zechariah son of Jonathan son of Shemaiah son of Mattaniah son of Micaiah son of Zaccur son of Asaph,* [36]and his kindred, Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah, and Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God, and Ezra the scribe went in front of them.* [37]At the Fountain Gate, in front of them, they went straight up by the stairs of the city of David, at the ascent of the wall, above the house of David, to the Water Gate on the east.*

38 The other company of those who gave thanks went to the left,[r] and I followed them with half of the people on the wall, above the Tower of the Ovens, to the Broad Wall,* [39]and above the Gate of Ephraim, and by the Old Gate, and by the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, to the Sheep Gate, and they came to a halt at the Gate of the Guard.* [40]So both companies of those who gave thanks stood in the house of God, and I and half of the officials with me; [41]and the priests Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah, with trumpets; [42]and Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malchijah,

Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sang with Jezrahiah as their leader. [43]They offered great sacrifices that day and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and children also rejoiced. The joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.

TEMPLE RESPONSIBILITIES

44 On that day men were appointed over the chambers for the stores, the contributions, the first fruits, and the tithes, to gather into them the portions required by the law for the priests and for the Levites from the fields belonging to the towns, for Judah rejoiced over the priests and the Levites who ministered.* [45]They performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as did the singers and the gatekeepers, according to the command of David and his son Solomon.* [46]For in the days of David and Asaph long ago there was a leader of the singers, and there were songs of praise and thanksgiving to God.* [47]In the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah all Israel gave the daily portions for the singers and the gatekeepers. They set apart that which was for the Levites, and the Levites set apart that which was for the descendants of Aaron.*

Nehemiah 13

FOREIGNERS SEPARATED FROM ISRAEL

1 On that day they read from the book of Moses in the hearing of the
people, and in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should
ever enter the assembly of God,* 2because they did not meet the Israelites
with bread and water but hired Balaam against them to curse them—yet our
God turned the curse into a blessing.* 3When the people heard the law, they
separated from Israel all those of foreign descent.*

THE REFORMS OF NEHEMIAH

4 Now before this, Eliashib the priest, who was appointed over the
chambers of the house of our God and who was related to Tobiah,*
5prepared for Tobiah a large room where they had previously put the grain
offering, the frankincense, the vessels, and the tithes of grain, wine, and oil,
which were given by commandment to the Levites, singers, and
gatekeepers, and the contributions for the priests.* 6While this was taking
place I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of King
Artaxerxes of Babylon I went to the king. After some time I asked leave of
the king* 7and returned to Jerusalem. I then discovered the wrong that
Eliashib had done on behalf of Tobiah, preparing a room for him in the
courts of the house of God.* 8And I was very angry, and I threw all the
household furniture of Tobiah out of the room. 9Then I gave orders, and
they cleansed the chambers, and I brought back the vessels of the house of
God, with the grain offering and the frankincense.*

10 I also found out that the portions of the Levites had not been given to
them, so that the Levites and the singers who had conducted the service had
gone back to their fields.* 11So I contended with the officials and said,
"Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set
them in their stations.* 12Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain, wine,
and oil into the storehouses.* 13And I appointed as treasurers over the
treasuries Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah of the
Levites, and as their assistant Hanan son of Zaccur son of Mattaniah, for

they were considered faithful, and their duty was to distribute to their associates.* 14Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God and for his service.*

SABBATH REFORMS BEGUN

15 In those days I saw in Judah people treading winepresses on the Sabbath and bringing in heaps of grain and loading them on donkeys, and also wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of burdens that they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, and I warned them at that time against selling food.* 16Tyrians also, who lived in the city, brought in fish and all kinds of merchandise and sold them on the Sabbath to the people of Judah in Jerusalem. 17Then I contended with the nobles of Judah and said to them, "What is this evil thing that you are doing, profaning the Sabbath day?* 18Did not your ancestors act in this way, and did not our God bring all this disaster on us and on this city? Yet you bring more wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath."*

19 When it began to be dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I commanded that the doors should be shut and gave orders that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. And I set some of my servants over the gates, to prevent any burden from being brought in on the Sabbath day.* 20Then the merchants and sellers of all kinds of merchandise spent the night outside Jerusalem once or twice. 21But I warned them and said to them, "Why do you spend the night in front of the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you." From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath.* 22And I commanded the Levites that they should purify themselves and come and guard the gates, to keep the Sabbath day holy. Remember this also in my favor, O my God, and spare me according to the greatness of your steadfast love.*

MIXED MARRIAGES CONDEMNED

23 In those days also I saw Jews who had married women of Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab,* 24and half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod, and they could not speak the language of Judah but spoke the

language of various peoples. [25]And I contended with them and cursed them and beat some of the men and pulled out their hair, and I made them take an oath in the name of God, saying, "You shall not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons or for yourselves.* [26]Did not King Solomon of Israel sin on account of such women? Among the many nations there was no king like him, and he was beloved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel; nevertheless, foreign women made even him to sin.* [27]Shall we then listen to you and do all this great evil and act treacherously against our God by marrying foreign women?"*

28 And one of the sons of Jehoiada, son of the high priest Eliashib, was the son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite; I chased him away from me.* [29]Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, the covenant of the priests and the Levites.*

30 Thus I cleansed them from everything foreign, and I established the duties of the priests and Levites, each in his work,* [31]and I provided for the wood offering, at appointed times, and for the first fruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.*

Nehemiah 1

* **1.1** Neh 2.1; 10.1; Esth 1.2; Dan 8.2
* **1.3** Neh 2.3, 17; 7.6
* **1.4** Ezra 9.3; 10.1; Neh 2.4
* **1.5** Ex 20.6; Neh 4.14; 9.32
* **1.6** 2 Chr 29.6; Ezra 10.1; Dan 9.17, 20
* **1.7** Deut 28.14, 15; Dan 9.5
* **1.8** Lev 26.33
* **1.9** Deut 12.5; 30.2–4
* **1.10** Deut 9.29; Dan 9.15
* **1.11** v 6

Nehemiah 2

* **2.1** Ezra 7.1; Neh 1.1, 11
* **2.2** Prov 15.13
* **2.3** Neh 1.3; Dan 2.4
* **2.4** Neh 1.4
* **2.6** Neh 5.14; 13.6
* **2.7** Ezra 7.21; 8.36
* **2.8** v 18; Ezra 7.6; Neh 7.2
* **2.9** v 7; Ezra 8.22

a **2.10** Heb *servant*

* **2.10** v 19; Neh 4.1
* **2.13** vv 3, 17; Neh 1.3; 3.13
* **2.14** 2 Kings 20.20; Neh 3.15
* **2.17** Neh 1.3
* **2.18** v 8; 2 Sam 2.7

b **2.19** Heb *servant*

* **2.19** Neh 6.6; Ps 44.13
* **2.20** v 4

Nehemiah 3

* **3.1** vv 20, 32; Neh 6.1; 7.1; 12.39; Jer 31.38

c **3.2** Heb *him*

* **3.2** Neh 7.36
* **3.3** Neh 12.39

d **3.5** Or *lords*

* **3.6** Neh 12.39

e **3.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.7** Neh 2.7
* **3.8** vv 31, 32; Neh 12.38
f **3.9** Or *supervisor of half the portion assigned to*
* **3.9** vv 12, 17
* **3.11** Neh 12.38
g **3.12** Or *supervisor of half the portion assigned to*
* **3.12** v 9
* **3.13** Neh 2.13
h **3.14** Or *supervisor of the portion assigned to*
i **3.15** Or *supervisor of the portion assigned to*
* **3.15** 2 Kings 25.4; Neh 2.14; 12.37
j **3.16** Or *supervisor of half the portion assigned to*
* **3.16** vv 9, 12, 17; 2 Kings 20.20
k **3.17** Or *supervisor of half the portion assigned to*
l **3.18** Gk Syr: Heb *Bavvai*
m **3.18** Or *supervisor of half the portion assigned to*
n **3.19** Or *supervisor*
* **3.19** v 15; 2 Chr 26.9
* **3.20** v 1; Neh 13.4
* **3.22** Neh 12.28
* **3.24** v 19
* **3.25** Jer 32.2
o **3.26** Cn: Heb *were living*
* **3.26** Neh 7.46; 8.1; 11.21
* **3.28** 2 Kings 11.16; 2 Chr 23.15; Jer 31.40
p **3.31** Or *Hammiphkad Gate*
* **3.31** vv 8, 32
* **3.32** v 1

Nehemiah 4

q **4.1** 3.33 in Heb
* **4.1** Neh 2.10, 19
r **4.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.2** v 10
* **4.3** Neh 2.10, 19
* **4.4** Ps 79.12; 123.3; Prov 3.34
s **4.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.5** Ps 69.27, 28; Jer 18.23
t **4.7** 4.1 in Heb
* **4.7** v 1

* **4.9** Ps 50.15
u **4.12** Cn: Heb *you return*
v **4.12** Compare Gk Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
w **4.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.13** vv 17, 18
* **4.14** Num 14.9; Deut 1.29; 2 Sam 10.12
* **4.15** 2 Sam 17.14; Job 5.12
* **4.20** Ex 14.14; Deut 1.30; Josh 23.10
x **4.23** Cn: Heb *each his weapon the water*

Nehemiah 5

* **5.1** Lev 25.35; Deut 15.7
* **5.4** Ezra 4.13; 7.24
* **5.5** Gen 37.27; Lev 25.39
* **5.7** Ex 22.25; Lev 25.36
* **5.8** Lev 25.48
* **5.9** 2 Sam 12.14; Neh 4.4; Rom 2.24
* **5.12** Ezra 10.5
* **5.13** Neh 8.6; Acts 18.6
* **5.14** Ezra 4.13, 14; Neh 13.6
* **5.15** v 9
* **5.17** 1 Kings 18.19
* **5.18** 1 Kings 4.22, 23; 2 Thess 3.8
* **5.19** Neh 13.14, 22, 31

Nehemiah 6

* **6.1** Neh 2.10, 19; 3.1, 3; 4.1, 7
y **6.2** Or *Chephirim*
* **6.2** 1 Chr 8.12
z **6.6** Heb *Gashmu*
* **6.6** Neh 2.19
* **6.10** Jer 36.5
* **6.12** Ezek 13.22
* **6.13** v 6
* **6.14** Neh 13.29; Ezek 13.17
a **6.16** Or *saw*
* **6.16** Ex 14.25; Neh 2.10; 4.1, 7; Ps 126.2

Nehemiah 7

* **7.1** Neh 6.1, 15

* **7.2** Neh 2.8
b **7.3** Heb *while they*
* **7.6** Ezra 2.1–70
* **7.7** Ezra 2.2
* **7.12** Ezra 2.7
* **7.17** Ezra 2.12
* **7.23** Ezra 2.17
* **7.27** Ezra 2.23
* **7.34** Ezra 2.31
* **7.39** Ezra 2.36
* **7.43** Ezra 2.40
* **7.46** Ezra 2.43
* **7.57** Ezra 2.55
* **7.60** v 46
* **7.63** Ezra 2.61
* **7.65** Neh 8.9; 10.1
c **7.68** Gk and margins of some Heb mss: MT lacks *They had . . . forty-five mules*
d **7.69** 7.68 in Heb
* **7.70** Neh 8.9
* **7.71** Ezra 2.69
* **7.73** Ezra 3.1

Nehemiah 8

* **8.1** Ezra 3.1; 7.6; Neh 3.26
* **8.2** Lev 23.24; Deut 31.11, 12
* **8.6** Gen 14.22; Ex 4.31; Neh 5.13
* **8.7** 2 Chr 17.7–9
* **8.9** Num 29.1; Deut 16.14, 15; Neh 7.65, 70; 12.26
* **8.10** Deut 26.11, 13
* **8.12** vv 7, 8
e **8.14** Or *tabernacles*
* **8.14** Lev 23.34, 42
f **8.15** Or *tabernacles*
* **8.15** Lev 23.4, 40; Deut 16.16
g **8.16** Or *tabernacles*
* **8.16** 2 Kings 14.13; Neh 12.39; Jer 32.29
h **8.17** Or *tabernacles*
* **8.17** 2 Chr 30.21
i **8.18** Heb *he*
* **8.18** Lev 23.36; Num 29.35; Deut 31.11

Nehemiah 9

j **9.1** Heb *on them*
* **9.1** 1 Sam 4.12; Ezra 8.23; Neh 8.2
* **9.2** Ezra 10.11; Neh 13.3, 30
* **9.3** Neh 8.4
* **9.4** Neh 8.7
* **9.5** 1 Chr 29.13
k **9.6** Gk: Heb lacks *And Ezra said*
* **9.6** Gen 1.1; 2 Kings 19.15; Ps 36.6; Col 1.17
* **9.7** Gen 11.31; 12.1; 17.5
* **9.8** Gen 15.6, 18–21; Josh 21.43–45
l **9.9** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **9.9** Ex 3.7; 14.10–12
* **9.10** Ex 5.2; 9.16
* **9.11** Ex 14.21; 15.5, 10
* **9.12** Ex 13.21, 22
* **9.13** Ex 19.20; 20.1; Ps 19.7–9
* **9.14** Gen 2.3; Ex 20.8, 11
* **9.15** Ex 16.14; 17.6; Num 20.7–13; Deut 1.8
* **9.16** Deut 31.27; Ps 106.6
* **9.17** Ex 34.6, 7; Num 14.4; Ps 78.11
* **9.18** Ex 32.4
* **9.19** vv 12, 27, 31
* **9.20** Ex 16.15; 17.6; Num 11.17; Isa 63.11–14
* **9.21** Deut 2.7; 8.4; 29.5
m **9.22** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.22** Num 21.21–35
* **9.23** Gen 15.5
* **9.24** Josh 18.1; 21.43
* **9.25** Num 13.27; Deut 3.5; 6.11; 32.15; 1 Kings 8.66
* **9.26** v 30; Judg 2.11; 1 Kings 14.9; 2 Chr 36.16
* **9.36** Deut 28.48
* **9.37** Deut 28.33
n **9.38** 10.1 in Heb
* **9.38** 2 Chr 29.10; 34.31

Nehemiah 10

o **10.1** 10.2 in Heb
* **10.1** Neh 9.38
* **10.28** Ezra 2.36–58; Neh 9.2

* **10.29** 2 Chr 34.31; Neh 5.12
* **10.30** Ex 34.16; Deut 7.3
* **10.31** Ex 23.10, 11; Deut 15.1, 2; Neh 13.15–22
* **10.32** Ex 30.11–16
* **10.34** Neh 11.1; 13.31
* **10.35** Ex 23.19; Deut 26.2
* **10.36** Ex 13.2; Num 18.15, 16
* **10.37** Lev 23.17; 27.30; Neh 13.5, 9
* **10.38** Num 18.26; Neh 13.12, 13
* **10.39** Deut 12.6; Neh 13.10, 11

Nehemiah 11

* **11.1** v 18; Neh 10.34; Isa 48.2
* **11.3** v 20; 1 Chr 9.2, 3; Ezra 2.43; Neh 7.57
* **11.4** 1 Chr 9.3ff
p **11.5** Cn: Heb *Shilonite*
* **11.7** v 4
q **11.8** Gk mss: Heb *And after him*
* **11.10** 1 Chr 9.10
* **11.16** 1 Chr 26.29
* **11.18** v 1
* **11.21** Neh 3.26
* **11.22** vv 9, 14
* **11.23** Ezra 6.8; 7.20; Neh 12.47
* **11.25** Josh 13.9, 17; 14.15

Nehemiah 12

* **12.1** Ezra 2.1, 2; Neh 10.2–8
* **12.7** Ezra 3.2
* **12.8** Neh 11.17
* **12.23** 1 Chr 9.14ff
* **12.24** Neh 11.17
* **12.25** 1 Chr 26.15
* **12.26** Ezra 7.6, 11; Neh 8.9
* **12.27** 1 Chr 25.6
* **12.28** 1 Chr 9.16
* **12.30** Neh 13.22, 30
* **12.31** v 38; Neh 2.13; 3.13
* **12.35** Num 10.2, 8
* **12.36** 1 Chr 23.5

* **12.37** Neh 2.14; 3.15, 26
r **12.38** Cn: Heb *opposite*
* **12.38** v 31; Neh 3.8, 11
* **12.39** Neh 3.1, 3, 6, 25; 8.16
* **12.44** Neh 13.5, 12, 13
* **12.45** 1 Chr 25.1; 26.1
* **12.46** 2 Chr 29.30
* **12.47** Num 18.21; Neh 11.23

Nehemiah 13

* **13.1** Deut 23.3–5; Neh 9.3
* **13.2** Num 22.3–11; 23.11
* **13.3** Ex 12.38; Neh 9.2
* **13.4** Neh 2.10; 6.1, 17, 18; 12.44
* **13.5** Num 18.21
* **13.6** Ezra 6.22; Neh 5.14
* **13.7** v 5
* **13.9** 2 Chr 29.5, 15, 16
* **13.10** Neh 10.37; 12.28, 29
* **13.11** vv 17, 25; Neh 10.39
* **13.12** Neh 10.37–39; 12.44
* **13.13** Neh 7.2; 12.44
* **13.14** vv 22, 31; Neh 5.19
* **13.15** Ex 20.8, 10; Neh 10.31
* **13.17** vv 11, 25
* **13.18** Jer 17.21–23
* **13.19** Lev 23.32; Jer 17.21
* **13.21** v 15
* **13.22** vv 14, 31; Neh 12.30
* **13.23** Ezra 9.2
* **13.25** vv 11, 17; Deut 25.2; Neh 10.29, 30
* **13.26** 1 Kings 3.13; 11.1, 4ff; 2 Chr 1.12
* **13.27** v 23; Ezra 10.2
* **13.28** Neh 2.10, 19; 12.10
* **13.29** Num 25.13; Neh 6.14
* **13.30** Neh 10.30
* **13.31** vv 14, 22; Neh 10.34

Esther

Esther 1

KING AHASUERUS DEPOSES QUEEN VASHTI

1 This happened in the days of Ahasuerus, the same Ahasuerus who ruled
over one hundred twenty-seven provinces from India to Cush.* [2]In those
days when King Ahasuerus sat on his royal throne in the citadel of Susa,*
[3]in the third year of his reign, he gave a banquet for all his officials and
ministers. The army of Persia and Media, the nobles, and the governors of
the provinces were present,* [4]while he displayed the great wealth of his
kingdom and the splendor and pomp of his majesty for many days, one
hundred eighty days in all.

5 When these days were completed, the king gave for all the people
present in the citadel of Susa, both great and small, a banquet lasting for
seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace.* [6]There were
white cotton curtains and blue hangings tied with cords of fine linen and
purple to silver rings[a] and marble pillars. There were couches of gold and
silver on a mosaic pavement of porphyry, marble, mother-of-pearl, and
colored stones.* [7]Drinks were served in golden goblets, goblets of different
kinds, and the royal wine was lavished according to the bounty of the king.*
[8]Drinking was by ordinance without restraint, for the king had given orders
to all the officials of his palace to do as each one desired. [9]Furthermore,
Queen Vashti gave a banquet for the women in the palace of King
Ahasuerus.

10 On the seventh day, when the king was merry with wine, he
commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and
Carkas, the seven eunuchs who attended him,* [11]to bring Queen Vashti
before the king wearing the royal crown, in order to show the peoples and
the officials her beauty, for she was fair to behold. [12]But Queen Vashti
refused to come at the king's command conveyed by the eunuchs. At this
the king was enraged, and his anger burned within him.

13 Then the king consulted the sages who knew the laws[b] (for this was
the king's procedure toward all who were versed in law and custom,[*] [14]and
those next to him were Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres,
Marsena, and Memucan, the seven officials of Persia and Media who had
access to the king and sat first in the kingdom):[*] [15]"According to the law,
what is to be done with Queen Vashti because she has not performed the
command of King Ahasuerus conveyed by the eunuchs?" [16]Then Memucan
said in the presence of the king and the officials, "Queen Vashti has done
wrong not only to the king but also to all the officials and all the peoples
who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus. [17]For this deed of the
queen will be made known to all women, causing them to look with
contempt on their husbands, since they will say, 'King Ahasuerus
commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, and she did not
come.'[*] [18]This very day the noble ladies of Persia and Media who have
heard of the queen's behavior will rebel against[c] the king's officials, and
there will be no end of contempt and wrath! [19]If it pleases the king, let a
royal order go out from him, and let it be written among the laws of the
Persians and the Medes so that it may not be altered, that Vashti is never
again to come before King Ahasuerus, and let the king give her royal
position to another who is better than she.[*] [20]So when the decree made by
the king is proclaimed throughout all his kingdom, vast as it is, all women
will give honor to their husbands, high and low alike."[*]

21 This advice pleased the king and the officials, and the king did as
Memucan proposed; [22]he sent letters to all the royal provinces, to every
province in its own script and to every people in its own language,
declaring that every man should be master in his own house.[d,*]

Esther 2

ESTHER BECOMES QUEEN

1 After these things, when the anger of King Ahasuerus had abated, he
remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed
against her.* [2]Then the king's servants who attended him said, "Let
beautiful young virgins be sought out for the king. [3]And let the king appoint
commissioners in all the provinces of his kingdom to gather all the beautiful
young virgins to the harem in the citadel of Susa under custody of Hegai,
the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women; let their cosmetic
treatments be given them.* [4]And let the young woman who pleases the king
be queen instead of Vashti." This pleased the king, and he did so.

5 Now there was a Jew in the citadel of Susa whose name was Mordecai
son of Jair son of Shimei son of Kish, a Benjaminite,* [6]who had been
carried away from Jerusalem among the captives carried away with King
Jeconiah of Judah, whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had carried
away.* [7]He had brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his cousin, for she had
neither father nor mother; the young woman was fair and beautiful, and
when her father and her mother died, Mordecai adopted her as his own
daughter.* [8]When the king's order and his edict were proclaimed and when
many young women were gathered in the citadel of Susa in custody of
Hegai, Esther was taken into the king's palace and put in custody of Hegai,
who had charge of the women.* [9]The young woman pleased him and won
his favor, and he quickly provided her with her cosmetic treatments and her
portion of food and with seven chosen maids from the king's palace, and he
advanced her and her maids to the best place in the harem.* [10]Esther did not
reveal her people or kindred, for Mordecai had charged her not to tell.*
[11]Every day Mordecai would walk back and forth in front of the court of the
harem to learn how Esther was and how she fared.

12 The turn came for each young woman to go in to King Ahasuerus,
after being twelve months under the regulations for the women, since this
was the regular period of their cosmetic treatment: six months with oil of
myrrh and six months with perfumes and cosmetics for women. [13]When the

young woman went in to the king, she was given whatever she asked for to take with her from the harem to the king's palace. 14In the evening she went in; then in the morning she came back to the second harem in custody of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the concubines; she did not go in to the king again unless the king delighted in her and she was summoned by name.

15 When the turn came for Esther daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had adopted her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised. Now Esther was admired by all who saw her.* 16When Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus in his royal palace in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign, 17the king loved Esther more than all the other women; of all the virgins she won his favor and devotion, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.* 18Then the king gave a great banquet to all his officials and ministers: "Esther's banquet." He also granted a holiday[e] to the provinces and gave gifts with royal liberality.*

MORDECAI DISCOVERS A PLOT

19 When the virgins were being gathered together,[f] Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate. 20Now Esther had not revealed her kindred or her people, as Mordecai had charged her, for Esther obeyed Mordecai just as when she was brought up by him.* 21In those days, while Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs who guarded the threshold, became angry and conspired to kill[g] King Ahasuerus.* 22But the matter came to the knowledge of Mordecai, and he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai.* 23When the affair was investigated and found to be so, both men were hung on the pole. It was recorded in the book of the annals in the presence of the king.*

Esther 3

HAMAN UNDERTAKES TO DESTROY THE JEWS

1 After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman son of Hammedatha
the Agagite and advanced him and set his seat above all the officials who
were with him. [2]And all the king's servants who were at the king's gate
bowed down and did obeisance to Haman, for the king had so commanded
concerning him. But Mordecai did not bow down or do obeisance.* [3]Then
the king's servants who were at the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do
you disobey the king's command?"* [4]When they spoke to him day after day
and he would not listen to them, they told Haman, in order to see whether
Mordecai's words would stand, for he had told them that he was a Jew.
[5]When Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or do obeisance to
him, Haman was infuriated.* [6]But he thought it beneath him to kill[h] only
Mordecai. So, having been told who Mordecai's people were, Haman
plotted to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, throughout the
whole kingdom of Ahasuerus.*

7 In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of
King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur—which means "the lot"—before Haman for
the day and for the month, and the lot fell on the thirteenth day of[i] the
twelfth month, which is the month of Adar.* [8]Then Haman said to King
Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people scattered and separated among the
peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom; their laws are different from
those of every other people, and they do not keep the king's laws, so that it
is not appropriate for the king to tolerate them.* [9]If it pleases the king, let a
decree be issued for their destruction, and I will pay ten thousand talents of
silver into the hands of those who have charge of the king's business, so
that they may put it into the king's treasuries." [10]So the king took his signet
ring from his hand and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite,
the enemy of the Jews.* [11]The king said to Haman, "The money is given to
you, and the people as well, to do with them as it seems good to you."

12 Then the king's secretaries were summoned on the thirteenth day of
the first month, and an edict, according to all that Haman commanded, was

written to the king's satraps and to the governors over all the provinces and to the officials of all the peoples, to every province in its own script and every people in its own language; it was written in the name of King Ahasuerus and sealed with the king's ring.* 13Letters were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces, giving orders to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all Jews, young and old, children and women, in one day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods.* 14A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province by proclamation, calling on all the peoples to be ready for that day.* 15The couriers went quickly by order of the king, and the decree was issued in the citadel of Susa. The king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was thrown into confusion.*

Esther 4

ESTHER AGREES TO HELP THE JEWS

1 When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes
and put on sackcloth and ashes and went through the city, wailing with a
loud and bitter cry;* [2]he went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no
one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. [3]In every province,
wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great
mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and
most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes.*

4 When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen
was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he
might take off his sackcloth, but he would not accept them. [5]Then Esther
called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs who had been appointed to
attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening
and why. [6]Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in
front of the king's gate, [7]and Mordecai told him all that had happened to
him and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the
king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews.* [8]Mordecai also gave him a
copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might
show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make
supplication to him and to entreat him for her people.*

9 Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. [10]Then Esther
spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai: [11]"All the king's
servants and the people of the king's provinces know that, if any man or
woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is
but one law: to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter
to someone may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in
to the king for thirty days."* [12]When they told Mordecai what Esther had
said, [13]Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the
king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. [14]For if you
keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from
another place, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows?

Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” 15Then
Esther said in reply to Mordecai, 16“Go, gather all the Jews to be found in
Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days,
night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to
the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”* 17Mordecai
then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

Esther 5

ESTHER'S BANQUET

1 On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court
of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall. The king was sitting on his
royal throne inside the palace opposite the entrance to the palace.* [2]As soon
as the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won his favor, and
he held out to her the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther
approached and touched the top of the scepter.* [3]The king said to her,
"What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even to half of my
kingdom, it shall be given you."* [4]Then Esther said, "If it pleases the king,
let the king and Haman come today to a banquet that I have prepared for the
king." [5]Then the king said, "Bring Haman quickly, so that we may do as
Esther desires." So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had
prepared.* [6]While they were drinking wine, the king said to Esther, "What
is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to
half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."* [7]Then Esther answered, "This is
my petition and request: [8]If I have won the king's favor, and if it pleases the
king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman
come tomorrow to the banquet that I will prepare for them, and then I will
do as the king has said."*

HAMAN PLANS TO HAVE MORDECAI HUNG

9 Haman went out that day happy and in good spirits, but when Haman
saw Mordecai in the king's gate and observed that he neither rose nor
trembled before him, he was infuriated with Mordecai;* [10]nevertheless,
Haman restrained himself and went home. Then he sent and called for his
friends and his wife Zeresh,* [11]and Haman recounted to them the splendor
of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king
had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the
ministers of the king.* [12]Haman added, "Even Queen Esther let no one but
myself come with the king to the banquet that she prepared. Tomorrow also
I am invited by her, together with the king.* [13]Yet all this does me no good

so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate."* 14Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Let a pole fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hung on it; then go with the king to the banquet in good spirits." This advice pleased Haman, and he had the pole made.*

Esther 6

THE KING HONORS MORDECAI

1 On that night the king could not sleep, and he gave orders to bring the
book of records, the annals, and they were read to the king.* [2]It was found
written how Mordecai had told about Bigthana and Teresh, two of the
king's eunuchs who guarded the threshold and who had conspired to kill[j]
King Ahasuerus.* [3]Then the king said, "What honor or distinction has been
bestowed on Mordecai for this?" The king's servants who attended him
said, "Nothing has been done for him." [4]The king said, "Who is in the
court?" Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king's palace to
speak to the king about having Mordecai hung on the pole that he had
prepared for him.* [5]So the king's servants told him, "Haman is there,
standing in the court." The king said, "Let him come in." [6]So Haman came
in, and the king said to him, "What shall be done for the man whom the
king wishes to honor?" Haman said to himself, "Whom would the king
wish to honor more than me?"* [7]So Haman said to the king, "For the man
whom the king wishes to honor, [8]let royal robes be brought, which the king
has worn, and a horse that the king has ridden, with a royal crown on its
head.* [9]Let the robes and the horse be handed over to one of the king's most
noble officials; let him[k] robe the man whom the king wishes to honor, and
let him[l] conduct the man on horseback through the open square of the city,
proclaiming before him: 'Thus shall it be done for the man whom the king
wishes to honor.' "* [10]Then the king said to Haman, "Quickly, take the
robes and the horse, as you have said, and do so to Mordecai the Jew who
sits at the king's gate. Leave out nothing that you have mentioned." [11]So
Haman took the robes and the horse and robed Mordecai and led him riding
through the open square of the city, proclaiming, "Thus shall it be done for
the man whom the king wishes to honor."

12 Then Mordecai returned to the king's gate, but Haman hurried to his
house, mourning and with his head covered.* [13]When Haman told his wife
Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him, his advisers
and his wife Zeresh said to him, "If Mordecai, before whom your downfall

has begun, is of the Jewish people, you will not prevail against him but will surely fall before him."*

HAMAN'S DOWNFALL AND MORDECAI'S ADVANCEMENT

14 While they were still talking with him, the king's eunuchs arrived and hurried Haman off to the banquet that Esther had prepared.*

Esther 7

1 So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. [2]On the
second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther,
"What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is
your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."* [3]Then
Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases
the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my
people—that is my request.* [4]For we have been sold, I and my people, to be
destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as
slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace, but no enemy can
compensate for this damage to the king."[m,*] [5]Then King Ahasuerus said to
Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?"
[6]Esther said, "A foe and an enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was
terrified before the king and the queen.* [7]The king rose from the feast in
wrath and went into the palace garden, but Haman stayed to beg his life
from Queen Esther, for he saw that the king had determined to destroy him.
[8]When the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman
had thrown himself on the couch where Esther was reclining, and the king
said, "Will he even violate the queen in my presence, in my own house?"
As the words left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman's face.* [9]Then
Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the
very pole that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the
king,[n] stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang
him on that."* [10]So they hung Haman on the pole that he had prepared for
Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Esther 8

ESTHER SAVES THE JEWS

1 On that day King Ahasuerus gave to Queen Esther the house of Haman,
the enemy of the Jews, and Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had
told what he was to her.[*] [2]Then the king took off his signet ring, which he
had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai. So Esther set Mordecai
over the house of Haman.[*]

3 Then Esther spoke again to the king; she fell at his feet, weeping and
pleading with him to avert the evil design of Haman the Agagite and the
plot that he had devised against the Jews. [4]The king held out the golden
scepter to Esther, and Esther rose and stood before the king.[*] [5]She said, "If
it pleases the king, and if I have won his favor, and if the thing seems right
before the king, and I have his approval, let an order be written to revoke
the letters devised by Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he
wrote giving orders to destroy the Jews who are in all the provinces of the
king.[*] [6]For how can I bear to see the calamity that is coming on my people?
Or how can I bear to see the destruction of my kindred?"[*] [7]Then King
Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, "See, I have
given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hung him on the pole
because he plotted to kill[o] the Jews.[*] [8]You may write as you please with
regard to the Jews, in the name of the king, and seal it with the king's ring,
for an edict written in the name of the king and sealed with the king's ring
cannot be revoked."[*]

9 The king's secretaries were summoned at that time, in the third month,
which is the month of Sivan, on the twenty-third day, and an edict was
written, according to all that Mordecai commanded, to the Jews and to the
satraps and the governors and the officials of the provinces from India to
Cush, one hundred twenty-seven provinces, to every province in its own
script and to every people in its own language, and also to the Jews in their
script and their language.[*] [10]He wrote letters in the name of King
Ahasuerus, sealed them with the king's ring, and sent them by mounted
couriers riding on fast steeds bred from the royal herd.[p,*] [11]By these letters

the king allowed the Jews who were in every city to assemble and defend their lives, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate any armed force of any people or province that might attack them, their children, and their women, and to plunder their goods* 12on a single day throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. 13A copy of the writ was to be issued as a decree in every province and published to all peoples, and the Jews were to be ready on that day to take revenge on their enemies.* 14So the couriers, mounted on their royal steeds, hurried out, urged by the king's command. The decree was issued in the citadel of Susa.

15 Then Mordecai went out from the presence of the king, wearing royal robes of blue and white, with a great golden crown and a mantle of fine linen and purple, while the city of Susa shouted and rejoiced.* 16For the Jews there was light and gladness, joy and honor. 17In every province and in every city, wherever the king's command and his edict came, there was gladness and joy among the Jews, a festival and a holiday. Furthermore, many of the peoples of the country professed to be Jews because the fear of the Jews had fallen upon them.*

Esther 9

DESTRUCTION OF THE ENEMIES OF THE JEWS

1 Now in the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, on the thirteenth
day, when the king's command and edict were about to be executed, on the
very day when the enemies of the Jews hoped to gain power over them but
that had been changed to a day when the Jews would gain power over their
foes,* 2the Jews gathered in their cities throughout all the provinces of King
Ahasuerus to kill[q] those who had sought their ruin, and no one could
withstand them, because the fear of them had fallen upon all peoples.* 3All
the officials of the provinces, the satraps and the governors, and the royal
officials were supporting the Jews because the fear of Mordecai had fallen
upon them.* 4For Mordecai was powerful in the king's palace, and his fame
spread throughout all the provinces, because the man Mordecai was
growing more and more powerful.* 5So the Jews struck down all their
enemies with the sword, slaughtering and destroying them, and did as they
pleased to those who hated them. 6In the citadel of Susa the Jews killed and
destroyed five hundred people. 7They killed Parshandatha, Dalphon,
Aspatha, 8Poratha, Adalia, Aridatha, 9Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai, and
Vaizatha, 10the ten sons of Haman son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the
Jews, but they did not touch the plunder.*

11 That very day the number of those killed in the citadel of Susa was
reported to the king. 12The king said to Queen Esther, "In the citadel of
Susa the Jews have killed and destroyed five hundred people and the ten
sons of Haman. What have they done in the rest of the king's provinces?
Now what is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what further is your
request? It shall be fulfilled."* 13Esther said, "If it pleases the king, let the
Jews who are in Susa be allowed tomorrow also to do according to this
day's edict, and let the ten sons of Haman be hung on the pole."* 14So the
king commanded this to be done; a decree was issued in Susa, and the ten
sons of Haman were hung. 15The Jews who were in Susa gathered also on
the fourteenth day of the month of Adar, and they killed three hundred
persons in Susa, but they did not touch the plunder.*

16 Now the other Jews who were in the king's provinces also gathered to
defend their lives and gained relief from their enemies and killed seventy-
five thousand of those who hated them, but they laid no hands on the
plunder.* 17This was on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar, and on the
fourteenth day they rested and made that a day of feasting and gladness.*

THE FEAST OF PURIM INAUGURATED

18 But the Jews who were in Susa gathered on the thirteenth day and on
the fourteenth and rested on the fifteenth day, making that a day of feasting
and gladness.* 19Therefore the Jews of the villages, who live in the open
towns, hold the fourteenth day of the month of Adar as a day for gladness
and feasting, a holiday on which they send gifts of food to one another.*

20 Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews who
were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, 21enjoining
them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also
the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, 22as the days on which
the Jews gained relief from their enemies and as the month that had been
turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a
holiday, that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for
sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.* 23So the Jews
adopted as a custom what they had begun to do, as Mordecai had written to
them.

24 For Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the enemy of all the
Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them and had cast Pur—that
is, "the lot"—to crush and to destroy them,* 25but when Esther[r] came before
the king, he gave orders in writing that the wicked plot that he had devised
against the Jews should come upon his own head and that he and his sons
should be hung on the pole.* 26Therefore these days are called Purim, from
the word Pur. Thus because of all that was written in this letter and of what
they had faced in this matter and of what had happened to them,* 27the Jews
established and accepted as a custom for themselves and their descendants
and all who joined them that without fail they would continue to observe
these two days every year, as it was written and at the time appointed.*
28These days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation,
in every family, province, and city, and these days of Purim should never

fall into disuse among the Jews, nor should the commemoration of these days cease among their descendants.

29 Queen Esther daughter of Abihail, along with Mordecai the Jew, gave full written authority confirming this second letter about Purim.* 30Letters were sent wishing peace and security to all the Jews, to the one hundred twenty-seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus,* 31and giving orders that these days of Purim should be observed at their appointed seasons, as Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther enjoined on the Jews, just as they had laid down for themselves and for their descendants regulations concerning their fasts and their lamentations.* 32The command of Esther fixed these practices of Purim, and it was recorded in writing.*

Esther 10

1 King Ahasuerus laid tribute on the land and on the islands of the sea.*
2All the acts of his power and might, and the full account of the high honor
of Mordecai, to which the king advanced him, are they not written in the
annals of the kings of Media and Persia?* 3For Mordecai the Jew was next
in rank to King Ahasuerus, and he was powerful among the Jews and
popular with his many kindred, for he sought the good of his people and
interceded for the welfare of all his descendants.*

Esther 1

* **1.1** Ezra 4.6; Esth 8.9; 9.30; Dan 9.1
* **1.2** Neh 1.1
* **1.3** Esth 2.18
* **1.5** Esth 7.7, 8
a **1.6** Or *rods*
* **1.6** Ezek 23.41; Am 6.4
* **1.7** Esth 2.18
* **1.10** Judg 16.25; Esth 7.9
b **1.13** Cn: Heb *times*
* **1.13** 1 Chr 12.32; Jer 10.7; Dan 2.12
* **1.14** 2 Kings 25.19
* **1.17** Eph 5.33
c **1.18** Cn: Heb *will tell*
* **1.19** Esth 8.8; Dan 6.8
* **1.20** Eph 5.22; Col 3.18
d **1.22** Compare Gk: Heb adds *and speak according to the language of his people*
* **1.22** Esth 8.9; Eph 5.22–24; 1 Tim 2.12

Esther 2

* **2.1** Esth 1.19, 20; 7.10
* **2.3** vv 8, 15
* **2.5** Esth 3.2
* **2.6** 2 Kings 24.6, 14, 15
* **2.7** v 15
* **2.8** vv 3, 15
* **2.9** vv 3, 12
* **2.10** v 20
* **2.15** v 7; Esth 9.29
* **2.17** Esth 1.11
e **2.18** Or *an amnesty* or *a release from taxes*
* **2.18** Esth 1.3, 7
f **2.19** Heb adds *a second time*
* **2.20** v 10
g **2.21** Heb *to lay hands on*
* **2.21** Esth 6.2
* **2.22** Esth 6.1, 2
* **2.23** Esth 10.2

Esther 3

* **3.2** v 5; Esth 2.19
* **3.3** v 2
* **3.5** v 2; Esth 5.9
h **3.6** Heb *lay hands on*
* **3.6** Ps 83.4
i **3.7** Cn Compare Gk and 3.13 below: Heb lacks *the thirteenth day of*
* **3.7** Ezra 6.15; Esth 9.24
* **3.8** Ezra 4.12–15; Acts 16.20
* **3.10** Gen 41.42; Esth 7.6; 8.2
* **3.12** 1 Kings 21.8; Esth 8.8–10
* **3.13** Esth 8.10–14
* **3.14** Esth 8.13, 14
* **3.15** Esth 8.15

Esther 4

* **4.1** Esth 3.8–10; Ezek 27.30; Jon 3.5, 6
* **4.3** Isa 58.5
* **4.7** Esth 3.9
* **4.8** Esth 3.14, 15
* **4.11** Esth 5.1, 2; 6.4; 8.4; Dan 2.9
* **4.16** Esth 5.1

Esther 5

* **5.1** Esth 4.11, 16; 6.4
* **5.2** Esth 4.11; 8.4; Prov 21.1
* **5.3** Esth 7.2; Mk 6.23
* **5.5** Esth 6.14
* **5.6** v 3; Esth 7.2
* **5.8** Esth 6.14; 7.3; 8.5
* **5.9** Esth 2.19; 3.5
* **5.10** Esth 6.13
* **5.11** Esth 3.1; 9.7–10
* **5.12** v 8
* **5.13** v 9
* **5.14** Esth 6.4; 7.9, 10

Esther 6

* **6.1** Esth 2.23; 10.2; Dan 6.18

j **6.2** Heb *to lay hands on*
* **6.2** Esth 2.21, 22
* **6.4** Esth 4.11; 5.1, 14
* **6.6** vv 7, 9, 11
* **6.8** 1 Kings 1.33
k **6.9** Heb *them*
l **6.9** Heb *them*
* **6.9** Gen 41.43
* **6.12** 2 Sam 15.30
* **6.13** Esth 5.10
* **6.14** Esth 5.8

Esther 7

* **7.2** Esth 5.3, 6
* **7.3** Esth 5.8; 8.5
m **7.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.4** Esth 3.9, 13
* **7.6** Esth 3.10
* **7.8** Esth 1.6
n **7.9** Heb *who spoke well regarding the king*
* **7.9** Esth 1.10; 5.14; Ps 7.16; Prov 11.5, 6

Esther 8

* **8.1** Esth 2.7; 7.6
* **8.2** Esth 3.10
* **8.4** Esth 4.11; 5.2
* **8.5** Esth 3.13; 5.8; 7.3
* **8.6** Esth 7.4; 9.1
o **8.7** Heb *to lay hands on*
* **8.7** v 1
* **8.8** v 10; Esth 1.19; 3.12
* **8.9** Esth 1.1, 22; 3.12
p **8.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.10** 1 Kings 21.8; Esth 3.12, 13
* **8.11** Esth 3.13; 9.2, 10, 15, 16
* **8.13** Esth 3.14
* **8.15** Esth 3.15
* **8.17** Esth 9.2, 19, 27

Esther 9

* **9.1** v 17; Esth 3.13; 8.12
q **9.2** Heb *lay hands on*
* **9.2** vv 15–18; Esth 8.11, 17; Ps 71.13, 24
* **9.3** Ezra 8.36
* **9.4** 2 Sam 3.1; Prov 4.18
* **9.10** Esth 5.11; 8.11
* **9.12** Esth 7.2
* **9.13** Esth 8.11
* **9.15** v 10
* **9.16** vv 2, 10, 15
* **9.17** vv 1, 21
* **9.18** vv 2, 21
* **9.19** v 22; Deut 16.11, 14; Neh 8.10
* **9.22** v 19
* **9.24** Esth 3.6, 7
r **9.25** Heb *she*
* **9.25** Esth 3.6–15; 7.4–10; Ps 7.16
* **9.26** v 20
* **9.27** vv 20, 21; Esth 8.17
* **9.29** vv 20, 21; Esth 2.15
* **9.30** Esth 1.1
* **9.31** Esth 4.3
* **9.32** v 26

Esther 10

* **10.1** Isa 24.15
* **10.2** Esth 2.23; 8.15; 9.4
* **10.3** Gen 41.40; Neh 2.10

Job

Job 1

JOB AND HIS FAMILY

1 There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man
was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from
evil.* 2There were born to him seven sons and three daughters.* 3He had
seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen,
five hundred donkeys, and very many servants, so that this man was the
greatest of all the people of the East.* 4His sons used to go and hold feasts
in one another's houses in turn, and they would send and invite their three
sisters to eat and drink with them. 5And when the feast days had run their
course, Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the
morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all, for
Job said, "It may be that my children have sinned and cursed God in their
hearts." This is what Job always did.*

ATTACK ON JOB'S CHARACTER

6 One day the heavenly beings[a] came to present themselves before the
LORD, and the accuser[b] also came among them.* 7The LORD said to the
accuser,[c] "Where have you come from?" The accuser[d] answered the LORD,
"From going to and fro on the earth and from walking up and down on it."*
8The LORD said to the accuser,[e] "Have you considered my servant Job?
There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who
fears God and turns away from evil."* 9Then the accuser[f] answered the
LORD, "Does Job fear God for nothing?* 10Have you not put a fence around
him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the
work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.* 11But
stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you
to your face."* 12The LORD said to the accuser,[g] "Very well, all that he has is

in your power; only do not stretch out your hand against him!" So the accuser[h] went out from the presence of the LORD.

JOB LOSES PROPERTY AND CHILDREN

13 One day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine
in the eldest brother's house, [14]a messenger came to Job and said, "The
oxen were plowing and the donkeys were feeding beside them, [15]and the
Sabeans fell on them and carried them off and killed the servants with the
edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you."* [16]While he was still
speaking, another came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and
burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them; I alone have
escaped to tell you."* [17]While he was still speaking, another came and said,
"The Chaldeans formed three columns, made a raid on the camels and
carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone
have escaped to tell you."* [18]While he was still speaking, another came and
said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest
brother's house,* [19]and suddenly a great wind came across the desert, struck
the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are
dead; I alone have escaped to tell you."*

20 Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground
and worshiped.* [21]He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and
naked shall I return there; the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away;
blessed be the name of the LORD."*

22 In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing.*

Job 2

ATTACK ON JOB'S HEALTH

1 One day the heavenly beings[i] came to present themselves before the LORD, and the accuser[j] also came among them to present himself before the LORD.* 2The LORD said to the accuser,[k] "Where have you come from?" The accuser[l] answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth and from walking up and down on it."* 3The LORD said to the accuser,[m] "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason."* 4Then the accuser[n] answered the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that the man has he will give for his life. 5But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face."* 6The LORD said to the accuser,[o] "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."*

7 So the accuser[p] went out from the presence of the LORD and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.* 8Job[q] took a potsherd with which to scrape himself and sat among the ashes.*

9 Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse[r] God and die." 10But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive good from God and not receive evil?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.*

JOB'S THREE FRIENDS

11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him.* 12When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads.*

[13]They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.*

Job 3

JOB CURSES THE DAY HE WAS BORN

1 After this Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. [2]Job said:

[3]"Let the day perish in which I was born,
and the night that said,
'A male is conceived.'[*]
[4]Let that day be darkness!
May God above not seek it
or light shine on it.
[5]Let gloom and deep darkness claim it.
Let clouds settle upon it;
let the blackness of the day terrify it.[*]
[6]That night—let thick darkness seize it!
let it not rejoice among the days of the year;
let it not come into the number of the months.[*]
[7]Yes, let that night be barren;
let no joyful cry be heard[s] in it.
[8]Let those curse it who curse the Sea,[t]
those who are skilled to rouse up Leviathan.[*]
[9]Let the stars of its dawn be dark;
let it hope for light but have none;
may it not see the eyelids of the morning—[*]
[10]because it did not shut the doors of my mother's womb
and hide trouble from my eyes.

[11]"Why did I not die at birth,
come forth from the womb and expire?[*]

12 Why were there knees to receive me
or breasts for me to suck?*
13 Now I would be lying down and quiet;
I would be asleep; then I would be at rest
14 with kings and counselors of the earth
who rebuild ruins for themselves,*
15 or with princes who have gold,
who fill their houses with silver.
16 Or why was I not buried like a stillborn child,
like an infant that never sees the light?*
17 There the wicked cease from troubling,
and there the weary are at rest.*
18 There the prisoners are at ease together;
they do not hear the voice of the taskmaster.
19 The small and the great are there,
and the slaves are free from their masters.

20 "Why is light given to one in misery
and life to the bitter in soul,*
21 who long for death, but it does not come,
and dig for it more than for hidden treasures;*
22 who rejoice exceedingly
and are glad when they find the grave?
23 Why is light given to one who cannot see the way,
whom God has fenced in?*
24 For my sighing comes like[u] my bread,
and my groanings are poured out like water.*
25 Truly the thing that I fear comes upon me,
and what I dread befalls me.

[26]I am not at ease, nor am I quiet;
I have no rest, but trouble comes.”

Job 4

ELIPHAZ SPEAKS: JOB HAS SINNED

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:

[2]"If one ventures a word with you, will you be offended?
But who can keep from speaking?*
[3]See, you have instructed many;
you have strengthened the weak hands.*
[4]Your words have supported those who were stumbling,
and you have made firm the feeble knees.*
[5]But now it has come to you, and you are impatient;
it touches you, and you are dismayed.*
[6]Is not your fear of God your confidence
and the integrity of your ways your hope?*

[7]"Think now, who that was innocent ever perished?
Or where were the upright cut off?*
[8]As I have seen, those who plow iniquity
and sow trouble reap the same.*
[9]By the breath of God they perish,
and by the blast of his anger they are consumed.*
[10]The roar of the lion, the voice of the fierce lion,
and the teeth of the young lions are broken.*
[11]The strong lion perishes for lack of prey,
and the whelps of the lioness are scattered.*

[12]"Now a word came stealing to me;
my ear received the whisper of it.*

13 Amid thoughts from visions of the night,
when deep sleep falls on mortals,
14 dread came upon me and trembling,
which made all my bones shake.*
15 A spirit glided past my face;
the hair of my flesh bristled.
16 It stood still,
but I could not discern its appearance.
A form was before my eyes;
there was silence; then I heard a voice:
17 'Can mortals be righteous before[v] God?
Can humans be pure before[w] their Maker?*
18 Even in his servants he puts no trust,
and his angels he charges with error;*
19 how much more those who live in houses of clay,
whose foundation is in the dust,
who are crushed like a moth.*
20 Between morning and evening they are destroyed;
they perish forever without any regarding it.*
21 Their tent cord is plucked up within them,
and they die devoid of wisdom.'*

Job 5

JOB IS CORRECTED BY GOD

[1]"Call now; is there anyone who will answer you?
To which of the holy ones will you turn?*
[2]Surely vexation kills the fool,
and jealousy slays the simple.*
[3]I have seen fools taking root,
but suddenly I cursed their dwelling.*
[4]Their children are far from safety,
they are crushed in the gate,
and there is no one to deliver them.*
[5]The hungry eat their harvest,
and they take it even out of the thorns,[x]
and the thirsty[y] pant after their wealth.*
[6]For misery does not come from the earth,
nor does trouble sprout from the ground,
[7]but humans are born to trouble
just as sparks[z] fly upward.*

[8]"As for me, I would seek God,
and to God I would commit my cause.*
[9]He does great things and unsearchable,
marvelous things without number.*
[10]He gives rain on the earth
and sends waters on the fields;*
[11]he sets on high those who are lowly,
and those who mourn are lifted to safety.*

12 He frustrates the devices of the crafty,
so that their hands achieve no success.*
13 He takes the wise in their own craftiness,
and the schemes of the wily are brought to a quick end.
14 They meet with darkness in the daytime
and grope at noonday as in the night.*
15 But he saves the needy from the sword of their mouth,
from the hand of the mighty.*
16 So the poor have hope,
and injustice shuts its mouth.*

17 "How happy is the one whom God reproves;
therefore do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.[a,*]
18 For he wounds, but he binds up;
he strikes, but his hands heal.*
19 He will deliver you from six troubles;
in seven no harm shall touch you.*
20 In famine he will redeem you from death
and in war from the power of the sword.*
21 You shall be hidden from the scourge of the tongue
and shall not fear destruction when it comes.*
22 At destruction and famine you shall laugh
and shall not fear the wild animals of the earth.*
23 For you shall be in league with the stones of the field,
and the wild animals shall be at peace with you.*
24 You shall know that your tent is safe;
you shall inspect your fold and miss nothing.*
25 You shall know that your descendants will be many
and your offspring like the grass of the earth.*

[26]You shall come to your grave in ripe old age,
as a shock of grain comes up to the threshing floor in its season.*
[27]See, we have searched this out; it is true.
Hear, and know it for yourself.”

Job 6

JOB REPLIES: MY COMPLAINT IS JUST

1 Then Job answered:

[2]"O that my vexation were weighed
and all my calamity laid in the balances![*]
[3]For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea;
therefore my words have been rash.[*]
[4]For the arrows of the Almighty[b] are in me;
my spirit drinks their poison;
the terrors of God are arrayed against me.[*]
[5]Does the wild ass bray over its grass
or the ox low over its fodder?
[6]Can that which is tasteless be eaten without salt,
or is there any flavor in the juice of mallows?[c]
[7]My appetite refuses to touch them;
they are like food that is loathsome to me.[d]

[8]"O that I might have my request
and that God would grant my desire,[*]
[9]that it would please God to crush me,
that he would let loose his hand and cut me off![*]
[10]This would be my consolation;
I would even exult[e] in unrelenting pain,
for I have not denied the words of the Holy One.[*]
[11]What is my strength, that I should wait?
And what is my end, that I should be patient?[*]
[12]Is my strength the strength of stones,

or is my flesh bronze?
13 In truth I have no help in me,
and any resource is driven from me.*

14 "Those who withhold[f] kindness from a friend
forsake the fear of the Almighty.[g]
15 My companions are treacherous like a torrent bed,
like swollen streams that pass away,*
16 that run dark with ice,
turbid with melting snow.
17 In time of heat they disappear;
when it is hot, they vanish from their place.*
18 The caravans turn aside from their course;
they go up into the waste and perish.
19 The caravans of Tema look;
the travelers of Sheba hope.*
20 They are disappointed because they were confident;
they come there and are confounded.*
21 Such you have now become to me;[h]
you see my calamity and are afraid.
22 Have I said, 'Make me a gift'?
Or, 'From your wealth offer a bribe for me'?
23 Or, 'Save me from an opponent's hand'?
Or, 'Ransom me from the hand of oppressors'?

24 "Teach me, and I will be silent;
make me understand how I have gone wrong.
25 How forceful are honest words!
But your reproof, what does it reprove?*
26 Do you think that you can reprove words,

as if the speech of the desperate were wind?*
27You would even cast lots over the orphan
and bargain over your friend.*

28"But now, be pleased to look at me,
for I will not lie to your face.*
29Turn, I pray; let no wrong be done.
Turn now; my vindication is at stake.
30Is there any wrong on my tongue?
Cannot my taste discern calamity?*

Job 7

JOB: MY SUFFERING IS WITHOUT END

1 “Do not human beings have a hard service on earth,
and are not their days like the days of a laborer?*
2 Like a slave who longs for the shadow,
and like laborers who look for their wages,*
3 so I am allotted months of emptiness,
and nights of misery are apportioned to me.*
4 When I lie down I say, ‘When shall I rise?’
But the night is long,
and I am full of tossing until dawn.*
5 My flesh is clothed with worms and dirt;
my skin hardens, then breaks out again.
6 My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle
and come to their end without hope.[i],*

7 “Remember that my life is a breath;
my eye will never again see good.*
8 The eye that beholds me will see me no more;
while your eyes are upon me, I shall be gone.*
9 As the cloud fades and vanishes,
so those who go down to Sheol do not come up;*
10 they return no more to their houses,
nor do their places know them any more.*

11 “Therefore I will not restrain my mouth;
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.*

[12]Am I the Sea or the Dragon
that you set a guard over me?*
[13]When I say, ‘My bed will comfort me,
my couch will ease my complaint,’
[14]then you scare me with dreams
and terrify me with visions,*
[15]so that I would choose strangling
and death rather than this body.
[16]I loathe my life; I would not live forever.
Let me alone, for my days are a breath.*
[17]What are humans, that you make so much of them,
that you set your mind on them,*
[18]visit them every morning,
test them every moment?
[19]Will you not look away from me for a while,
let me alone until I swallow my spittle?
[20]If I sin, what do I do to you, you watcher of humanity?
Why have you made me your target?
Why have I become a burden to you?*
[21]Why do you not pardon my transgression
and take away my iniquity?
For now I shall lie in the earth;
you will seek me, but I shall not be.”*

Job 8

BILDAD SPEAKS: JOB SHOULD REPENT

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered:

[2]"How long will you say these things
and the words of your mouth be a great wind?
[3]Does God pervert justice?
Or does the Almighty[j] pervert the right?*
[4]If your children sinned against him,
he delivered them into the power of their transgression.*
[5]If you will seek God
and make supplication to the Almighty,[k,*]
[6]if you are pure and upright,
surely then he will rouse himself for you
and restore to you your rightful place.*
[7]Though your beginning was small,
your latter days will be very great.*

[8]"For inquire now of bygone generations
and consider what their ancestors have found,*
[9]for we are but of yesterday, and we know nothing,
for our days on earth are but a shadow.*
[10]Will they not teach you and tell you
and utter words out of their understanding?

[11]"Can papyrus grow where there is no marsh?
Can reeds flourish where there is no water?
[12]While yet in flower and not cut down,
they wither before any other plant.*

13 Such are the paths of all who forget God;
the hope of the godless shall perish.*
14 Their confidence is gossamer,
a spider's house their trust.
15 If one leans against its house, it will not stand;
if one lays hold of it, it will not endure.*
16 The wicked thrive[l] before the sun,
and their shoots spread over the garden.*
17 Their roots twine around the stoneheap;
they live among the rocks.[m]
18 If they are destroyed from their place,
then it will deny them, saying, 'I have never seen you.'*
19 See, these are their happy ways,[n]
and out of the earth still others will spring.

20 "See, God will not reject the blameless,
nor take the hand of evildoers.*
21 He will yet fill your mouth with laughter
and your lips with shouts of joy.*
22 Those who hate you will be clothed with shame,
and the tent of the wicked will be no more."*

Job 9

JOB REPLIES: THERE IS NO MEDIATOR

1 Then Job answered:

[2]"Indeed, I know that this is so,
but how can a mortal be just before God?*
[3]If one wished to contend with him,
one could not answer him once in a thousand.*
[4]He is wise in heart and mighty in strength;
who has resisted him and succeeded?*
[5]He removes mountains, and they do not know it
when he overturns them in his anger;
[6]he shakes the earth out of its place,
and its pillars tremble;*
[7]he commands the sun, and it does not rise;
he seals up the stars;
[8]he alone stretched out the heavens
and trampled the waves of the Sea;o,*
[9]he made the Bear and Orion,
the Pleiades and the chambers of the south;*
[10]he does great things beyond understanding
and marvelous things without number.*
[11]Look, he passes by me, and I do not see him;
he moves on, but I do not perceive him.*
[12]He snatches away; who can stop him?
Who will say to him, 'What are you doing?'*

[13]"God will not turn back his anger;

the helpers of Rahab bowed beneath him.*
14How then can I answer him,
choosing my words with him?
15Though I am innocent, I cannot answer him;
I must appeal to my accuser for my right.*
16If I summoned him and he answered me,
I do not believe that he would listen to my voice.
17For he crushes me with a tempest
and multiplies my wounds without cause;*
18he will not let me get my breath
but fills me with bitterness.*
19If it is a contest of strength, he is the strong one!
If it is a matter of justice, who can summon him?[p]
20Though I am innocent, my own mouth would condemn me;
though I am blameless, he would prove me perverse.
21I am blameless; I do not know myself;
I loathe my life.*
22It is all one; therefore I say,
'He destroys both the blameless and the wicked.'*
23When disaster brings sudden death,
he mocks at the calamity[q] of the innocent.*
24The earth is given into the hand of the wicked;
he covers the eyes of its judges—
if it is not he, who then is it?*

25"My days are swifter than a runner;
they flee away; they see no good.
26They go by like skiffs of reed,
like an eagle swooping on the prey.*

[27]If I say, ‘I will forget my complaint;
I will put off my sad countenance and be of good cheer,’
[28]I become afraid of all my suffering,
for I know you will not hold me innocent.
[29]I shall be condemned;
why then do I labor in vain?*
[30]If I wash myself with soap
and cleanse my hands with lye,*
[31]yet you will plunge me into filth,
and my own clothes will abhor me.
[32]For he is not a mortal, as I am, that I might answer him,
that we should come to trial together.*
[33]There is no mediator[r] between us,
who might lay his hand on us both.*
[34]If he would take his rod away from me
and not let dread of him terrify me,*
[35]then I would speak without fear of him,
for I know I am not what I am thought to be.[s]

Job 10

JOB: I LOATHE MY LIFE

1 “I loathe my life;
I will give free utterance to my complaint;
I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.*
2 I will say to God, ‘Do not condemn me;
let me know why you contend against me.*
3 Does it seem good to you to oppress,
to despise the work of your hands
and favor the schemes of the wicked?*
4 Do you have eyes of flesh?
Do you see as humans see?*
5 Are your days like the days of mortals
or your years like human years,*
6 that you seek out my iniquity
and search for my sin,
7 although you know that I am not guilty,
and there is no one to deliver out of your hand?*
8 Your hands fashioned and made me,
and now you turn and destroy me.t,*
9 Remember that you fashioned me like clay,
and will you turn me to dust again?*
10 Did you not pour me out like milk
and curdle me like cheese?*
11 You clothed me with skin and flesh
and knit me together with bones and sinews.
12 You have granted me life and steadfast love,

and your care has preserved my spirit.*
13 Yet these things you hid in your heart;
I know that this was your purpose.
14 If I sin, you watch me
and do not acquit me of my iniquity.*
15 If I am wicked, woe to me!
If I am righteous, I cannot lift up my head,
for I am filled with disgrace
and look upon my affliction.*
16 Bold as a lion you hunt me;
you repeat your exploits against me.*
17 You renew your witnesses against me
and increase your vexation toward me;
you bring fresh troops against me.[u,*]

18 " 'Why did you bring me forth from the womb?
Would that I had died before any eye had seen me*
19 and were as though I had not been,
carried from the womb to the grave.
20 Are not the days of my life few?[v]
Let me alone, that I may find a little comfort[w,*]
21 before I go, never to return,
to the land of gloom and deep darkness,
22 the land of gloom[x] and chaos,
where light is like darkness.' "

Job 11

ZOPHAR SPEAKS: JOB'S GUILT DESERVES PUNISHMENT

1 Then Zophar the Naamathite answered:

[2]"Should a multitude of words go unanswered,
and should one full of talk be vindicated?*
[3]Should your babble put others to silence,
and when you mock, shall no one shame you?*
[4]For you say, 'My conduct[y] is pure,
and I am clean in God's[z] sight.'*
[5]But O that God would speak
and open his lips to you
[6]and that he would tell you the secrets of wisdom!
For wisdom is many-sided.[a]
Know then that God exacts of you less than your guilt deserves.*

[7]"Can you find out the deep things of God?
Can you find out the limit of the Almighty?[b,*]
[8]It is higher than heaven[c]—what can you do?
Deeper than Sheol—what can you know?*
[9]Its measure is longer than the earth
and broader than the sea.
[10]If he passes through and imprisons
and assembles for judgment, who can hinder him?*
[11]For he knows those who are worthless;
when he sees iniquity, will he not consider it?*
[12]But the stupid will get understanding
when a wild ass is born human.[d]

13 “If you direct your heart rightly,
you will stretch out your hands toward him.*
14 If iniquity is in your hand, put it far away,
and do not let wickedness reside in your tents.*
15 Surely then you will lift up your face without blemish;
you will be secure and will not fear.*
16 You will forget your misery;
you will remember it as waters that have passed away.*
17 And your life will be brighter than the noonday;
its darkness will be like the morning.*
18 And you will have confidence because there is hope;
you will be protected[e] and take your rest in safety.*
19 You will lie down, and no one will make you afraid;
many will entreat your favor.
20 But the eyes of the wicked will fail;
all way of escape will be lost to them,
and their hope is to breathe their last.”*

Job 12

JOB REPLIES: I AM A LAUGHINGSTOCK

1 Then Job answered:

[2]"No doubt you are the people,
and wisdom will die with you.
[3]But I have understanding as well as you;
I am not inferior to you.
Who does not know such things as these?
[4]I am a laughingstock to my friends;
I, who called upon God and he answered me,
a just and blameless man, I am a laughingstock.*
[5]Those at ease have contempt for misfortune,[f]
but it is ready for those whose feet are unstable.*
[6]The tents of robbers are at peace,
and those who provoke God are secure,
who bring their god in their hands.[g,*]

[7]"But ask the animals, and they will teach you,
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
[8]ask the plants of the earth,[h] and they will teach you,
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.
[9]Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the LORD has done this?*
[10]In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being.*
[11]Does not the ear test words
as the palate tastes food?*

12 Is wisdom with the aged
and understanding in length of days?*

13 "With God[i] are wisdom and strength;
he has counsel and understanding.*
14 If he tears down, no one can rebuild;
if he shuts someone in, no one can open up.*
15 If he withholds the waters, they dry up;
if he sends them out, they overwhelm the land.*
16 With him are strength and wisdom;
the deceived and the deceiver are his.*
17 He leads counselors away stripped
and makes fools of judges.*
18 He looses the sash of kings
and binds a waistcloth on their loins.*
19 He leads priests away stripped
and overthrows the mighty.
20 He deprives of speech those who are trusted
and takes away the discernment of the elders.*
21 He pours contempt on princes
and looses the belt of the strong.*
22 He uncovers deep things from the darkness
and brings deep darkness to light.*
23 He makes nations great, then destroys them;
he enlarges nations, then leads them away.*
24 He strips understanding from the leaders[j] of the earth
and makes them wander in a pathless waste.*
25 They grope in the dark without light;
he makes them stagger like a drunkard.*

Job 13

[1]"Look, my eye has seen all this;
my ear has heard and understood it.
[2]What you know, I also know;
I am not inferior to you.
[3]But I would speak to the Almighty,[k]
and I desire to argue my case with God.*
[4]As for you, you whitewash with lies;
all of you are worthless physicians.*
[5]If you would only keep silent,
that would be your wisdom!*
[6]Hear now my reasoning,
and listen to the pleadings of my lips.
[7]Will you speak falsely for God
and speak deceitfully for him?
[8]Will you show partiality toward him;
will you plead the case for God?
[9]Will it be well with you when he searches you out?
Or can you deceive him as one person deceives another?*
[10]He will surely rebuke you
if in secret you show partiality.
[11]Will not his majesty terrify you
and the dread of him fall upon you?
[12]Your maxims are proverbs of ashes;
your defenses are defenses of clay.*

[13]"Let me have silence, and I will speak,
and let come on me what may.

14 I will take my flesh in my teeth
and put my life in my hand.[l,*]
15 See, he will kill me; I have no hope;[m]
but I will defend my ways to his face.*
16 This will be my salvation,
that the godless shall not come before him.*
17 Listen carefully to my words,
and let my declaration be in your ears.*
18 I have indeed prepared my case;
I know that I shall be vindicated.
19 Who is there who will contend with me?
For then I would be silent and die.*

JOB'S DESPONDENT PRAYER

20 "Only grant two things to me;
then I will not hide myself from your face:
21 withdraw your hand far from me,
and do not let dread of you terrify me.*
22 Then call, and I will answer;
or let me speak, and you reply to me.*
23 How many are my iniquities and my sins?
Make me know my transgression and my sin.*
24 Why do you hide your face
and count me as your enemy?*
25 Will you frighten a windblown leaf
and pursue dry chaff?*
26 For you write bitter things against me
and make me reap[n] the iniquities of my youth.*
27 You put my feet in the stocks

and watch all my paths;
you set a bound to the soles of my feet.
28 One wastes away like a rotten thing,
like a garment that is moth-eaten.*

Job 14

[1]“A mortal, born of woman, few of days and full of trouble,*
[2]comes up like a flower and withers,
flees like a shadow and does not last.*
[3]Do you fix your eyes on such a one?
Do you bring me into judgment with you?*
[4]Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?
No one can.*
[5]Since their days are determined,
and the number of their months is known to you,
and you have appointed the bounds that they cannot pass,*
[6]look away from them and desist,o
that they may enjoy, like laborers, their days.*

[7]“For there is hope for a tree,
if it is cut down, that it will sprout again
and that its shoots will not cease.
[8]Though its root grows old in the earth
and its stump dies in the ground,
[9]yet at the scent of water it will bud
and put forth branches like a young plant.*
[10]But mortals die and are laid low;
humans expire, and where are they?*
[11]As waters fail from a lake
and a river wastes away and dries up,*
[12]so mortals lie down and do not rise again;
until the heavens are no more, they will not awake

or be roused out of their sleep.*
13 O that you would hide me in Sheol,
that you would conceal me until your wrath is past,
that you would appoint me a set time and remember me!*
14 If mortals die, will they live again?
All the days of my service I would wait
until my release should come.*
15 You would call, and I would answer you;
you would long for the work of your hands.
16 For then you would not[p] number my steps;
you would not keep watch over my sin;*
17 my transgression would be sealed up in a bag,
and you would cover over my iniquity.*

18 "But the mountain falls and crumbles away,
and the rock is removed from its place;*
19 the waters wear away the stones;
the torrents wash away the soil of the earth;
so you destroy the hope of mortals.
20 You prevail forever against them, and they pass away;
you change their countenance and send them away.*
21 Their children come to honor, and they do not know it;
they are brought low, and it goes unnoticed.*
22 They feel only the pain of their own bodies
and mourn only for themselves."

Job 15

ELIPHAZ SPEAKS: JOB UNDERMINES RELIGION

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:

[2]"Should the wise answer with windy knowledge
and fill themselves with the east wind?*
[3]Should they argue in unprofitable talk
or in words that can do no good?
[4]But you are doing away with the fear of God
and hindering meditation before God.
[5]For your iniquity teaches your mouth,
and you choose the tongue of the crafty.*
[6]Your own mouth condemns you, not I;
your own lips testify against you.*

[7]"Are you the firstborn of the human race?
Were you brought forth before the hills?*
[8]Have you listened in the council of God?
And do you limit wisdom to yourself?*
[9]What do you know that we do not know?
What do you understand that is not clear to us?*
[10]The gray-haired and the aged are on our side,
those older than your father.*
[11]Are the consolations of God too small for you
or the word that deals gently with you?*
[12]Why does your heart carry you away,
and why do your eyes flash,[q]
[13]so that you turn your spirit against God,

and let such words go out of your mouth?*
14 What are mortals, that they can be clean?
Or those born of woman, that they can be righteous?*
15 God puts no trust even in his holy ones,
and the heavens are not clean in his sight;*
16 how much less one who is abominable and corrupt,
one who drinks iniquity like water!*

17 "I will show you; listen to me;
what I have seen I will declare—
18 what sages have told
and their ancestors have not hidden,*
19 to whom alone the land was given,
and no stranger passed among them.
20 The wicked writhe in pain all their days,
through all the years that are laid up for the ruthless.*
21 Terrifying sounds are in their ears;
in prosperity the destroyer will come upon them.*
22 They despair of returning from darkness,
and they are destined for the sword.*
23 They wander abroad for bread, saying, 'Where is it?'
They know that a day of darkness is ready at hand;*
24 distress and anguish terrify them;
they prevail against them like a king prepared for battle.
25 Because they stretched out their hands against God
and bid defiance to the Almighty,[r],*
26 running stubbornly against him
with a thickly bossed shield;
27 because they have covered their faces with their fat

and gathered fat upon their loins,*
28they will live in desolate cities,
in houses that no one should inhabit,
houses destined to become heaps of ruins;
29they will not be rich, and their wealth will not endure,
nor will they strike root in the earth;s,*
30they will not escape from darkness;
the flame will dry up their shoots,
and their blossomt will be swept away by the wind.*
31Let them not trust in emptiness, deceiving themselves,
for emptiness will be their recompense.*
32It will be paid in full before their time,
and their branch will not be green.*
33They will shake off their unripe grape, like the vine,
and cast off their blossoms, like the olive tree.*
34For the company of the godless is barren,
and fire consumes the tents of bribery.*
35They conceive mischief and bring forth evil,
and their belly prepares deceit.”*

Job 16

JOB REAFFIRMS HIS INNOCENCE

1 Then Job answered:

[2]"I have heard many such things;
miserable comforters are you all.
[3]Have windy words no limit?
Or what provokes you that you keep on talking?*
[4]I also could talk as you do,
if you were in my place;
I could join words together against you
and shake my head at you.*
[5]I could encourage you with my mouth,
and the solace of my lips would assuage your pain.

[6]"If I speak, my pain is not assuaged,
and if I refrain, how much of it leaves me?
[7]Surely now God has worn me out;
he has[u] made desolate all my company.*
[8]And he has[v] shriveled me up,
which is a witness against me;
my leanness has risen up against me,
and it testifies to my face.*
[9]He has torn me in his wrath and hated me;
he has gnashed his teeth at me;
my adversary sharpens his eyes against me.*
[10]They have gaped at me with their mouths;
they have struck me insolently on the cheek;
they mass themselves together against me.*

[11]God gives me up to the evil
and casts me into the hands of the wicked.*
[12]I was at ease, and he broke me in two;
he seized me by the neck and dashed me to pieces;
he set me up as his target;*
[13]his archers surround me.
He slashes open my kidneys and shows no mercy;
he pours out my gall on the ground.*
[14]He bursts upon me again and again;
he rushes at me like a warrior.*
[15]I have sewed sackcloth upon my skin
and have laid my strength in the dust.*
[16]My face is red with weeping,
and deep darkness is on my eyelids,
[17]though there is no violence in my hands,
and my prayer is pure.*

[18]"O earth, do not cover my blood;
let my outcry find no resting place.*
[19]Even now my witness is in heaven,
and my advocate is on high.*
[20]My friends scorn me;
my eye pours out tears to God,
[21]that he would maintain the right of a mortal with God,
as[w] one does for a neighbor.*
[22]For when a few years have come,
I shall go the way from which I shall not return.*

Job 17

JOB PRAYS FOR RELIEF

1 “My spirit is broken; my days are extinct;
the grave is ready for me.*
2 Surely there are mockers around me,
and my eye dwells on their provocation.*

3 “Lay down a pledge for me with yourself;
who is there who will give surety for me?*
4 Since you have closed their minds to understanding,
therefore you will not let them triumph.*
5 Those who denounce friends for reward—
the eyes of their children will fail.*

6 “He has made me a byword of the peoples,
and I am one before whom people spit.*
7 My eye has grown dim from grief,
and all my members are like a shadow.*
8 The upright are appalled at this,
and the innocent stir themselves up against the godless.
9 Yet the righteous hold to their way,
and they who have clean hands grow stronger and stronger.*
10 But you, come back now, all of you,
and I shall not find a sensible person among you.
11 My days are past; my plans are broken off,
the desires of my heart.*
12 They make night into day;
‘The light,’ they say, ‘is near to the darkness.’x

[13]If I look for Sheol as my house,
if I spread my couch in darkness,*
[14]if I say to the Pit, ‘You are my father,’
and to the worm, ‘My mother’ or ‘My sister,’*
[15]where then is my hope?
Who will see my hope?*
[16]Will it go down to the bars of Sheol?
Shall we descend together into the dust?”*

Job 18

BILDAD SPEAKS: GOD PUNISHES THE WICKED

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered:

[2]"How long will you hunt for words?
Consider, and then we shall speak.
[3]Why are we counted as cattle?
Why are we stupid in your sight?*
[4]You who tear yourself in your anger—
shall the earth be forsaken because of you
or the rock be removed out of its place?*

[5]"Surely the light of the wicked is put out,
and the flame of their fire does not shine.*
[6]The light is dark in their tent,
and the lamp above them is put out.
[7]Their strong steps are shortened,
and their own schemes throw them down.*
[8]For they are thrust into a net by their own feet,
and they walk into a pitfall.*
[9]A trap seizes them by the heel;
a snare lays hold of them.*
[10]A rope is hid for them in the ground,
a trap for them in the path.*
[11]Terrors frighten them on every side
and chase them at their heels.*
[12]Their strength is consumed by hunger,[y]
and calamity is ready for their stumbling.*

13 By disease their skin is consumed;[z]
the firstborn of Death consumes their limbs.
14 They are torn from the tent in which they trusted
and are brought to the king of terrors.[*]
15 In their tents nothing remains;
sulfur is scattered upon their habitations.[*]
16 Their roots dry up beneath,
and their branches wither above.[*]
17 Their memory perishes from the earth,
and they have no name in the street.[*]
18 They are thrust from light into darkness
and driven out of the world.
19 They have no offspring or descendant among their people
and no survivor where they used to live.[*]
20 They of the west are appalled at their fate,
and horror seizes those of the east.
21 Surely such are the dwellings of the ungodly;
such is the place of those who do not know God."[*]

Job 19

JOB REPLIES: I KNOW THAT MY VINDICATOR LIVES

1 Then Job answered:

[2]"How long will you torment me
and break me in pieces with words?
[3]These ten times you have cast reproach upon me;
are you not ashamed to wrong me?
[4]And even if it is true that I have erred,
my error remains with me.*
[5]If indeed you magnify yourselves against me
and make my humiliation an argument against me,*
[6]know then that God has put me in the wrong
and closed his net around me.*
[7]Even when I cry out, 'Violence!' I am not answered;
I call aloud, but there is no justice.*
[8]He has walled up my way so that I cannot pass,
and he has set darkness upon my paths.*
[9]He has stripped my glory from me
and taken the crown from my head.*
[10]He breaks me down on every side, and I am gone;
he has uprooted my hope like a tree.*
[11]He has kindled his wrath against me
and counts me as his adversary.*
[12]His troops come on together;
they have thrown up siegeworks[a] against me
and encamp around my tent.*

13 “He has put my family far from me,
and my acquaintances are wholly estranged from me.
14 My relatives and my close friends have failed me;
15 the guests in my house have forgotten me;
my female servants count me as a stranger;
I have become an alien in their eyes.*
16 I call to my servant, but he gives me no answer;
I must myself plead with him.
17 My breath is repulsive to my wife;
I am loathsome to my own family.
18 Even young children despise me;
when I rise, they talk against me.*
19 All my intimate friends abhor me,
and those whom I love have turned against me.*
20 My bones cling to my skin and to my flesh,
and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth.*
21 Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends,
for the hand of God has touched me!*
22 Why do you, like God, pursue me,
never satisfied with my flesh?*

23 “O that my words were written down!
O that they were inscribed in a book!*
24 O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!*
25 For I know that my vindicator[b] lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;*
26 and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,*

[27]whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
My heart faints within me![*]
[28]If you say, ‘How we will persecute him!’
and, ‘The root of the matter is found in him,’[*]
[29]be afraid of the sword,
for wrath brings the punishment of the sword,
so that you may know there is a judgment.”[*]

Job 20

ZOPHAR SPEAKS: WICKEDNESS RECEIVES JUST RETRIBUTION

1 Then Zophar the Naamathite answered:

[2]"Listen! My thoughts urge me to answer
because of the agitation within me.
[3]I hear censure that insults me,
and a spirit beyond my understanding answers me.*
[4]Do you not know this from of old,
ever since mortals were placed on earth,*
[5]that the exulting of the wicked is short
and the joy of the godless is but for a moment?*
[6]Even though they mount up high as the heavens
and their head reaches to the clouds,*
[7]they will perish forever like their own dung;
those who have seen them will say, 'Where are they?'
[8]They will fly away like a dream and not be found;
they will be chased away like a vision of the night.*
[9]The eye that saw them will see them no more,
nor will their place behold them any longer.*
[10]Their children will seek the favor of the poor,
and their hands will give back their wealth.*
[11]Their bodies, once full of youth,
will lie down in the dust with them.*

[12]"Though wickedness is sweet in their mouth,
though they hide it under their tongues,*

13 though they are loath to let it go
and hold it in their mouths,
14 yet their food is turned in their stomachs;
it is the venom of asps within them.
15 They swallow down riches and vomit them up again;
God casts them out of their bellies.
16 They will suck the poison of asps;
the tongue of a viper will kill them.*
17 They will not look on the rivers,
the streams flowing with honey and curds.*
18 They will give back the fruit of their toil
and will not swallow it down;
from the profit of their trading
they will get no enjoyment.*
19 For they have crushed and abandoned the poor;
they have seized a house that they did not build.*

20 "For they knew no quiet in their bellies;
in their greed they let nothing escape.*
21 There was nothing left after they had eaten;
therefore their prosperity will not endure.*
22 In full sufficiency they will be in distress;
all the force of misery will come upon them.
23 To fill their belly to the full,
God[c] will send his fierce anger into them
and rain it upon them as their food.*
24 They will flee from an iron weapon;
a bronze arrow will strike them through.*
25 It is drawn forth and comes out of their body,

and the glittering point comes out of their gall;
terrors come upon them.*
26 Utter darkness is laid up for their treasures;
a fire fanned by no one will devour them;
what is left in their tent will be consumed.*
27 The heavens will reveal their iniquity,
and the earth will rise up against them.*
28 The possessions of their house will be carried away,
dragged off in the day of God's[d] wrath.*
29 This is the portion of the wicked from God,
the heritage decreed for them by God."*

Job 21

JOB REPLIES: THE WICKED OFTEN GO UNPUNISHED

1 Then Job answered:

[2]"Listen carefully to my words,
and let this be your consolation.
[3]Bear with me, and I will speak;
then after I have spoken, mock on.*
[4]As for me, is my complaint addressed to mortals?
Why should I not be impatient?*
[5]Look at me and be appalled,
and lay your hand upon your mouth.*
[6]When I think of it I am dismayed,
and shuddering seizes my flesh.
[7]Why do the wicked live on,
reach old age, and grow mighty in power?*
[8]Their children are established in their presence
and their offspring before their eyes.*
[9]Their houses are safe from fear,
and no rod of God is upon them.*
[10]Their bull breeds without fail;
their cow calves and never miscarries.*
[11]They send out their little ones like a flock,
and their children dance around.
[12]They sing to the tambourine and the lyre
and rejoice to the sound of the pipe.*
[13]They spend their days in prosperity,
and in peace they go down to Sheol.*

14 They say to God, ‘Leave us alone!
We do not desire to know your ways.*
15 What is the Almighty,[e] that we should serve him?
And what profit do we get if we pray to him?’*
16 Is not their prosperity indeed their own achievement?[f]
The plans of the wicked are repugnant to me.*

17 “How often is the lamp of the wicked put out?
How often does calamity come upon them?
How often does God[g] distribute pains in his anger?*
18 How often are they like straw before the wind
and like chaff that the storm carries away?*
19 You say, ‘God stores up their iniquity for their children.’
Let it be paid back to them, so that they may know it.*
20 Let their own eyes see their destruction,
and let them drink of the wrath of the Almighty.[h,*]
21 For what do they care for their household after them,
when the number of their months is cut off?
22 Will any teach God knowledge,
seeing that he judges those who are on high?*
23 One dies in full prosperity,
being wholly at ease and secure,
24 his loins full of milk
and the marrow of his bones moist.
25 Another dies in bitterness of soul,
never having tasted of good.
26 They lie down alike in the dust,
and the worms cover them.*

27 “Oh, I know your thoughts

and your schemes to wrong me.
[28]For you say, ‘Where is the house of the prince?
Where is the tent in which the wicked lived?’*
[29]Have you not asked those who travel the roads,
and do you not accept their testimony,
[30]that the wicked are spared in the day of calamity
and are rescued in the day of wrath?*
[31]Who declares their way to their face,
and who repays them for what they have done?
[32]When they are carried to the grave,
a watch is kept over their tomb.
[33]The clods of the valley are sweet to them;
everyone will follow after,
and those who went before are innumerable.*
[34]How then will you comfort me with empty nothings?
There is nothing left of your answers but falsehood.”

Job 22

ELIPHAZ SPEAKS: JOB'S WICKEDNESS IS GREAT

1 Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:

[2]"Can a mortal be of use to God?
Can even the wisest be of service to him?*
[3]Is it any pleasure to the Almighty[i] if you are righteous,
or is it gain to him if you make your ways blameless?
[4]Is it for your piety that he reproves you
and enters into judgment with you?*
[5]Is not your wickedness great?
There is no end to your iniquities.*
[6]For you have exacted pledges from your family for no reason
and stripped the naked of their clothing.*
[7]You have given no water to the weary to drink,
and you have withheld bread from the hungry.*
[8]The powerful possess the land,
and the favored live in it.
[9]You have sent widows away empty-handed,
and the arms of the orphans you have crushed.[j,*]
[10]Therefore snares are around you,
and sudden terror overwhelms you,
[11]or darkness so that you cannot see;
a flood of water covers you.*

[12]"Is not God high in the heavens?
See the highest stars, how lofty they are!
[13]Therefore you say, 'What does God know?

Can he judge through the deep darkness?*
14 Thick clouds enwrap him, so that he does not see,
and he walks on the dome of heaven.'
15 Will you keep to the old way
that the wicked have trod?
16 They were snatched away before their time;
their foundation was washed away by a flood.*
17 They said to God, 'Leave us alone,'
and 'What can the Almighty[k] do to us?'[l]
18 Yet he filled their houses with good things—
but the plans of the wicked are repugnant to me.*
19 The righteous see it and are glad;
the innocent laugh them to scorn,*
20 saying, 'Surely our adversaries are cut off,
and what they left, the fire has consumed.'*

21 "Agree with God,[m] and be at peace;
in this way good will come to you.*
22 Receive instruction from his mouth,
and lay up his words in your heart.*
23 If you return to the Almighty,[n] you will be restored,
if you remove unrighteousness from your tents,*
24 if you treat gold like dust
and gold of Ophir like the stones of the torrent bed,*
25 and if the Almighty[o] is your gold
and your precious silver,*
26 then you will delight yourself in the Almighty[p]
and lift up your face to God.*
27 You will pray to him, and he will hear you,

and you will pay your vows.*
28 You will decide on a matter, and it will be established for you,
and light will shine on your ways.*
29 When others are humiliated, you say it is pride,
for he saves the humble.*
30 He will deliver even those who are guilty;
they will escape because of the cleanness of your hands."q,*

Job 23

JOB REPLIES: MY COMPLAINT IS BITTER

1 Then Job answered:

2 “Today also my complaint is bitter;[r]
his[s] hand is heavy despite my groaning.*
3 Oh, that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!*
4 I would lay my case before him
and fill my mouth with arguments.*
5 I would learn what he would answer me
and understand what he would say to me.
6 Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?
No, but he would give heed to me.
7 There the upright could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.*

8 “If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;*
9 on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn[t] to the right, but I cannot see him.
10 But he knows the way that I take;
when he has tested me, I shall come out like gold.*
11 My foot has held fast to his steps;
I have kept his way and have not turned aside.*
12 I have not departed from the commandment of his lips;
I have treasured his words in my bosom.[u],*
13 But he stands alone, and who can dissuade him?

What he desires, that he does.*
14For he will complete what he appoints for me,
and many such things are in his mind.*
15Therefore I am terrified at his presence;
when I consider, I am in dread of him.
16God has made my heart faint;
the Almighty[v] has terrified me.*
17If only I could vanish in darkness,
and thick darkness would cover my face![w],*

Job 24

JOB COMPLAINS OF VIOLENCE ON THE EARTH

[1]"Why are times not kept by the Almighty,[x]
and why do those who know him never see his days?*
[2]The wicked[y] remove landmarks;
they seize flocks and pasture them.*
[3]They drive away the donkey of the orphan;
they take the widow's ox for a pledge.*
[4]They thrust the needy off the road;
the poor of the earth all hide themselves.*
[5]Like wild asses in the desert
they go out to their toil,
scavenging in the wasteland
food for their young.*
[6]They reap in a field not their own,
and they glean in the vineyard of the wicked.
[7]They lie all night naked, without clothing,
and have no covering in the cold.*
[8]They are wet with the rain of the mountains
and cling to the rock for want of shelter.*

[9]"There are those who snatch the orphan child from the breast
and take as a pledge the infant of the poor.*
[10]They go about naked, without clothing;
though hungry, they carry the sheaves;
[11]between their terraces[z] they press out oil;
they tread the winepresses but suffer thirst.

12From the city the dying groan,
and the throat of the wounded cries for help;
yet God pays no attention to their prayer.*

13"There are those who rebel against the light,
who are not acquainted with its ways
and do not stay in its paths.*
14The murderer rises at dusk
to kill the poor and needy
and in the night is like a thief.*
15The eye of the adulterer also waits for the twilight,
saying, 'No eye will see me,'
and he disguises his face.*
16In the dark they dig through houses;
by day they shut themselves up;
they do not know the light.*
17For deep darkness is morning to all of them;
for they are friends with the terrors of deep darkness.*

18"Swift are they on the face of the waters;
their portion in the land is cursed;
no treader turns toward their vineyards.*
19Drought and heat snatch away the snow waters;
so does Sheol those who have sinned.*
20The womb forgets them;
the worm finds them sweet;
they are no longer remembered,
so wickedness is broken like a tree.*

21"They harm[a] the childless woman
and do no good to the widow.*

22 Yet God[b] prolongs the life of the mighty by his power;
they rise up when they despair of life.*
23 He gives them security, and they are supported;
his eyes are upon their ways.*
24 They are exalted a little while and then are gone;
they wither and fade like the mallow;[c]
they are cut off like the heads of grain.*
25 If it is not so, who will prove me a liar
and show that there is nothing in what I say?”

Job 25

BILDAD SPEAKS: HOW CAN A MORTAL BE RIGHTEOUS BEFORE GOD?

1 Then Bildad the Shuhite answered:

[2]"Dominion and fear are with God;[d]
he makes peace in his high heaven.*
[3]Is there any number to his armies?
Upon whom does his light not arise?*
[4]How then can a mortal be righteous before God?
How can one born of woman be pure?*
[5]If even the moon is not bright
and the stars are not pure in his sight,*
[6]how much less a mortal, who is a maggot,
and a human being, who is a worm!"*

Job 26

JOB REPLIES: GOD'S MAJESTY IS UNSEARCHABLE

1 Then Job answered:

[2]"How you have helped one who has no power!
How you have assisted the arm that has no strength![*]
[3]How you have counseled one who has no wisdom
and given much good advice!
[4]With whose help have you uttered words,
and whose spirit has come forth from you?
[5]The shades below tremble,
the waters and their inhabitants.
[6]Sheol is naked before God,
and Abaddon has no covering.[*]
[7]He stretches out Zaphon[e] over the void
and hangs the earth upon nothing.[*]
[8]He binds up the waters in his thick clouds,
and the cloud is not torn open by them.[*]
[9]He covers the face of the full moon
and spreads over it his cloud.[*]
[10]He has described a circle on the face of the waters,
at the boundary between light and darkness.[*]
[11]The pillars of heaven tremble
and are astounded at his rebuke.
[12]By his power he stilled the Sea;
by his understanding he struck down Rahab.[*]
[13]By his wind the heavens were made fair;
his hand pierced the fleeing serpent.[*]

[14]These are indeed but the outskirts of his ways,
and how small a whisper do we hear of him!
But the thunder of his power who can understand?”*

Job 27

JOB MAINTAINS HIS INTEGRITY

1 Job again took up his discourse and said:*

[2]"As God lives, who has taken away my right,
and the Almighty,[f] who has made my soul bitter,*
[3]as long as my breath is in me
and the spirit of God is in my nostrils,
[4]my lips will not speak falsehood,
and my tongue will not utter deceit.*
[5]Far be it from me to say that you are right;
until I die I will not put away my integrity from me.*
[6]I hold fast my righteousness and will not let it go;
my heart will not reproach me as long as I live.*

[7]"May my enemy be like the wicked,
and may my opponent be like the unrighteous.
[8]For what is the hope of the godless when God cuts them off,
when God takes away their lives?*
[9]Will God hear their cry
when trouble comes upon them?*
[10]Will they take delight in the Almighty?[g]
Will they call upon God at all times?*
[11]I will teach you concerning the hand of God;
that which is with the Almighty[h] I will not conceal.
[12]All of you have seen it yourselves;
why then have you become altogether vain?

[13]"This is the portion of the wicked with God

and the heritage that oppressors receive from the Almighty:[i,*]
14 If their children are multiplied, it is for the sword,
and their offspring have not enough to eat.[*]
15 Those who survive them the pestilence buries,
and their widows make no lamentation.[*]
16 Though they heap up silver like dust
and pile up clothing like clay,[*]
17 they may pile it up, but the just will wear it,
and the innocent will divide the silver.[*]
18 They build their houses like nests,
like booths made by sentinels of the vineyard.
19 They go to bed with wealth but will do so no more;
they open their eyes, and it is gone.[*]
20 Terrors overtake them like a flood;
in the night a whirlwind carries them off.[*]
21 The east wind lifts them up, and they are gone;
it sweeps them out of their place.[*]
22 It[j] hurls at them without pity;
they flee from its[k] power in headlong flight.[*]
23 It[l] claps its[m] hands at them
and hisses at them from its[n] place.[*]

Job 28

INTERLUDE: WHERE WISDOM IS FOUND

1 “Surely there is a mine for silver
and a place for gold to be refined.
2 Iron is taken out of the earth,
and copper is smelted from ore.*
3 Miners put[o] an end to darkness
and search out to the farthest bound
the ore in gloom and deep darkness.
4 They open shafts in a valley away from human habitation;
they are forgotten by travelers;
they sway suspended, remote from people.
5 As for the earth, out of it comes bread,
but underneath it is turned up as by fire.*
6 Its stones are the place of sapphires,[p]
and its dust contains gold.

7 “That path no bird of prey knows,
and the falcon’s eye has not seen it.
8 The proud wild animals have not trodden it;
the lion has not passed over it.

9 “They put their hand to the flinty rock
and overturn mountains by the roots.*
10 They cut out channels in the rocks,
and their eyes see every precious thing.
11 The sources of the rivers they probe;[q]
hidden things they bring to light.

12 “But where shall wisdom be found?
And where is the place of understanding?*
13 Mortals do not know the way to it,[r]
and it is not found in the land of the living.*
14 The deep says, ‘It is not in me,’
and the sea says, ‘It is not with me.’
15 It cannot be gotten for gold,
and silver cannot be weighed out as its price.
16 It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir,
in precious onyx or sapphire.[s]
17 Gold and glass cannot equal it,
nor can it be exchanged for jewels of fine gold.*
18 No mention shall be made of coral or of crystal;
the price of wisdom is above pearls.*
19 The chrysolite of Cush cannot compare with it,
nor can it be valued in pure gold.*

20 “Where then does wisdom come from?
And where is the place of understanding?*
21 It is hidden from the eyes of all living
and concealed from the birds of the air.
22 Abaddon and Death say,
‘We have heard a rumor of it with our ears.’*

23 “God understands the way to it,
and he knows its place.*
24 For he looks to the ends of the earth
and sees everything under the heavens.*
25 When he gave to the wind its weight
and apportioned out the waters by measure,*

[26]when he made a decree for the rain,
and a way for the thunderbolt,*
[27]then he saw it and declared it;
he established it and searched it out.
[28]And he said to humankind,
‘Truly, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom;
and to depart from evil is understanding.’ ”*

Job 29

JOB FINISHES HIS DEFENSE

1 Job again took up his discourse and said:*

2 "O that I were as in the months of old,
as in the days when God watched over me,*
3 when his lamp shone over my head,
and by his light I walked through darkness,*
4 when I was in my prime,
when the friendship of God was upon my tent,*
5 when the Almighty[t] was still with me,
when my children were around me,
6 when my steps were washed with milk
and the rock poured out for me streams of oil!*
7 When I went out to the gate of the city,
when I took my seat in the square,
8 the young men saw me and withdrew,
and the aged rose up and stood;
9 the nobles refrained from talking
and laid their hands on their mouths;*
10 the voices of princes were hushed,
and their tongues stuck to the roofs of their mouths.*
11 When the ear heard, it commended me,
and when the eye saw, it approved,
12 because I delivered the poor who cried
and the orphan who had no helper.*
13 The blessing of the wretched came upon me,
and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.*

14 I put on righteousness, and it clothed me;
my justice was like a robe and a turban.*
15 I was eyes to the blind
and feet to the lame.
16 I was a father to the needy,
and I championed the cause of the stranger.*
17 I broke the fangs of the unrighteous
and made them drop their prey from their teeth.*
18 Then I thought, 'I shall die in my nest,
and I shall multiply my days like the phoenix;[u],*
19 my roots spread out to the waters,
with the dew all night on my branches;*
20 my glory was fresh with me
and my bow ever new in my hand.'*

21 "They listened to me and waited
and kept silence for my counsel.*
22 After I spoke they did not speak again,
and my word dropped upon them like dew.[v],*
23 They waited for me as for the rain;
they opened their mouths as for the spring rain.
24 I smiled on them when they had no confidence,
and the light of my countenance they did not extinguish.[w]
25 I chose what they should do and sat as chief,
and I lived like a king among his troops,
like one who comforts mourners.*

Job 30

1 “But now they make sport of me,
those who are younger than I,
whose fathers I would have disdained
to set with the dogs of my flock.*
2 What could I gain from the strength of their hands?
All their vigor is gone.
3 Through want and hard hunger
they gnaw the dry and desolate ground;
4 they pick mallow and the leaves of bushes
and to warm themselves the roots of broom.
5 They are driven out from society;
people shout after them as after a thief.
6 In the gullies of wadis they must live,
in holes in the ground and in the rocks.
7 Among the bushes they bray;
under the nettles they huddle together.
8 A senseless, disreputable brood,
they have been whipped out of the land.

9 “And now they mock me in song;
I am a byword to them.*
10 They abhor me; they keep aloof from me;
they do not hesitate to spit at the sight of me.*
11 Because God has loosed my bowstring and humbled me,
they have cast off restraint in my presence.*
12 On my right hand the rabble rise up;
they send me sprawling

and build roads for my ruin.*
13 They break up my path;
they promote my calamity;
no one restrains[x] them.
14 As through a wide breach they come;
amid the crash they roll on.
15 Terrors are turned upon me;
my honor is pursued as by the wind,
and my prosperity has passed away like a cloud.*

16 "And now my soul is poured out within me;
days of affliction have taken hold of me.*
17 The night racks my bones,
and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest.
18 With violence he seizes my garment;[y]
he grasps me by[z] the collar of my tunic.
19 He has cast me into the mire,
and I have become like dust and ashes.*
20 I cry to you, and you do not answer me;
I stand, and you merely look at me.*
21 You have turned cruel to me;
with the might of your hand you persecute me.*
22 You lift me up on the wind, you make me ride on it,
and you toss me about in the roar of the storm.*
23 I know that you will bring me to death,
to the house appointed for all living.*

24 "Surely one does not turn against the needy,[a]
when in disaster they cry for help.[b,*]
25 Did I not weep for those whose day was hard?

Was not my soul grieved for the poor?*
26 But when I looked for good, evil came,
and when I waited for light, darkness came.*
27 My inward parts are in turmoil and are never still;
days of affliction come to meet me.
28 I go about in sunless gloom;
I stand up in the assembly and cry for help.*
29 I am a brother of jackals
and a companion of ostriches.*
30 My skin turns black and falls from me,
and my bones burn with heat.*
31 My lyre is turned to mourning
and my pipe to the voice of those who weep.*

Job 31

1 “I have made a covenant with my eyes;
how, then, could I look upon a virgin?*
2 What would be my portion from God above
and my heritage from the Almighty[c] on high?
3 Does not calamity befall the unrighteous
and disaster the workers of iniquity?
4 Does he not see my ways
and number all my steps?*

5 “If I have walked with falsehood,
and my foot has hurried to deceit—*
6 let me be weighed in a just balance,
and let God know my integrity!—*
7 if my step has turned aside from the way,
and my heart has followed my eyes,
and if any spot has clung to my hands,*
8 then let me sow and another eat,
and let what grows for me be rooted out.*

9 “If my heart has been enticed by a woman
and I have lain in wait at my neighbor’s door,*
10 then let my wife grind for another,
and let other men kneel over her.*
11 For that would be a heinous crime;
that would be a criminal offense;*
12 for that would be a fire consuming down to Abaddon,
and it would burn to the root all my harvest.*

13 “If I have rejected the cause of my male or female slaves,
when they brought a complaint against me,*
14 what then shall I do when God rises up?
When he makes inquiry, what shall I answer him?
15 Did not he who made me in the womb make them?
And did not one fashion us in the womb?*

16 “If I have withheld anything that the poor desired
or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail*
17 or have eaten my morsel alone
and the orphan has not eaten from it—*
18 for from my youth I reared the orphan[d] like a father,
and from my mother’s womb I guided the widow[e]—
19 if I have seen anyone perish for lack of clothing
or a poor person without covering,
20 whose loins have not blessed me,
and who was not warmed with the fleece of my sheep;*
21 if I have raised my hand against the orphan
because I saw I had supporters at the gate;*
22 then let my shoulder blade fall from my shoulder,
and let my arm be broken from its socket.*
23 For I was in terror of calamity from God,
and I could not have faced his majesty.*

24 “If I have made gold my trust
or called fine gold my confidence,*
25 if I have rejoiced because my wealth was great
or because my hand had gotten much,*
26 if I have looked at the sun[f] when it shone
or the moon moving in splendor,*

27 and my heart has been secretly enticed,
and my mouth has kissed my hand,
28 this also would be an iniquity to be punished by the judges,
for I should have been false to God above.*

29 "If I have rejoiced at the ruin of those who hated me
or exulted when evil overtook them—*
30 I have not let my mouth sin
by asking for their lives with a curse—*
31 if those of my tent ever said,
'O that we might be sated with his flesh!'[g]—*
32 the stranger has not lodged in the street;
I have opened my doors to the traveler—*
33 if I have concealed my transgressions as others do,[h]
by hiding my iniquity in my bosom,*
34 because I stood in great fear of the multitude,
and the contempt of families terrified me,
so that I kept silence and did not go out of doors—*
35 O that I had one to hear me!
(Here is my signature! Let the Almighty[i] answer me!)
O that I had the indictment written by my adversary!*
36 Surely I would carry it on my shoulder;
I would bind it on me like a crown;
37 I would give him an account of all my steps;
like a prince I would approach him.*

38 "If my land has cried out against me
and its furrows have wept together,*
39 if I have eaten its yield without payment
and caused the death of its owners,*

40 let thorns grow instead of wheat
and foul weeds instead of barley.”

The words of Job are ended.*

Job 32

ELIHU REBUKES JOB'S FRIENDS

1 So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his
own eyes.[*] [2]Then Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram,
became angry. He was angry at Job because he justified himself rather than
God;[*] [3]he was angry also at Job's three friends because they had found no
answer, though they had declared Job to be in the wrong.[j,*] [4]Now Elihu had
waited to speak to Job because they were older than he. [5]But when Elihu
saw that there was no answer in the mouths of these three men, he became
angry.

6 Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite answered:

"I am young in years,
and you are aged;
therefore I was timid and afraid
to declare my opinion to you.[*]
[7]I said, 'Let days speak
and many years teach wisdom.'
[8]But truly it is the spirit in a mortal,
the breath of the Almighty[k] that makes for understanding.[*]
[9]It is not the old[l] who are wise
nor the aged who understand what is right.[*]
[10]Therefore I say, 'Listen to me;
let me also declare my opinion.'

[11]"See, I waited for your words;
I listened for your wise sayings
while you searched out what to say.[*]
[12]I gave you my attention,
but there was, in fact, no one who confuted Job,

no one among you who answered his words.
13 Yet do not say, ‘We have found wisdom;
God may vanquish him, not a human.’*
14 He has not directed his words against me,
and I will not answer him with your speeches.

15 “They are dismayed; they answer no more;
they have not a word to say.
16 And am I to wait because they do not speak,
because they stand there and answer no more?
17 I also will give my answer;
I also will declare my opinion.
18 For I am full of words;
the spirit within me constrains me.*
19 My belly is indeed like wine that has no vent;
like new wineskins, it is ready to burst.*
20 I must speak, so that I may find relief;
I must open my lips and answer.
21 I will not show partiality to any person
or use flattery toward anyone.*
22 For I do not know how to flatter—
or my Maker would soon put an end to me!*

Job 33

ELIHU REBUKES JOB

1 "But now, hear my speech, O Job,
and listen to all my words.
2 See, I open my mouth;
the tongue in my mouth speaks.
3 My words declare the uprightness of my heart,
and what my lips know they speak sincerely.*
4 The spirit of God has made me,
and the breath of the Almighty[m] gives me life.*
5 Answer me, if you can;
set your words in order before me; take your stand.*
6 See, before God I am as you are;
I, too, was formed from a piece of clay.
7 No fear of me need terrify you;
my pressure will not be heavy on you.*

8 "Surely, you have spoken in my hearing,
and I have heard the sound of your words.
9 You say, 'I am clean, without transgression;
I am pure, and there is no iniquity in me.*
10 Look, he finds occasions against me;
he counts me as his enemy;*
11 he puts my feet in the stocks
and watches all my paths.'*

12 "But in this you are not right. I will answer you:
God is greater than any mortal.

13 Why do you contend against him,
saying, ‘He will answer none of my[n] words’?*
14 For God speaks in one way
and in two, though people do not perceive it.*
15 In a dream, in a vision of the night,
when deep sleep falls on mortals,
while they slumber on their beds,*
16 then he opens their ears
and terrifies them with warnings,*
17 that he may turn them aside from their deeds
and keep them from pride,
18 to spare their souls from the Pit,
their lives from traversing the River.
19 They are also chastened with pain upon their beds
and with continual strife in their bones,*
20 so that their lives loathe bread
and their appetites dainty food.*
21 Their flesh is so wasted away that it cannot be seen,
and their bones, once invisible, now stick out.*
22 Their souls draw near the Pit
and their lives to those who bring death.*
23 Then, if there should be for one of them an angel,
a mediator, one of a thousand,
one who declares a person upright,*
24 and he is gracious to that person and says,
‘Deliver him from going down into the Pit;
I have found a ransom;*
25 let his flesh become fresh with youth;
let him return to the days of his youthful vigor,’*

[26]then he prays to God and is accepted by him;
he comes into his presence with joy,
and God[o] repays him for his righteousness.[*]
[27]That person sings to others and says,
'I sinned and perverted what was right,
and it was not paid back to me.[*]
[28]He has redeemed my soul from going down to the Pit,
and my life shall see the light.'[*]

[29]"God indeed does all these things,
twice, three times, with mortals,[*]
[30]to bring back their souls from the Pit,
so that they may see the light of life.[p,*]
[31]Pay heed, Job, listen to me;
be silent, and I will speak.
[32]If you have anything to say, answer me;
speak, for I desire to justify you.
[33]If not, listen to me;
be silent, and I will teach you wisdom."[*]

Job 34

ELIHU PROCLAIMS GOD'S JUSTICE

1 Then Elihu continued and said:

[2]"Hear my words, you wise men,
and give ear to me, you who know,
[3]for the ear tests words
as the palate tastes food.*
[4]Let us choose what is right;
let us determine among ourselves what is good.*
[5]For Job has said, 'I am innocent,
and God has taken away my right;
[6]in spite of being right I am counted a liar;
my wound is incurable, though I am without transgression.'*
[7]Who is there like Job,
who drinks up scoffing like water,*
[8]who goes in company with evildoers
and walks with the wicked?*
[9]For he has said, 'It profits one nothing
to take delight in God.'*

[10]"Therefore, hear me, you who have sense;
far be it from God that he should do wickedness
and from the Almighty[q] that he should do wrong.*
[11]For according to their deeds he will repay them,
and according to their ways he will make it befall them.*
[12]Of a truth, God will not do wickedly,
and the Almighty[r] will not pervert justice.*

13 Who gave him charge over the earth,
and who laid on him[s] the whole world?*
14 If he should take back his spirit[t] to himself
and gather to himself his breath,*
15 all flesh would perish together,
and all mortals return to dust.*

16 "If you have understanding, hear this;
listen to what I say.
17 Shall one who hates justice govern?
Will you condemn one who is righteous and mighty,*
18 who says to a king, 'You scoundrel!'
and to princes, 'You wicked men!';*
19 who shows no partiality to nobles,
nor regards the rich more than the poor,
for they are all the work of his hands?*
20 In a moment they die;
at midnight the people are shaken and pass away,
and the mighty are taken away by no human hand.*

21 "For his eyes are upon the ways of mortals,
and he sees all their steps.*
22 There is no gloom or deep darkness
where evildoers may hide themselves.*
23 For he has not appointed a time[u] for anyone
to go before God in judgment.
24 He shatters the mighty without investigation
and sets others in their place.*
25 Thus, knowing their works,
he overturns them in the night, and they are crushed.*

[26]He strikes them for their wickedness
while others look on,*
[27]because they turned aside from following him
and had no regard for any of his ways,*
[28]so that they caused the cry of the poor to come to him,
and he heard the cry of the afflicted—*
[29]When he is quiet, who can condemn?
When he hides his face, who can behold him?
Whether nation or person, it is the same—*
[30]so that the godless should not reign
or those who ensnare the people.*

[31]"For has anyone said to God,
'I have endured punishment; I will not offend any more;
[32]teach me what I do not see;
if I have done iniquity, I will do it no more'?*
[33]Will he then pay back to suit you
because you reject it?
For you must choose and not I;
therefore declare what you know.[v]
[34]Those who have sense will say to me,
and the wise who hear me will say,
[35]'Job speaks without knowledge;
his words are without insight.'*
[36]Would that Job were tried to the limit,
because his answers are those of the wicked.*
[37]For he adds rebellion to his sin;
he claps his hands among us
and multiplies his words against God."

Job 35

ELIHU CONDEMNS SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

1 Elihu continued and said:

[2]"Do you think this to be just?
You say, 'I am in the right before God.'*
[3]If you ask, 'What advantage have I?
How am I better off than if I had sinned?'*
[4]I will answer you
and your friends with you.
[5]Look at the heavens and see;
observe the clouds, which are higher than you.*
[6]If you have sinned, what do you accomplish against him?
And if your transgressions are multiplied, what do you do to him?*
[7]If you are righteous, what do you give to him,
or what does he receive from your hand?*
[8]Your wickedness affects others like you,
and your righteousness, other human beings.

[9]"Because of the multitude of oppressions people cry out;
they call for help because of the arm of the mighty.*
[10]But no one says, 'Where is God my Maker,
who gives strength in the night,*
[11]who teaches us more than the animals of the earth
and makes us wiser than the birds of the air?'*
[12]There they cry out, but he does not answer,
because of the pride of evildoers.*

13 Surely God does not hear an empty cry,
nor does the Almighty[w] regard it.*
14 How much less when you say that you do not see him,
that the case is before him and you are waiting for him!*
15 And now, because his anger does not punish
and he does not greatly heed transgression,[x],*
16 Job opens his mouth in empty talk;
he multiplies words without knowledge.”*

Job 36

ELIHU EXALTS GOD'S GOODNESS

1 Elihu continued and said:

[2]"Bear with me a little, and I will show you,
for I have yet something to say on God's behalf.
[3]I will bring my knowledge from far away
and ascribe righteousness to my Maker.*
[4]For truly my words are not false;
one who is perfect in knowledge is with you.*

[5]"Surely God is mighty and does not despise any;
he is mighty in strength of understanding.*
[6]He does not keep the wicked alive
but gives the afflicted their right.*
[7]He does not withdraw his eyes from the righteous,
but with kings on the throne
he sets them forever, and they are exalted.*
[8]And if they are bound in fetters
and caught in the cords of affliction,
[9]then he declares to them their work
and their transgressions, that they are behaving arrogantly.*
[10]He opens their ears to instruction
and commands that they return from iniquity.*
[11]If they listen and serve him,
they complete their days in prosperity
and their years in pleasantness.*
[12]But if they do not listen, they shall perish by the sword

and die without knowledge.*

13"The godless in heart cherish anger;
they do not cry for help when he binds them.*
14They die in their youth,
and their life ends in shame.y,*
15He delivers the afflicted by their affliction
and opens their ear by adversity.*
16He also allured you out of distress
into a broad place where there was no constraint,
and what was set on your table was full of fatness.*

17"But you are obsessed with the case of the wicked;
judgment and justice seize you.
18Beware that wrath does not entice you into scoffing,
and do not let the greatness of the ransom turn you aside.*
19Will your cry avail to keep you from distress,
or will all the force of your strength?
20Do not long for the night,
when peoples are cut off in their place.*
21Beware! Do not turn to iniquity;
because of that you have been tried by affliction.*
22See, God is exalted in his power;
who is a teacher like him?
23Who has prescribed for him his way,
or who can say, 'You have done wrong'?*

ELIHU PROCLAIMS GOD'S MAJESTY

24"Remember to extol his work,
of which mortals have sung.*

25 All people have looked on it;
everyone watches it from far away.
26 Surely God is great, and we do not know him;
the number of his years is unsearchable.*
27 For he draws up the drops of water;
he distills[z] his mist in rain,*
28 which the skies pour down
and drop upon mortals abundantly.
29 Can anyone understand the spreading of the clouds,
the thunderings of his pavilion?*
30 See, he scatters his lightning around him
and covers the roots of the sea.
31 For by these he governs peoples;
he gives food in abundance.*
32 He covers his hands with the lightning
and commands it to strike the mark.*
33 Its crashing[a] tells about him;
he is jealous[b] with anger against iniquity.*

Job 37

[1]"At this also my heart trembles
and leaps out of its place.
[2]Listen, listen to the thunder of his voice
and the rumbling that comes from his mouth.*
[3]Under the whole heaven he lets it loose,
and his lightning to the corners of the earth.
[4]After it his voice roars;
he thunders with his majestic voice,
and he does not restrain the lightnings[c] when his voice is heard.*
[5]God thunders wondrously with his voice;
he does great things that we cannot comprehend.*
[6]For to the snow he says, 'Fall on the earth';
and the shower of rain, his heavy shower of rain,*
[7]serves as a sign on everyone's hand,
so that all whom he has made may know it.[d,*]
[8]Then the animals go into their lairs
and remain in their dens.*
[9]From its chamber comes the whirlwind
and cold from the scattering winds.*
[10]By the breath of God ice is given,
and the broad waters are frozen fast.*
[11]He loads the thick cloud with moisture;
the clouds scatter his lightning.*
[12]They turn round and round by his guidance
to accomplish all that he commands them

on the face of the habitable world.*
13 Whether for correction or for his land
or for love, he causes it to happen.*

14 "Hear this, O Job;
stop and consider the wondrous works of God.*
15 Do you know how God lays his command upon them
and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine?
16 Do you know the balancings of the clouds,
the wondrous works of the one whose knowledge is perfect,*
17 you whose garments are hot
when the earth is still because of the south wind?
18 Can you, like him, spread out the skies,
hard as a molten mirror?*
19 Teach us what we shall say to him;
we cannot draw up our case because of darkness.
20 Should he be told that I want to speak?
Did anyone ever wish to be swallowed up?
21 Now, no one can look on the light
when it is bright in the skies,
when the wind has passed and cleared them.
22 Out of the north comes golden splendor;
around God is awesome majesty.
23 The Almighty[e]—we cannot find him;
he is great in power and justice,
and abundant righteousness he will not violate.*
24 Therefore mortals fear him;
he does not regard any who are wise in their own conceit."*

Job 38

THE LORD ANSWERS JOB

1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:*

2 "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?*
3 Gird up your loins like a man;
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.*

4 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.*
5 Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
6 On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone*
7 when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings[f] shouted for joy?*

8 "Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,*
9 when I made the clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,*
10 and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,*
11 and said, 'Thus far shall you come and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped'?*

12 "Have you commanded the morning since your days began
and caused the dawn to know its place,*
13 so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?*
14 It is changed like clay under the seal,
and it is dyed[g] like a garment.
15 Light is withheld from the wicked,
and their uplifted arm is broken.*

16 "Have you entered into the springs of the sea
or walked in the recesses of the deep?*
17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?*
18 Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.*

19 "Where is the way to the dwelling of light,
and where is the place of darkness,
20 that you may take it to its territory
and that you may discern the paths to its home?*
21 Surely you know, for you were born then,
and the number of your days is great!*

22 "Have you entered the storehouses of the snow,
or have you seen the storehouses of the hail,*
23 which I have reserved for the time of trouble,
for the day of battle and war?*
24 What is the way to the place where the light is distributed
or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth?*

25 "Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain
and a way for the thunderbolt,*
26 to bring rain on a land where no one lives,
on the desert, which is empty of human life,*

[27]to satisfy the waste and desolate land,
and to make the ground put forth grass?*

[28]"Has the rain a father,
or who has fathered the drops of dew?*
[29]From whose womb did the ice come forth,
and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven?*
[30]The waters become hard like stone,
and the face of the deep is frozen.

[31]"Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades
or loose the cords of Orion?*
[32]Can you lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season,
or can you guide the Bear with its children?
[33]Do you know the ordinances of the heavens?
Can you establish their rule on the earth?*

[34]"Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,
so that a flood of waters may cover you?*
[35]Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go
and say to you, 'Here we are'?*
[36]Who has put wisdom in the inward parts[h]
or given understanding to the mind?[i,*]
[37]Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?
Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens
[38]when the dust runs into a mass
and the clods cling together?

[39]"Can you hunt the prey for the lion
or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,*
[40]when they crouch in their dens

or lie in wait in their covert?*
41 Who provides for the raven its prey,
when its young ones cry to God
and wander about for lack of food?*

Job 39

1 “Do you know when the mountain goats give birth?
Do you observe the calving of the deer?*
2 Can you number the months that they fulfill,
and do you know the time when they give birth,
3 when they crouch to give birth to their offspring
and are delivered of their young?*
4 Their young ones become strong; they grow up in the open;
they go forth and do not return to them.

5 “Who has let the wild ass go free?
Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass,*
6 to which I have given the steppe for its home,
the salt land for its dwelling place?*
7 It scorns the tumult of the city;
it does not hear the shouts of the driver.
8 It ranges the mountains as its pasture,
and it searches after every green thing.

9 “Is the wild ox willing to serve you?
Will it spend the night at your crib?*
10 Can you tie it in the furrow with ropes,
or will it harrow the valleys after you?
11 Will you depend on it because its strength is great,
and will you hand over your labor to it?
12 Do you have faith in it that it will return
and bring your grain to your threshing floor?[j]

13 “The ostrich’s wings flap wildly,
though its pinions lack plumage.[k]
14 For it leaves its eggs to the earth
and lets them be warmed on the ground,
15 forgetting that a foot may crush them
and that a wild animal may trample them.
16 It deals cruelly with its young, as if they were not its own;
though its labor should be in vain, yet it has no fear;*
17 because God has made it forget wisdom
and given it no share in understanding.*
18 When it spreads its plumes aloft,[l]
it laughs at the horse and its rider.

19 “Do you give the horse its might?
Do you clothe its neck with mane?*
20 Do you make it leap like the locust?
Its majestic snorting is terrible.*
21 It paws[m] violently, exults mightily;
it goes out to meet the weapons.*
22 It laughs at fear and is not dismayed;
it does not turn back from the sword.
23 Upon it rattle the quiver,
the flashing spear, and the javelin.
24 With fierceness and rage it swallows the ground;
it cannot stand still at the sound of the trumpet.*
25 When the trumpet sounds, it says ‘Aha!’
From a distance it smells the battle,
the thunder of the captains, and the shouting.*

26 “Is it by your wisdom that the hawk soars

and spreads its wings toward the south?
27 Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up
and makes its nest on high?*
28 It lives on the rock and makes its home
in the fastness of the rocky crag.
29 From there it spies the prey;
its eyes see it from far away.*
30 Its young ones suck up blood,
and where the slain are, there it is."*

Job 40

1 And the LORD said to Job:

[2]"Shall a faultfinder contend with the Almighty?[n]
Anyone who argues with God must respond."*

JOB'S RESPONSE TO GOD

3 Then Job answered the LORD:

[4]"See, I am of small account; what shall I answer you?
I lay my hand on my mouth.*
[5]I have spoken once, and I will not answer,
twice but will proceed no further."*

GOD'S CHALLENGE TO JOB

6 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:*

[7]"Gird up your loins like a man;
I will question you, and you declare to me.*
[8]Will you even put me in the wrong?
Will you condemn me that you may be justified?*
[9]Have you an arm like God,
and can you thunder with a voice like his?*

[10]"Deck yourself with majesty and dignity;
clothe yourself with glory and splendor.*
[11]Pour out the overflowings of your anger,
and look on all who are proud and humble them.*
[12]Look on all who are proud and bring them low;
tread down the wicked where they stand.*

13 Hide them all in the dust together;
bind their faces in the world below.[o]
14 Then I will also acknowledge to you
that your own right hand can give you victory.*

15 "Look at Behemoth,
which I made just as I made you;
it eats grass like an ox.*
16 Its strength is in its loins
and its power in the muscles of its belly.
17 It makes its tail stiff like a cedar;
the sinews of its thighs are knit together.
18 Its bones are tubes of bronze,
its limbs like bars of iron.

19 "It is the first of the great acts of God;
only its Maker can approach it with the sword.*
20 For the mountains yield food for it
where all the wild animals play.*
21 Under the lotus plants it lies,
in the covert of the reeds and in the marsh.
22 The lotus trees cover it for shade;
the willows of the wadi surround it.*
23 Even if the river is turbulent, it is not frightened;
it is confident though Jordan rushes against its mouth.
24 Can one take it with hooks[p]
or pierce its nose with a snare?*

Job 41

1 [q]"Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook
or press down its tongue with a cord?[*]
2 Can you put a rope in its nose
or pierce its jaw with a hook?[*]
3 Will it make many supplications to you?
Will it speak soft words to you?
4 Will it make a covenant with you
to be taken as your servant forever?
5 Will you play with it as with a bird
or put it on a leash for your young women?
6 Will traders bargain over it?
Will they divide it up among the merchants?
7 Can you fill its skin with harpoons
or its head with fishing spears?
8 Lay hands on it;
think of the battle; you will not do it again!
9 [r]Any hope of capturing it[s] will be disappointed;
one is overwhelmed even at the sight of it.
10 No one is so fierce as to dare to stir it up.
Who can stand before it?[t,*]
11 Who can confront it[u] and be safe?[v]
—under the whole heaven, who?[w,*]

12 "I will not keep silent concerning its limbs
or its mighty strength or its splendid frame.
13 Who can strip off its outer garment?
Who can penetrate its double coat of mail?[x]

14 Who can open the doors of its face?
There is terror all around its teeth.
15 Its back[y] is made of shields in rows,
shut up closely as with a seal.
16 One is so near to another
that no air can come between them.
17 They are joined one to another;
they clasp each other and cannot be separated.
18 Its sneezes flash forth light,
and its eyes are like the eyelids of the dawn.[*]
19 From its mouth go flaming torches;
sparks of fire leap out.
20 Out of its nostrils comes smoke,
as from a boiling pot and burning rushes.
21 Its breath kindles coals,
and a flame comes out of its mouth.
22 In its neck abides strength,
and terror dances before it.
23 The folds of its flesh cling together;
it is firmly cast and immovable.
24 Its heart is as hard as stone,
as hard as the lower millstone.
25 When it raises itself up the gods are afraid;
at the crashing they are beside themselves.
26 Though the sword reaches it, it does not avail,
nor does the spear, the dart, or the javelin.
27 It counts iron as straw
and bronze as rotten wood.
28 The arrow cannot make it flee;

slingstones, for it, are turned to chaff.
29 Clubs are counted as chaff;
it laughs at the rattle of javelins.
30 Its underparts are like sharp potsherds;
it spreads itself like a threshing sledge on the mire.
31 It makes the deep boil like a pot;
it makes the sea like a pot of ointment.
32 It leaves a shining wake behind it;
one would think the deep to be white-haired.
33 On earth it has no equal,
a creature without fear.*
34 It surveys everything that is lofty;
it is king over all that are proud."

Job 42

JOB IS HUMBLED AND SATISFIED

1 Then Job answered the LORD:

[2]"I know that you can do all things
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.*
[3]'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?'
Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me that I did not know.*
[4]'Hear, and I will speak;
I will question you, and you declare to me.'*
[5]I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
but now my eye sees you;*
[6]therefore I despise myself
and repent in dust and ashes."*

JOB'S FRIENDS ARE HUMILIATED

7 After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite: "My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.* [8]Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering, and my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has done."* [9]So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did what the LORD had told them, and the LORD accepted Job's prayer.

JOB'S FORTUNES ARE RESTORED TWOFOLD

10 And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his
friends, and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.* 11Then
there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him
before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him
sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon
him; and each of them gave him a piece of money[z] and a gold ring.* 12The
LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning, and he had
fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and
a thousand donkeys.* 13He also had seven sons and three daughters.* 14He
named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch.
15In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters, and
their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. 16After this
Job lived one hundred and forty years and saw his children and his
children's children, four generations.* 17And Job died, old and full of days.*

Job 1

* **1.1** Gen 6.9; 17.1; Ex 18.21; Jer 25.20; Ezek 14.14; Jas 5.11
* **1.2** Job 42.13
* **1.3** Job 42.12
* **1.5** Gen 8.20; Ex 19.10; 1 Kings 21.10, 13
a **1.6** Heb *sons of God*
b **1.6** Heb *the satan*
* **1.6** 1 Chr 21.1; Job 38.7
c **1.7** Heb *the satan*
d **1.7** Heb *the satan*
* **1.7** 1 Pet 5.8
e **1.8** Heb *the satan*
* **1.8** v 1; Job 42.7, 8
f **1.9** Heb *the satan*
* **1.9** 1 Tim 6.5
* **1.10** Job 29.2–6; 31.25; Ps 128.1, 2
* **1.11** Job 2.5; 19.21
g **1.12** Heb *the satan*
h **1.12** Heb *the satan*
* **1.15** Job 6.19
* **1.16** Gen 19.24; Lev 10.2; Num 11.1–3; 2 Kings 1.10
* **1.17** Gen 11.28, 31
* **1.18** vv 4, 13
* **1.19** Jer 4.11; 13.24
* **1.20** Gen 37.29; 1 Pet 5.6
* **1.21** Job 2.10; Eccl 5.15; Eph 5.20; 1 Thess 5.18; 1 Tim 6.7
* **1.22** Job 2.10

Job 2

i **2.1** Heb *sons of God*
j **2.1** Heb *the satan*
* **2.1** Job 1.6
k **2.2** Heb *the satan*
l **2.2** Heb *The satan*
* **2.2** Job 1.7
m **2.3** Heb *the satan*
* **2.3** Job 1.1, 8; 9.17; 27.5, 6
n **2.4** Heb *the satan*
* **2.5** Job 1.11

o **2.6** Heb *the satan*
* **2.6** Job 1.12
p **2.7** Heb *the satan*
* **2.7** Job 7.5
q **2.8** Heb *He*
* **2.8** Job 42.6; Ezek 27.30; Mt 11.21
r **2.9** Heb *Bless*
* **2.10** Job 1.21, 22; Ps 39.1
* **2.11** Gen 25.2; 1 Chr 1.45; Job 42.11
* **2.12** Josh 7.6; Lam 2.10; Ezek 27.30
* **2.13** Gen 50.10; Ezek 3.15

Job 3

* **3.3** Job 10.18; Jer 20.14
* **3.5** Job 10.21; Ps 23.4; Jer 2.6
* **3.6** Job 23.17
s **3.7** Heb *come*
t **3.8** Cn: Heb *day*
* **3.8** Job 41.10
* **3.9** Job 41.18
* **3.11** Job 10.18
* **3.12** Gen 30.3; Isa 66.12
* **3.14** Job 12.17, 18; 15.28
* **3.16** Eccl 6.3
* **3.17** Job 17.16
* **3.20** 1 Sam 1.10; Prov 31.6; Isa 38.15; Ezek 27.31
* **3.21** Rev 9.6
* **3.23** Job 19.6, 8, 12; Lam 3.7
u **3.24** Heb *before*
* **3.24** Ps 42.3, 4

Job 4

* **4.2** Job 32.18–20
* **4.3** Isa 35.3; Heb 12.12
* **4.4** Isa 35.3; Heb 12.12
* **4.5** Job 6.14; 19.21
* **4.6** Job 1.1
* **4.7** Ps 37.25
* **4.8** Prov 22.8; Hos 10.13; Gal 6.7, 8
* **4.9** Job 15.30; Ps 59.13; Isa 30.33

* **4.10** Ps 58.6
* **4.11** Ps 34.10
* **4.12** Job 26.14
* **4.14** Jer 23.9
v **4.17** Or *more righteous than*
w **4.17** Or *more pure than*
* **4.17** Job 9.2; 35.10
* **4.18** Job 15.15
* **4.19** Job 10.9; 22.16
* **4.20** Job 20.7; Ps 90.5, 6
* **4.21** Job 36.12

Job 5

* **5.1** Job 15.15
* **5.2** Prov 12.16
* **5.3** Ps 37.35
* **5.4** Am 5.12
x **5.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
y **5.5** Aquila Symmachus Syr Vg: Heb *snare*
* **5.5** Job 18.8–10
z **5.7** Or *birds*; Heb *sons of Resheph*
* **5.7** Job 14.1
* **5.8** Ps 35.23
* **5.9** Ps 40.5; 72.18
* **5.10** Ps 65.9
* **5.11** 1 Sam 2.7; Ps 113.7
* **5.12** Neh 4.15; Ps 33.10; Isa 8.10
* **5.14** Deut 28.29; Job 12.25
* **5.15** Ps 35.10
* **5.16** Ps 107.42
a **5.17** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **5.17** Ps 94.12; Heb 12.5–11; Jas 1.12
* **5.18** Isa 30.26
* **5.19** Ps 34.19; 91.10
* **5.20** Ps 33.19; 144.10
* **5.21** Ps 31.20; 91.5, 6
* **5.22** Ps 91.13; Ezek 34.25
* **5.23** Ps 91.12; Isa 11.6–9
* **5.24** Job 8.6; 21.9
* **5.25** Ps 72.16; 112.2
* **5.26** Gen 15.15; Prov 9.11

Job 6

* **6.2** Job 31.6
* **6.3** Prov 27.3
b **6.4** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **6.4** Job 21.20; Ps 38.2; 88.15
c **6.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
d **6.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.8** Job 14.13
* **6.9** 1 Kings 19.4
e **6.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.10** Lev 19.2; Job 23.11, 12; Isa 57.15; Hos 11.9
* **6.11** Job 21.4
* **6.13** Job 26.2, 3
f **6.14** Syr Vg Compare Tg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
g **6.14** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **6.15** Ps 38.11; Jer 15.18
* **6.17** Job 24.19
* **6.19** Gen 25.15; 1 Kings 10.1; Isa 21.14
* **6.20** Jer 14.3
h **6.21** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.25** Eccl 12.10, 11
* **6.26** Job 8.2
* **6.27** Joel 3.3; 2 Pet 2.3
* **6.28** Job 27.4
* **6.30** Job 12.11; 27.4

Job 7

* **7.1** Job 10.17; 14.6, 14; Isa 40.2
* **7.2** Lev 19.13
* **7.3** Ps 6.6; Lam 1.7
* **7.4** Deut 28.67
i **7.6** Or *as the thread runs out*
* **7.6** Job 9.25; 13.15; 17.15, 16
* **7.7** Job 9.25; Ps 78.39
* **7.8** v 21; Job 20.9
* **7.9** 2 Sam 12.23; Job 11.8; 30.15
* **7.10** Job 10.21; Ps 103.16
* **7.11** 1 Sam 1.10; Ps 40.9
* **7.12** Ezek 32.2, 3
* **7.14** Job 9.34

* **7.16** Job 10.1; Eccl 7.15
* **7.17** Ps 8.4; 144.3; Heb 2.6
* **7.20** v 12; Job 16.12; 35.3, 6
* **7.21** v 8; Job 10.14; Ps 104.29

Job 8

j **8.3** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **8.3** Gen 18.25; Deut 32.4; 2 Chr 19.7; Dan 9.14; Rom 3.5
* **8.4** Job 1.5, 18, 19
k **8.5** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **8.5** Job 5.8; 9.15; 11.13
* **8.6** Ps 7.6
* **8.7** Job 42.12
* **8.8** Deut 4.32; 32.7; Job 15.18
* **8.9** Gen 47.9; 1 Chr 29.15; Job 7.6
* **8.12** Ps 129.6; Jer 17.6
* **8.13** Job 11.20; Ps 9.17; Prov 10.28
* **8.15** Job 27.18
l **8.16** Heb *He thrives*
* **8.16** Ps 37.35; 80.11
m **8.17** Gk Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.18** Job 7.10; Ps 37.36
n **8.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.20** Job 4.7; 21.30
* **8.21** Ps 126.2; 132.16
* **8.22** v 15; Ps 35.26; 109.29

Job 9

* **9.2** Rom 3.20
* **9.3** Ps 143.2
* **9.4** 2 Chr 13.12; Job 36.5
* **9.6** Job 26.11; Isa 2.19, 21; Hag 2.6; Heb 12.26
o **9.8** Or *trampled the back of the sea dragon*
* **9.8** Gen 1.6; Ps 104.2, 3
* **9.9** Gen 1.16; Job 38.31; Am 5.8
* **9.10** Ps 71.15
* **9.11** Job 23.8, 9; 35.14
* **9.12** Job 11.10; Isa 45.9; Rom 9.20
* **9.13** Job 26.12; Isa 30.7
* **9.15** Job 8.5; 10.15

* **9.17** Job 2.3; 16.12, 14
* **9.18** Job 27.2
p **9.19** Compare Gk: Heb *me*
* **9.21** Job 1.1; 7.16
* **9.22** Eccl 9.2, 3; Ezek 21.3
q **9.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.23** Ps 64.4; Heb 11.36; 1 Pet 1.7
* **9.24** Job 10.3; 12.6, 17
* **9.26** Hab 1.8
* **9.29** v 20
* **9.30** Jer 2.22
* **9.32** v 3; Ps 143.2; Eccl 6.10; Rom 9.20
r **9.33** Another reading is *Would that there were a mediator*
* **9.33** 1 Sam 2.25
* **9.34** Job 13.21; Ps 39.10
s **9.35** Cn: Heb *for I am not so in myself*

Job 10

* **10.1** 1 Kings 19.4; Job 7.11, 16
* **10.2** Job 9.29; Hos 4.1
* **10.3** Job 21.16; 22.18
* **10.4** 1 Sam 16.7
* **10.5** Ps 90.4; 2 Pet 3.8
* **10.7** Job 9.12, 21
t **10.8** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *made me together all around, and you destroy me*
* **10.8** Ps 119.73
* **10.9** Gen 2.7; 3.19; Isa 64.8
* **10.10** Ps 139.14–16
* **10.12** Job 33.4
* **10.14** Job 9.28; 13.27
* **10.15** Job 9.12, 15; Ps 25.18; Isa 3.11
* **10.16** Job 5.9; Isa 38.13; Lam 3.10
u **10.17** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *toward me; changes and a troop are with me*
* **10.17** Job 7.1; 16.8
* **10.18** Job 3.11
v **10.20** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *Are not my days few? Let him cease!*
w **10.20** Heb *that I may brighten up a little*
* **10.20** Job 7.16, 19; 9.27; 14.1
x **10.22** Heb *gloom as darkness, deep darkness*

Job 11

* **11.2** Job 8.2
* **11.3** Job 17.2; 21.3; Jas 3.5
y **11.4** Gk: Heb *teaching*
z **11.4** Heb *your*
* **11.4** Job 6.14; 10.7
a **11.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.6** Ezra 9.13; Job 28.21
b **11.7** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **11.7** Eccl 3.11; Rom 11.33
c **11.8** Heb *The heights of heaven*
* **11.8** Job 17.16; 22.12
* **11.10** Job 9.12; Rev 3.7
* **11.11** Job 34.21–25; Ps 10.14
d **11.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.13** Ps 78.8; 88.9
* **11.14** Job 22.23; Ps 101.3
* **11.15** Ps 27.3; 1 Jn 3.21
* **11.16** Isa 65.16
* **11.17** Ps 37.6; 112.4; Isa 58.8, 10
e **11.18** Or *you will look around*
* **11.18** Ps 3.5; Prov 3.24
* **11.20** Deut 28.65; Jer 15.9

Job 12

* **12.4** Job 16.10, 20; Ps 91.15
f **12.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **12.5** Ps 123.4
g **12.6** Or *whom God brought forth by his hand*; meaning of Heb uncertain
* **12.6** Job 9.24; 21.9; 22.18
h **12.8** Or *speak to the earth*
* **12.9** Isa 41.20
* **12.10** Job 27.3; Acts 17.28
* **12.11** Job 34.3
* **12.12** Job 32.7
i **12.13** Heb *him*
* **12.13** Job 9.4; 11.6
* **12.14** Job 19.10; 37.7
* **12.15** Gen 7.11; 1 Kings 8.35
* **12.16** Job 13.7, 9

* **12.17** Job 3.14; 9.24
* **12.18** Ps 116.16
* **12.20** Job 32.9
* **12.21** Ps 107.40
* **12.22** Job 3.5; Dan 2.22; 1 Cor 4.5
* **12.23** Deut 12.20; Ps 78.61; 107.38; Isa 9.3; Jer 25.9
j **12.24** Heb adds *of the people*
* **12.24** Ps 107.40
* **12.25** Ps 107.27

Job 13

k **13.3** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **13.3** Job 23.3, 4
* **13.4** Ps 119.69; Jer 23.32
* **13.5** Prov 17.28
* **13.9** Ps 44.21; Gal 6.7
* **13.12** Job 15.3
l **13.14** Gk: Heb *Why should I take . . . in my hand?*
* **13.14** 1 Sam 19.5
m **13.15** Or *Though he kill me, yet I will trust in him*
* **13.15** Job 27.5; Ps 23.4; Prov 14.32
* **13.16** Ps 5.5
* **13.17** Job 21.2
* **13.19** Job 40.4; Isa 50.8
* **13.21** Ps 39.10
* **13.22** Job 14.15
* **13.23** 1 Sam 26.18
* **13.24** Deut 32.20; Job 19.11; Ps 13.1
* **13.25** Isa 42.3
n **13.26** Heb *inherit*
* **13.26** Ps 25.7
* **13.28** Isa 50.9; Jas 5.2

Job 14

* **14.1** Job 5.7; Eccl 2.23
* **14.2** Ps 90.5, 6; Jas 1.10; 1 Pet 1.24
* **14.3** Ps 143.2; 144.3
* **14.4** Ps 51.2, 10; Jn 3.6; Rom 5.12; Eph 2.3
* **14.5** Job 21.21; Ps 139.16; Acts 17.26
o **14.6** Cn: Heb *that they may desist*

* **14.6** Job 7.1, 19
* **14.9** Isa 55.10
* **14.10** Job 13.19
* **14.11** Isa 19.5
* **14.12** Ps 102.26; Acts 3.21; Rev 20.11; 21.1
* **14.13** Isa 26.20
* **14.14** Job 7.1
p **14.16** Syr: Heb lacks *not*
* **14.16** Job 10.6; 31.4; 34.21; Prov 5.21; Jer 32.19
* **14.17** Deut 32.34; Hos 13.12
* **14.18** Job 18.4
* **14.20** Job 34.20; Jas 1.10
* **14.21** Eccl 9.5; Isa 55.10

Job 15

* **15.2** Job 6.26
* **15.5** Job 5.12, 13; Ps 36.3; Prov 16.23
* **15.6** Job 9.20; Lk 19.22
* **15.7** Job 38.4, 21; Ps 90.2; Prov 8.25
* **15.8** Job 12.2; Rom 11.34
* **15.9** Job 13.2
* **15.10** Job 32.6, 7
* **15.11** Job 36.15, 16; Zech 1.13; 2 Cor 1.3, 4
q **15.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **15.13** Job 33.13
* **15.14** Job 14.4; 25.4; Prov 20.9; Eccl 7.20
* **15.15** Job 4.18; 25.5
* **15.16** Job 34.7; Ps 14.1, 3
* **15.18** Job 8.8
* **15.20** Job 27.13
* **15.21** Job 18.11; 20.25; 1 Thess 5.3
* **15.22** v 30; Job 27.14
* **15.23** Job 18.12; Ps 59.15; 109.10
r **15.25** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **15.25** Job 36.9
* **15.27** Ps 17.10
s **15.29** Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **15.29** Job 27.16, 17
t **15.30** Gk: Heb *mouth*
* **15.30** Job 4.9; 5.14; 22.20
* **15.31** Isa 59.4

* **15.32** Job 18.16; 22.16; Ps 55.23
* **15.33** Hab 3.17
* **15.34** Job 8.22; 16.7
* **15.35** Ps 7.14; Isa 59.4; Hos 10.13

Job 16

* **16.3** Job 6.26
* **16.4** Ps 22.7; 109.25; Lam 2.15; Mt 27.39
u **16.7** Heb *you have*
* **16.7** Job 7.3
v **16.8** Heb *you have*
* **16.8** Job 10.17; 19.20
* **16.9** Job 13.24; Ps 35.16
* **16.10** Ps 22.13; 35.15; Lam 3.30; Mic 5.1
* **16.11** Job 1.15, 17
* **16.12** Job 9.17
* **16.13** Job 19.12; 20.25; 27.22
* **16.14** Job 9.17; Joel 2.7
* **16.15** Gen 37.34; Job 30.19
* **16.17** Job 27.4
* **16.18** Ps 66.18, 19; Isa 26.21
* **16.19** Rom 1.9
w **16.21** Syr Vg Tg: Heb *and*
* **16.21** 1 Kings 8.45; Ps 9.4
* **16.22** Eccl 12.5

Job 17

* **17.1** Ps 88.3, 4
* **17.2** v 6; 1 Sam 1.6, 7
* **17.3** Ps 119.122; Prov 6.1
* **17.4** Job 12.20
* **17.5** Lev 19.16; Job 11.20
* **17.6** Job 30.9, 10
* **17.7** Job 16.16
* **17.9** Job 22.30; Prov 4.18
* **17.11** Job 7.6
x **17.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **17.13** Job 3.13
* **17.14** Job 21.26; 24.20; Ps 16.10
* **17.15** Job 7.6

* **17.16** Job 3.17–19; Jon 2.6

Job 18

* **18.3** Job 36.14; Ps 73.22
* **18.4** Job 13.14; 14.18
* **18.5** Prov 13.9; 20.20; 24.20
* **18.7** Job 5.13; Prov 4.12
* **18.8** Job 22.10; Ps 9.15; 35.8
* **18.9** Job 5.5; Ps 140.5
* **18.10** Ps 69.22
* **18.11** Job 15.21; Jer 6.25; 20.3

y **18.12** Or *Disaster is hungry for them*

* **18.12** Isa 8.21

z **18.13** Cn: Heb *It consumes the limbs of his skin*

* **18.14** Job 8.22; 15.21
* **18.15** Ps 11.6
* **18.16** Isa 5.24; Hos 9.16
* **18.17** Ps 34.16; Prov 2.22; 10.7
* **18.19** Isa 14.22; Jer 22.30
* **18.21** Jer 9.3; 1 Thess 4.5

Job 19

* **19.4** Job 6.24
* **19.5** Ps 35.26; 38.16
* **19.6** Job 18.8–10; 27.2
* **19.7** Job 30.20
* **19.8** Job 3.23; 30.26
* **19.9** Ps 89.39, 44
* **19.10** Job 7.6; 12.14; 24.20
* **19.11** Job 13.24; 16.9

a **19.12** Cn: Heb *their way*

* **19.12** Job 30.12
* **19.15** Gen 14.14; Eccl 2.7
* **19.18** 2 Kings 2.23
* **19.19** Ps 38.11; 55.13
* **19.20** Job 33.21; Ps 102.5
* **19.21** Job 6.14; Ps 38.2
* **19.22** Job 16.11
* **19.23** Isa 30.8
* **19.24** Jer 17.1

b **19.25** Or *redeemer*
* **19.25** Job 16.19; Ps 78.35; Isa 43.14; Jer 50.34
* **19.26** Mt 5.8; 1 Cor 13.12; 1 Jn 3.2
* **19.27** Ps 73.26
* **19.28** Ps 69.26
* **19.29** Job 22.4

Job 20

* **20.3** Job 19.3
* **20.4** Deut 4.32
* **20.5** Ps 37.35; 73.19
* **20.6** Isa 14.13, 14
* **20.8** Job 18.18; 27.21–23; Ps 73.20; 90.5
* **20.9** Job 7.8, 10
* **20.10** Job 5.4; 27.16, 17
* **20.11** Job 13.26; 21.26
* **20.12** Ps 10.7; Prov 20.17
* **20.16** Deut 32.24, 33
* **20.17** Deut 32.13, 14; Job 29.6
* **20.18** vv 10, 15
* **20.19** Job 24.2–4; 35.9
* **20.20** Eccl 5.13, 14
* **20.21** Job 15.29
c **20.23** Heb *he*
* **20.23** Ps 78.30, 31
* **20.24** Isa 24.18; Jer 48.43; Am 5.19
* **20.25** Job 16.13; 18.11
* **20.26** Job 18.18; Ps 21.9
* **20.27** Deut 31.28
d **20.28** Heb *his*
* **20.28** Deut 28.31; Job 21.30
* **20.29** Job 27.13

Job 21

* **21.3** Job 16.10
* **21.4** Job 6.11
* **21.5** Judg 18.19; Job 29.9; 40.4
* **21.7** Job 12.6; Ps 73.3, 12; Jer 12.1
* **21.8** Ps 17.14
* **21.9** Ps 73.5

* **21.10** Ex 23.26
* **21.12** Job 30.31; Ps 81.2
* **21.13** Job 36.11
* **21.14** Job 22.17; Prov 1.29
e **21.15** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **21.15** Ex 5.2; Job 34.9; Mal 3.14
f **21.16** Heb *in their hand*
* **21.16** Job 22.18
g **21.17** Heb *he*
* **21.17** Job 18.5, 6, 12
* **21.18** Ps 1.4
* **21.19** Ex 20.5
h **21.20** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **21.20** Ps 75.8; Isa 51.17; Jer 25.15; Rev 14.10
* **21.22** Isa 40.13, 14
* **21.26** Job 24.20; Eccl 9.2
* **21.28** Job 8.22; 12.21
* **21.30** Job 20.28; Prov 16.4; Rom 2.5; 2 Pet 2.9
* **21.33** Job 3.19, 22; 17.16; 24.24

Job 22

* **22.2** Lk 17.10
i **22.3** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **22.4** Job 14.3; Ps 143.2
* **22.5** Job 11.6; 15.5
* **22.6** Ex 22.26; Deut 24.6, 17; Ezek 18.12, 16
* **22.7** Job 31.31; Mt 10.42
j **22.9** Gk Syr Tg Vg: Heb *were crushed*
* **22.9** Job 24.3; Isa 10.2
* **22.11** Job 5.14; Ps 69.2
* **22.13** Ps 10.11
* **22.16** Job 15.32; Mt 7.26, 27
k **22.17** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
l **22.17** Gk Syr: Heb *them*
* **22.18** Job 12.6; 21.16
* **22.19** Ps 58.10; 107.42
* **22.20** Job 15.30; Ps 18.39
m **22.21** Heb *him*
* **22.21** Jer 9.24; Gal 4.9
* **22.22** Ps 138.4
n **22.23** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*

* **22.23** Job 8.5; 11.14; Isa 19.22; Acts 20.32
* **22.24** Ps 19.10
o **22.25** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **22.25** Isa 33.6; Mt 6.20
p **22.26** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **22.26** Job 27.10; Isa 58.14
* **22.27** Job 33.26; 34.28; Ps 22.25; Isa 58.9
* **22.28** Ps 145.19
* **22.29** Prov 29.23; Mt 23.12; 1 Pet 5.5
q **22.30** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.30** 2 Sam 22.21; Job 42.7, 8

Job 23

r **23.2** Syr Vg Tg: Heb *rebellious*
s **23.2** Gk Syr: Heb *my*
* **23.2** Job 7.11
* **23.3** Deut 4.29; Ps 9.4
* **23.4** Job 13.18
* **23.7** Job 13.3, 16
* **23.8** Job 9.11
t **23.9** Syr Vg: Heb *he turns*
* **23.10** Ps 139.1–3
* **23.11** Ps 44.18
u **23.12** Gk: Heb *words more than my daily bread*
* **23.12** Jn 4.32, 34
* **23.13** Job 9.12; Ps 115.3
* **23.14** 1 Thess 3.3
v **23.16** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **23.16** Ps 22.14; Jer 51.46
w **23.17** Or *But I am not destroyed by the darkness; he has concealed the thick darkness from me*
* **23.17** Job 10.18, 19; 19.8

Job 24

x **24.1** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **24.1** Ps 31.15; Jer 46.10
y **24.2** Gk: Heb *they*
* **24.2** Deut 19.14; 27.17; 28.31
* **24.3** Ex 22.26; Deut 24.6, 10, 12, 17; Job 22.6
* **24.4** Deut 24.14; Prov 28.28
* **24.5** Job 39.5–8; Ps 104.23

* **24.7** Ex 22.26; Job 22.6
* **24.8** Lam 4.5
* **24.9** Deut 24.17
z **24.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **24.12** Job 9.23, 24; Jer 51.52; Ezek 26.15
* **24.13** Isa 5.20; Jn 3.19
* **24.14** Ps 10.8; Mic 2.1
* **24.15** Ps 10.11; Prov 7.9
* **24.16** Ex 22.2
* **24.17** Ps 91.5
* **24.18** Job 9.26; Ps 90.5
* **24.19** Job 6.16, 17; 21.13
* **24.20** Ps 31.12; Prov 10.7
a **24.21** Gk Tg: Heb *feed on* or *associate with*
* **24.21** Job 22.9
b **24.22** Heb *he*
* **24.22** Deut 28.66
* **24.23** Job 11.11; 12.6
c **24.24** Gk: Heb *like all others*
* **24.24** Job 14.21; Ps 37.10; Isa 17.5

Job 25

d **25.2** Heb *him*
* **25.2** Job 9.4; 22.12; Rev 1.6
* **25.3** Jas 1.17
* **25.4** Job 4.17; 14.4; Ps 143.2
* **25.5** Job 15.15; 31.26
* **25.6** Job 7.17; Ps 22.6

Job 26

* **26.2** Ps 71.9
* **26.6** Ps 139.8, 11; Heb 4.13
e **26.7** Or *the North*
* **26.7** Job 9.8
* **26.8** Prov 30.4
* **26.9** Ps 97.2
* **26.10** Job 20.24; 38.8–11, 19; Prov 8.29
* **26.12** Ex 14.21; Isa 51.15; Jer 31.35
* **26.13** Job 9.8; Isa 27.1
* **26.14** Job 36.29

Job 27

* **27.1** Job 13.12; 29.1
f **27.2** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **27.2** Job 9.18; 34.5
* **27.4** Job 6.28
* **27.5** Job 2.9; 13.15
* **27.6** Job 2.3; 13.18; Acts 23.1
* **27.8** Job 8.13; 11.20
* **27.9** Job 35.12; Prov 1.28; Isa 1.15; Jer 14.12; Mic 3.4
g **27.10** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **27.10** Job 22.26, 27
h **27.11** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
i **27.13** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **27.13** Job 15.20; 20.29
* **27.14** Deut 28.41; Job 20.10; Hos 9.13
* **27.15** Ps 78.64
* **27.16** Zech 9.3
* **27.17** Prov 28.8; Eccl 2.26
* **27.19** Job 7.8, 21; Ezek 29.5
* **27.20** Job 15.21; 20.8
* **27.21** Job 7.10; 21.18
j **27.22** Or *He* (that is, God)
k **27.22** Or *his*
* **27.22** Job 11.20; Jer 13.14; Ezek 5.11
l **27.23** Or *He* (that is, God)
m **27.23** Or *his*
n **27.23** Or *his*
* **27.23** Job 18.18; Lam 2.15

Job 28

* **28.2** Deut 8.9
o **28.3** Heb *He puts*
* **28.5** Ps 104.14
p **28.6** Or *lapis lazuli*
* **28.9** Deut 8.15; 32.13
q **28.11** Gk Vg: Heb *bind*
* **28.12** vv 23, 28
r **28.13** Gk: Heb *its price*
* **28.13** Prov 3.15
s **28.16** Or *lapis lazuli*

* **28.17** Prov 8.10; 16.16
* **28.18** Prov 3.15; 8.11
* **28.19** Prov 8.19
* **28.20** vv 23, 28
* **28.22** Job 26.6
* **28.23** vv 23–28
* **28.24** Ps 33.13; Prov 15.3
* **28.25** Job 12.15; Ps 135.7
* **28.26** Job 37.3, 6, 11, 12; 38.25
* **28.28** Deut 4.6; Ps 111.10; Prov 1.7; 9.10

Job 29

* **29.1** Job 13.12; 27.1
* **29.2** Jer 31.28
* **29.3** Job 11.17
* **29.4** Ps 25.14

t **29.5** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*

* **29.6** Deut 32.13, 14; Job 20.17
* **29.9** v 21; Job 21.5
* **29.10** v 22
* **29.12** Job 31.16, 17, 21
* **29.13** Job 31.19, 20
* **29.14** Ps 132.9; Isa 59.17; 61.10; Eph 6.14
* **29.16** Prov 29.7
* **29.17** Ps 3.7

u **29.18** Or *like sand*

* **29.18** Ps 30.6
* **29.19** Job 18.16; Jer 17.8
* **29.20** Gen 49.24; Ps 18.34
* **29.21** v 9

v **29.22** Heb lacks *like dew*

* **29.22** v 10; Job 32.2

w **29.24** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **29.25** Job 1.3; 4.4; 31.37

Job 30

* **30.1** Job 12.4
* **30.9** Job 12.4; 17.6
* **30.10** Num 12.14; Mt 26.67
* **30.11** Ruth 1.21; Ps 88.7

* **30.12** Job 19.12; Ps 140.4, 5
x **30.13** Cn: Heb *helps*
* **30.15** Job 3.25; Hos 13.3
* **30.16** Ps 22.14
y **30.18** Gk: Heb *my garment is disfigured*
z **30.18** Heb *like*
* **30.19** Ps 69.2, 14
* **30.20** Ps 19.7
* **30.21** Job 10.3; 16.9, 14; 19.6, 22
* **30.22** Job 9.17; 27.21
* **30.23** Job 3.19; 9.22; 10.8; 17.13
a **30.24** Heb *ruin*
b **30.24** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **30.24** Job 19.7
* **30.25** Ps 35.13, 14; Rom 12.15
* **30.26** Job 3.25, 26; 19.8; Jer 8.15
* **30.28** Job 19.7; Ps 38.6; 42.9; 43.2
* **30.29** Mic 1.8
* **30.30** Ps 102.3; 119.83; Lam 4.8
* **30.31** Ps 107.1, 2

Job 31

* **31.1** Mt 5.28
c **31.2** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **31.4** 2 Chr 16.9; Prov 5.21
* **31.5** Mic 2.11
* **31.6** Job 6.2, 3; 27.5, 6
* **31.7** Job 23.11
* **31.8** Lev 26.16
* **31.9** Job 24.15
* **31.10** Jer 8.10
* **31.11** Gen 38.24; Deut 22.22–24
* **31.12** Job 15.30; 20.28; 26.6
* **31.13** Deut 24.14, 15
* **31.15** Mal 2.10
* **31.16** Job 20.19; 22.7, 9
* **31.17** Job 22.7; 29.12
d **31.18** Heb *him*
e **31.18** Heb *her*
* **31.20** Deut 31.20
* **31.21** Job 22.9

* **31.22** Job 38.15
* **31.23** v 3; Job 13.11
* **31.24** Mk 10.24
* **31.25** Ps 62.10
f **31.26** Heb *the light*
* **31.26** Deut 4.19; Ezek 8.16
* **31.28** v 11
* **31.29** Prov 17.5
* **31.30** Mt 5.44
g **31.31** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **31.31** Job 22.7
* **31.32** Gen 19.2, 3; Rom 12.13
h **31.33** Or *as Adam did*
* **31.33** Gen 3.8; Prov 28.13
* **31.34** Ex 23.2
i **31.35** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **31.35** Job 19.7; 30.20, 24, 28; 35.14
* **31.37** v 4; Job 1.3; 29.25
* **31.38** Gen 4.10, 11
* **31.39** Lev 19.13; 1 Kings 21.19; Jas 5.4
* **31.40** Gen 3.18

Job 32

* **32.1** Job 33.9
* **32.2** Gen 22.21; Jer 25.23
j **32.3** Or *answer, and had put God in the wrong*
* **32.3** Job 11.6; 15.16; 22.5
* **32.6** Job 15.10
k **32.8** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **32.8** 1 Kings 3.12; Job 27.3; 33.4; Prov 2.6
l **32.9** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *many*
* **32.9** 1 Cor 1.26
* **32.11** Job 5.27
* **32.13** Jer 9.23
* **32.18** Acts 18.5
* **32.19** Acts 9.17
* **32.21** Lev 19.15; Mt 22.16
* **32.22** 1 Thess 2.5

Job 33

* **33.3** Job 6.28; 27.4; 36.4
m **33.4** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **33.4** Gen 2.7; Job 27.3
* **33.5** v 32; Job 13.18
* **33.7** Job 9.34; 13.21; 2 Cor 2.5
* **33.9** Job 10.7; 13.23; 16.17
* **33.10** Job 13.24
* **33.11** Job 13.27; 14.16
n **33.13** Compare Gk: Heb *his*
* **33.13** Job 15.25; Isa 45.9
* **33.14** Ps 62.11
* **33.15** Num 12.6; Job 4.13
* **33.16** Job 36.10, 15
* **33.19** Job 30.17
* **33.20** Ps 107.18
* **33.21** Job 16.8; 19.20
* **33.22** Ps 88.3
* **33.23** Mic 6.8
* **33.24** Isa 38.17
* **33.25** 2 Kings 5.14
o **33.26** Heb *he*
* **33.26** Job 22.26, 27; 34.28; Ps 51.12
* **33.27** Lk 15.21; Rom 6.21
* **33.28** Job 22.28; Ps 103.14
* **33.29** 1 Cor 12.6; Eph 1.11; Phil 2.13
p **33.30** Syr: Heb *to be lighted with the light of life*
* **33.30** Ps 56.13
* **33.33** Ps 34.11

Job 34

* **34.3** Job 12.11
* **34.4** 1 Thess 5.21
* **34.6** Jer 15.18; 30.12
* **34.7** Job 15.16
* **34.8** Ps 50.18
* **34.9** Job 21.15; 35.3
q **34.10** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **34.10** Job 8.3
* **34.11** Ps 62.12; Mt 16.27; Rom 2.6; 2 Cor 5.10; Rev 22.12
r **34.12** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **34.12** Job 8.3

s **34.13** Heb lacks *on him*
* **34.13** Job 38.5, 6
t **34.14** Heb *his heart his spirit*
* **34.14** Ps 104.29
* **34.15** Gen 3.19; Isa 40.6, 7
* **34.17** 2 Sam 23.3
* **34.18** Ex 22.28
* **34.19** Deut 10.17; Job 31.15; Gal 2.6
* **34.20** Ex 12.29; Job 12.19
* **34.21** Job 31.4
* **34.22** Ps 139.12; Am 9.2, 3
u **34.23** Cn: Heb *yet*
* **34.24** Dan 2.21
* **34.25** vv 11, 20
* **34.26** Job 26.12
* **34.27** 1 Sam 15.11; Ps 28.5; Isa 5.12
* **34.28** Ex 22.23; Job 35.9; Jas 5.4
* **34.29** 1 Chr 22.9
* **34.30** v 17
* **34.32** Job 35.11; Ps 25.4
v **34.33** Meaning of Heb of 34.29–33 uncertain
* **34.35** Job 35.16
* **34.36** Job 22.15; 23.10

Job 35

* **35.2** Job 32.2
* **35.3** Job 9.30, 31; 34.9
* **35.5** Job 22.12
* **35.6** Prov 8.36; Jer 7.19
* **35.7** Job 22.2, 3; Prov 9.12; Lk 17.10
* **35.9** Ex 2.23; Job 12.19
* **35.10** Job 27.10; Ps 42.8; 149.5; Acts 16.25
* **35.11** Ps 94.12; Lk 12.24
* **35.12** Prov 1.28
w **35.13** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **35.13** Job 27.9; Prov 15.29; Isa 1.15; Jer 11.11
* **35.14** Ps 37.5, 6
x **35.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **35.15** Eccl 8.11
* **35.16** Job 34.35, 37

Job 36

* **36.3** Job 8.3; 37.23
* **36.4** Job 33.3; 37.16
* **36.5** Job 12.13; Ps 22.24
* **36.6** Job 5.15; 8.22
* **36.7** Ps 33.18; 113.8
* **36.9** Job 15.25
* **36.10** 2 Kings 17.13; Job 33.16
* **36.11** Isa 1.19, 20
* **36.12** Job 4.21; 15.22
* **36.13** Rom 2.5

y **36.14** Heb *ends among the prostitutes*

* **36.14** Job 15.32; 22.16
* **36.15** v 10; Ps 119.67
* **36.16** Ps 23.5; 118.5; Hos 2.14
* **36.18** Job 33.24; 34.33; Jon 4.4, 9
* **36.20** Job 34.20, 25
* **36.21** Ps 66.18; Heb 11.25
* **36.23** Job 8.3; 34.13; Isa 40.13; 1 Cor 2.16
* **36.24** 2 Sam 7.26; Ps 35.27; 59.16
* **36.26** Ps 102.24

z **36.27** Cn: Heb *they distill*

* **36.27** Ps 147.8
* **36.29** Job 26.14; 37.11, 16
* **36.31** Job 37.13; Ps 136.25
* **36.32** Job 37.15

a **36.33** Meaning of Heb uncertain

b **36.33** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **36.33** Job 37.2

Job 37

* **37.2** Job 36.33

c **37.4** Heb *them*

* **37.4** Ps 29.3
* **37.5** Job 5.9; 36.26
* **37.6** Job 36.27; 38.22

d **37.7** Meaning of Heb of 37.7 uncertain

* **37.7** Job 12.14
* **37.8** Ps 104.22
* **37.9** Job 9.9; Ps 147.17

* **37.10** Job 38.29; Ps 147.17
* **37.11** v 15; Job 36.27, 29
* **37.12** Ps 148.8; Prov 8.31; Isa 14.21; 27.6
* **37.13** Ex 9.18; 1 Sam 12.18; 1 Kings 18.45; Job 38.26
* **37.14** Ps 111.2
* **37.16** vv 5, 14, 23; Job 36.4
* **37.18** Job 9.8; Ps 104.2; Isa 44.24
e **37.23** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **37.23** Job 8.3; 9.4; Isa 63.9; 1 Tim 6.16
* **37.24** Mt 10.28; 11.25; 1 Cor 1.26

Job 38

* **38.1** Job 40.6
* **38.2** Job 35.16; 42.3; 1 Tim 1.7
* **38.3** Job 40.7
* **38.4** Ps 104.5; Prov 8.29
* **38.6** Job 26.7
f **38.7** Heb *sons of God*
* **38.7** Job 1.6
* **38.8** Gen 1.9
* **38.9** Prov 30.4
* **38.10** Job 26.10
* **38.11** Ps 89.9
* **38.12** Ps 74.16
* **38.13** Ps 104.35
g **38.14** Cn: Heb *and they stand forth*
* **38.15** Job 18.5; Ps 10.15
* **38.16** Ps 77.19
* **38.17** Ps 9.13
* **38.18** Job 28.24
* **38.20** Job 24.13; 26.10
* **38.21** Job 15.7
* **38.22** Job 37.6
* **38.23** Ex 9.18; Josh 10.11; Isa 30.30; Ezek 13.11, 13; Rev 16.21
* **38.24** Job 26.10; 27.21
* **38.25** Job 28.26
* **38.26** Job 36.27; Ps 107.35
* **38.27** Ps 104.13, 14
* **38.28** Ps 147.8; Jer 14.22
* **38.29** Ps 147.16, 17
* **38.31** Job 9.9; Am 5.8

* **38.33** Jer 31.35
* **38.34** v 37; Job 22.11; 36.27, 28
* **38.35** Job 36.32; 37.3
h **38.36** Meaning of Heb uncertain
i **38.36** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **38.36** Job 32.8; Ps 51.6; Eccl 2.26
* **38.39** Ps 104.21
* **38.40** Job 37.8; Ps 17.12
* **38.41** Ps 147.9; Mt 6.26

Job 39

* **39.1** Ps 29.9
* **39.3** 1 Sam 4.19
* **39.5** Job 6.5; 11.12; 24.5
* **39.6** Job 24.5; Ps 107.34; Jer 2.24; Hos 8.9
* **39.9** Num 23.22; Deut 33.17
j **39.12** Heb *your grain and your threshing floor*
k **39.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **39.16** v 22; Lam 4.3
* **39.17** Job 35.11
l **39.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **39.19** Ps 147.10
* **39.20** Jer 8.16; Joel 2.5
m **39.21** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *they dig*
* **39.21** Jer 8.6
* **39.24** Jer 4.19; Ezek 7.14; Am 3.6
* **39.25** Josh 6.5; Am 1.14; 2.2
* **39.27** Jer 49.16; Ob 4
* **39.29** Job 9.26
* **39.30** Mt 24.28; Lk 17.37

Job 40

n **40.2** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **40.2** Job 13.3; 23.4; 31.35; 33.13
* **40.4** Job 29.9; 42.6
* **40.5** Job 9.3, 15
* **40.6** Job 38.1
* **40.7** Job 38.3; 42.4
* **40.8** Isa 14.27; Rom 3.4
* **40.9** 2 Chr 32.8; Job 37.5

* **40.10** Ps 93.1; 104.1
* **40.11** Isa 2.12; 42.25; Dan 4.37
* **40.12** 1 Sam 2.7; Job 36.20; Isa 13.11; 63.3
o **40.13** Heb *the hidden place*
* **40.14** Ps 20.6; 60.5; 108.6
* **40.15** v 19
* **40.19** v 15; Job 41.33
* **40.20** Ps 104.26
* **40.22** Isa 44.1
p **40.24** Cn: Heb *in his eyes*
* **40.24** Prov 1.17

Job 41

q **41.1** 40.25 in Heb
* **41.1** Ps 104.26; Isa 27.1
* **41.2** Isa 37.29
r **41.9** 41.1 in Heb
s **41.9** Heb *of it*
t **41.10** Heb *me*
* **41.10** Job 3.8
u **41.11** Heb *me*
v **41.11** Gk: Heb *that I shall repay*
w **41.11** Heb *to me*
* **41.11** Ex 19.5; Deut 10.14; Ps 24.1; 50.12; Rom 11.35; 1 Cor 10.26
x **41.13** Gk: Heb *bridle*
y **41.15** Cn Compare Gk Vg: Heb *pride*
* **41.18** Job 3.9
* **41.33** Job 40.19

Job 42

* **42.2** Gen 18.14; Mt 19.26; Mk 10.27; Lk 18.27
* **42.3** Job 38.2; Ps 40.5; 131.1; 139.6
* **42.4** Job 38.3; 40.7
* **42.5** Judg 13.22; Job 26.14; Isa 6.5
* **42.6** Ezra 9.6; Job 40.4
* **42.7** vv 1–6; Job 32.3; 40.3–5
* **42.8** Num 23.1; Job 1.5; Jas 5.15, 16
* **42.10** Ps 14.7; 126.1
z **42.11** Heb *a qesitah*
* **42.11** Job 19.13

* **42.12** Job 1.3, 10; 8.7
* **42.13** Job 1.2
* **42.16** Job 5.26; Prov 3.16
* **42.17** Gen 25.8

The Psalms

Book I

(Psalms 1–41)

Psalm 1

THE TWO WAYS

[1]Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread
or sit in the seat of scoffers,*
[2]but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.*
[3]They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.*

[4]The wicked are not so
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.*
[5]Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,*
[6]for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.*

Psalm 2

GOD'S PROMISE TO HIS ANOINTED

[1]Why do the nations conspire
and the peoples plot in vain?*
[2]The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and his anointed, saying,*
[3]"Let us burst their bonds apart
and cast their cords from us."

[4]He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the LORD has them in derision.*
[5]Then he will speak to them in his wrath
and terrify them in his fury, saying,*
[6]"I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."*

[7]I will tell of the decree of the LORD:
He said to me, "You are my son;
today I have begotten you.*
[8]Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage
and the ends of the earth your possession.*
[9]You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."*

[10]Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.
[11]Serve the LORD with fear;
with trembling* [12]kiss his feet,[a]

or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Happy are all who take refuge in him.*

Psalm 3

TRUST IN GOD UNDER ADVERSITY

A Psalm of David, when he fled from his son Absalom.

[1]O LORD, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;
[2]many are saying to me,
"There is no help for you[b] in God." *Selah*

[3]But you, O LORD, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.*
[4]I cry aloud to the LORD,
and he answers me from his holy hill. *Selah**

[5]I lie down and sleep;
I wake again, for the LORD sustains me.*
[6]I am not afraid of ten thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.

[7]Rise up, O LORD!
Deliver me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

[8]Deliverance belongs to the LORD;
may your blessing be on your people! *Selah**

Psalm 4

CONFIDENT PLEA FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David.

[1]Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.*

[2]How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?
How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah**
[3]But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.*

[4]When you are disturbed,[c] do not sin;
ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *Selah**
[5]Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.*

[6]There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"*
[7]You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine abound.*

[8]I will both lie down and sleep in peace,
for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.*

Psalm 5

TRUST IN GOD FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

To the leader: for the flutes. A Psalm of David.

[1]Listen to my words, O LORD;
attend to my sighing.*
[2]Listen to the sound of my cry,
my King and my God,
for to you I pray.*
[3]O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice;
in the morning I plead my case to you and watch.*

[4]For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;
evil will not sojourn with you.*
[5]The boastful will not stand before your eyes;
you hate all evildoers.*
[6]You destroy those who speak lies;
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful.*

[7]But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love,
will enter your house;
I will bow down toward your holy temple
in awe of you.*
[8]Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness
because of my enemies;
make your way straight before me.*

[9]For there is no truth in their mouths;
their hearts are destruction;

their throats are open graves;
they flatter with their tongues.*
10 Make them bear their guilt, O God;
let them fall by their own counsels;
because of their many transgressions, cast them out,
for they have rebelled against you.*

11 But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them ever sing for joy.
Spread your protection over them,
so that those who love your name may exult in you.*
12 For you bless the righteous, O LORD;
you cover them with favor as with a shield.*

Psalm 6

PRAYER FOR RECOVERY FROM GRAVE ILLNESS

To the leader: with stringed instruments; according to The Sheminith. A Psalm of David.

[1]O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.*
[2]Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing;
O LORD, heal me, for my bones are shaking with terror.*
[3]My soul also is struck with terror,
while you, O LORD—how long?*

[4]Turn, O LORD, save my life;
deliver me for the sake of your steadfast love.
[5]For in death there is no remembrance of you;
in Sheol who can give you praise?*

[6]I am weary with my moaning;
every night I flood my bed with tears;
I drench my couch with my weeping.
[7]My eyes waste away because of grief;
they grow weak because of all my foes.*

[8]Depart from me, all you workers of evil,
for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.*
[9]The LORD has heard my supplication;
the LORD accepts my prayer.*
[10]All my enemies shall be ashamed and struck with terror;
they shall turn back and in a moment be put to shame.

Psalm 7

PLEA FOR HELP AGAINST PERSECUTORS

A Shiggaion of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning Cush, a Benjaminite.

[1]O LORD my God, in you I take refuge;
save me from all my pursuers, and deliver me,*
[2]or like a lion they will tear me apart;
they will drag me away, with no one to rescue.*

[3]O LORD my God, if I have done this,
if there is wrong in my hands,*
[4]if I have repaid my ally with harm
or plundered my foe without cause,*
[5]then let the enemy pursue and overtake me,
trample my life to the ground,
and lay my soul in the dust. *Selah*

[6]Rise up, O LORD, in your anger;
lift yourself up against the fury of my enemies;
awake, O my God;[d] you have appointed a judgment.*
[7]Let the assembly of the peoples be gathered around you,
and over it take your seat[e] on high.*
[8]The LORD judges the peoples;
judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness
and according to the integrity that is in me.*

[9]O let the evil of the wicked come to an end,
but establish the righteous,
you who test the minds and hearts,

O righteous God.*
10 God is my shield,
who saves the upright in heart.*
11 God is a righteous judge
and a God who has indignation every day.*

12 If one does not repent, God[f] will whet his sword;
he has bent and strung his bow;*
13 he has prepared his deadly weapons,
making his arrows fiery shafts.*
14 See how they conceive evil
and are pregnant with mischief
and bring forth lies.*
15 They make a pit, digging it out,
and fall into the hole that they have made.*
16 Their mischief returns upon their own heads,
and on their own heads their violence descends.*

17 I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness
and sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.*

Psalm 8

DIVINE MAJESTY AND HUMAN DIGNITY

To the leader: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of David.

[1]O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.*
[2]Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.*

[3]When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;*
[4]what are humans that you are mindful of them,
mortals[g] that you care for them?*

[5]Yet you have made them a little lower than God[h]
and crowned them with glory and honor.*
[6]You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,*
[7]all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
[8]the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

[9]O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

Psalm 9

GOD'S POWER AND JUSTICE

To the leader: according to Muth-labben. A Psalm of David.

[1][i]I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.*
[2]I will be glad and exult in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.*

[3]When my enemies turned back,
they stumbled and perished before you.*
[4]For you have maintained my just cause;
you have sat on the throne giving righteous judgment.*

[5]You have rebuked the nations; you have destroyed the wicked;
you have blotted out their name forever and ever.*
[6]The enemies have vanished in everlasting ruins;
their cities you have rooted out;
the very memory of them has perished.*

[7]But the LORD sits enthroned forever;
he has established his throne for judgment.*
[8]He judges the world with righteousness;
he judges the peoples with equity.*

[9]The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.*
[10]And those who know your name put their trust in you,
for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.*

[11]Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion.
Declare his deeds among the peoples.*
[12]For he who avenges blood is mindful of them;
he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.*

[13]Be gracious to me, O LORD.
See what I suffer from those who hate me;
you are the one who lifts me up from the gates of death,*
[14]so that I may recount all your praises
and, in the gates of daughter Zion,
rejoice in your deliverance.*

[15]The nations have sunk in the pit that they made;
in the net that they hid has their own foot been caught.*
[16]The LORD has made himself known; he has executed judgment;
the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands. *Higgaion. Selah**

[17]The wicked shall depart to Sheol,
all the nations that forget God.*

[18]For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor perish forever.*

[19]Rise up, O LORD! Do not let mortals prevail;
let the nations be judged before you.*
[20]Put them in fear, O LORD;
let the nations know that they are only human. *Selah**

Psalm 10

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

[1][j]Why, O LORD, do you stand far off?
Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?
[2]In arrogance the wicked persecute the poor—
let them be caught in the schemes they have devised.*

[3]For the wicked boast of the desires of their heart;
those greedy for gain curse and renounce the LORD.*
[4]In the pride of their countenance the wicked say, "God will not seek it out";
all their thoughts are, "There is no God."*

[5]Their ways prosper at all times;
your judgments are on high, out of their sight;
as for their foes, they scoff at them.
[6]They think in their heart, "We shall not be moved;
throughout all generations we shall not meet adversity."*

[7]Their mouths are filled with cursing and deceit and oppression;
under their tongues are mischief and iniquity.*
[8]They sit in ambush in the villages;
in hiding places they murder the innocent.

Their eyes stealthily watch for the helpless;*
[9]they lurk in secret like a lion in its den;
they lurk that they may seize the poor;
they seize the poor and drag them off in their net.*

[10]They stoop, they crouch,
and the helpless fall by their might.
[11]They think in their heart, "God has forgotten;
he has hidden his face; he will never see it."*

[12]Rise up, O LORD; O God, lift up your hand;
do not forget the oppressed.*
[13]Why do the wicked renounce God
and say in their hearts, "You will not call us to account"?

[14]But you do see! Indeed, you note trouble and grief,
that you may take it into your hands;
the helpless commit themselves to you;
you have been the helper of the orphan.*

[15]Break the arm of the wicked and evildoers;
seek out their wickedness until you find none.*
[16]The LORD is king forever and ever;
the nations shall perish from his land.*

[17]O LORD, you will hear the desire of the meek;
you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear*
[18]to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed,
so that those from earth may strike terror no more.k,*

Psalm 11

SONG OF TRUST IN GOD

To the leader. Of David.

[1]In the LORD I take refuge; how can you say to me,
"Flee like a bird to the mountains,[1,*]
[2]for look, the wicked bend the bow,
they have fitted their arrow to the string,
to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart.[*]
[3]If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?"[*]

[4]The LORD is in his holy temple;
the LORD's throne is in heaven.
His eyes behold; his gaze examines humankind.[*]
[5]The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked,
and his soul hates the lover of violence.[*]
[6]On the wicked he will rain coals of fire and sulfur;
a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.[*]
[7]For the LORD is righteous;
he loves righteous deeds;
the upright shall behold his face.[*]

Psalm 12

PLEA FOR HELP IN EVIL TIMES

To the leader: according to The Sheminith. A Psalm of David.

[1]Help, O LORD, for there is no longer anyone who is godly;
the faithful have disappeared from humankind.*
[2]They utter lies to each other;
with flattering lips and a deceitful heart they speak.*

[3]May the LORD cut off all flattering lips,
the tongue that makes great boasts,*
[4]those who say, "With our tongues we will prevail;
our lips are our own—who is our master?"

[5]"Because the poor are despoiled, because the needy groan,
I will now rise up," says the LORD;
"I will place them in the safety for which they long."*
[6]The promises of the LORD are promises that are pure,
silver refined in a furnace on the ground,
purified seven times.*

[7]You, O LORD, will protect us;
you will guard us from this generation forever.*
[8]On every side the wicked prowl,
as vileness is exalted among humankind.*

Psalm 13

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?*
[2]How long must I bear pain[m] in my soul
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?*

[3]Consider and answer me, O LORD my God!
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,*
[4]and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed";
my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.*

[5]But I trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.*
[6]I will sing to the LORD
because he has dealt bountifully with me.*

Psalm 14

DENUNCIATION OF GODLESSNESS

To the leader. Of David.

[1]Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."
They are corrupt; they do abominable deeds;
there is no one who does good.*

[2]The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind
to see if there are any who are wise,
who seek after God.*

[3]They have all gone astray; they are all alike perverse;
there is no one who does good,
no, not one.*

[4]Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers
who eat up my people as they eat bread
and do not call upon the LORD?*

[5]There they shall be in great terror,
for God is with the company of the righteous.*
[6]You would confound the plans of the poor,
but the LORD is their refuge.*

[7]O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!
When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.*

Psalm 15

WHO SHALL ABIDE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY?

A Psalm of David.

[1]O LORD, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?*

[2]Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right
and speak the truth from their heart;*
[3]who do not slander with their tongue
and do no evil to their friends
nor heap shame upon their neighbors;*
[4]in whose eyes the wicked are despised
but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;*
[5]who do not lend money at interest
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.*

Psalm 16

SONG OF TRUST AND SECURITY IN GOD

A Miktam of David.

[1]Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.*
[2]I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you."[n]

[3]As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones
in whom is all my delight.*

[4]Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;[o]
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.*

[5]The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.*
[6]The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.*

[7]I bless the LORD, who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.*
[8]I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.*

[9]Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.*
[10]For you do not give me up to Sheol
or let your faithful one see the Pit.*

[11]You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

Psalm 17

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM PERSECUTORS

A Prayer of David.

[1]Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.
[2]From you let my vindication come;
let your eyes see the right.

[3]If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;
my mouth does not transgress.*
[4]As for what others do, by the word of your lips
I have avoided the ways of the violent.*
[5]My steps have held fast to your paths;
my feet have not slipped.*

[6]I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me; hear my words.*
[7]Wondrously show your steadfast love,
O savior of those who seek refuge
from their adversaries at your right hand.*

[8]Guard me as the apple of the eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings,*
[9]from the wicked who despoil me,
my deadly enemies who surround me.
[10]They close their hearts to pity;
with their mouths they speak arrogantly.*

[11]They flush me out;[p] now they surround me;
they set their eyes to cast me to the ground.
[12]They are like a lion eager to tear,
like a young lion lurking in ambush.*

[13]Rise up, O LORD, confront them, overthrow them!
By your sword deliver my life from the wicked,*
[14]from mortals—by your hand, O LORD—
from mortals whose portion in life is in this world.
May their bellies be filled with what you have stored up for them;
may their children have more than enough;
may they leave something over to their little ones.*

[15]As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;
when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.*

Psalm 18

ROYAL THANKSGIVING FOR VICTORY

To the leader. A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD, who addressed the words of this song to the LORD on the day when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He said:

[1]I love you, O LORD, my strength.
[2]The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,
my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*
[3]I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
so I shall be saved from my enemies.*

[4]The cords of death encompassed me;
the torrents of perdition assailed me;*
[5]the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.*

[6]In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I cried for help.
From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him reached his ears.*

[7]Then the earth reeled and rocked;
the foundations also of the mountains trembled
and reeled because he was angry.*
[8]Smoke went up from his nostrils
and devouring fire from his mouth;
glowing coals flamed forth from him.
[9]He bowed the heavens and came down;

thick darkness was under his feet.*
10He rode on a cherub and flew;
he came swiftly upon the wings of the wind.*
11He made darkness his covering around him,
his canopy thick clouds dark with water.*
12Out of the brightness before him
there broke through his clouds
hailstones and coals of fire.*
13The LORD also thundered in the heavens,
and the Most High uttered his voice.q,*
14And he sent out his arrows and scattered them;
he flashed forth lightnings and routed them.*
15Then the channels of the sea were seen,
and the foundations of the world were laid bare
at your rebuke, O LORD,
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.*

16He reached down from on high; he took me;
he drew me out of mighty waters.*
17He delivered me from my strong enemy
and from those who hated me,
for they were too mighty for me.*
18They confronted me in the day of my calamity,
but the LORD was my support.
19He brought me out into a broad place;
he delivered me because he delighted in me.*

20The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness;
according to the cleanness of my hands he recompensed me.*
21For I have kept the ways of the LORD

and have not wickedly departed from my God.*
22For all his ordinances were before me,
and his statutes I did not put away from me.*
23I was blameless before him,
and I kept myself from guilt.
24Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my
righteousness,
according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.*

25With the loyal you show yourself loyal;
with the blameless you show yourself blameless;*
26with the pure you show yourself pure;
and with the crooked you show yourself shrewd.*
27For you deliver a humble people,
but the haughty eyes you bring down.*
28It is you who light my lamp;
the LORD, my God, lights up my darkness.*
29By you I can outrun a troop,
and by my God I can leap over a wall.*
30This God—his way is perfect;
the promise of the LORD proves true;
he is a shield for all who take refuge in him.*

31For who is God except the LORD?
And who is a rock besides our God?*
32The God who has girded me with strength
and made my way safe.r
33He made my feet like the feet of a deer
and set me secure on the heights.*
34He trains my hands for war,

so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.*
35 You have given me the shield of your salvation,
and your right hand has supported me;
your help[s] has made me great.
36 You gave me a wide place for my steps under me,
and my feet did not slip.
37 I pursued my enemies and overtook them
and did not turn back until they were consumed.*
38 I struck them down so that they were unable to rise;
they fell under my feet.*
39 For you girded me with strength for the battle;
you made my assailants sink under me.*
40 You made my enemies turn their backs to me,
and those who hated me I destroyed.*
41 They cried for help, but there was no one to save them;
they cried to the LORD, but he did not answer them.*
42 I beat them fine, like dust before the wind;
I cast them out like the mire of the streets.*

43 You delivered me from strife with the peoples;[t]
you made me head of the nations;
people whom I had not known served me.*
44 As soon as they heard of me, they obeyed me;
foreigners came cringing to me.
45 Foreigners lost heart
and came trembling out of their strongholds.*

46 The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock,
and exalted be the God of my salvation,*
47 the God who gave me vengeance

and subdued peoples under me,*
48who delivered me from my enemies;
indeed, you exalted me above my adversaries;
you delivered me from the violent.*

49For this I will extol you, O LORD, among the nations
and sing praises to your name.*
50Great triumphs he gives to his king
and shows steadfast love to his anointed,
to David and his descendants forever.*

Psalm 19

GOD'S GLORY IN CREATION AND THE LAW

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament[u] proclaims his handiwork.*
[2]Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.*
[3]There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
[4]yet their voice[v] goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens[w] he has set a tent for the sun,*
[5]which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.*
[6]Its rising is from the end of the heavens
and its circuit to the end of them,
and nothing is hid from its heat.*

[7]The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;*
[8]the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;*

[9]the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.*
[10]More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.*

[11]Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.*
[12]But who can detect one's own errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.*
[13]Keep back your servant also from the insolent;x
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless
and innocent of great transgression.*

[14]Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.*

Psalm 20

PRAYER FOR VICTORY

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]The LORD answer you in the day of trouble!
The name of the God of Jacob protect you![*]
[2]May he send you help from the sanctuary
and give you support from Zion.[*]
[3]May he remember all your offerings
and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices. *Selah*[*]

[4]May he grant you your heart's desire
and fulfill all your plans.[*]
[5]May we shout for joy over your victory
and in the name of our God set up our banners.
May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.[*]

[6]Now I know that the LORD will help his anointed;
he will answer him from his holy heaven
with mighty victories by his right hand.[*]
[7]Some take pride in chariots and some in horses,
but our pride is in the name of the LORD our God.[*]
[8]They will collapse and fall,
but we shall rise and stand upright.[*]

[9]Give victory to the king, O LORD;
answer us when we call.[y]

Psalm 21

THANKSGIVING FOR VICTORY

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]In your strength the king rejoices, O LORD,
and in your help how greatly he exults![*]
[2]You have given him his heart's desire
and have not withheld the request of his lips. *Selah*[*]
[3]For you meet him with rich blessings;
you set a crown of fine gold on his head.[*]
[4]He asked you for life; you gave it to him—
length of days forever and ever.[*]
[5]His glory is great through your help;
splendor and majesty you bestow on him.[*]
[6]You bestow on him blessings forever;
you make him glad with the joy of your presence.
[7]For the king trusts in the LORD,
and through the steadfast love of the Most High he shall not be moved.[*]

[8]Your hand will find out all your enemies;
your right hand will find out those who hate you.[*]
[9]You will make them like a fiery furnace
when you appear.
The LORD will swallow them up in his wrath,
and fire will consume them.[*]
[10]You will destroy their offspring from the earth
and their children from among humankind.[*]

[11]If they plan evil against you,
if they devise mischief, they will not succeed.*
[12]For you will put them to flight;
you will aim at their faces with your bows.*

[13]Be exalted, O LORD, in your strength!
We will sing and praise your power.*

Psalm 22

PLEA FOR DELIVERANCE FROM SUFFERING AND HOSTILITY

To the leader: according to The Deer of the Dawn. A Psalm of David.

[1]My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?*
[2]O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night but find no rest.*

[3]Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.*
[4]In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
[5]To you they cried and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.*

[6]But I am a worm and not human,
scorned by others and despised by the people.*
[7]All who see me mock me;
they sneer at me; they shake their heads;*
[8]"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"*

[9]Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.*
[10]On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.*
[11]Do not be far from me,

for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.

12 Many bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;*
13 they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.*

14 I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;*
15 my mouth[z] is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.*

16 For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they bound my hands and feet.[a,*]
17 I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
18 they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.*

19 But you, O LORD, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life[b] from the power of the dog!*
21 Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued[c] me.*
22 I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;[d]

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:*
23 You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!*
24 For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me[e]
but heard when I[f] cried to him.*

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.*
26 The poor[g] shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!*

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.[h,*]
28 For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.*

29 To him,[i] indeed, shall all who sleep in[j] the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.[k,*]
30 Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord*
31 and[l] proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.*

Psalm 23

THE DIVINE SHEPHERD

A Psalm of David.

[1]The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.[*]
[2]He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;[m,*]
[3]he restores my soul.[n]
He leads me in right paths[o]
for his name's sake.[*]

[4]Even though I walk through the darkest valley,[p]
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.[*]

[5]You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.[*]
[6]Surely[q] goodness and mercy[r] shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.[s,*]

Psalm 24

ENTRANCE INTO THE TEMPLE

Of David. A Psalm.

[1]The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it,*
[2]for he has founded it on the seas
and established it on the rivers.

[3]Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?*
[4]Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false
and do not swear deceitfully.*
[5]They will receive blessing from the LORD
and vindication from the God of their salvation.*
[6]Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.[t] *Selah*

[7]Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!*
[8]Who is the King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.*
[9]Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in!*

[10]Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory. *Selah*

Psalm 25

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE AND FOR DELIVERANCE

Of David.

[1]To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.*
[2]O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.*
[3]Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*

[4]Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.*
[5]Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.*

[6]Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.*
[7]Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!*

[8]Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.*
[9]He leads the humble in what is right
and teaches the humble his way.*
[10]All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.*

[11]For your name's sake, O LORD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.*
[12]Who are they who fear the LORD?
He will teach them the way that they should choose.

[13]They will abide in prosperity,
and their children shall possess the land.*
[14]The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him,
and he makes his covenant known to them.*
[15]My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.*

[16]Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.*
[17]Relieve the troubles of my heart,
and bring me[u] out of my distress.*
[18]Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.*

[19]Consider how many are my foes
and with what violent hatred they hate me.*
[20]O guard my life and deliver me;
do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.
[21]May integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for you.*

[22]Redeem Israel, O God,
out of all its troubles.*

Psalm 26

PLEA FOR JUSTICE AND DECLARATION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Of David.

[1]Vindicate me, O LORD,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.*
[2]Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
test my heart and mind.*
[3]For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.v,*

[4]I do not sit with the worthless,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;*
[5]I hate the company of evildoers
and will not sit with the wicked.*

[6]I wash my hands in innocence
and go around your altar, O LORD,*
[7]singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and telling all your wondrous deeds.*

[8]O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.*
[9]Do not sweep me away with sinners
nor my life with the bloodthirsty,*
[10]those in whose hands are evil devices
and whose right hands are full of bribes.*

[11]But as for me, I walk in my integrity;
redeem me and be gracious to me.*
[12]My foot stands on level ground;
in the great congregation I will bless the LORD.*

Psalm 27

TRIUMPHANT SONG OF CONFIDENCE

Of David.

[1]The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold[w] of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?*

[2]When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.*

[3]Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.*

[4]One thing I asked of the LORD;
this I seek:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.*

[5]For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.*

[6]Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.*

[7]Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!*
[8]"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"
Your face, LORD, do I seek.*
[9]Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off; do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!*
[10]If my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me up.*

[11]Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.*
[12]Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.*

[13]I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.*
[14]Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!*

Psalm 28

PRAYER FOR HELP AND THANKSGIVING FOR IT

Of David.

[1]To you, O LORD, I call;
  my rock, do not refuse to hear me,
for if you are silent to me,
  I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.*
[2]Hear the voice of my supplication,
  as I cry to you for help,
as I lift up my hands
  toward your most holy sanctuary.x,*

[3]Do not drag me away with the wicked,
  with those who are workers of evil,
who speak peace with their neighbors
  while mischief is in their hearts.*
[4]Repay them according to their work
  and according to the evil of their deeds;
repay them according to the work of their hands;
  render them their due reward.*
[5]Because they do not regard the works of the LORD
  or the work of his hands,
he will break them down and build them up no more.*

[6]Blessed be the LORD,
  for he has heard the sound of my pleadings.*
[7]The LORD is my strength and my shield;

in him my heart trusts;
so I am helped, and my heart exults,
and with my song I give thanks to him.*

8The LORD is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.*
9O save your people and bless your heritage;
be their shepherd and carry them forever.*

Psalm 29

THE VOICE OF GOD IN A GREAT STORM

A Psalm of David.

[1]Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,[y]
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.*
[2]Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.*

[3]The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.*
[4]The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.*

[5]The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.*
[6]He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
and Sirion like a young wild ox.*

[7]The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
[8]The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.*

[9]The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl[z]
and strips the forest bare,
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"*

[10]The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;

the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.*
11 May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!*

Psalm 30

THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY FROM GRAVE ILLNESS

A Psalm. A Song at the dedication of the temple. Of David.

[1]I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.*
[2]O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.*
[3]O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.[a,*]

[4]Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.*
[5]For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.*

[6]As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."
[7]By your favor, O LORD,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.*

[8]To you, O LORD, I cried,
and to the LORD I made supplication:
[9]"What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?

Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?*
10 Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!
O LORD, be my helper!"[b]

11 You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,*
12 so that my soul[c] may praise you and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.*

Psalm 31

PRAYER AND PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]In you, O LORD, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.*
[2]Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.*

[3]You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me;*
[4]take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.*
[5]Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.*

[6]You hate[d] those who pay regard to worthless idols,
but I trust in the LORD.*
[7]I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love,
because you have seen my affliction;
you have taken notice of my adversities*
[8]and have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;
you have set my feet in a broad place.*

[9]Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
my eye wastes away from grief,

my soul and body also.
10For my life is spent with sorrow
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,[e]
and my bones waste away.*

11I am the scorn of all my adversaries,
a horror[f] to my neighbors,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.*
12I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.*
13For I hear the whispering of many—
terror all around!—
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.*

14But I trust in you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my God."*
15My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.*
16Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.*
17Do not let me be put to shame, O LORD,
for I call on you;
let the wicked be put to shame;
let them go dumbfounded to Sheol.*
18Let the lying lips be stilled
that speak insolently against the righteous
with pride and contempt.*

[19]O how abundant is your goodness
that you have laid up for those who fear you
and accomplished for those who take refuge in you,
in the sight of everyone![*]
[20]In the shelter of your presence you hide them
from human plots;
you hold them safe under your shelter
from contentious tongues.[*]

[21]Blessed be the LORD,
for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me
when I was beset as a city under siege.[*]
[22]I had said in my alarm,
"I am driven far[g] from your sight."
But you heard my supplications
when I cried out to you for help.[*]

[23]Love the LORD, all you his saints.
The LORD preserves the faithful
but abundantly repays the one who acts haughtily.[*]
[24]Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD.[*]

Psalm 32

THE JOY OF FORGIVENESS

Of David. A Maskil.

[1]Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.*
[2]Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

[3]While I kept silent, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.*
[4]For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up[h] as by the heat of summer. *Selah**

[5]Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah**

[6]Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress,[i] the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them.*
[7]You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah**

[8]I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.*

[9]Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.*

[10]Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.*
[11]Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.*

Psalm 33

THE GREATNESS AND GOODNESS OF GOD

[1]Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous.
Praise befits the upright.*
[2]Praise the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.*
[3]Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.*

[4]For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.*
[5]He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.*

[6]By the word of the LORD the heavens were made
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.*
[7]He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;
he put the deeps in storehouses.

[8]Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him,*
[9]for he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.*

[10]The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.*
[11]The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.*

12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.*

13 The LORD looks down from heaven;
he sees all humankind.*
14 From where he sits enthroned he watches
all the inhabitants of the earth—
15 he who fashions the hearts of them all
and observes all their deeds.*
16 A king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.*
17 The war horse is a vain hope for victory,
and by its great might it cannot save.*

18 Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,*
19 to deliver their soul from death
and to keep them alive in famine.*

20 Our soul waits for the LORD;
he is our help and shield.
21 Our heart is glad in him
because we trust in his holy name.*
22 Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

Psalm 34

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE FROM TROUBLE

Of David, when he feigned madness before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.

[1]I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
[2]My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.*
[3]O magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together.*

[4]I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.*
[5]Look to him, and be radiant,
so your[j] faces shall never be ashamed.*
[6]This poor soul cried and was heard by the LORD
and was saved from every trouble.
[7]The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him and delivers them.*
[8]O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.*
[9]O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.*
[10]The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.*

[11]Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.*

12 Which of you desires life
and covets many days to enjoy good?*
13 Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.*
14 Depart from evil, and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.*

15 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous,
and his ears are open to their cry.*
16 The face of the LORD is against evildoers,
to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.*
17 When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears
and rescues them from all their troubles.*
18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves the crushed in spirit.*

19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD rescues them from them all.*
20 He keeps all their bones;
not one of them will be broken.*
21 Evil brings death to the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.*
22 The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.*

Psalm 35

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

Of David.

[1]Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me;
fight against those who fight against me!*
[2]Take hold of shield and buckler,
and rise up to help me!
[3]Draw the spear and javelin
against my pursuers;
say to my soul,
"I am your salvation."

[4]Let them be put to shame and dishonor
who seek after my life.
Let them be turned back and confounded
who devise evil against me.*
[5]Let them be like chaff before the wind,
with the angel of the LORD driving them on.*
[6]Let their way be dark and slippery,
with the angel of the LORD pursuing them.*

[7]For without cause they hid their net[k] for me;
without cause they dug a pit[l] for my life.*
[8]Let ruin come on them unawares,
and let the net that they hid ensnare them;
let them fall in it—to their ruin.*

[9]Then my soul shall rejoice in the LORD,

exulting in his deliverance.*
10 All my bones shall say,
"O LORD, who is like you?
You deliver the weak
from those too strong for them,
the weak and needy from those who despoil them."*

11 Malicious witnesses rise up;
they ask me about things I do not know.*
12 They repay me evil for good;
my soul is forlorn.*
13 But as for me, when they were sick,
I wore sackcloth;
I afflicted myself with fasting.
I prayed with head bowed[m] on my bosom,*
14 as though I grieved for a friend or a brother;
I went about as one who laments for a mother,
bowed down and in mourning.

15 But at my stumbling they gathered in glee;
they gathered together against me;
ruffians whom I did not know
tore at me without ceasing;*
16 they impiously mocked more and more,[n]
gnashing at me with their teeth.

17 How long, O LORD, will you look on?
Rescue me from their ravages,
my life from the lions!*
18 Then I will thank you in the great congregation;
in the mighty throng I will praise you.*

[19]Do not let my treacherous enemies rejoice over me
or those who hate me without cause wink the eye.*
[20]For they do not speak peace,
but they conceive deceitful words
against those who are quiet in the land.
[21]They open wide their mouths against me;
they say, "Aha, Aha,
our eyes have seen it."*

[22]You have seen, O LORD; do not be silent!
O Lord, do not be far from me!*
[23]Wake up! Rouse yourself for my defense,
for my cause, my God and my Lord!*
[24]Vindicate me, O LORD, my God,
according to your righteousness,
and do not let them rejoice over me.*
[25]Do not let them say to themselves,
"Aha, we have our heart's desire."
Do not let them say, "We have swallowed you[o] up."*

[26]Let all those who rejoice at my calamity
be put to shame and confusion;
let those who exalt themselves against me
be clothed with shame and dishonor.*

[27]Let those who desire my vindication
shout for joy and be glad
and say evermore,
"Great is the LORD,
who delights in the welfare of his servant."*
[28]Then my tongue shall tell of your righteousness

and of your praise all day long.*

Psalm 36

HUMAN WICKEDNESS AND DIVINE GOODNESS

To the leader. Of David, the servant of the LORD.

[1]Transgression speaks to the wicked
deep in their hearts;
there is no fear of God
before their eyes.*
[2]For they flatter themselves in their own eyes
that their iniquity cannot be found out and hated.
[3]The words of their mouths are mischief and deceit;
they have ceased to act wisely and do good.*
[4]They plot mischief while on their beds;
they are set on a way that is not good;
they do not reject evil.*

[5]Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.
[6]Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains;
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.*

[7]How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.*
[8]They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.*
[9]For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.*

[10]O continue your steadfast love to those who know you
and your salvation to the upright of heart!
[11]Do not let the foot of the arrogant tread on me
or the hand of the wicked drive me away.
[12]There the evildoers lie prostrate;
they are thrust down, unable to rise.*

Psalm 37

EXHORTATION TO PATIENCE AND TRUST

Of David.

[1]Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,*
[2]for they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb.*

[3]Trust in the LORD and do good;
live in the land and enjoy security.*
[4]Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.*

[5]Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.*
[6]He will make your vindication shine like the light
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.*

[7]Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,
over those who carry out evil devices.*

[8]Refrain from anger and forsake wrath.
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.*
[9]For the wicked shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.*

[10]Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;

though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.*

11 But the meek shall inherit the land
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.*

12 The wicked plot against the righteous
and gnash their teeth at them,*
13 but the LORD laughs at the wicked,
for he sees that their day is coming.*

14 The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows
to bring down the poor and needy,
to kill those who walk uprightly;*
15 their sword shall enter their own heart,
and their bows shall be broken.*

16 Better is a little that the righteous person has
than the abundance of many wicked.*
17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken,
but the LORD upholds the righteous.*

18 The LORD knows the days of the blameless,
and their heritage will abide forever;*
19 they are not put to shame in evil times;
in the days of famine they have abundance.*

20 But the wicked perish,
and the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures;
they vanish—like smoke they vanish away.*

21 The wicked borrow and do not pay back,
but the righteous are generous and keep giving;*

22 surely those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land,
but those cursed by him shall be cut off.*

23 Our steps[p] are made firm by the LORD
when he delights in our[q] way;*
24 though we stumble, we[r] shall not fall headlong,
for the LORD holds us[s] by the hand.*

25 I have been young and now am old,
yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken
or their children begging bread.*
26 They are ever giving liberally and lending,
and their children become a blessing.*

27 Depart from evil, and do good;
so you shall abide forever.*
28 For the LORD loves justice;
he will not forsake his faithful ones.

The righteous shall be kept safe forever,
but the children of the wicked shall be cut off.*
29 The righteous shall inherit the land
and live in it forever.*

30 The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom,
and their tongues speak justice.*
31 The law of their God is in their hearts;
their steps do not slip.*

32 The wicked watch for the righteous
and seek to kill them.*
33 The LORD will not abandon them to their power

or let them be condemned when they are brought to trial.*

34 Wait for the LORD and keep to his way,
and he will exalt you to inherit the land;
you will look on the destruction of the wicked.*

35 I have seen the wicked oppressing
and towering like a cedar of Lebanon.t,*
36 Again Iu passed by, and they were no more;
though I sought them, they could not be found.*

37 Mark the blameless and behold the upright,
for there is posterity for the peaceable.*
38 But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed;
the posterity of the wicked shall be cut off.*

39 The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.*
40 The LORD helps them and rescues them;
he rescues them from the wicked and saves them
because they take refuge in him.*

Psalm 38

A PENITENT SUFFERER'S PLEA FOR HEALING

A Psalm of David, for the memorial offering.

[1]O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.*
[2]For your arrows have sunk into me,
and your hand has come down on me.*

[3]There is no soundness in my flesh
because of your indignation;
there is no health in my bones
because of my sin.*
[4]For my iniquities have gone over my head;
they weigh like a burden too heavy for me.*

[5]My wounds grow foul and fester
because of my foolishness;*
[6]I am utterly bowed down and prostrate;
all day long I go around mourning.*
[7]For my loins are filled with burning,
and there is no soundness in my flesh.*
[8]I am utterly spent and crushed;
I groan because of the tumult of my heart.*

[9]O Lord, all my longing is known to you;
my sighing is not hidden from you.*
[10]My heart throbs; my strength fails me;
as for the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me.

[11]My friends and companions stand aloof from my affliction,
and my neighbors stand far off.*

[12]Those who seek my life lay their snares;
those who seek to hurt me speak of ruin
and meditate on treachery all day long.*

[13]But I am like the deaf; I do not hear;
like the mute, who cannot speak.*
[14]Truly, I am like one who does not hear
and in whose mouth is no retort.

[15]But it is for you, O LORD, that I wait;
it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.*
[16]For I pray, "Only do not let them rejoice over me,
those who boast against me when my foot slips."*

[17]For I am ready to fall,
and my pain is ever with me.*
[18]I confess my iniquity;
I am sorry for my sin.*
[19]Those who are my foes without cause[v] are mighty,
and many are those who hate me wrongfully.*
[20]Those who render me evil for good
are my adversaries because I follow after good.*

[21]Do not forsake me, O LORD;
O my God, do not be far from me;*
[22]make haste to help me,
O Lord, my salvation.*

Psalm 39

PRAYER FOR WISDOM AND FORGIVENESS

To the leader: to Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.

[1]I said, "I will guard my ways
that I may not sin with my tongue;
I will keep a muzzle on my mouth
as long as the wicked are in my presence."*
[2]I was silent and still;
I held my peace to no avail;
my distress grew worse;*
[3]my heart became hot within me.
While I mused, the fire burned;
then I spoke with my tongue:

[4]"LORD, let me know my end
and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting my life is.*
[5]You have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing in your sight.
Surely everyone stands as a mere breath. *Selah**
[6]Surely everyone goes about like a shadow.
Surely for nothing they are in turmoil;
they heap up and do not know who will gather.*

[7]"And now, O Lord, what do I wait for?
My hope is in you.*
[8]Deliver me from all my transgressions.

Do not make me the scorn of the fool.*
9I am silent; I do not open my mouth,
for it is you who have done it.*
10Remove your stroke from me;
I am worn down by the blows[w] of your hand.*

11"You chastise mortals
in punishment for sin,
consuming like a moth what is dear to them;
surely everyone is a mere breath. *Selah**

12"Hear my prayer, O LORD,
and give ear to my cry;
do not hold your peace at my tears.
For I am your passing guest,
an alien, like all my forebears.*
13Turn your gaze away from me, that I may smile again,
before I depart and am no more."*

Psalm 40

THANKSGIVING FOR DELIVERANCE AND PRAYER FOR HELP

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

[1]I waited patiently for the LORD;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.*
[2]He drew me up from the desolate pit,x
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.*
[3]He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear
and put their trust in the LORD.*

[4]Happy are those who make
the LORD their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.*
[5]You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.*

[6]Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.y
Burnt offering and sin offering

you have not required.*
7Then I said, "Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.z
8I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart."*

9I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O LORD.*
10I have not hidden your saving help within my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
from the great congregation.*

11Do not, O LORD, withhold
your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe forever.*
12For evils have encompassed me
without number;
my iniquities have overtaken me
until I cannot see;
they are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails me.*

13Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me;
O LORD, make haste to help me.*
14Let all those be put to shame and confusion
who seek to snatch away my life;
let those be turned back and brought to dishonor

who desire my hurt.*
15 Let those be appalled because of their shame
who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"*

16 But may all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation
say continually, "Great is the LORD!"*
17 As for me, I am poor and needy,
but the Lord takes thought for me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
do not delay, O my God.*

Psalm 41

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S HELP AND A PLEA FOR HEALING

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]Happy are those who consider the poor;[a]
the LORD delivers them in the day of trouble.*
[2]The LORD protects them and keeps them alive;
they are called happy in the land.
You do not give them up to the will of their enemies.*
[3]The LORD sustains them on their sickbed;
in their illness you heal all their infirmities.[b],*

[4]As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;
heal me, for I have sinned against you."*
[5]My enemies wonder in malice
when I will die and my name perish.*
[6]And when they come to see me, they utter empty words
while their hearts gather mischief;
when they go out, they tell it abroad.*
[7]All who hate me whisper together about me;
they imagine the worst for me.*

[8]They think that a deadly thing has fastened on me,
that I will not rise again from where I lie.*
[9]Even my close friend in whom I trusted,
who ate of my bread, has lifted the heel against me.*
[10]But you, O LORD, be gracious to me,
and raise me up, that I may repay them.*

[11]By this I know that you are pleased with me:
because my enemy has not triumphed over me.*
[12]But you have upheld me because of my integrity
and set me in your presence forever.*

[13]Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
Amen and Amen.*

Book II

(Psalms 42–72)

Psalm 42

LONGING FOR GOD AND HIS HELP IN DISTRESS

To the leader. A Maskil of the Korahites.

[1]As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.*
[2]My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When shall I come and behold
the face of God?*
[3]My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
"Where is your God?"*

[4]These things I remember,
as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng[c]
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.*
[5]Why are you cast down, O my soul,

and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him,
my help* [6]and my God.

My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.
[7]Deep calls to deep
at the thunder of your torrents;
all your waves and your billows
have gone over me.*
[8]By day the LORD commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.*

[9]I say to God, my rock,
"Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because the enemy oppresses me?"*
[10]As with a deadly wound in my body,
my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually,
"Where is your God?"*

[11]Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.*

Psalm 43

PRAYER TO GOD IN TIME OF TROUBLE

[1]Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people;
from those who are deceitful and unjust,
deliver me!*
[2]For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
why have you cast me off?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because of the oppression of the enemy?*

[3]O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.*
[4]Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy,
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.*

[5]Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.*

Psalm 44

NATIONAL LAMENT AND PRAYER FOR HELP

To the leader. Of the Korahites. A Maskil.

[1]We have heard with our ears, O God;
our ancestors have told us
what deeds you performed in their days,
in the days of old:*
[2]you with your own hand drove out the nations,
but them you planted;
you afflicted the peoples,
but them you set free;*
[3]for not by their own sword did they win the land,
nor did their own arm give them victory,
but your right hand, and your arm,
and the light of your countenance,
for you delighted in them.*

[4]You are my King and my God;
you command[d] victories for Jacob.
[5]Through you we push down our foes;
through your name we tread down our assailants.*
[6]For not in my bow do I trust,
nor can my sword save me.
[7]But you have saved us from our foes
and have put to confusion those who hate us.*
[8]In God we have boasted continually,
and we will give thanks to your name forever. *Selah**

[9]Yet you have rejected us and shamed us
and have not gone out with our armies.*
[10]You made us turn back from the foe,
and our enemies have gotten spoil.*
[11]You have made us like sheep for slaughter
and have scattered us among the nations.*
[12]You have sold your people for a trifle,
demanding no high price for them.*

[13]You have made us the taunt of our neighbors,
the derision and scorn of those around us.*
[14]You have made us a byword among the nations,
a laughingstock[e] among the peoples.*
[15]All day long my disgrace is before me,
and shame has covered my face
[16]at the words of the taunters and revilers,
at the sight of the enemy and the avenger.*

[17]All this has come upon us,
yet we have not forgotten you
or been false to your covenant.*
[18]Our heart has not turned back,
nor have our steps departed from your way,*
[19]yet you have broken us in the haunt of jackals
and covered us with deep darkness.*

[20]If we had forgotten the name of our God
or spread out our hands to a strange god,*
[21]would not God discover this?
For he knows the secrets of the heart.*

[22]Because of you we are being killed all day long
and accounted as sheep for the slaughter.*

[23]Rouse yourself! Why do you sleep, O Lord?
Awake, do not cast us off forever!*
[24]Why do you hide your face?
Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?*
[25]For we sink down to the dust;
our bodies cling to the ground.*
[26]Rise up, come to our help.
Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love.*

Psalm 45

ODE FOR A ROYAL WEDDING

To the leader: according to Lilies. Of the Korahites. A Maskil. A love song.

[1]My heart overflows with a goodly theme;
I address my verses to the king;
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.*

[2]You are the most handsome of men;
grace is poured upon your lips;
therefore God has blessed you forever.*
[3]Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one,
in your glory and majesty.*

[4]In your majesty ride on victoriously
for the cause of truth and to defend[f] the right;
let your right hand teach you dread deeds.*
[5]Your arrows are sharp
in the heart of the king's enemies;
the peoples fall under you.

[6]Your throne, O God,[g] endures forever and ever.
Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;*
[7]you love righteousness and hate wickedness.
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;*
[8]your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.
From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;*
[9]daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor;

at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.*

10 Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear;
forget your people and your father's house,*
11 and the king will desire your beauty.
Since he is your lord, bow to him;*
12 Daughter Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,
the richest of the people* 13 with all kinds of wealth.

The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;h,*
14 in many-colored robes she is led to the king;
behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.*
15 With joy and gladness they are led along
as they enter the palace of the king.

16 In the place of ancestors you, O king,i shall have sons;
you will make them princes in all the earth.*
17 I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations;
therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.*

Psalm 46

GOD'S DEFENSE OF HIS CITY AND PEOPLE

To the leader. Of the Korahites. According to Alamoth. A Song.

[1]God is our refuge and strength,
a very present[j] help in trouble.*
[2]Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,*
[3]though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Selah**

[4]There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.*
[5]God is in the midst of the city;[k] it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.*
[6]The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice; the earth melts.*
[7]The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.[l] *Selah**

[8]Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.*
[9]He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.*
[10]"Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations;
I am exalted in the earth."*

[11]The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.[m] *Selah*

Psalm 47

GOD'S RULE OVER THE NATIONS

To the leader. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.

[1]Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.*
[2]For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.*
[3]He subdued peoples under us
and nations under our feet.*
[4]He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves. *Selah**

[5]God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.*
[6]Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.*
[7]For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.[n],*

[8]God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.*
[9]The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.*

Psalm 48

THE GLORY AND STRENGTH OF ZION

A Song. A Psalm of the Korahites.

[1]Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God.
His holy mountain,* [2]beautiful in elevation,
is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, in the far north,
the city of the great King.*
[3]Within its citadels God
has shown himself a sure defense.*

[4]Then the kings assembled;
they came on together.*
[5]As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;
they were in panic; they took to flight;*
[6]trembling took hold of them there,
pains as of a woman in labor,
[7]as when an east wind shatters
the ships of Tarshish.*
[8]As we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the LORD of hosts,
in the city of our God,
which God establishes forever. *Selah*

[9]We ponder your steadfast love, O God,
in the midst of your temple.

[10]Your name, O God, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.
Your right hand is filled with victory.*
[11]Let Mount Zion be glad;
let the towns[o] of Judah rejoice
because of your judgments.*

[12]Walk about Zion; go all around it;
count its towers;
[13]consider well its ramparts;
go through its citadels,
that you may tell the next generation*
[14]that this is God,
our God forever and ever.
He will be our guide forever.*

Psalm 49

THE FOLLY OF TRUST IN RICHES

To the leader. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.

[1]Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all inhabitants of the world,*
[2]both low and high,
rich and poor together.
[3]My mouth shall speak wisdom;
the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.*
[4]I will incline my ear to a proverb;
I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.*

[5]Why should I fear in times of trouble,
when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,*
[6]those who trust in their wealth
and boast of the abundance of their riches?*
[7]Truly, no ransom avails for one's life;[p]
there is no price one can give to God for it.*
[8]For the ransom of life is costly
and can never suffice,*
[9]that one should live on forever
and never see the Pit.*

[10]When we look at the wise, they die;
fool and dolt perish together
and leave their wealth to others.*
[11]Their graves[q] are their homes forever,

their dwelling places to all generations,
though they named lands their own.*
12 Mortals cannot abide in their pomp;
they are like the animals that perish.*

13 Such is the fate of the foolhardy,
the end of those[r] who are pleased with their lot. *Selah**
14 Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;
Death shall be their shepherd;
straight to the grave they descend,[s]
and their form shall waste away;
Sheol shall be their home.[t],*
15 But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,
for he will receive me. *Selah**

16 Do not be afraid when some become rich,
when the wealth of their houses increases.*
17 For when they die they will carry nothing away;
their wealth will not go down after them.*
18 Though in their lifetime they count themselves happy
—for you are praised when you do well for yourself—*
19 they[u] will go to the company of their ancestors,
who will never again see the light.*
20 Mortals cannot abide in their pomp;
they are like the animals that perish.*

Psalm 50

THE ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICE

A Psalm of Asaph.

[1]The mighty one, God the LORD,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.*
[2]Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.*

[3]Our God comes and does not keep silent;
before him is a devouring fire
and a mighty tempest all around him.*
[4]He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:*
[5]"Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"*
[6]The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge. *Selah**

[7]"Hear, O my people, and I will speak,
O Israel, I will testify against you.
I am God, your God.*
[8]Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;
your burnt offerings are continually before me.*
[9]I will not accept a bull from your house
or goats from your folds.*
[10]For every wild animal of the forest is mine,

the cattle on a thousand hills.*
11 I know all the birds of the air,v
and all that moves in the field is mine.

12 "If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world and all that is in it is mine.*
13 Do I eat the flesh of bulls
or drink the blood of goats?
14 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,w
and pay your vows to the Most High.*
15 Call on me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."*

16 But to the wicked God says,
"What right have you to recite my statutes
or take my covenant on your lips?*
17 For you hate discipline,
and you cast my words behind you.*
18 You make friends with a thief when you see one,
and you keep company with adulterers.*

19 You give your mouth free rein for evil,
and your tongue frames deceit.
20 You sit and speak against your kin;
you slander your own mother's child.*
21 These things you have done, and I have been silent;
you thought that I was one just like yourself.
But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.*

22 Mark this, then, you who forget God,
or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to deliver.*

[23]Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor me;
to those who go the right way,[x]
I will show the salvation of God.”

Psalm 51

PRAYER FOR CLEANSING AND PARDON

To the leader. A Psalm of David, when the prophet Nathan came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

[1]Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy,
blot out my transgressions.*
[2]Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.*

[3]For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.*
[4]Against you, you alone, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.*
[5]Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.*

[6]You desire truth in the inward being;[y]
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.*
[7]Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*
[8]Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.*
[9]Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.*

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right[z] spirit within me.*
11 Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.*
12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing[a] spirit.*

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.*
14 Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.*

15 O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.*
16 For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.*
17 The sacrifice acceptable to God[b] is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

18 Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem;*
19 then you will delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.*

Psalm 52

JUDGMENT ON THE DECEITFUL

To the leader. A Maskil of David, when Doeg the Edomite came to Saul and said to him, "David has come to the house of Ahimelech."

[1]Why do you boast, O mighty one,
of mischief done against the godly?[c]
All day long[*] [2]you are plotting destruction.
Your tongue is like a sharp razor,
you worker of treachery.[*]
[3]You love evil more than good
and lying more than speaking the truth. *Selah*[*]
[4]You love all words that devour,
O deceitful tongue.[*]

[5]But God will break you down forever;
he will snatch and tear you from your tent;
he will uproot you from the land of the living. *Selah*[*]
[6]The righteous will see and fear
and will laugh at the evildoer,[d] saying,[*]
[7]"See the one who would not take
refuge in God
but trusted in abundant riches
and sought refuge in wealth!"[e,*]

[8]But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God
forever and ever.[*]

[9]I will thank you forever
because of what you have done.
In the presence of the faithful
I will proclaim[f] your name, for it is good.[*]

Psalm 53

DENUNCIATION OF GODLESSNESS

To the leader: according to Mahalath. A Maskil of David.

[1]Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."
They are corrupt; they commit abominable acts;
there is no one who does good.*

[2]God looks down from heaven on humankind
to see if there are any who are wise,
who seek after God.*

[3]They have all fallen away; they are all alike perverse;
there is no one who does good,
no, not one.*

[4]Have they no knowledge, those evildoers,
who eat up my people as they eat bread
and do not call upon God?*

[5]There they shall be in great terror,
in terror such as has not been.
For God will scatter the bones of the ungodly;[g]
they will be put to shame,[h] for God has rejected them.*

[6]O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!
When God restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.*

Psalm 54

PRAYER FOR VINDICATION

To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Maskil of David, when the Ziphites went and told Saul, "David is in hiding among us."

[1]Save me, O God, by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.*
[2]Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.*

[3]For the insolent have risen against me;
the ruthless seek my life;
they do not set God before them. *Selah**

[4]But surely, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of[i] my life.*
[5]He will repay my enemies for their evil.
In your faithfulness, put an end to them.*

[6]With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.*
[7]For he has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.*

Psalm 55

COMPLAINT ABOUT A FRIEND'S TREACHERY

To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Maskil of David.

[1]Give ear to my prayer, O God;
do not hide yourself from my supplication.*
[2]Attend to me and answer me;
I am troubled in my complaint.
I am distraught* [3]by the noise of the enemy,
because of the clamor of the wicked.
For they bring[j] trouble upon me,
and in anger they bear a grudge against me.*

[4]My heart is in anguish within me;
the terrors of death have fallen upon me.*
[5]Fear and trembling come upon me,
and horror overwhelms me.*
[6]And I say, "O that I had wings like a dove!
I would fly away and be at rest;*
[7]truly, I would flee far away;
I would lodge in the wilderness; *Selah*
[8]I would hurry to find a shelter for myself
from the raging wind and tempest."*

[9]Confuse, O Lord, confound their speech,
for I see violence and strife in the city.*
[10]Day and night they go around it
on its walls,

and iniquity and trouble are within it;
[11]ruin is in its midst;
oppression and fraud
do not depart from its marketplace.*

[12]It is not enemies who taunt me—
I could bear that;
it is not adversaries who deal insolently with me—
I could hide from them.*
[13]But it is you, my equal,
my companion, my familiar friend,*
[14]with whom I kept pleasant company;
we walked in the house of God with the throng.*
[15]Let death come upon them;
let them go down alive to Sheol,
for evil is in their homes and in their hearts.*

[16]But I call upon God,
and the LORD will save me.*
[17]Evening and morning and at noon
I utter my complaint and moan,
and he will hear my voice.*
[18]He will redeem me unharmed
from the battle that I wage,
for many are arrayed against me.*
[19]God, who is enthroned from of old, *Selah*
will hear and will humble them,
because they do not change
and do not fear God.*

[20]My companion laid hands on a friend

and violated a covenant with me[k,*]
21 with speech smoother than butter
but with a heart set on war,
with words that were softer than oil
but in fact were drawn swords.*

22 Cast your burden[l] on the LORD,
and he will sustain you;
he will never permit
the righteous to be moved.*

23 But you, O God, will cast them down
into the lowest pit;
the bloodthirsty and treacherous
shall not live out half their days.
But I will trust in you.*

Psalm 56

TRUST IN GOD UNDER PERSECUTION

To the leader: according to The Dove on Far-off Terebinths. Of David. A Miktam, when the Philistines seized him in Gath.

[1]Be gracious to me, O God, for people trample on me;
all day long foes oppress me;
[2]my enemies trample on me all day long,
for many fight against me.
O Most High,* [3]when I am afraid,
I put my trust in you.*
[4]In God, whose word I praise,
in God I trust; I am not afraid;
what can flesh do to me?*

[5]All day long they seek to injure my cause;
all their thoughts are against me for evil.*
[6]They stir up strife; they lurk;
they watch my steps,
as they hoped to take my life.*
[7]Do not deliver them for any reason;[m]
in wrath cast down the peoples, O God!*

[8]You have kept count of my tossings;
put my tears in your bottle.
Are they not in your record?*
[9]Then my enemies will retreat
in the day when I call.
This I know, that[n] God is for me.*

[10]In God, whose word I praise,
in the LORD, whose word I praise,
[11]in God I trust; I am not afraid.
What can a mere mortal do to me?

[12]My vows to you I must perform, O God;
I will render thank offerings to you.*
[13]For you have delivered my soul from death
and my feet from falling,
so that I may walk before God
in the light of life.*

Psalm 57

PRAISE AND ASSURANCE UNDER PERSECUTION

To the leader: Do Not Destroy. Of David. A Miktam, when he fled from Saul, in the cave.

[1]Be merciful to me, O God; be merciful to me,
for in you my soul takes refuge;
in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge,
until the destroying storms pass by.*
[2]I cry to God Most High,
to God who fulfills his purpose for me.*
[3]He will send from heaven and save me;
he will put to shame those who trample on me. *Selah*
God will send forth his steadfast love and his faithfulness.*

[4]I lie down among lions
that greedily devour[o] human prey;
their teeth are spears and arrows,
their tongues sharp swords.*

[5]Be exalted, O God, above the heavens.
Let your glory be over all the earth.*

[6]They set a net for my steps;
my soul was bowed down.
They dug a pit in my path,
but they have fallen into it themselves. *Selah**
[7]My heart is steadfast, O God;
my heart is steadfast.
I will sing and make melody.*

[8]Awake, my soul!
Awake, O harp and lyre!
I will awake the dawn.*
[9]I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing praises to you among the nations.*
[10]For your steadfast love is as high as the heavens;
your faithfulness extends to the clouds.*

[11]Be exalted, O God, above the heavens.
Let your glory be over all the earth.*

Psalm 58

PRAYER FOR VENGEANCE

To the leader: Do Not Destroy. Of David. A Miktam.

[1]Do you indeed decree what is right, you gods?
Do you judge people fairly?*
[2]No, in your hearts you devise wrongs;
your hands deal out violence on earth.*

[3]The wicked go astray from the womb;
they err from their birth, speaking lies.*
[4]They have venom like the venom of a serpent,
like the deaf adder that stops its ear,*
[5]so that it does not hear the voice of charmers
or of the cunning enchanter.*

[6]O God, break the teeth in their mouths;
tear out the fangs of the young lions, O LORD!*
[7]Let them vanish like water that runs away;
like grass let them be trodden down[p] and wither.*
[8]Let them be like the snail that dissolves into slime,
like the untimely birth that never sees the sun.*
[9]Sooner than your pots can feel the heat of thorns,
whether green or ablaze, may he sweep them away!*

[10]The righteous will rejoice when they see vengeance done;
they will bathe their feet in the blood of the wicked.*
[11]People will say, "Surely there is a reward for the righteous;

surely there is a God who judges[q] on earth.”*

Psalm 59

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

To the leader: Do Not Destroy. Of David. A Miktam, when Saul ordered his house to be watched in order to kill him.

[1]Deliver me from my enemies, O my God;
protect me from those who rise up against me.*
[2]Deliver me from those who work evil;
from the bloodthirsty, save me.*

[3]Even now they lie in wait for my life;
the mighty stir up strife against me.
For no transgression or sin of mine, O LORD,*
[4]for no fault of mine, they run and make ready.

Rouse yourself, come to my help and see!*
[5]You, LORD God of hosts, are God of Israel.
Awake to punish all the nations;
spare none of those who treacherously plot evil. *Selah**

[6]Each evening they come back
howling like dogs
and prowling about the city.*
[7]There they are, bellowing with their mouths,
with sharp words[r] on their lips,
for "Who," they think,[s] "will hear us?"*

[8]But you laugh at them, O LORD;
you hold all the nations in derision.*

[9]O my strength, I will watch for you,
for you, O God, are my fortress.*
[10]My God in his steadfast love will meet me;
my God will let me look in triumph on my enemies.*

[11]Do not kill them, or my people may forget;
make them totter by your power and bring them down,
O Lord, our shield.*
[12]For the sin of their mouths, the words of their lips,
let them be trapped in their pride.
For the cursing and lies that they utter,*
[13]consume them in wrath;
consume them until they are no more.
Then it will be known to the ends of the earth
that God rules over Jacob. *Selah**

[14]Each evening they come back
howling like dogs
and prowling about the city.*
[15]They roam about for food
and growl if they do not get their fill.

[16]But I will sing of your might;
I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.
For you have been a fortress for me
and a refuge in the day of my distress.*
[17]O my strength, I will sing praises to you,
for you, O God, are my fortress,
the God who shows me steadfast love.*

Psalm 60

PRAYER FOR NATIONAL VICTORY AFTER DEFEAT

To the leader: according to the Lily of the Covenant. A Miktam of David; for instruction; when he struggled with Aram-naharaim and with Aram-zobah, and when Joab on his return killed twelve thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.

[1]O God, you have rejected us, broken our defenses;
you have been angry; now restore us![*]
[2]You have caused the land to quake; you have torn it open;
repair the cracks in it, for it is tottering.[*]
[3]You have made your people suffer hard things;
you have given us wine to drink that made us reel.[*]

[4]You have set up a banner for those who fear you,
to rally to it out of bowshot.[t] *Selah*[*]
[5]Give victory with your right hand and answer us,[u]
so that those whom you love may be rescued.[*]

[6]God has promised in his sanctuary,[v]
"With exultation I will divide up Shechem
and portion out the Vale of Succoth.[*]
[7]Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine;
Ephraim is my helmet;
Judah is my scepter.[*]
[8]Moab is my washbasin;
on Edom I hurl my shoe;
over Philistia I shout in triumph."[*]

[9]Who will bring me to the fortified city?

Who will lead me to Edom?
10 Have you not rejected us, O God?
You do not go out, O God, with our armies.*
11 O grant us help against the foe,
for human help is worthless.*
12 With God we shall do valiantly;
it is he who will tread down our foes.*

Psalm 61

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PROTECTION

To the leader: with stringed instruments. Of David.

[1]Hear my cry, O God;
listen to my prayer.*
[2]From the end of the earth I call to you,
when my heart is faint.

Lead me to the rock
that is higher than I,*
[3]for you are my refuge,
a strong tower against the enemy.*

[4]Let me abide in your tent forever,
find refuge under the shelter of your wings. *Selah**
[5]For you, O God, have heard my vows;
you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.*

[6]Prolong the life of the king;
may his years endure to all generations!*
[7]May he be enthroned forever before God;
appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!*

[8]So I will always sing praises to your name,
as I pay my vows day after day.*

Psalm 62

SONG OF TRUST IN GOD ALONE

To the leader: according to Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.

[1]For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from him comes my salvation.*
[2]He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall never be shaken.*

[3]How long will you assail a person,
will you batter your victim, all of you,
as you would a leaning wall, a tottering fence?*
[4]Their only plan is to bring down a person of prominence.
They take pleasure in falsehood;
they bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse. *Selah**

[5]For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.
[6]He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.*
[7]On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.*

[8]Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us. *Selah**

[9]Those of low estate are but a breath;

those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.*
10 Put no confidence in extortion,
and set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.*

11 Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,*
12 and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.
For you repay to all
according to their work.*

Psalm 63

COMFORT AND ASSURANCE IN GOD'S PRESENCE

A Psalm of David, when he was in the Wilderness of Judah.

[1]O God, you are my God; I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*
[2]So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.*
[3]Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.*
[4]So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.*

[5]My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,[w]
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips*
[6]when I think of you on my bed
and meditate on you in the watches of the night,*
[7]for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.*
[8]My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.*

[9]But those who seek to destroy my life
shall go down into the depths of the earth;*
[10]they shall be given over to the power of the sword;
they shall be prey for jackals.

[11]But the king shall rejoice in God;
all who swear by him shall exult,
for the mouths of liars will be stopped.*

Psalm 64

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM ENEMIES

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint;
preserve my life from the dread enemy.[*]
[2]Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked,
from the scheming of evildoers,[*]
[3]who whet their tongues like swords,
who aim bitter words like arrows,[*]
[4]shooting from ambush at the blameless;
they shoot suddenly and without fear.[*]
[5]They hold fast to their evil purpose;
they talk of laying snares secretly,
thinking, "Who can see us?[x,*]
[6]Who can search out our crimes?[y]
We have thought out a cunningly conceived plot."
For the human heart and mind are deep.[*]

[7]But God will shoot his arrow at them;
they will be wounded suddenly.
[8]Because of their tongue he will bring them to ruin;[z]
all who see them will shake with horror.[*]
[9]Then everyone will fear;
they will tell what God has brought about
and ponder what he has done.[*]

[10]Let the righteous rejoice in the LORD

and take refuge in him.
Let all the upright in heart glory.*

Psalm 65

THANKSGIVING FOR EARTH'S BOUNTY

To the leader. A Psalm of David. A Song.

[1]Praise is due to you,
O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed,*
[2]O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.*
[3]When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.*
[4]Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.*

[5]By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.*
[6]By your[a] strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.*
[7]You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.*
[8]Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;

you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for
joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.*
10 You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.
11 You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
12 The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;*
13 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.*

Psalm 66

PRAISE FOR GOD'S GOODNESS TO ISRAEL

To the leader. A Song. A Psalm.

[1]Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;*
[2]sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.*
[3]Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.*
[4]All the earth worships you;
they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name." *Selah**

[5]Come and see what God has done:
he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.*
[6]He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.
There we rejoiced in him,*
[7]who rules by his might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—
let the rebellious not exalt themselves. *Selah**

[8]Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of his praise be heard,*
[9]who has kept us among the living
and has not let our feet slip.*
[10]For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.*

[11]You brought us into the net;
you laid burdens on our backs;*
[12]you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.[b,*]

[13]I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will pay you my vows,*
[14]those that my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.*
[15]I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats. *Selah**

[16]Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.*
[17]I cried aloud to him,
and he was extolled with my tongue.
[18]If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.*
[19]But truly God has listened;
he has heard the words of my prayer.*

[20]Blessed be God,
who has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.*

Psalm 67

THE NATIONS CALLED TO PRAISE GOD

To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song.

[1]May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah**
[2]that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.*
[3]Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

[4]Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth. *Selah**
[5]Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.*

[6]The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.*
[7]May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.*

Psalm 68

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm. A Song.

[1]Let God rise up; let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.*
[2]As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before the fire,
let the wicked perish before God.*
[3]But let the righteous be joyful;
let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy.*

[4]Sing to God; sing praises to his name;
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds[c]—
his name is the LORD—
be exultant before him.*

[5]Father of orphans and protector of widows
is God in his holy habitation.*
[6]God gives the desolate a home to live in;
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious live in a parched land.*

[7]O God, when you went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness, *Selah**
[8]the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.*

[9]Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;
you restored your heritage when it languished;*
[10]your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.*

[11]The Lord gives the command;
great is the company of those[d] who bore the tidings:
[12]"The kings of the armies, they flee, they flee!"
The women at home divide the spoil,*
[13]though they stay among the sheepfolds—
the wings of a dove covered with silver,
its pinions with green gold.*
[14]When the Almighty[e] scattered kings there,
snow fell on Zalmon.*

[15]O mighty mountain, mountain of Bashan;
O many-peaked mountain, mountain of Bashan!
[16]Why do you look with envy, O many-peaked mountain,
at the mount that God desired for his abode,
where the LORD will reside forever?*

[17]With mighty chariotry, twice ten thousand,
thousands upon thousands,
the Lord came from Sinai into the holy place.[f,*]
[18]You ascended the high mount,
leading captives in your train
and receiving gifts from people,
even from those who rebel against the LORD God's abiding there.*
[19]Blessed be the Lord,
who daily bears us up;

God is our salvation. *Selah*[*]
[20]Our God is a God of salvation,
and to GOD, the Lord, belongs escape from death.[*]

[21]But God will shatter the heads of his enemies,
the hairy crown of those who walk in their guilty ways.[*]
[22]The Lord said,
"I will bring them back from Bashan;
I will bring them back from the depths of the sea,[*]
[23]so that you may bathe[g] your feet in blood,
so that the tongues of your dogs may have their share from the foe."[*]

[24]Your solemn processions are seen,[h] O God,
the processions of my God, my King, into the sanctuary—[*]
[25]the singers in front, the musicians last,
between them young women playing tambourines:[*]
[26]"Bless God in the great congregation,
the LORD, O you who are of Israel's fountain!"[*]
[27]There is Benjamin, the least of them, in the lead,
the princes of Judah in a body,
the princes of Zebulun, the princes of Naphtali.[*]

[28]Summon your might, O God;
show your strength, O God, as you have done for us before.
[29]Because of your temple at Jerusalem,
kings bear gifts to you.[*]
[30]Rebuke the wild animals that live among the reeds,
the herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples.
Trample[i] under foot those who lust after tribute;

scatter the peoples who delight in war.[j,*]
31 Let bronze be brought from Egypt;
let Cush hasten to stretch out its hands to God.*

32 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord, *Selah*
33 O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.*
34 Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel
and whose power is in the skies.*
35 Awesome is God in his[k] sanctuary,
the God of Israel;
he gives power and strength to his people.

Blessed be God!*

Psalm 69

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM PERSECUTION

To the leader: according to Lilies. Of David.

[1]Save me, O God,
for the waters have come up to my neck.*
[2]I sink in deep mire,
where there is no foothold;
I have come into deep waters,
and the flood sweeps over me.*
[3]I am weary with my crying;
my throat is parched.
My eyes grow dim
with waiting for my God.*

[4]More in number than the hairs of my head
are those who hate me without cause;
many are those who would destroy me,
my enemies who accuse me falsely.
What I did not steal,
must I now restore?*
[5]O God, you know my folly;
the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you.*

[6]Do not let those who hope in you be put to shame because of me,
O Lord GOD of hosts;
do not let those who seek you be dishonored because of me,
O God of Israel.
[7]It is for your sake that I have borne reproach,

that shame has covered my face.*
8I have become a stranger to my kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.*

9It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;
the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.*
10When I humbled my soul with fasting,[l]
they insulted me for doing so.*
11When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.*
12I am the subject of gossip for those who sit in the gate,
and the drunkards make songs about me.*

13But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD.
At an acceptable time, O God,
in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.
With your faithful help* 14rescue me
from sinking in the mire;
let me be delivered from my enemies
and from the deep waters.*
15Do not let the flood sweep over me
or the deep swallow me up
or the Pit close its mouth over me.*

16Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.*
17Do not hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress—make haste to answer me.*
18Draw near to me; redeem me;
set me free because of my enemies.

[19]You know the insults I receive
and my shame and dishonor;
my foes are all known to you.*
[20]Insults have broken my heart,
so that I am in despair.
I looked for pity, but there was none;
and for comforters, but I found none.*
[21]They gave me poison for food,
and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.*

[22]Let their table be a trap for them,
a snare for their allies.*
[23]Let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see,
and make their loins tremble continually.*
[24]Pour out your indignation upon them,
and let your burning anger overtake them.*
[25]May their camp be a desolation;
let no one live in their tents.*
[26]For they persecute those whom you have struck down,
and those whom you have wounded they attack still more.[m],*
[27]Add guilt to their guilt;
may they have no acquittal from you.
[28]Let them be blotted out of the book of the living;
let them not be enrolled among the righteous.*
[29]But I am lowly and in pain;
let your salvation, O God, protect me.*

[30]I will praise the name of God with a song;
I will magnify him with thanksgiving.*
[31]This will please the LORD more than an ox

or a bull with horns and hoofs.*
32 Let the oppressed see it and be glad;
you who seek God, let your hearts revive.*
33 For the LORD hears the needy
and does not despise his own who are in bonds.*

34 Let heaven and earth praise him,
the seas and everything that moves in them.*
35 For God will save Zion
and rebuild the cities of Judah,
and his servants shall live[n] there and possess it;*
36 the children of his servants shall inherit it,
and those who love his name shall live in it.*

Psalm 70

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

To the leader. Of David, for the memorial offering.

[1]Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.
O LORD, make haste to help me![*]
[2]Let those be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life.
Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire to hurt me.[*]
[3]Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!"
turn back because of their shame.[*]

[4]Let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"
[5]But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay![*]

Psalm 71

PRAYER FOR LIFELONG PROTECTION AND HELP

[1]In you, O LORD, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.*
[2]In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.*
[3]Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress[o] to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.*

[4]Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.*
[5]For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.*
[6]From my birth I have leaned upon you,
my protector since my mother's womb.[p]
My praise is continually of you.*

[7]I have been like a portent to many,
but you are my strong refuge.*
[8]My mouth is filled with your praise
and with your glory all day long.*
[9]Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
do not forsake me when my strength is spent.*
[10]For my enemies speak concerning me,
and those who watch for my life consult together.*
[11]They say, "Pursue and seize that person

whom God has forsaken,
for there is no one to deliver."*

12 O God, do not be far from me;
O my God, make haste to help me!*
13 Let my accusers be put to shame and consumed;
let those who seek to hurt me
be covered with scorn and disgrace.*
14 But I will hope continually
and will praise you yet more and more.
15 My mouth will tell of your righteous acts,
of your deeds of salvation all day long,
though their number is past my knowledge.*
16 I will come praising the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD;
I will praise your righteousness, yours alone.*

17 O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.*
18 So even to old age and gray hairs,
O God, do not forsake me,
until I proclaim your might
to all the generations to come.q
Your power* 19 and your righteousness, O God,
reach the high heavens.

You who have done great things,
O God, who is like you?*
20 You who have made me see many troubles and calamities
will revive me again;
from the depths of the earth
you will bring me up again.*

[21]You will increase my honor
and comfort me once again.

[22]I will also praise you with the harp
for your faithfulness, O my God;
I will sing praises to you with the lyre,
O Holy One of Israel.*
[23]My lips will shout for joy
when I sing praises to you;
my soul also, which you have rescued.*
[24]All day long my tongue will talk of your righteous help,
for those who tried to do me harm
have been put to shame and disgraced.*

Psalm 72

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR THE KING

Of Solomon.

[1]Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.*
[2]May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.*
[3]May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.*
[4]May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.*

[5]May he live[r] while the sun endures
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.*
[6]May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.*
[7]In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.*

[8]May he have dominion from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.*
[9]May his foes[s] bow down before him,
and his enemies lick the dust.*
[10]May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba

bring gifts.*
11 May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.

12 For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.*
13 He has pity on the weak and the needy
and saves the lives of the needy.
14 From oppression and violence he redeems their life,
and precious is their blood in his sight.*

15 Long may he live!
May gold of Sheba be given to him.
May prayer be made for him continually
and blessings invoked for him all day long.*
16 May there be abundance of grain in the land;
may it wave on the tops of the mountains;
may its fruit be like Lebanon;
and may people blossom in the cities
like the grass of the field.*
17 May his name endure forever,
his fame continue as long as the sun.
May all nations be blessed in him;[t]
may they pronounce him happy.*

18 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.*
19 Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.
Amen and Amen.*

[20]The prayers of David son of Jesse are ended.

Book III

(Psalms 73–89)

Psalm 73

PLEA FOR RELIEF FROM OPPRESSORS

A Psalm of Asaph.

[1]Truly God is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.*
[2]But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled;
my steps had nearly slipped.*
[3]For I was envious of the arrogant;
I saw the prosperity of the wicked.*

[4]For they have no pain;
their bodies are sound and sleek.
[5]They are not in trouble as others are;
they are not plagued like other people.*
[6]Therefore pride is their necklace;
violence covers them like a garment.*
[7]Their eyes swell out with fatness;
their hearts overflow with follies.*
[8]They scoff and speak with malice;
loftily they threaten oppression.*
[9]They set their mouths against heaven,

and their tongues range over the earth.

10 Therefore the people turn and praise them[u]
and find no fault in them.[v]
11 And they say, "How can God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"*
12 Such are the wicked;
always at ease, they increase in riches.*
13 All in vain I have kept my heart clean
and washed my hands in innocence.*
14 For all day long I have been plagued
and am punished every morning.*

15 If I had said, "I will talk on in this way,"
I would have been untrue to the circle of your children.
16 But when I thought how to understand this,
it seemed to me a wearisome task,*
17 until I went into the sanctuary of God;
then I perceived their end.*
18 Truly you set them in slippery places;
you make them fall to ruin.*
19 How they are destroyed in a moment,
swept away utterly by terrors!*
20 They are[w] like a dream when one awakes;
on awaking you despise their phantoms.*

21 When my soul was embittered,
when I was pricked in heart,
22 I was stupid and ignorant;
I was like a brute beast toward you.*

23 Nevertheless, I am continually with you;
you hold my right hand.
24 You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me with honor.[x,*]
25 Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you.[*]
26 My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength[y] of my heart and my portion forever.[*]

27 Indeed, those who are far from you will perish;
you put an end to those who are false to you.[*]
28 But for me it is good to be near God;
I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,
to tell of all your works.[*]

Psalm 74

PLEA FOR HELP IN TIME OF NATIONAL HUMILIATION

A Maskil of Asaph.

[1]O God, why do you cast us off forever?
Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?
*

[2]Remember your congregation, which you acquired long ago,
which you redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage.
Remember Mount Zion, where you came to dwell.*
[3]Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins;
the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary.*

[4]Your foes have roared within your holy place;
they set up their emblems there.*
[5]At the upper entrance they hacked
the wooden trellis with axes.z,*
[6]And then, with hatchets and hammers,
they smashed all its carved work.
[7]They set your sanctuary on fire;
they desecrated the dwelling place of your name,
bringing it to the ground.*
[8]They said to themselves, "We will utterly subdue them";
they burned all the meeting places of God in the land.*

[9]We do not see our emblems;
there is no longer any prophet,
and there is no one among us who knows how long.*

10 How long, O God, is the foe to scoff?
Is the enemy to revile your name forever?*
11 Why do you hold back your hand;
why do you keep your hand in[a] your bosom?*

12 Yet God my King is from of old,
working salvation in the earth.*
13 You divided the sea by your might;
you broke the heads of the dragons in the waters.*
14 You crushed the heads of Leviathan;
you gave him as food[b] for the creatures of the wilderness.
15 You cut openings for springs and torrents;
you dried up ever-flowing streams.*
16 Yours is the day, yours also the night;
you established the luminaries[c] and the sun.*
17 You have fixed all the bounds of the earth;
you made summer and winter.*

18 Remember this, O LORD, how the enemy scoffs,
and an impious people reviles your name.*
19 Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild animals;
do not forget the life of your poor forever.*

20 Have regard for your[d] covenant,
for the dark places of the land are full of the haunts of violence.*
21 Do not let the downtrodden be put to shame;
let the poor and needy praise your name.*
22 Rise up, O God, plead your cause;
remember how the impious scoff at you all day long.*

[23]Do not forget the clamor of your foes,
the uproar of your adversaries that goes up continually.*

Psalm 75

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S WONDROUS DEEDS

To the leader: Do Not Destroy. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song.

[1]We give thanks to you, O God;
we give thanks; your name is near.
People tell of your wondrous deeds.*

[2]At the set time that I appoint,
I will judge with equity.
[3]When the earth totters, with all its inhabitants,
it is I who keep its pillars steady. *Selah*
[4]I say to the boastful, "Do not boast,"
and to the wicked, "Do not lift up your horn;*
[5]do not lift up your horn on high
or speak with insolent neck."*

[6]For not from the east or from the west
and not from the wilderness comes lifting up,*
[7]but it is God who executes judgment,
putting down one and lifting up another.*
[8]For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup
with foaming wine, well mixed;
he will pour a draught from it,
and all the wicked of the earth
shall drain it down to the dregs.*
[9]But I will rejoice[e] forever;
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.*

[10]All the horns of the wicked I will cut off,
but the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.*

Psalm 76

ISRAEL'S GOD—JUDGE OF ALL THE EARTH

To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of Asaph. A Song.

[1]In Judah God is known;
his name is great in Israel.*
[2]His abode has been established in Salem,
his dwelling place in Zion.*
[3]There he broke the flashing arrows,
the shield, the sword, and the weapons of war. *Selah**

[4]Glorious are you, more majestic
than the everlasting mountains.f
[5]The courageous were stripped of their spoil;
they sank into sleep;
none of the troops
was able to lift a hand.*
[6]At your rebuke, O God of Jacob,
both rider and horse lay stunned.

[7]But you indeed are awesome!
Who can stand before you
when your anger is roused?*
[8]From the heavens you uttered judgment;
the earth feared and was still*
[9]when God rose up to establish judgment,
to save all the oppressed of the earth. *Selah**

[10]Human wrath serves only to praise you,

when you bind the last bit of your[g] wrath around you.*
11 Make vows to the LORD your God and perform them;
let all who are around him bring gifts
to the one who is awesome,*
12 who cuts off the spirit of princes,
who inspires fear in the kings of the earth.*

Psalm 77

GOD'S MIGHTY DEEDS RECALLED

To the leader: according to Jeduthun. Of Asaph. A Psalm.

[1]I cry aloud to God,
aloud to God, that he may hear me.*
[2]In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord;
in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying;
my soul refuses to be comforted.*
[3]I think of God, and I moan;
I meditate, and my spirit faints. *Selah**

[4]You keep my eyelids from closing;
I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
[5]I consider the days of old
and remember the years of long ago.*
[6]I commune[h] with my heart in the night;
I meditate and search my spirit:[i],*
[7]"Will the Lord spurn forever
and never again be favorable?*
[8]Has his steadfast love ceased forever?
Are his promises at an end for all time?*
[9]Has God forgotten to be gracious?
Has he in anger shut up his compassion?" *Selah**
[10]And I say, "It is my grief
that the right hand of the Most High has changed."*

[11]I will call to mind the deeds of the LORD;

I will remember your wonders of old.*
12 I will meditate on all your work
and muse on your mighty deeds.
13 Your way, O God, is holy.
What god is so great as our God?*
14 You are the God who works wonders;
you have displayed your might among the peoples.
15 With your strong arm you redeemed your people,
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. *Selah**

16 When the waters saw you, O God,
when the waters saw you, they were afraid;
the very deep trembled.*
17 The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered;
your arrows flashed on every side.*
18 The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world;
the earth trembled and shook.*
19 Your way was through the sea,
your path through the mighty waters,
yet your footprints were unseen.*
20 You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.*

Psalm 78

GOD'S GOODNESS AND ISRAEL'S INGRATITUDE

A Maskil of Asaph.

[1]Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.*
[2]I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,*
[3]things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.*
[4]We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might
and the wonders that he has done.*

[5]He established a decree in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children,*
[6]that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,*
[7]so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;*
[8]and that they should not be like their ancestors,
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,

whose spirit was not faithful to God.*

9 The Ephraimites, armed with[j] the bow,
turned back on the day of battle.*
10 They did not keep God's covenant
and refused to walk according to his law.*
11 They forgot what he had done
and the miracles that he had shown them.*
12 In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels
in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.*
13 He divided the sea and let them pass through it
and made the waters stand like a heap.*
14 In the daytime he led them with a cloud
and all night long with a fiery light.*
15 He split rocks open in the wilderness
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.*
16 He made streams come out of the rock
and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

17 Yet they sinned still more against him,
rebelling against the Most High in the desert.*
18 They tested God in their heart
by demanding the food they craved.*
19 They spoke against God, saying,
"Can God spread a table in the wilderness?*
20 Even though he struck the rock so that water gushed out
and torrents overflowed,
can he also give bread
or provide meat for his people?"*

21 Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of rage;
a fire was kindled against Jacob,
his anger mounted against Israel,*
22 because they had no faith in God
and did not trust his saving power.*
23 Yet he commanded the skies above
and opened the doors of heaven;*
24 he rained down on them manna to eat
and gave them the grain of heaven.*
25 Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
he sent them food in abundance.
26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;*
27 he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;*
28 he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.
29 And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.*
30 But before they had satisfied their craving,
while the food was still in their mouths,
31 the anger of God rose against them,
and he killed the strongest of them
and laid low the flower of Israel.*

32 In spite of all this they still sinned;
they did not believe in his wonders.*
33 So he made their days vanish like a breath
and their years in terror.*

34 When he killed them, they searched for him;
they repented and sought God earnestly.*
35 They remembered that God was their rock,
the Most High God their redeemer.*
36 But they flattered him with their mouths;
they lied to him with their tongues.*
37 Their heart was not steadfast toward him;
they were not true to his covenant.
38 Yet he, being compassionate,
forgave their iniquity
and did not destroy them;
often he restrained his anger
and did not stir up all his wrath.*
39 He remembered that they were but flesh,
a wind that passes and does not come again.*
40 How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness
and grieved him in the desert!*
41 They tested God again and again
and provoked the Holy One of Israel.*
42 They did not keep in mind his power
or the day when he redeemed them from the foe,
43 when he displayed his signs in Egypt
and his miracles in the fields of Zoan.
44 He turned their rivers to blood,
so that they could not drink of their streams.*
45 He sent among them swarms of flies that devoured them
and frogs that destroyed them.*
46 He gave their crops to the caterpillar
and the fruit of their labor to the locust.

47 He destroyed their vines with hail
and their sycamores with frost.*
48 He gave over their cattle to the hail
and their flocks to thunderbolts.*
49 He let loose on them his fierce anger,
wrath, indignation, and distress,
a company of destroying angels.*
50 He made a path for his anger;
he did not spare them from death
but gave their lives over to the plague.
51 He struck all the firstborn in Egypt,
the first issue of their strength in the tents of Ham.*
52 Then he led out his people like sheep
and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.*
53 He led them in safety so that they were not afraid,
but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.*
54 And he brought them to his holy hill,
to the mountain that his right hand had won.*
55 He drove out nations before them;
he apportioned them for a possession
and settled the tribes of Israel in their tents.*

56 Yet they tested the Most High God
and rebelled against him.
They did not observe his decrees*
57 but turned away and were faithless like their ancestors;
they twisted like a treacherous bow.*
58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places;
they moved him to jealousy with their idols.*

59When God heard, he was full of wrath,
and he utterly rejected Israel.
60He abandoned his dwelling at Shiloh,
the tent where he dwelt among mortals,*
61and delivered his power to captivity,
his glory to the hand of the foe.*
62He gave his people to the sword
and vented his wrath on his heritage.*
63Fire devoured their young men,
and their young women had no marriage song.*
64Their priests fell by the sword,
and their widows made no lamentation.*
65Then the Lord awoke as from sleep,
like a warrior shouting because of wine.*
66He put his adversaries to rout;
he put them to everlasting disgrace.*

67He rejected the tent of Joseph;
he did not choose the tribe of Ephraim,
68but he chose the tribe of Judah,
Mount Zion, which he loves.*
69He built his sanctuary like the high heavens,
like the earth, which he has founded forever.*
70He chose his servant David
and took him from the sheepfolds;*
71from tending the nursing ewes he brought him
to be the shepherd of his people Jacob,
of Israel, his inheritance.*
72With upright heart he tended them

and guided them with skillful hand.*

Psalm 79

PLEA FOR MERCY FOR JERUSALEM

A Psalm of Asaph.

[1]O God, the nations have come into your inheritance;
they have defiled your holy temple;
they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.*
[2]They have given the bodies of your servants
to the birds of the air for food,
the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth.*
[3]They have poured out their blood like water
all around Jerusalem,
and there was no one to bury them.*
[4]We have become a taunt to our neighbors,
mocked and derided by those around us.*

[5]How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever?
Will your jealous wrath burn like fire?*
[6]Pour out your anger on the nations
that do not know you
and on the kingdoms
that do not call on your name.*
[7]For they have devoured Jacob
and laid waste his habitation.

[8]Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors;
let your compassion come speedily to meet us,
for we are brought very low.*

[9]Help us, O God of our salvation,
for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive our sins,
for your name's sake.*
[10]Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God?"
Let the avenging of the outpoured blood of your servants
be known among the nations before our eyes.*

[11]Let the groans of the prisoners come before you;
according to your great power, preserve those doomed to die.*
[12]Return sevenfold into the bosom of our neighbors
the taunts with which they taunted you, O Lord!*
[13]Then we your people, the flock of your pasture,
will give thanks to you forever;
from generation to generation we will recount your praise.*

Psalm 80

PRAYER FOR ISRAEL'S RESTORATION

To the leader: on Lilies, a Covenant. Of Asaph. A Psalm.

[1]Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
  you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth*
  [2]before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might,
  and come to save us!*

[3]Restore us, O God;
  let your face shine, that we may be saved.*

[4]O LORD God of hosts,
  how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?*
[5]You have fed them with the bread of tears
  and given them tears to drink in full measure.*
[6]You make us the scorn[k] of our neighbors;
  our enemies laugh among themselves.*

[7]Restore us, O God of hosts;
  let your face shine, that we may be saved.

[8]You brought a vine out of Egypt;
  you drove out the nations and planted it.*
[9]You cleared the ground for it;
  it took deep root and filled the land.*
[10]The mountains were covered with its shade,

the mighty cedars with its branches;
11 it sent out its branches to the sea
and its shoots to the River.
12 Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?*
13 The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.*

14 Turn again, O God of hosts;
look down from heaven and see;
have regard for this vine,*
15 the stock that your right hand planted.[l]
16 It has been burned with fire; it has been cut down;
may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.*
17 But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.*
18 Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.*

19 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Psalm 81

GOD'S APPEAL TO STUBBORN ISRAEL

To the leader: according to The Gittith. Of Asaph.

[1]Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout for joy to the God of Jacob.*
[2]Raise a song; sound the tambourine,
the sweet lyre with the harp.
[3]Blow the trumpet at the new moon,
at the full moon, on our festal day.*
[4]For it is a statute for Israel,
an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
[5]He made it a decree in Joseph,
when he went out over[m] the land of Egypt.

I hear a voice I had not known:*
[6]"I relieved your[n] shoulder of the burden;
your[o] hands were freed from the basket.*
[7]In distress you called, and I rescued you;
I answered you in the secret place of thunder;
I tested you at the waters of Meribah. *Selah**
[8]Hear, O my people, while I admonish you;
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!*
[9]There shall be no strange god among you;
you shall not bow down to a foreign god.*
[10]I am the LORD your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.*

11 “But my people did not listen to my voice;
Israel would not submit to me.*
12 So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts,
to follow their own counsels.*
13 O that my people would listen to me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!*
14 Then I would quickly subdue their enemies
and turn my hand against their foes.*
15 Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him,
and their doom would last forever.
16 I would feed you[p] with the finest of the wheat,
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”*

Psalm 82

A PLEA FOR JUSTICE

A Psalm of Asaph.

[1]God has taken his place in the divine council;
in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:*
[2]"How long will you judge unjustly
and show partiality to the wicked? *Selah**
[3]Give justice to the weak and the orphan;
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.*
[4]Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked."*

[5]They have neither knowledge nor understanding;
they walk around in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.*

[6]I say, "You are gods,
children of the Most High, all of you;*
[7]nevertheless, you shall die like mortals
and fall like any prince."q,*

[8]Rise up, O God, judge the earth,
for all the nations belong to you!*

Psalm 83

PRAYER FOR JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL'S FOES

A Song. A Psalm of Asaph.

[1]O God, do not keep silent;
do not hold your peace or be still, O God![*]
[2]Even now your enemies are in tumult;
those who hate you have raised their heads.[*]
[3]They lay crafty plans against your people;
they consult together against those you protect.[*]
[4]They say, "Come, let us wipe them out as a nation;
let the name of Israel be remembered no more."[*]
[5]They conspire with one accord;
against you they make a covenant—[*]
[6]the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites,
Moab and the Hagrites,[*]
[7]Gebal and Ammon and Amalek,
Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre;
[8]Assyria also has joined them;
they are the strong arm of the children of Lot. *Selah*

[9]Do to them as you did to Midian,
as to Sisera and Jabin at the Wadi Kishon,[*]
[10]who were destroyed at En-dor,
who became dung for the ground.
[11]Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb,
all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna,[*]
[12]who said, "Let us take the pastures of God

for our own possession.”*

13 O my God, make them like whirling dust,[r]
like chaff before the wind.*
14 As fire consumes the forest,
as the flame sets the mountains ablaze,*
15 so pursue them with your tempest
and terrify them with your hurricane.*
16 Fill their faces with shame,
so that they may seek your name, O Lord.
17 Let them be put to shame and dismayed forever;
let them perish in disgrace.*
18 Let them know that you alone,
whose name is the Lord,
are the Most High over all the earth.*

Psalm 84

THE JOY OF WORSHIP IN THE TEMPLE

To the leader: according to The Gittith. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.

[1]How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts![*]
[2]My soul longs, indeed it faints,
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.[*]

[3]Even the sparrow finds a home
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.[*]
[4]Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise. *Selah*[*]

[5]Happy are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.[s,*]
[6]As they go through the valley of Baca,
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.[*]
[7]They go from strength to strength;
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.[*]

[8]O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*

[9]Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed.*

[10]For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.*
[11]For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does the LORD withhold
from those who walk uprightly.*
[12]O LORD of hosts,
happy is everyone who trusts in you.*

Psalm 85

PRAYER FOR THE RESTORATION OF GOD'S FAVOR

To the leader. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.

[1]LORD, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.*
[2]You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin. *Selah**
[3]You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

[4]Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.
[5]Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?*
[6]Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?*
[7]Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.

[8]Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.t,*
[9]Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.*

[10]Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.*
[11]Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,

and righteousness will look down from the sky.
12 The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.*
13 Righteousness will go before him
and will make a path for his steps.*

Psalm 86

SUPPLICATION FOR HELP AGAINST ENEMIES

A Prayer of David.

[1]Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.*
[2]Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you;
save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God;* [3]be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all day long.*
[4]Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*
[5]For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.*
[6]Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
listen to my cry of supplication.*
[7]In the day of my trouble I call on you,
for you will answer me.*

[8]There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.*
[9]All the nations you have made shall come
and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.*
[10]For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.*
[11]Teach me your way, O LORD,
that I may walk in your truth;

give me an undivided heart to revere your name.*
12 I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.
13 For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.*

14 O God, the insolent rise up against me;
a band of ruffians seeks my life,
and they do not set you before them.*
15 But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.*
16 Turn to me and be gracious to me;
give your strength to your servant;
save the child of your maidservant.*
17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.*

Psalm 87

THE JOY OF LIVING IN ZION

Of the Korahites. A Psalm. A Song.

[1]On the holy mount stands the city he founded;
[2]the LORD loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.*
[3]Glorious things are spoken of you,
O city of God. *Selah**

[4]Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babylon;
Philistia, too, and Tyre, with Cush—
"This one was born there," they say.

[5]And of Zion it shall be said,
"This one and that one were born in it,"
for the Most High himself will establish it.*
[6]The LORD records, as he registers the peoples,
"This one was born there." *Selah**

[7]Singers and dancers alike say,
"All my springs are in you."*

Psalm 88

PRAYER FOR HELP IN DESPONDENCY

A Song. A Psalm of the Korahites. To the leader: according to Mahalath Leannoth. A Maskil of Heman the Ezrahite.

[1]O LORD, God of my salvation,
  at night, when I cry out before you,*
[2]let my prayer come before you;
  incline your ear to my cry.*

[3]For my soul is full of troubles,
  and my life draws near to Sheol.*
[4]I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;
  I am like those who have no help,*
[5]like those forsaken among the dead,
  like the slain that lie in the grave,
like those whom you remember no more,
  for they are cut off from your hand.*
[6]You have put me in the depths of the Pit,
  in the regions dark and deep.*
[7]Your wrath lies heavy upon me,
  and you overwhelm me with all your waves. *Selah**

[8]You have caused my companions to shun me;
  you have made me a thing of horror to them.
I am shut in so that I cannot escape;*
  [9]my eye grows dim through sorrow.
Every day I call on you, O LORD;
  I spread out my hands to you.*

[10]Do you work wonders for the dead?
Do the shades rise up to praise you? *Selah*[*]
[11]Is your steadfast love declared in the grave
or your faithfulness in Abaddon?
[12]Are your wonders known in the darkness
or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness?[*]

[13]But I, O LORD, cry out to you;
in the morning my prayer comes before you.[*]
[14]O LORD, why do you cast me off?
Why do you hide your face from me?[*]
[15]Wretched and close to death from my youth up,
I suffer your terrors; I am desperate.[u,*]
[16]Your wrath has swept over me;
your dread assaults destroy me.
[17]They surround me like a flood all day long;
from all sides they close in on me.[*]
[18]You have caused friend and neighbor to shun me;
my companions are in darkness.[*]

Psalm 89

GOD'S COVENANT WITH DAVID

A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

[1]I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD,[v] forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.*
[2]I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.*

[3]You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to my servant David:*
[4]'I will establish your descendants forever
and build your throne for all generations.' " *Selah**

[5]Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.*
[6]For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?
Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,*
[7]a God feared in the council of the holy ones,
great and awesome[w] above all who are around him?*
[8]O LORD God of hosts,
who is as mighty as you, O LORD?
Your faithfulness surrounds you.*
[9]You rule the raging of the sea;
when its waves rise, you still them.*
[10]You crushed Rahab like a carcass;
you scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.*

11 The heavens are yours; the earth also is yours;
the world and all that is in it—you founded them.*
12 The north and the south[x]—you created them;
Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name.*
13 You have a mighty arm;
strong is your hand, high your right hand.*
14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.*
15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your countenance;*
16 they exult in your name all day long
and extol[y] your righteousness.
17 For you are the glory of their strength;
by your favor our horn is exalted.*
18 For our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.*

19 Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one and said,
"I have set the crown[z] on one who is mighty;
I have exalted one chosen from the people.*
20 I have found my servant David;
with my holy oil I have anointed him;*
21 my hand shall always remain with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.
22 The enemy shall not outwit him;
the wicked shall not humble him.*
23 I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.*
24 My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him,

and in my name his horn shall be exalted.*
25 I will set his hand on the sea
and his right hand on the rivers.
26 He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'*
27 I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.*
28 Forever I will keep my steadfast love for him,
and my covenant with him will stand firm.*
29 I will establish his line forever
and his throne as long as the heavens endure.*
30 If his children forsake my law
and do not walk according to my ordinances,*
31 if they violate my statutes
and do not keep my commandments,
32 then I will punish their transgression with the rod
and their iniquity with scourges,*
33 but I will not remove from him my steadfast love
or be false to my faithfulness.*
34 I will not violate my covenant
or alter the word that went forth from my lips.*
35 Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness;
I will not lie to David.*
36 His line shall continue forever,
and his throne endure before me like the sun.*
37 It shall be established forever like the moon,
an enduring witness in the skies." *Selah*

38 But now you have spurned and rejected him;

you are full of wrath against your anointed.*
39 You have renounced the covenant with your servant;
you have defiled his crown in the dust.*
40 You have broken through all his walls;
you have laid his strongholds in ruins.*
41 All who pass by plunder him;
he has become the scorn of his neighbors.*
42 You have exalted the right hand of his foes;
you have made all his enemies rejoice.*
43 Moreover, you have turned back the edge of his sword,
and you have not supported him in battle.*
44 You have removed the scepter from his hand[a]
and hurled his throne to the ground.*
45 You have cut short the days of his youth;
you have covered him with shame. *Selah**

46 How long, O LORD? Will you hide yourself forever?
How long will your wrath burn like fire?*
47 Remember how short my time is—[b]
for what vanity you have created all mortals!*
48 Who can live and never see death?
Who can escape the power of Sheol? *Selah**

49 Lord, where is your steadfast love of old,
which by your faithfulness you swore to David?*
50 Remember, O Lord, how your servant is taunted,
how I bear in my bosom the insults of the peoples,[c],*
51 with which your enemies taunt, O LORD,
with which they taunted the footsteps of your anointed.*

52 Blessed be the LORD forever.

Amen and Amen.*

Book IV

(Psalms 90–106)

Psalm 90

GOD'S ETERNITY AND HUMAN FRAILTY

A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

[1]Lord, you have been our dwelling place[d]
in all generations.*
[2]Before the mountains were brought forth
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

[3]You turn us[e] back to dust
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."*
[4]For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past
or like a watch in the night.*

[5]You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;*
[6]in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.*

[7]For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.

8 You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.*

9 For all our days pass away under your wrath;
our years come to an end[f] like a sigh.*
10 The days of our life are seventy years
or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;
even then their span[g] is only toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.*

11 Who considers the power of your anger?
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.*
12 So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.*

13 Turn, O LORD! How long?
Have compassion on your servants!*
14 Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.*
15 Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us
and as many years as we have seen evil.
16 Let your work be manifest to your servants
and your glorious power to their children.*
17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us
and prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!*

Psalm 91

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PROTECTION

[1]You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,[h,*]
[2]will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."[*]
[3]For he will deliver you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly pestilence;[*]
[4]he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and defense.[*]
[5]You will not fear the terror of the night
or the arrow that flies by day[*]
[6]or the pestilence that stalks in darkness
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.[*]

[7]A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.
[8]You will only look with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.[*]

[9]Because you have made the LORD your refuge,[i]
the Most High your dwelling place,
[10]no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.[*]

[11]For he will command his angels concerning you

to guard you in all your ways.*
12On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
13You will tread on the lion and the adder;
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.*

14Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.*
15When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble;
I will rescue them and honor them.*
16With long life I will satisfy them
and show them my salvation.*

Psalm 92

THANKSGIVING FOR VINDICATION

A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath Day.

[1]It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High,*
[2]to declare your steadfast love in the morning
and your faithfulness by night,*
[3]to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.*
[4]For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

[5]How great are your works, O LORD!
Your thoughts are very deep!*
[6]The dullard cannot know;
the stupid cannot understand this:
[7]though the wicked sprout like grass
and all evildoers flourish,
they are doomed to destruction forever,*
[8]but you, O LORD, are on high forever.*
[9]For your enemies, O LORD,
for your enemies shall perish;
all evildoers shall be scattered.*

[10]But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox;
you have anointed me with fresh oil.
[11]My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;

my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.*

12 The righteous flourish like the palm tree
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.*
13 They are planted in the house of the LORD;
they flourish in the courts of our God.
14 In old age they still produce fruit;
they are always green and full of sap,*
15 showing that the LORD is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.*

Psalm 93

THE MAJESTY OF GOD'S RULE

[1]The LORD is king; he is robed in majesty;
the LORD is robed; he is girded with strength.
He has established the world; it shall never be moved;*
[2]your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.*

[3]The floods have lifted up, O LORD,
the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.
[4]More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves[j] of the sea,
majestic on high is the LORD!*

[5]Your decrees are very sure;
holiness befits your house,
O LORD, forevermore.*

Psalm 94

GOD THE AVENGER OF THE RIGHTEOUS

[1]O LORD, you God of vengeance,
you God of vengeance, shine forth!*
[2]Rise up, O judge of the earth;
give to the proud what they deserve!*
[3]O LORD, how long shall the wicked,
how long shall the wicked exult?*

[4]They pour out their arrogant words;
all the evildoers boast.*
[5]They crush your people, O LORD,
and afflict your heritage.
[6]They kill the widow and the stranger;
they murder the orphan,
[7]and they say, "The LORD does not see;
the God of Jacob does not perceive."*

[8]Understand, O dullest of the people;
fools, when will you be wise?*
[9]He who planted the ear, does he not hear?
He who formed the eye, does he not see?*
[10]He who disciplines the nations,
he who teaches knowledge to humankind,
does he not chastise?*
[11]The LORD knows our thoughts,[k]
that they are but an empty breath.*

12 Happy are those whom you discipline, O LORD,
and whom you teach out of your law,*
13 giving them respite from days of trouble,
until a pit is dug for the wicked.
14 For the LORD will not forsake his people;
he will not abandon his heritage;*
15 for justice will return to the righteous,
and all the upright in heart will follow it.

16 Who rises up for me against the wicked?
Who stands up for me against evildoers?*
17 If the LORD had not been my help,
my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence.*
18 When I thought, "My foot is slipping,"
your steadfast love, O LORD, held me up.*
19 When the cares of my heart are many,
your consolations cheer my soul.*
20 Can wicked rulers be allied with you,
those who contrive mischief by statute?*
21 They band together against the life of the righteous
and condemn the innocent to death.*
22 But the LORD has become my stronghold
and my God the rock of my refuge.*
23 He will repay them for their iniquity
and wipe them out for their wickedness;
the LORD our God will wipe them out.*

Psalm 95

A CALL TO WORSHIP AND OBEDIENCE

[1]O come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*
[2]Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*
[3]For the LORD is a great God
and a great King above all gods.*
[4]In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
[5]The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.*

[6]O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*
[7]For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!*
[8]Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,*
[9]when your ancestors tested me
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.*
[10]For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray,
and they do not regard my ways."*
[11]Therefore in my anger I swore,

“They shall not enter my rest.”*

Psalm 96

PRAISE TO GOD WHO COMES IN JUDGMENT

[1]O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.*
[2]Sing to the LORD; bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.*
[3]Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.*
[4]For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.*
[5]For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.*
[6]Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.*

[7]Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.*
[8]Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.*
[9]Worship the LORD in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth.*

[10]Say among the nations, "The LORD is king!
The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.
He will judge the peoples with equity."*
[11]Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar and all that fills it;*

[12]let the field exult and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
[13]before the LORD, for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with his truth.*

Psalm 97

THE GLORY OF GOD'S REIGN

[1]The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice;
let the many coastlands be glad!*
[2]Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.*
[3]Fire goes before him
and consumes his adversaries on every side.*
[4]His lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.
[5]The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the Lord of all the earth.*

[6]The heavens proclaim his righteousness,
and all the peoples behold his glory.
[7]All servants of images are put to shame,
those who make their boast in worthless idols;
all gods bow down before him.*
[8]Zion hears and is glad,
and the towns[l] of Judah rejoice
because of your judgments, O God.*
[9]For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.*

[10]You who love the LORD, hate evil;
he guards the lives of his faithful;
he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.*
[11]Light dawns[m] for the righteous

and joy for the upright in heart.*
12 Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!

Psalm 98

PRAISE THE JUDGE OF THE WORLD

A Psalm.

[1]O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.*
[2]The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.*
[3]He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.*

[4]Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.*
[5]Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
[6]With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.*

[7]Let the sea roar and all that fills it,
the world and those who live in it.*
[8]Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy*
[9]at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.*

Psalm 99

PRAISE TO GOD FOR HIS HOLINESS

[1]The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake![*]
[2]The LORD is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.[*]
[3]Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is he!
[4]Mighty King,[n] lover of justice,
you have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.[*]
[5]Extol the LORD our God;
worship at his footstool.
Holy is he![*]

[6]Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.[*]
[7]He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his decrees
and the statutes that he gave them.[*]

[8]O LORD our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.[*]
[9]Extol the LORD our God,
and worship at his holy mountain,

for the LORD our God is holy.*

Psalm 100

ALL LANDS SUMMONED TO PRAISE GOD

A Psalm of thanksgiving.

[1]Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.*
[2]Serve the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

[3]Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;o
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.*

[4]Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him; bless his name.*

[5]For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

Psalm 101

A SOVEREIGN'S PLEDGE OF INTEGRITY AND JUSTICE

Of David. A Psalm.

[1]I will sing of loyalty and of justice;
to you, O LORD, I will sing.*
[2]I will study the way that is blameless.
When shall I attain it?

I will walk with integrity of heart
within my house;*
[3]I will not set before my eyes
anything that is base.

I hate the work of those who fall away;
it shall not cling to me.*
[4]Perverseness of heart shall be far from me;
I will know nothing of evil.*

[5]One who secretly slanders a neighbor
I will destroy.
A haughty look and an arrogant heart
I will not tolerate.*

[6]I will look with favor on the faithful in the land,
so that they may live with me;
whoever walks in the way that is blameless
shall minister to me.*

[7]No one who practices deceit

shall remain in my house;
no one who utters lies
shall continue in my presence.

8 Morning by morning I will destroy
all the wicked in the land,
cutting off all evildoers
from the city of the LORD.*

Psalm 102

PRAYER TO THE ETERNAL KING FOR HELP

A prayer of one afflicted, when faint and pleading before the LORD.

[1]Hear my prayer, O LORD;
let my cry come to you.*
[2]Do not hide your face from me
in the day of my distress.
Incline your ear to me;
answer me speedily in the day when I call.*

[3]For my days pass away like smoke,
and my bones burn like a furnace.*
[4]My heart is stricken and withered like grass;
I am too wasted to eat my bread.*
[5]Because of my loud groaning,
my bones cling to my skin.*
[6]I am like a desert owl[p] of the wilderness,
like a little owl of the waste places.*
[7]I lie awake;
I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.*
[8]All day long my enemies taunt me;
those who deride me use my name for a curse.*
[9]Indeed, I eat ashes like bread
and mingle tears with my drink,*
[10]because of your indignation and anger,
for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.
[11]My days are like a lengthening shadow;

I wither away like grass.*

12 But you, O LORD, are enthroned forever;
your name endures to all generations.*
13 You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,
for it is time to favor it;
the appointed time has come.*
14 For your servants hold its stones dear
and have pity on its dust.
15 The nations will fear the name of the LORD
and all the kings of the earth your glory.*
16 For the LORD will build up Zion;
he will appear in his glory.*
17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute
and will not despise their prayer.*

18 Let this be recorded for a generation to come,
so that a people yet unborn may praise the LORD:*
19 that he looked down from his holy height,
from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,*
20 to hear the groans of the prisoners,
to set free those who were doomed to die,*
21 so that the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion
and his praise in Jerusalem,*
22 when peoples gather together,
and kingdoms, to serve the LORD.*

23 He has broken my strength in midcourse;
he has shortened my days.*
24 "O my God," I say, "do not take me away

at the midpoint of my life,
you whose years endure
throughout all generations.”*

25 Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.*
26 They will perish, but you endure;
they will all wear out like a garment.
You change them like clothing, and they pass away,*
27 but you are the same, and your years have no end.*
28 The children of your servants shall live secure;
their offspring shall be established in your presence.*

Psalm 103

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S GOODNESS

Of David.

[1]Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.*
[2]Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
[3]who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,*
[4]who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,*
[5]who satisfies you with good as long as you live[q]
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

[6]The LORD works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
[7]He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
[8]The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*
[9]He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.*
[10]He does not deal with us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our iniquities.*
[11]For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;*

12 as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.*
13 As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.*
14 For he knows how we were made;
he remembers that we are dust.*

15 As for mortals, their days are like grass;
they flourish like a flower of the field;*
16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.
17 But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
18 to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.*

19 The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.*
20 Bless the LORD, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding,
obedient to his spoken word.*
21 Bless the LORD, all his hosts,
his ministers who do his will.*
22 Bless the LORD, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the LORD, O my soul.

Psalm 104

GOD THE CREATOR AND PROVIDER

[1]Bless the LORD, O my soul.
O LORD my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty,*
[2]wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent;*
[3]you set the beams of your[r] chambers on the waters;
you make the clouds your[s] chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind;*
[4]you make the winds your[t] messengers,
fire and flame your[u] ministers.*

[5]You set the earth on its foundations,
so that it shall never be shaken.*
[6]You cover it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.*
[7]At your rebuke they flee;
at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.
[8]They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys,
to the place that you appointed for them.*
[9]You set a boundary that they may not pass,
so that they might not again cover the earth.*

[10]You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills,*
[11]giving drink to every wild animal;
the wild asses quench their thirst.*

12 By the streams[v] the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing among the branches.*
13 From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.*

14 You cause the grass to grow for the cattle
and plants for people to cultivate,
to bring forth food from the earth*
15 and wine to gladden the human heart,
oil to make the face shine
and bread to strengthen the human heart.*
16 The trees of the field[w] are watered abundantly,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
17 In them the birds build their nests;
the stork has its home in the fir trees.
18 The high mountains are for the wild goats;
the rocks are a refuge for the coneys.*
19 You have made the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.*
20 You make darkness, and it is night,
when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.*
21 The young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.*
22 When the sun rises, they withdraw
and lie down in their dens.
23 People go out to their work
and to their labor until the evening.*

24 O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;

the earth is full of your creatures.*
25There is the sea, great and wide;
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.
26There go the ships
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.*

27These all look to you
to give them their food in due season;*
28when you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
29When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.*
30When you send forth your spirit,x they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.*

31May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD rejoice in his works—*
32who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.*
33I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.*
34May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the LORD.
35Let sinners be consumed from the earth,
and let the wicked be no more.
Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 105

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS TO ISRAEL

[1]O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.*
[2]Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.*
[3]Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.*
[4]Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.*
[5]Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,*
[6]O offspring of his servant Abraham,[y]
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

[7]He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.*
[8]He is mindful of his covenant forever,
of the word that he commanded for a thousand generations,
[9]the covenant that he made with Abraham,
his sworn promise to Isaac,*
[10]which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,*
[11]saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan
as your portion for an inheritance."*

[12]When they were few in number,
of little account and strangers in it,*

13 wandering from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another people,
14 he allowed no one to oppress them;
he rebuked kings on their account,*
15 saying, “Do not touch my anointed ones;
do my prophets no harm.”

16 When he summoned famine against the land
and cut off every supply of bread,z,*
17 he had sent a man ahead of them,
Joseph, who had been sold as a slave.*
18 His feet were hurt with fetters;
his neck was put in a collar of iron;*
19 until what he had said came to pass,
the word of the Lord kept testing him.*
20 The king sent and released him;
the ruler of the peoples set him free.*
21 He made him lord of his house
and ruler of all his possessions,*
22 to instructa his officials at his pleasure
and to teach his elders wisdom.

23 Then Israel came to Egypt;
Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.*
24 And the Lord made his people very fruitful
and made them stronger than their foes,*
25 whose hearts he then turned to hate his people,
to deal craftily with his servants.*

26 He sent his servant Moses

and Aaron, whom he had chosen.*
27 They performed his signs among them
and miracles in the land of Ham.*
28 He sent darkness and made the land dark;
they rebelled[b] against his words.*
29 He turned their waters into blood
and caused their fish to die.*
30 Their land swarmed with frogs,
even in the chambers of their kings.*
31 He spoke, and there came swarms of flies
and gnats throughout their country.*
32 He gave them hail for rain
and lightning that flashed through their land.*
33 He struck their vines and fig trees
and shattered the trees of their country.
34 He spoke, and the locusts came,
and young locusts without number;*
35 they devoured all the vegetation in their land
and ate up the fruit of their ground.
36 He struck down all the firstborn in their land,
the first issue of all their strength.*

37 Then he brought Israel[c] out with silver and gold,
and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled.*
38 Egypt was glad when they departed,
for dread of them had fallen upon it.*
39 He spread a cloud for a covering
and fire to give light by night.*
40 They asked, and he brought quails

and gave them food from heaven in abundance.*
41 He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
it flowed through the desert like a river.*
42 For he remembered his holy promise
and Abraham, his servant.*

43 So he brought his people out with joy,
his chosen ones with singing.
44 He gave them the lands of the nations,
and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples,*
45 that they might keep his statutes
and observe his laws.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 106

A CONFESSION OF ISRAEL'S SINS

[1]Praise the LORD!
O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*
[2]Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD
or declare all his praise?*
[3]Happy are those who observe justice,
who do righteousness at all times.*

[4]Remember us,[d] O LORD, when you show favor to your people;
help us[e] when you deliver them,*
[5]that we may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,
that we may rejoice in the gladness of your nation,
that we may glory in your heritage.*

[6]Both we and our ancestors have sinned;
we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.*
[7]Our ancestors, when they were in Egypt,
did not consider your wonderful works;
they did not remember the abundance of your steadfast love
but rebelled against the Most High[f] at the Red Sea.[g,*]
[8]Yet he saved them for his name's sake,
so that he might make known his mighty power.*
[9]He rebuked the Red Sea,[h] and it became dry;
he led them through the deep as through a desert.*
[10]So he saved them from the hand of the foe
and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.*

[11]The waters covered their adversaries;
not one of them was left.*
[12]Then they believed his words;
they sang his praise.*

[13]But they soon forgot his works;
they did not wait for his counsel.*
[14]But they had a wanton craving in the wilderness
and put God to the test in the desert;*
[15]he gave them what they asked
but sent a wasting disease among them.*

[16]They were jealous of Moses in the camp
and of Aaron, the holy one of the LORD.*
[17]The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan
and covered the faction of Abiram.*
[18]Fire also broke out in their company;
the flame burned up the wicked.*

[19]They made a calf at Horeb
and worshiped a cast image.*
[20]They exchanged the glory of God[i]
for the image of an ox that eats grass.*
[21]They forgot God, their Savior,
who had done great things in Egypt,*
[22]wondrous works in the land of Ham,
and awesome deeds by the Red Sea.[j],*
[23]Therefore he said he would destroy them—
had not Moses, his chosen one,
stood in the breach before him,

to turn away his wrath from destroying them.*

24 Then they despised the pleasant land,
having no faith in his promise.*
25 They grumbled in their tents
and did not obey the voice of the LORD.*
26 Therefore he raised his hand and swore to them
that he would make them fall in the wilderness*
27 and would disperse[k] their descendants among the nations,
scattering them over the lands.*

28 Then they attached themselves to the Baal of Peor
and ate sacrifices offered to the dead;*
29 they provoked the LORD to anger with their deeds,
and a plague broke out among them.
30 Then Phinehas stood up and interceded,
and the plague was stopped.*
31 And that has been reckoned to him as righteousness
from generation to generation forever.*

32 They angered the LORD[l] at the waters of Meribah,
and it went ill with Moses on their account,*
33 for they made his spirit bitter,
and he spoke words that were rash.*

34 They did not destroy the peoples,
as the LORD had commanded them,*
35 but they mingled with the nations
and learned to do as they did.*
36 They served their idols,
which became a snare to them.*

37 They sacrificed their sons
    and their daughters to the demons;*
38 they poured out innocent blood,
    the blood of their sons and daughters,
whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan,
    and the land was polluted with blood.*
39 Thus they became unclean by their acts
    and prostituted themselves in their doings.*

40 Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against his people,
    and he abhorred his heritage;*
41 he gave them into the hand of the nations,
    so that those who hated them ruled over them.*
42 Their enemies oppressed them,
    and they were brought into subjection under their power.
43 Many times he delivered them,
    but they were rebellious in their purposes
    and were brought low through their iniquity.*
44 Nevertheless, he regarded their distress
    when he heard their cry.*
45 For their sake he remembered his covenant
    and showed compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love.*
46 He caused them to be pitied
    by all who held them captive.*

47 Save us, O LORD our God,
    and gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
    and glory in your praise.*

48 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
And let all the people say, “Amen.”
Praise the LORD!*

Book V

(Psalms 107–150)

Psalm 107

THANKSGIVING FOR DELIVERANCE FROM MANY TROUBLES

[1]O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*
[2]Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
those he redeemed from trouble*
[3]and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.[m,*]

[4]Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to an inhabited town;*
[5]hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.
[6]Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress;*
[7]he led them by a straight way,
until they reached an inhabited town.*
[8]Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.*
[9]For he satisfies the thirsty,
and the hungry he fills with good things.*

[10]Some sat in darkness and in gloom,
prisoners in misery and in irons,*

11 for they had rebelled against the words of God
and spurned the counsel of the Most High.*
12 Their hearts were bowed down with hard labor;
they fell down, with no one to help.*
13 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress;*
14 he brought them out of darkness and gloom,
and broke their bonds apart.*
15 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.*
16 For he shatters the doors of bronze
and cuts in two the bars of iron.*

17 Some were sick[n] through their sinful ways
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;*
18 they loathed any kind of food,
and they drew near to the gates of death.*
19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress;
20 he sent out his word and healed them
and delivered them from destruction.*
21 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.
22 And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.*

23 Some went down to the sea in ships,
doing business on the mighty waters;
24 they saw the deeds of the LORD,
his wondrous works in the deep.

25 For he commanded and raised the stormy wind,
which lifted up the waves of the sea.*
26 They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths;
their courage melted away in their calamity;*
27 they reeled and staggered like drunkards
and were at their wits' end.*
28 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he brought them out from their distress;
29 he made the storm be still,
and the waves of the sea were hushed.*
30 Then they were glad because they had quiet,
and he brought them to their desired haven.
31 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.*
32 Let them extol him in the congregation of the people
and praise him in the assembly of the elders.*

33 He turns rivers into a desert,
springs of water into thirsty ground,*
34 a fruitful land into a salty waste,
because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.*
35 He turns a desert into pools of water,
a parched land into springs of water.*
36 And there he lets the hungry live,
and they establish a town to live in;
37 they sow fields and plant vineyards
and get a fruitful yield.*
38 By his blessing they multiply greatly,
and he does not let their cattle decrease.*

[39]When they are diminished and brought low
through oppression, trouble, and sorrow,*
[40]he pours contempt on princes
and makes them wander in trackless wastes,*
[41]but he raises up the needy out of distress
and makes their families like flocks.*
[42]The upright see it and are glad,
and all wickedness stops its mouth.*
[43]Let those who are wise pay attention to these things
and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.*

Psalm 108

PRAISE AND PRAYER FOR VICTORY

A Song. A Psalm of David.

[1]My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;[o]
I will sing and make melody.
Awake, my soul![p,*]
[2]Awake, O harp and lyre!
I will awake the dawn.[*]
[3]I will give thanks to you, O LORD, among the peoples,
and I will sing praises to you among the nations.
[4]For your steadfast love is higher than the heavens,
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.[*]

[5]Be exalted, O God, above the heavens,
and let your glory be over all the earth.
[6]Give victory with your right hand, and answer me,
so that those whom you love may be rescued.[*]

[7]God has promised in his sanctuary:[q]
"With exultation I will divide up Shechem
and portion out the Vale of Succoth.
[8]Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine;
Ephraim is my helmet;
Judah is my scepter.[*]
[9]Moab is my washbasin;
on Edom I hurl my shoe;
over Philistia I shout in triumph."

[10]Who will bring me to the fortified city?
Who will lead me to Edom?
[11]Have you not rejected us, O God?
You do not go out, O God, with our armies.*
[12]O grant us help against the foe,
for human help is worthless.
[13]With God we shall do valiantly;
it is he who will tread down our foes.

Psalm 109

PRAYER FOR VINDICATION AND VENGEANCE

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

[1]Do not be silent, O God of my praise.*
[2]For wicked and deceitful mouths are opened against me,
speaking against me with lying tongues.
[3]They surround me with words of hate
and attack me without cause.*
[4]In return for my love they accuse me,
even while I make prayer for them.[r],*
[5]So they reward me evil for good
and hatred for my love.*

[6]They say,[s] "Appoint a wicked man against him;
let an accuser stand on his right.*
[7]When he is tried, let him be found guilty;
let his prayer be counted as sin.*
[8]May his days be few;
may another seize his position.*
[9]May his children be orphans
and his wife a widow.*
[10]May his children wander about and beg;
may they be driven out of[t] the ruins they inhabit.
[11]May the creditor seize all that he has;
may strangers plunder the fruits of his toil.*
[12]May there be no one to do him a kindness

nor anyone to pity his orphaned children.*
13 May his posterity be cut off;
may his name be blotted out in the second generation.*
14 May the iniquity of his father[u] be remembered before the LORD,
and do not let the sin of his mother be blotted out.*
15 Let them be before the LORD continually,
and may his[v] memory be cut off from the earth.*
16 For he did not remember to show kindness
but pursued the poor and needy
and the brokenhearted to their death.*
17 He loved to curse; let curses come on him.
He did not like blessing; may it be far from him.*
18 He clothed himself with cursing as his coat;
may it soak into his body like water,
like oil into his bones.*
19 May it be like a garment that he wraps around himself,
like a belt that he wears every day."

20 May that be the reward of my accusers from the LORD,
of those who speak evil against my life.*
21 But you, O LORD my Lord,
act on my behalf for your name's sake;
because your steadfast love is good, deliver me.*
22 For I am poor and needy,
and my heart is pierced within me.*
23 I am gone like a shadow at evening;
I am shaken off like a locust.*
24 My knees are weak through fasting;
my body has become gaunt.*

25 I am an object of scorn to my accusers;
when they see me, they shake their heads.*

26 Help me, O LORD my God!
Save me according to your steadfast love.
27 Let them know that this is your hand;
you, O LORD, have done it.*
28 Let them curse, but you will bless.
Let my assailants be put to shame;[w] may your servant be glad.*
29 May my accusers be clothed with dishonor;
may they be wrapped in their own shame as in a mantle.*
30 With my mouth I will give great thanks to the LORD;
I will praise him in the midst of the throng.*
31 For he stands at the right hand of the needy,
to save them from those who would condemn them to death.*

Psalm 110

ASSURANCE OF VICTORY FOR GOD'S PRIEST-KING

Of David. A Psalm.

[1]The LORD says to my lord,
"Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies your footstool."*

[2]The LORD sends out from Zion
your mighty scepter.
Rule in the midst of your foes.*
[3]Your people will offer themselves willingly
on the day you lead your forces
on the holy mountains.[x]
From the womb of the morning,
like dew, your youth[y] will come to you.*
[4]The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind,
"You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."[z],*

[5]The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.*
[6]He will execute judgment among the nations,
filling them with corpses;
he will shatter heads
over the wide earth.*
[7]He will drink from the stream by the path;
therefore he will lift up his head.*

Psalm 111

PRAISE FOR GOD'S WONDERFUL WORKS

[1]Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.*
[2]Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.
[3]Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.*
[4]He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.*
[5]He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.*
[6]He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
[7]The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.*
[8]They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.*
[9]He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.*
[10]The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it[a] have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.*

Psalm 112

BLESSINGS OF THE RIGHTEOUS

[1]Praise the LORD!
Happy are those who fear the LORD,
who greatly delight in his commandments.*
[2]Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.*
[3]Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.
[4]They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.*
[5]It is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice.
[6]For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.*
[7]They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.*
[8]Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.*
[9]They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.*
[10]The wicked see it and are angry;
they gnash their teeth and melt away;
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.*

Psalm 113

GOD THE HELPER OF THE NEEDY

[1]Praise the LORD!
Praise, O servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.*

[2]Blessed be the name of the LORD
from this time on and forevermore.*
[3]From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the LORD is to be praised.*
[4]The LORD is high above all nations
and his glory above the heavens.*

[5]Who is like the LORD our God,
who is seated on high,*
[6]who looks far down
on the heavens and the earth?*
[7]He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
[8]to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.
[9]He gives the barren woman a home,
making her the joyous mother of children.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 114

GOD'S WONDERS AT THE EXODUS

[1b]When Israel went out from Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,*
[2]Judah became God's[c] sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.*

[3]The sea looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.*
[4]The mountains skipped like rams,
the hills like lambs.*

[5]Why is it, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
[6]O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?

[7]Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,*
[8]who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of water.*

Psalm 115

THE IMPOTENCE OF IDOLS AND THE GREATNESS OF GOD

[1][d]Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness.*
[2]Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God?"*

[3]Our God is in the heavens;
he does whatever he pleases.*
[4]Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.*
[5]They have mouths, but they do not speak;
they have eyes, but they do not see.
[6]They have ears, but they do not hear;
they have noses, but they do not smell.
[7]They have hands, but they do not feel;
they have feet, but they do not walk;
they make no sound in their throats.
[8]Those who make them are like them;
so are all who trust in them.*

[9]O Israel, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.*
[10]O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.
[11]You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.*

12 The LORD has been mindful of us; he will bless us;
he will bless the house of Israel;
he will bless the house of Aaron;
13 he will bless those who fear the LORD,
both small and great.

14 May the LORD give you increase,
both you and your children.*
15 May you be blessed by the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.*

16 The heavens are the LORD's heavens,
but the earth he has given to human beings.*
17 The dead do not praise the LORD,
nor do any who go down into silence.*
18 But we will bless the LORD
from this time on and forevermore.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 116

THANKSGIVING FOR RECOVERY FROM ILLNESS

[1]I love the LORD because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.*
[2]Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.*
[3]The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.*
[4]Then I called on the name of the LORD,
"O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

[5]Gracious is the LORD and righteous;
our God is merciful.*
[6]The LORD protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
[7]Return, O my soul, to your rest,
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.*

[8]For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling.*
[9]I walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.
[10]e I kept my faith, even when I said,
"I am greatly afflicted";
[11]I said in my consternation,
"Everyone is a liar."*

[12]What shall I return to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?
[13]I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD;
[14]I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.*
[15]Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.*
[16]O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds.*
[17]I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.*
[18]I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,
[19]in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 117

UNIVERSAL CALL TO WORSHIP

[1]Praise the LORD, all you nations!
Extol him, all you peoples![*]
[2]For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
Praise the LORD![*]

Psalm 118

A SONG OF VICTORY

[1]O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!*

[2]Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."*
[3]Let the house of Aaron say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."
[4]Let those who fear the LORD say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."

[5]Out of my distress I called on the LORD;
the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.*
[6]With the LORD on my side I do not fear.
What can mortals do to me?*
[7]The LORD is on my side to help me;
I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.*
[8]It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in mortals.*
[9]It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in princes.*

[10]All nations surrounded me;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!*
[11]They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!
[12]They surrounded me like bees;

they blazed[f] like a fire of thorns;
in the name of the LORD I cut them off!
13 I was pushed hard,[g] so that I was falling,
but the LORD helped me.*
14 The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.*

15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;*
16 the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."*
17 I shall not die, but I shall live
and recount the deeds of the LORD.*
18 The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.*

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.*

20 This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.*

21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.*
22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.*
23 This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
24 This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.[h]

[25]Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

[26]Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.[i]
We bless you from the house of the LORD.*
[27]The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.[j,*]

[28]You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.*

[29]O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

Psalm 119

THE GLORIES OF GOD'S LAW

[1]Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD.*
[2]Happy are those who keep his decrees,
who seek him with their whole heart,
[3]who also do no wrong
but walk in his ways.*
[4]You have commanded your precepts
to be kept diligently.
[5]O that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!
[6]Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.*
[7]I will praise you with an upright heart,
when I learn your righteous ordinances.*
[8]I will observe your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.

[9]How can young people keep their way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.*
[10]With my whole heart I seek you;
do not let me stray from your commandments.*
[11]I treasure your word in my heart,
so that I may not sin against you.*
[12]Blessed are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes.*

13 With my lips I declare
all the ordinances of your mouth.*
14 I delight in the way of your decrees
as much as in all riches.
15 I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.*
16 I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.*

17 Deal bountifully with your servant,
so that I may live and observe your word.*
18 Open my eyes, so that I may behold
wondrous things out of your law.
19 I live as an alien in the land;
do not hide your commandments from me.*
20 My soul is consumed with longing
for your ordinances at all times.*
21 You rebuke the insolent, accursed ones,
who wander from your commandments;*
22 take away from me their scorn and contempt,
for I have kept your decrees.*
23 Even though princes sit plotting against me,
your servant will meditate on your statutes.*
24 Your decrees are my delight;
they are my counselors.*

25 My soul clings to the dust;
revive me according to your word.*
26 When I told of my ways, you answered me;
teach me your statutes.*

[27]Make me understand the way of your precepts,
and I will meditate on your wondrous works.*
[28]My soul melts away for sorrow;
strengthen me according to your word.*
[29]Put false ways far from me,
and graciously teach me your law.
[30]I have chosen the way of faithfulness;
I set your ordinances before me.
[31]I cling to your decrees, O LORD;
let me not be put to shame.*
[32]I run the way of your commandments,
for you enlarge my understanding.*

[33]Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.*
[34]Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.*
[35]Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.
[36]Turn my heart to your decrees
and not to selfish gain.*
[37]Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
be gracious to me[k] according to your word.*
[38]Confirm to your servant your promise,
which is for those who fear you.*
[39]Turn away the disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.
[40]See, I have longed for your precepts;
in your righteousness be gracious to me.[l,*]

41 Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD,
your salvation according to your promise.*
42 Then I shall have an answer for those who taunt me,
for I trust in your word.*
43 Do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your ordinances.
44 I will keep your law continually,
forever and ever.
45 I shall walk at liberty,
for I have sought your precepts.
46 I will also speak of your decrees before kings
and shall not be put to shame;*
47 I find my delight in your commandments
because I love them.
48 I revere your commandments, which I love,
and I will meditate on your statutes.*

49 Remember your word to your servant,
in which you have made me hope.
50 This is my comfort in my distress,
that your promise gives me life.*
51 The arrogant utterly deride me,
but I do not turn away from your law.*
52 When I think of your ordinances from of old,
I take comfort, O LORD.*
53 Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked,
those who forsake your law.*
54 Your statutes have been my songs
wherever I make my home.

55 I remember your name in the night, O LORD,
and keep your law.*
56 This blessing has fallen to me,
for I have kept your precepts.

57 The LORD is my portion;
I promise to keep your words.*
58 I implore your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.*
59 When I think of your ways,
I turn my feet to your decrees;*
60 I hurry and do not delay
to keep your commandments.
61 Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,
I do not forget your law.*
62 At midnight I rise to praise you,
because of your righteous ordinances.*
63 I am a companion of all who fear you,
of those who keep your precepts.*
64 The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes.*

65 You have dealt well with your servant,
O LORD, according to your word.
66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge,
for I believe in your commandments.
67 Before I was humbled I went astray,
but now I keep your word.*
68 You are good and do good;
teach me your statutes.*

69 The arrogant smear me with lies,
but with my whole heart I keep your precepts.*
70 Their hearts are thick like fat,[m]
but I delight in your law.*
71 It is good for me that I was humbled,
so that I might learn your statutes.
72 The law of your mouth is better to me
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.*

73 Your hands have made and fashioned me;
give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.*
74 Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice,
because I have hoped in your word.*
75 I know, O LORD, that your judgments are right
and that in faithfulness you have humbled me.*
76 Let your steadfast love become my comfort
according to your promise to your servant.
77 Let your mercy come to me, that I may live,
for your law is my delight.
78 Let the arrogant be put to shame,
for they have subverted me with guile;
as for me, I will meditate on your precepts.*
79 Let those who fear you turn to me,
so that they may know your decrees.
80 May my heart be blameless in your statutes,
so that I may not be put to shame.

81 My soul languishes for your salvation;
I hope in your word.*
82 My eyes fail with watching for your promise;

I ask, "When will you comfort me?"*
83For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke,
yet I have not forgotten your statutes.*
84How long must your servant endure?
When will you judge those who persecute me?*
85The arrogant have dug pitfalls for me;
they flout your law.*
86All your commandments are enduring;
I am persecuted without cause; help me!*
87They have almost made an end of me on earth,
but I have not forsaken your precepts.
88In your steadfast love spare my life,
so that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.

89The LORD exists forever;
your word is firmly fixed in heaven.*
90Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
you have established the earth, and it stands fast.*
91By your appointment they stand today,
for all things are your servants.*
92If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my misery.
93I will never forget your precepts,
for by them you have given me life.*
94I am yours; save me,
for I have sought your precepts.
95The wicked lie in wait to destroy me,
but I consider your decrees.
96I have seen a limit to all perfection,

but your commandment is exceedingly broad.

97 Oh, how I love your law!
It is my meditation all day long.*
98 Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is always with me.
99 I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your decrees are my meditation.
100 I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.*
101 I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.*
102 I do not turn away from your ordinances,
for you have taught me.
103 How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!*
104 Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.*

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.*
106 I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.*
107 I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O LORD, according to your word.*
108 Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD,
and teach me your ordinances.*
109 I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.*
110 The wicked have laid a snare for me,

but I do not stray from your precepts.*
111 Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.*
112 I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.*

113 I hate the double-minded,
but I love your law.*
114 You are my hiding place and my shield;
I hope in your word.*
115 Go away from me, you evildoers,
that I may keep the commandments of my God.*
116 Uphold me according to your promise, that I may live,
and let me not be put to shame in my hope.*
117 Hold me up, that I may be safe
and have regard for your statutes continually.
118 You spurn all who go astray from your statutes,
for their cunning is in vain.*
119 All the wicked of the earth I count[n] as dross;
therefore I love your decrees.*
120 My flesh trembles for fear of you,
and I am afraid of your judgments.*

121 I have done what is just and right;
do not leave me to my oppressors.
122 Guarantee your servant's well-being;
do not let the godless oppress me.*
123 My eyes fail from watching for your salvation
and for the fulfillment of your righteous promise.*
124 Deal with your servant according to your steadfast love,

and teach me your statutes.*
125 I am your servant; give me understanding,
so that I may know your decrees.*
126 It is time for the LORD to act,
for your law has been broken.
127 Truly I love your commandments
more than gold, more than fine gold.*
128 Truly I direct my steps by all your precepts;o
I hate every false way.*

129 Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.*
130 The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.*
131 With open mouth I pant,
because I long for your commandments.*
132 Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your custom toward those who love your name.*
133 Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.*
134 Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.*
135 Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.*
136 My eyes shed streams of tears
because your law is not kept.*

137 You are righteous, O LORD,
and your judgments are right.*
138 You have appointed your decrees in righteousness

and in all faithfulness.*
139 My zeal consumes me
because my foes forget your words.*
140 Your promise is well tried,
and your servant loves it.*
141 I am small and despised,
yet I do not forget your precepts.
142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness,
and your law is the truth.*
143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me,
but your commandments are my delight.*
144 Your decrees are righteous forever;
give me understanding that I may live.*

145 With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD.
I will keep your statutes.*
146 I cry to you; save me,
that I may observe your decrees.
147 I rise before dawn and cry for help;
I put my hope in your words.*
148 My eyes are awake before each watch of the night,
that I may meditate on your promise.
149 In your steadfast love hear my voice;
O LORD, in your justice preserve my life.*
150 Those who persecute me with evil purpose draw near;
they are far from your law.
151 Yet you are near, O LORD,
and all your commandments are true.*
152 Long ago I learned from your decrees

that you have established them forever.*

153 Look on my misery and rescue me,
for I do not forget your law.*
154 Plead my cause and redeem me;
give me life according to your promise.*
155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not seek your statutes.*
156 Great is your mercy, O LORD;
be gracious to me[p] according to your justice.*
157 Many are my persecutors and my adversaries,
yet I do not swerve from your decrees.*
158 I look at the faithless with disgust
because they do not keep your commands.*
159 Consider how I love your precepts;
be gracious to me[q] according to your steadfast love.*
160 The sum of your word is truth,
and every one of your righteous ordinances endures forever.*

161 Princes persecute me without cause,
but my heart stands in awe of your words.*
162 I rejoice at your word
like one who finds great spoil.*
163 I hate and abhor falsehood,
but I love your law.
164 Seven times a day I praise you
for your righteous ordinances.*
165 Great peace have those who love your law;
nothing can make them stumble.*
166 I hope for your salvation, O LORD,

and I fulfill your commandments.*
167 My soul keeps your decrees;
I love them exceedingly.
168 I keep your precepts and decrees,
for all my ways are before you.*

169 Let my cry come before you, O LORD;
give me understanding according to your word.*
170 Let my supplication come before you;
deliver me according to your promise.*
171 My lips will pour forth praise,
because you teach me your statutes.*
172 My tongue will sing of your promise,
for all your commandments are right.
173 Let your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.*
174 I long for your salvation, O LORD,
and your law is my delight.
175 Let me live that I may praise you,
and let your ordinances help me.*
176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek out your servant,
for I do not forget your commandments.*

Psalm 120

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM SLANDERERS

A Song of Ascents.

[1]In my distress I cry to the LORD,
that he may answer me:*
[2]"Deliver me, O LORD,
from lying lips,
from a deceitful tongue."

[3]What shall be given to you?
And what more shall be done to you,
you deceitful tongue?
[4]A warrior's sharp arrows,
with glowing coals of the broom tree!*

[5]Woe is me, that I am an alien in Meshech,
that I must live among the tents of Kedar.*
[6]Too long have I had my dwelling
among those who hate peace.
[7]I am for peace,
but when I speak,
they are for war.

Psalm 121

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PROTECTION

A Song of Ascents.

[1]I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
[2]My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.*

[3]He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.*
[4]He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

[5]The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.*
[6]The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.*

[7]The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.*
[8]The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.*

Psalm 122

SONG OF PRAISE AND PRAYER FOR JERUSALEM

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

[1]I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"*
[2]Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

[3]Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together.*
[4]To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.*
[5]For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.*

[6]Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.*
[7]Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers."
[8]For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you."
[9]For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.*

Psalm 123

SUPPLICATION FOR MERCY

A Song of Ascents.

[1]To you I lift up my eyes,
  O you who are enthroned in the heavens!*
[2]As the eyes of servants
  look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid
  to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the LORD our God,
  until he has mercy upon us.*

[3]Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us,
  for we have had more than enough of contempt.*
[4]Our soul has had more than its fill
  of the scorn of those who are at ease,
  of the contempt of the proud.*

Psalm 124

THANKSGIVING FOR ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

[1]If it had not been the LORD who was on our side
—let Israel now say—*
[2]if it had not been the LORD who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,
[3]then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;*
[4]then the flood would have swept us away;
the torrent would have gone over us;*
[5]then over us would have gone
the raging waters.

[6]Blessed be the LORD,
who has not given us
as prey to their teeth.*
[7]We have escaped like a bird
from the snare of the hunters;
the snare is broken,
and we have escaped.*

[8]Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.*

Psalm 125

THE SECURITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE

A Song of Ascents.

[1]Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved but abides forever.*
[2]As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people
from this time on and forevermore.*
[3]For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
so that the righteous might not stretch out
their hands to do wrong.*
[4]Do good, O LORD, to those who are good
and to those who are upright in their hearts.*
[5]But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways,
the LORD will lead away with evildoers.
Peace be upon Israel!*

Psalm 126

A HARVEST OF JOY

A Song of Ascents.

[1]When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,[r]
we were like those who dream.*
[2]Then our mouth was filled with laughter
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."*
[3]The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.*

[4]Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.*
[5]May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.*
[6]Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Psalm 127

GOD'S BLESSINGS IN THE HOME

A Song of Ascents. Of Solomon.

[1]Unless the LORD builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the LORD guards the city,
the guard keeps watch in vain.*
[2]It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,
eating the bread of anxious toil,
for he gives sleep to his beloved.s,*

[3]Sons are indeed a heritage from the LORD,
the fruit of the womb a reward.*
[4]Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the sons of one's youth.
[5]Happy is the man who has
his quiver full of them.
He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.*

Psalm 128

THE HAPPY HOME OF THE FAITHFUL

A Song of Ascents.

[1]Happy is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways.*
[2]You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you.*

[3]Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.*
[4]Thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the LORD.

[5]The LORD bless you from Zion.
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.*
[6]May you see your children's children.
Peace be upon Israel!*

Psalm 129

PRAYER FOR THE DOWNFALL OF ISRAEL'S ENEMIES

A Song of Ascents.

[1]Often have they attacked me from my youth
—let Israel now say—*
[2]often have they attacked me from my youth,
yet they have not prevailed against me.*
[3]The plowers plowed on my back;
they made their furrows long.
[4]The LORD is righteous;
he has cut the cords of the wicked.*
[5]May all who hate Zion
be put to shame and turned backward.*
[6]Let them be like the grass on the housetops
that withers before it grows up,*
[7]with which reapers do not fill their hands
or binders of sheaves their arms,
[8]while those who pass by do not say,
"The blessing of the LORD be upon you!
We bless you in the name of the LORD!"*

Psalm 130

WAITING FOR DIVINE REDEMPTION

A Song of Ascents.

[1]Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.*
[2]Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!*

[3]If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?*
[4]But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.*

[5]I wait for the LORD; my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;*
[6]my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.*

[7]O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.*
[8]It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.*

Psalm 131

SONG OF QUIET TRUST

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

[1]O LORD, my heart is not lifted up;
my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too marvelous for me.*
[2]But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother;
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.t,*

[3]O Israel, hope in the LORD
from this time on and forevermore.*

Psalm 132

THE ETERNAL DWELLING OF GOD IN ZION

A Song of Ascents.

[1]O LORD, remember in David's favor
all the hardships he endured;
[2]how he swore to the LORD
and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,*
[3]"I will not enter my house
or get into my bed;
[4]I will not give sleep to my eyes
or slumber to my eyelids,
[5]until I find a place for the LORD,
a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."*

[6]We heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.*
[7]"Let us go to his dwelling place;
let us worship at his footstool."*

[8]Rise up, O LORD, and go to your resting place,
you and the ark of your might.*
[9]Let your priests be clothed with righteousness,
and let your faithful shout for joy.*
[10]For your servant David's sake
do not turn away the face of your anointed one.

[11]The LORD swore to David a sure oath
from which he will not turn back:

“One of the sons of your body
I will set on your throne.*
12If your sons keep my covenant
and my decrees that I shall teach them,
their sons also, forevermore,
shall sit on your throne.”*

13For the LORD has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his habitation:*
14“This is my resting place forever;
here I will reside, for I have desired it.
15I will abundantly bless its provisions;
I will satisfy its poor with bread.*
16Its priests I will clothe with salvation,
and its faithful will shout for joy.
17There I will cause a horn to sprout up for David;
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.*
18His enemies I will clothe with disgrace,
but on him, his crown will gleam.”*

Psalm 133

THE BLESSEDNESS OF UNITY

A Song of Ascents.

[1]How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity![*]
[2]It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.[*]
[3]It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the LORD ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.[*]

Psalm 134

PRAISE IN THE NIGHT

A Song of Ascents.

[1]Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,
who stand by night in the house of the LORD![*]
[2]Lift up your hands to the holy place,
and bless the LORD.[*]

[3]May the LORD, maker of heaven and earth,
bless you from Zion.

Psalm 135

PRAISE FOR GOD'S GOODNESS AND MIGHT

[1]Praise the LORD!
Praise the name of the LORD;
give praise, O servants of the LORD,
[2]you who stand in the house of the LORD,
in the courts of the house of our God.*
[3]Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;
sing to his name, for he is gracious.*
[4]For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself,
Israel as his own possession.*

[5]For I know that the LORD is great;
our Lord is above all gods.*
[6]Whatever the LORD pleases he does,
in heaven and on earth,
in the seas and all deeps.*
[7]He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth;
he makes lightnings for the rain
and brings out the wind from his storehouses.*

[8]He it was who struck down the firstborn of Egypt,
both humans and animals;*
[9]he sent signs and wonders
into your midst, O Egypt,
against Pharaoh and all his servants.*
[10]He struck down many nations
and killed mighty kings—*

[11]Sihon, king of the Amorites,
and Og, king of Bashan,
and all the kingdoms of Canaan—*
[12]and gave their land as a heritage,
a heritage to his people Israel.*

[13]Your name, O LORD, endures forever,
your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages.*
[14]For the LORD will vindicate his people
and have compassion on his servants.*

[15]The idols of the nations are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.*
[16]They have mouths, but they do not speak;
they have eyes, but they do not see;
[17]they have ears, but they do not hear,
a nose, but there is no breath in their mouths.
[18]Those who make them
and all who trust them
shall become like them.

[19]O house of Israel, bless the LORD!
O house of Aaron, bless the LORD!*
[20]O house of Levi, bless the LORD!
You who fear the LORD, bless the LORD!*
[21]Blessed be the LORD from Zion,
he who resides in Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 136

GOD'S WORK IN CREATION AND IN HISTORY

[1]O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*
[2]O give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*
[3]O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

[4]who alone does great wonders,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
[5]who by understanding made the heavens,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
[6]who spread out the earth on the waters,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
[7]who made the great lights,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
[8]the sun to rule over the day,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
[9]the moon and stars to rule over the night,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

[10]who struck Egypt through their firstborn,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
[11]and brought Israel out from among them,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
[12]with a strong hand and an outstretched arm,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*

13 who divided the Red Sea[u] in two,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
14 and made Israel pass through the midst of it,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
15 but overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea,[v]
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
16 who led his people through the wilderness,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
who made water flow from the rock,
for his steadfast love endures forever;[w]
17 who struck down great kings,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
18 and killed famous kings,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
19 Sihon, king of the Amorites,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
20 and Og, king of Bashan,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
21 and gave their land as a heritage,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
22 a heritage to his servant Israel,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

23 It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
24 and rescued us from our foes,
for his steadfast love endures forever;*
25 who gives food to all flesh,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

[26]O give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 137

LAMENT OVER THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

[1]By the rivers of Babylon—
there we sat down, and there we wept
when we remembered Zion.*
[2]On the willows[x] there
we hung up our harps.
[3]For there our captors
asked us for songs,
and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,
"Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"*

[4]How could we sing the LORD's song
in a foreign land?
[5]If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!
[6]Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth,
if I do not remember you,
if I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy.*

[7]Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem's fall,
how they said, "Tear it down! Tear it down!
Down to its foundations!"*
[8]O daughter Babylon, you devastator![y]
Happy shall they be who pay you back
what you have done to us!*

[9]Happy shall they be who take your little ones
and dash them against the rock![*]

Psalm 138

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

Of David.

[1]I give you thanks, O LORD,[z] with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;[*]
[2]I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.[a,*]
[3]On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength of soul.[b,*]

[4]All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.[*]
[5]They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.
[6]For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he perceives from far away.[*]

[7]Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.[*]
[8]The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.[*]

Psalm 139

THE INESCAPABLE GOD

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

[1]O LORD, you have searched me and known me.*
[2]You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.*
[3]You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.*
[4]Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.*
[5]You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.*
[6]Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.*

[7]Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?*
[8]If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.*
[9]If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
[10]even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.*
[11]If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and night wraps itself around me,"[c],*
[12]even the darkness is not dark to you;

the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.*

13 For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.*
14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.*
15 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.*
16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.[d]
17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!*
18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end[e]—I am still with you.

19 O that you would kill the wicked, O God,
and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—*
20 those who speak of you maliciously
and lift themselves up against you for evil![f,*]
21 Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?*
22 I hate them with perfect hatred;
I count them my enemies.
23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.*

[24]See if there is any wicked[g] way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.[h,*]

Psalm 140

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

To the leader. A Psalm of David.

[1]Deliver me, O LORD, from evildoers;
protect me from those who are violent,*
[2]who plan evil things in their minds
and stir up wars continually.*
[3]They make their tongue sharp as a snake's,
and under their lips is the venom of vipers. *Selah**

[4]Guard me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked;
protect me from the violent
who have planned my downfall.*
[5]The arrogant have hidden a trap for me,
and with cords they have spread a net,[i]
along the road they have set snares for me. *Selah**

[6]I say to the LORD, "You are my God;
give ear, O LORD, to the voice of my supplications."*
[7]O LORD, my Lord, my strong deliverer,
you have covered my head in the day of battle.*
[8]Do not grant, O LORD, the desires of the wicked;
do not further their evil plot.[j] *Selah**

[9]Those who surround me lift up their heads;[k]
let the mischief of their lips overwhelm them!*
[10]Let burning coals fall on them!

Let them be flung into pits, no more to rise!*
11 Do not let the slanderer be established in the land;
let evil speedily hunt down the violent!*

12 I know that the LORD maintains the cause of the needy
and executes justice for the poor.*
13 Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name;
the upright shall live in your presence.*

Psalm 141

PRAYER FOR PRESERVATION FROM EVIL

A Psalm of David.

[1]I call upon you, O LORD; come quickly to me;
give ear to my voice when I call to you.*
[2]Let my prayer be counted as incense before you
and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.*

[3]Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD;
keep watch over the door of my lips.
[4]Do not turn my heart to any evil,
to busy myself with wicked deeds
in company with those who work iniquity;
do not let me eat of their delicacies.*

[5]Let the righteous strike me;
let the faithful correct me.
Never let the oil of the wicked anoint my head,[l]
for my prayer is continually[m] against their wicked deeds.*
[6]When they are given over to those who shall condemn them,
then they shall learn that my words were pleasant.
[7]Like a rock that one breaks apart and shatters on the land,
so shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of Sheol.[n],*

[8]But my eyes are turned toward you, O GOD, my Lord;
in you I seek refuge; do not leave me defenseless.*
[9]Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me
and from the snares of evildoers.*

[10]Let the wicked fall into their own nets,
while I alone escape.*

Psalm 142

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM PERSECUTORS

A Maskil of David. When he was in the cave. A Prayer.

[1]With my voice I cry to the LORD;
with my voice I make supplication to the LORD.*
[2]I pour out my complaint before him;
I tell my trouble before him.*
[3]When my spirit is faint,
you know my way.

In the path where I walk,
they have hidden a trap for me.*
[4]Look on my right hand and see:
there is no one who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares for me.*

[5]I cry to you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living."*
[6]Listen to my cry,
for I am brought very low.

Save me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me.*
[7]Bring me out of prison,
so that I may give thanks to your name.
The righteous will surround me,

for you will deal bountifully with me.*

Psalm 143

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM ENEMIES

A Psalm of David.

[1]Hear my prayer, O LORD;
give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness;
answer me in your righteousness.*
[2]Do not enter into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.*

[3]For the enemy has pursued me,
crushing my life to the ground,
making me sit in darkness like those long dead.
[4]Therefore my spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is appalled.*

[5]I remember the days of old;
I think about all your deeds;
I meditate on the works of your hands.*
[6]I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land. *Selah**

[7]Answer me quickly, O LORD;
my spirit fails.
Do not hide your face from me,
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.*
[8]Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning,
for in you I put my trust.
Teach me the way I should go,

for to you I lift up my soul.*

9Save me, O LORD, from my enemies;
I have fled to you for refuge.o,*
10Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.
Let your good spirit lead me
on a level path.*

11For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life.
In your righteousness bring me out of trouble.*
12In your steadfast love cut off my enemies,
and destroy all my adversaries,
for I am your servant.*

Psalm 144

PRAYER FOR NATIONAL DELIVERANCE AND SECURITY

Of David.

[1]Blessed be the LORD, my rock,
who trains my hands for war and my fingers for battle,*
[2]my rock[p] and my fortress,
my stronghold and my deliverer,
my shield, in whom I take refuge,
who subdues the peoples[q] under me.*

[3]O LORD, what are humans that you regard them,
or mortals that you think of them?*
[4]They are like a breath;
their days are like a passing shadow.*

[5]Bow your heavens, O LORD, and come down;
touch the mountains so that they smoke.*
[6]Make the lightning flash and scatter them;
send out your arrows and rout them.*
[7]Stretch out your hand from on high;
set me free and rescue me from the mighty waters,
from the hand of foreigners,*
[8]whose mouths speak lies
and whose right hands are false.*

[9]I will sing a new song to you, O God;
upon a ten-stringed harp I will play to you,*
[10]the one who gives victory to kings,

who rescues his servant David.*
11 Rescue me from the cruel sword,
and deliver me from the hand of aliens,
whose mouths speak lies,
and whose right hands are false.*

12 May our sons in their youth
be like plants full grown,
our daughters like corner pillars,
cut for the building of a palace.*
13 May our barns be filled
with produce of every kind;
may our sheep increase by thousands,
by tens of thousands in our fields,
14 and may our cattle be heavy with young.
May there be no breach in the walls,[r] no exile,
and no cry of distress in our streets.

15 Happy are the people to whom such blessings fall;
happy are the people whose God is the LORD.*

Psalm 145

THE GREATNESS AND THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Praise. Of David.

[1]I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
[2]Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.*
[3]Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.*

[4]One generation shall extol your works to another
and shall declare your mighty acts.*
[5]They will recount the glorious[s] splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works I will meditate.*
[6]They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.*
[7]They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.*

[8]The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*
[9]The LORD is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.*

[10]All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.*
[11]They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom

and tell of your power,
12 to make known to all people your[t] mighty deeds
and the glorious splendor of your[u] kingdom.
13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The LORD is faithful in all his words
and gracious in all his deeds.[v],*
14 The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.*
15 The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.*
16 You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.
17 The LORD is just in all his ways
and kind in all his doings.
18 The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.*
19 He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry and saves them.*
20 The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.*

21 My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

Psalm 146

PRAISE FOR GOD'S HELP

[1]Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul![*]
[2]I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.[*]

[3]Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.[*]
[4]When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.[*]

[5]Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,[*]
[6]who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;[*]
[7]who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;[*]
[8]the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.[*]
[9]The LORD watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.[*]

[10]The LORD will reign forever,

your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD![*]

Psalm 147

PRAISE FOR GOD'S CARE FOR JERUSALEM

[1]Praise the LORD!
How good it is to sing praises to our God,
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.*
[2]The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.*
[3]He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.*
[4]He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.*
[5]Great is our Lord and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.*
[6]The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.

[7]Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.
[8]He covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth,
makes grass grow on the hills.*
[9]He gives to the animals their food
and to the young ravens when they cry.*
[10]His delight is not in the strength of the horse
nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner,[w],*
[11]but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

12 Extol the LORD, O Jerusalem!
Praise your God, O Zion!
13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates;
he blesses your children within you.
14 He grants peace[x] within your borders;
he fills you with the finest of wheat.*
15 He sends out his command to the earth;
his word runs swiftly.*
16 He gives snow like wool;
he scatters frost like ashes.*
17 He hurls down hail like crumbs—
who can stand before his cold?
18 He sends out his word and melts them;
he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.*
19 He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and ordinances to Israel.*
20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation;
they do not know his ordinances.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 148

PRAISE FOR GOD'S UNIVERSAL GLORY

[1]Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
[2]Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host![*]

[3]Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!
[4]Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens![*]

[5]Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded and they were created.[*]
[6]He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.[y,*]

[7]Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,[*]
[8]fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command![*]

[9]Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars![*]
[10]Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!

[11]Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!
12 Young men and women alike,
old and young together!

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.*
14 He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 149

PRAISE FOR GOD'S GOODNESS TO ISRAEL

[1]Praise the LORD!
Sing to the LORD a new song,
  his praise in the assembly of the faithful.*
[2]Let Israel be glad in its Maker;
  let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.*
[3]Let them praise his name with dancing,
  making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.*
[4]For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;
  he adorns the humble with victory.*
[5]Let the faithful exult in glory;
  let them sing for joy on their couches.*
[6]Let the high praises of God be in their throats
  and two-edged swords in their hands,*
[7]to execute vengeance on the nations
  and punishment on the peoples,
[8]to bind their kings with fetters
  and their nobles with chains of iron,
[9]to execute on them the judgment decreed.
  This is glory for all his faithful ones.
Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 150

PRAISE FOR GOD'S SURPASSING GREATNESS

[1]Praise the LORD!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty firmament![z,*]
[2]Praise him for his mighty deeds;
praise him according to his surpassing greatness![*]

[3]Praise him with trumpet sound;
praise him with lute and harp![*]
[4]Praise him with tambourine and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe![*]
[5]Praise him with clanging cymbals;
praise him with loud clashing cymbals![*]
[6]Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD!

Psalm 1

* **1.1** Job 21.16; Ps 17.4; 26.5; Prov 4.14; Jer 15.17
* **1.2** Josh 1.8; Ps 119.35
* **1.3** Gen 39.3; Ps 128.2; Jer 17.8; Ezek 47.12
* **1.4** Job 21.18; Isa 17.13
* **1.5** Ps 5.5; 9.7, 8, 16; 111.1; 149.1
* **1.6** Ps 9.3–6; 37.18; 2 Tim 2.19

Psalm 2

* **2.1** Ps 21.11; Acts 4.25
* **2.2** Ps 48.4–6; 74.18, 23; Jn 1.41
* **2.4** Ps 59.8
* **2.5** Ps 21.8, 9
* **2.6** Ps 3.4
* **2.7** Acts 13.33; Heb 1.5
* **2.8** Ps 22.27
* **2.9** Ps 89.23; Rev 2.27
* **2.11** Ps 119.119, 120; Heb 12.28

a **2.12** Cn: Meaning of Heb of 2.11b and 12a is uncertain

* **2.12** Ps 34.8; Jn 5.23

Psalm 3

b **3.2** Syr: Heb *him*

* **3.3** Ps 27.6; 28.7
* **3.4** Ps 34.4; 99.9
* **3.5** Lev 26.6; Ps 139.18
* **3.8** Num 6.23–27; Isa 43.11; Jer 3.23

Psalm 4

* **4.1** Ps 17.6; 18.6, 18; 24.5; 27.7
* **4.2** Ps 31.6, 18
* **4.3** Ps 6.8, 9; 31.23

c **4.4** Or *are angry*

* **4.4** Ps 33.8; 77.6; Eph 4.26
* **4.5** Deut 33.19; Ps 37.3; 50.14
* **4.6** Num 6.26
* **4.7** Isa 9.3; Acts 14.17
* **4.8** Lev 25.18; Ps 3.5

Psalm 5

* **5.1** Ps 19.14; 54.2
* **5.2** Ps 3.4; 84.3
* **5.3** Ps 88.13; Hab 2.1
* **5.4** Ps 11.5; 92.15
* **5.5** Ps 1.5; 11.5; 73.3
* **5.6** Ps 55.23; Rev 21.8
* **5.7** Ps 28.2; 69.13
* **5.8** Ps 27.11; 31.1
* **5.9** Deut 32.20; Ps 12.2; Lk 11.44; Rom 3.13
* **5.10** Ps 9.16; 107.10, 11; Lam 1.5
* **5.11** Ps 2.12; 69.36; Isa 65.13; Zech 9.15
* **5.12** Ps 32.7, 10; 112.2

Psalm 6

* **6.1** Ps 2.5; 38.1
* **6.2** Ps 41.4; 51.1
* **6.3** Ps 90.13; Jn 12.27
* **6.5** Ps 30.9; Isa 38.18
* **6.7** Ps 31.9
* **6.8** Ps 5.5; 28.6; 119.115; Lk 13.27
* **6.9** Ps 66.19, 20; 116.1

Psalm 7

* **7.1** Ps 11.1; 31.15
* **7.2** Ps 17.12; 50.22
* **7.3** 1 Sam 24.11; 2 Sam 16.7
* **7.4** 1 Sam 24.7

d **7.6** Or *awake for me*

* **7.6** Ps 3.7; 44.23; 94.2

e **7.7** Cn: Heb *return*

* **7.7** Ps 68.18
* **7.8** Ps 18.20; 35.24; 96.13
* **7.9** 1 Chr 28.9; Ps 34.21; Isa 54.14; Jer 11.20; Rev 2.23
* **7.10** Ps 18.2; 125.4
* **7.11** Ps 50.6; Isa 34.2

f **7.12** Heb *he*

* **7.12** Deut 32.41; Ps 21.12; Ezek 3.19; 33.9
* **7.13** Ps 64.7
* **7.14** Isa 59.4; Jas 1.15

* **7.15** Job 4.8; Ps 9.15; Eccl 10.8
* **7.16** Esth 9.25; Ps 140.9
* **7.17** Ps 9.2; 71.15, 16

Psalm 8

* **8.1** Ps 66.2; 113.4; 148.13
* **8.2** Ps 44.16; Mt 21.16
* **8.3** Ps 89.11; 102.25; 136.9
g **8.4** Heb *son of man*
* **8.4** Job 7.17; Ps 144.3; Heb 2.6
h **8.5** Or *than the divine beings* or *angels*
* **8.5** Ps 21.5; 103.4; Heb 2.9
* **8.6** Gen 1.26; Heb 2.8
* **8.9** v 1

Psalm 9

i **9.1** Psalms 9–10 were originally one psalm, as in the Greek and Latin traditions. In Hebrew, Psalms 9–10 formed an acrostic.
* **9.1** Ps 26.7; 86.12
* **9.2** Ps 5.11; 83.18
* **9.3** Ps 27.2; 56.9
* **9.4** Ps 47.8; 67.4; 140.12; 1 Pet 2.23
* **9.5** Deut 9.14
* **9.6** Ps 34.16; 40.15
* **9.7** Ps 29.10; 89.14
* **9.8** Ps 96.13
* **9.9** Ps 18.2; 32.7; 37.39
* **9.10** Ps 37.28; 91.14
* **9.11** Ps 76.2; 105.1
* **9.12** v 18; Gen 9.5
* **9.13** Ps 25.19; 30.3, 10; 38.19
* **9.14** Ps 13.5; 87.2; 106.2
* **9.15** Ps 7.15; 35.8
* **9.16** v 4; Isa 64.2
* **9.17** Job 8.13; Ps 49.14; 50.22
* **9.18** v 12; Ps 74.19
* **9.19** 2 Chr 14.11; Ps 3.7; 110.6
* **9.20** Ps 83.15; Isa 31.3

Psalm 10

j **10.1** Psalms 9–10 were originally one psalm, as in the Greek and Latin traditions. In Hebrew, Psalms 9–10 formed an acrostic.

* **10.2** Ps 7.15; 9.16; 109.16
* **10.3** v 13; Job 1.5, 11; Ps 94.4
* **10.4** v 13; Ps 14.1
* **10.6** Ps 30.6; 49.11
* **10.7** Ps 59.12; 73.8; 140.3; Rom 3.14
* **10.8** Ps 94.6; Prov 1.11
* **10.9** v 2; Ps 17.12; 59.3; 140.5
* **10.11** v 4; Job 22.13; Ps 73.11
* **10.12** Ps 9.12; Mic 5.9
* **10.14** Job 11.11; Ps 37.5; 68.5; Jer 51.56; Hos 14.3
* **10.15** Ps 9.12; 37.17
* **10.16** Deut 8.20; Ps 29.10
* **10.17** 1 Chr 29.18; Ps 34.15; 145.19

k **10.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **10.18** Ps 9.9; 82.3; Isa 29.20

Psalm 11

l **11.1** Gk Syr Jerome Tg: Heb *flee to your mountain, O bird*

* **11.1** Ps 56.11
* **11.2** Ps 7.12; 64.3, 4
* **11.3** Ps 82.5
* **11.4** Ps 18.6; 34.15, 16; 103.19
* **11.5** Gen 22.1; Ps 5.5; Jas 1.12
* **11.6** Ps 75.8; Jer 4.11, 12; Ezek 38.22
* **11.7** Ps 7.9, 11; 17.15; 33.5

Psalm 12

* **12.1** Isa 57.1
* **12.2** 1 Chr 12.33; Ps 41.6; 55.21
* **12.3** Ps 73.8, 9
* **12.5** Ps 3.7; 10.18; 34.6
* **12.6** Ps 18.30; Prov 30.5
* **12.7** Ps 37.28
* **12.8** Ps 55.10, 11

Psalm 13

* **13.1** Job 13.24; Ps 44.24; 88.14

m **13.2** Syr: Heb *hold counsels*

* **13.2** Ps 42.4, 9; 94.3
* **13.3** Ezra 9.8; Ps 5.1; Jer 51.39
* **13.4** Ps 25.2; Jer 20.10
* **13.5** Ps 9.14; 52.8
* **13.6** Ps 59.16; 116.7

Psalm 14

* **14.1** Ps 10.4; 53.1–6; 73.8; Rom 3.10–12
* **14.2** Ezra 6.21; Ps 33.13; 92.6
* **14.3** Ps 58.3; 143.2; 2 Pet 2.7; Rev 22.11
* **14.4** Ps 27.2; 79.6; 82.5; Isa 64.7
* **14.5** Ps 73.15
* **14.6** Ps 9.9; 40.17
* **14.7** Job 42.10; Ps 53.6

Psalm 15

* **15.1** Ps 2.6; 24.3–5; 27.5, 6
* **15.2** Ps 24.4; 51.6; Eph 4.25
* **15.3** Ex 23.1; Lev 19.16
* **15.4** Judg 11.35; Acts 28.10; 2 Tim 3.8
* **15.5** Ex 22.25; 23.8; Deut 16.19; Ps 112.6

Psalm 16

* **16.1** Ps 7.1; 17.8
n **16.2** Jerome Tg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16.3** Deut 33.3; Ps 101.6
o **16.4** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16.4** Ex 23.13; Ps 32.10; 106.37, 38
* **16.5** Ps 23.5; 73.26; 125.3
* **16.6** Ps 78.55; Jer 3.19
* **16.7** Ps 73.24; 77.6
* **16.8** Ps 54.3; 62.2; 73.23
* **16.9** Ps 4.7, 8; 30.12
* **16.10** Ps 49.9; Acts 2.27; 13.35
* **16.11** Ps 17.15; 36.7, 8; Mt 7.14

Psalm 17

* **17.3** Job 23.10; Ps 26.2; 39.1; 66.10; Jer 50.20
* **17.4** Prov 1.15

* **17.5** Ps 18.36; 44.18
* **17.6** Ps 86.7; 88.2
* **17.7** Ps 20.6; 31.21
* **17.8** Deut 32.10; Ps 36.7
* **17.10** 1 Sam 2.3; Ps 31.18; 73.7
p **17.11** Q ms Gk: MT *Our steps*
* **17.12** Ps 7.2; 10.9
* **17.13** Ps 7.12; 22.20; 73.18
* **17.14** Job 21.11; Ps 73.3–7; Isa 2.7; Lk 16.8
* **17.15** Ps 4.6, 7; 16.11; 1 Jn 3.2

Psalm 18

* **18.2** Ps 9.9; 11.1; 19.14; 40.17; 59.11; 75.10; 91.2
* **18.3** Num 10.9; Ps 48.1
* **18.4** Ps 116.3; 124.3, 4
* **18.5** Ps 116.3; Prov 14.27
* **18.6** Ps 11.4; 34.15; 86.7
* **18.7** Ps 68.7, 8; 114.4, 6
* **18.9** Ex 20.21; Ps 144.5
* **18.10** Ps 80.1; 104.3
* **18.11** Ps 97.2
* **18.12** Ps 104.2; 140.10
q **18.13** Gk: Heb adds *hailstones and coals of fire*
* **18.13** Ps 29.3; 104.7
* **18.14** Ex 14.24; Judg 4.15; Ps 7.13; 144.6
* **18.15** Ex 15.8; Ps 76.6; 106.9
* **18.16** Ps 144.7
* **18.17** v 48; Ps 35.10
* **18.19** Ps 31.8; 37.23; 118.5
* **18.20** 1 Kings 8.32; Ps 7.8
* **18.21** Ps 119.33
* **18.22** Ps 119.30, 83
* **18.24** 1 Sam 26.23
* **18.25** Mt 5.7
* **18.26** Job 25.5; Prov 3.34
* **18.27** Ps 72.12; Prov 6.17
* **18.28** Job 18.6; 29.3
* **18.29** 2 Cor 12.9; Heb 11.34
* **18.30** Deut 32.4; Ps 12.6; 17.7
* **18.31** Deut 32.31, 39; Ps 86.8–10; Isa 45.5
r **18.32** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **18.33** Deut 32.13; Hab 3.19
* **18.34** Job 20.24; Ps 144.1
s **18.35** Or *gentleness*
* **18.37** Ps 37.20; 44.5
* **18.38** Ps 36.12; 47.3; 110.6
* **18.39** vv 32, 47
* **18.40** Ps 94.23
* **18.41** Ps 50.22; Prov 1.28
* **18.42** Ps 83.13
t **18.43** Gk Tg: Heb *people*
* **18.43** Ps 35.1; Isa 55.5
* **18.45** Ps 37.2; Mic 7.17
* **18.46** Ps 42.2; 51.14
* **18.47** Ps 47.3; 94.1
* **18.48** Ps 27.6; 140.1, 4
* **18.49** Ps 108.1; Rom 15.9
* **18.50** Ps 28.8; 89.4, 29; 144.10

Psalm 19

u **19.1** Or *dome*
* **19.1** Gen 1.6; Isa 40.22; Rom 1.19, 20
* **19.2** Ps 74.16
v **19.4** Gk Jerome Compare Syr: Heb *line*
w **19.4** Heb *In them*
* **19.4** Rom 10.18
* **19.5** Eccl 1.5
* **19.6** Deut 30.4; Ps 113.3
* **19.7** Ps 23.3; 93.5; 111.7; 119.98–100, 142
* **19.8** Ps 12.6; 119.128, 130
* **19.9** Ps 119.42
* **19.10** Prov 8.10; 16.24
* **19.11** Ps 17.4; Prov 29.18
* **19.12** Ps 51.1, 2; 90.8; 139.6
x **19.13** Or *from proud thoughts*
* **19.13** Ps 25.11; 32.2; 119.33
* **19.14** Ps 18.2; 104.34; Isa 41.14; 43.14

Psalm 20

* **20.1** Ps 46.7, 11; 59.1; 91.14; 102.2
* **20.2** Ps 3.4; 119.28

* **20.3** Ps 51.19
* **20.4** Ps 21.2; 145.19
* **20.5** 1 Sam 1.17; Ps 9.14
* **20.6** Ps 28.8; 41.11; Isa 58.9
* **20.7** 2 Chr 32.8; Isa 31.1; 36.9
* **20.8** Ps 37.24
y **20.9** Gk: Heb *give victory, O LORD; let the King answer us when we call*

Psalm 21

* **21.1** Ps 9.14; 59.16, 17
* **21.2** Ps 37.4
* **21.3** Ps 59.10
* **21.4** Ps 91.16; 133.3
* **21.5** Ps 18.50; 45.3, 4
* **21.7** 2 Kings 18.5; Ps 16.8
* **21.8** Isa 10.10
* **21.9** Lam 2.2; Mal 4.1
* **21.10** Deut 28.18; Ps 37.28
* **21.11** Ps 2.1–3; 10.2
* **21.12** Ps 7.12, 13; 18.40
* **21.13** Ps 57.5; 81.1

Psalm 22

* **22.1** Ps 10.1; Mt 27.46
* **22.2** Ps 42.3
* **22.3** Ps 35.8; 99.9
* **22.5** Ps 25.2, 3; 107.6; Rom 9.33
* **22.6** Job 25.6; Isa 41.14; 49.7
* **22.7** Mt 27.39; Mk 15.29
* **22.8** Mt 27.43; Mk 1.11
* **22.9** Ps 71.6
* **22.10** Isa 43.6
* **22.12** Deut 32.14; Ps 68.30
* **22.13** Ps 17.12; 35.21
* **22.14** Job 30.16; Ps 31.10
z **22.15** Cn: Heb *strength*
* **22.15** Ps 38.10; 104.29; 137.6
a **22.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.16** Ps 59.6; Mt 27.35
* **22.18** Mt 27.35

b **22.20** Heb *my only one*
* **22.20** Ps 35.17
c **22.21** Heb *answered*
* **22.21** v 13; Ps 34.4
d **22.22** Or *kindred*
* **22.22** Heb 2.12
* **22.23** Ps 33.8; 86.12; 135.19
e **22.24** Heb *him*
f **22.24** Heb *he*
* **22.24** Ps 69.17; 102.17; Heb 5.7
* **22.25** Ps 35.18; 66.13
g **22.26** Or *afflicted*
* **22.26** Ps 40.16; 69.32; 107.9
h **22.27** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *you*
* **22.27** Ps 2.8; 86.9
* **22.28** Ps 47.7, 8; Mt 6.13
i **22.29** Cn: Heb *They have eaten and*
j **22.29** Cn: Heb *all the fat ones*
k **22.29** Compare Gk Syr Vg: Heb *and he who cannot keep himself alive*
* **22.29** Ps 95.6; Isa 27.13
* **22.30** Ps 71.18; 102.28
l **22.31** Compare Gk: Heb *it will be told about the Lord to the generation,* [31] *they will come and*
* **22.31** Ps 78.6

Psalm 23

* **23.1** Isa 40.11; 1 Pet 2.25
m **23.2** Heb *waters of rest*
* **23.2** Ezek 34.14; Rev 7.17
n **23.3** Or *life*
o **23.3** Or *paths of righteousness*
* **23.3** Ps 5.8; 19.7
p **23.4** Or *the valley of the shadow of death*
* **23.4** Job 3.5; Ps 27.1; 138.7; Isa 43.2
* **23.5** Ps 16.5; 31.19; 78.19; 92.10
q **23.6** Or *Only*
r **23.6** Or *kindness*
s **23.6** Heb *for length of days*
* **23.6** Ps 25.7, 10; 27.4–6

Psalm 24

* **24.1** Ex 9.29; Job 41.11; Ps 89.11; 1 Cor 10.26
* **24.3** Ps 2.6; 15.1; 65.4
* **24.4** Job 17.9; Ps 15.4; Mt 5.8
* **24.5** Deut 11.26, 27; Ps 25.5; Isa 46.13
t **24.6** Gk Syr: Heb *your face, O Jacob*
* **24.7** Isa 26.2; 1 Cor 2.8
* **24.8** Ps 78.3–6; 89.13
* **24.9** Zech 9.9; Mt 21.5

Psalm 25

* **25.1** Ps 86.4
* **25.2** Ps 31.6; 41.11
* **25.3** Isa 33.1; 49.23
* **25.4** Ps 5.8; 86.11
* **25.5** Ps 24.5; 40.1; Jn 16.13
* **25.6** Ps 103.17; Isa 63.15
* **25.7** Job 13.26; Ps 51.1; Jer 3.25
* **25.8** Ps 32.8; 92.15; 106.1
* **25.9** Ps 23.3; 27.11
* **25.10** Ps 40.11; 103.18
* **25.11** Ps 31.1; Rom 5.20
* **25.13** Ps 37.11; Prov 19.23
* **25.14** Prov 3.32; Jn 7.17
* **25.15** Ps 141.8
* **25.16** Ps 69.16
u **25.17** Or *The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me*
* **25.17** Ps 88.3; 107.6
* **25.18** 2 Sam 16.12
* **25.19** Ps 3.1; 27.12
* **25.21** v 3; Ps 41.12
* **25.22** Ps 130.8

Psalm 26

* **26.1** Ps 7.8; 25.2; Prov 20.7; Heb 10.23
* **26.2** Ps 7.9; 66.10
v **26.3** Or *in your faithfulness*
* **26.3** 2 Kings 20.3
* **26.4** Ps 1.1
* **26.5** Ps 1.1
* **26.6** Ps 73.13

* **26.7** Ps 9.1; 35.18
* **26.8** Ps 27.4
* **26.9** Ps 28.3
* **26.10** 1 Sam 8.3
* **26.11** v 1; Ps 69.18
* **26.12** Ps 22.22; 27.11; 40.2

Psalm 27

w **27.1** Or *refuge*
* **27.1** Ex 15.2; Ps 62.2; Isa 60.19
* **27.2** Ps 14.4
* **27.3** Ps 3.6
* **27.4** Ps 26.8; 90.17
* **27.5** Ps 31.20; 40.2
* **27.6** Ps 3.3
* **27.7** Ps 13.3; 39.12
* **27.8** Ps 24.6
* **27.9** Ps 69.17
* **27.10** Isa 40.11; 49.15
* **27.11** Ps 5.8; 25.4; 86.11
* **27.12** Ps 35.11; 41.2; Mt 26.60; Acts 9.1
* **27.13** Ps 31.19; Jer 11.19
* **27.14** Josh 1.6; Ps 40.1

Psalm 28

* **28.1** Ps 83.1; 88.4
x **28.2** Heb *your innermost sanctuary*
* **28.2** Ps 5.7; 138.2; 140.6
* **28.3** Ps 12.2; 26.9; Jer 9.8
* **28.4** Rev 18.6
* **28.5** Isa 5.12
* **28.6** Ps 116.1
* **28.7** Ps 13.5; 18.2
* **28.8** Ps 20.6
* **28.9** Deut 9.29; Ezra 1.4

Psalm 29

y **29.1** Heb *sons of gods*
* **29.1** 1 Chr 16.28, 29; Ps 96.7–9
* **29.2** 2 Chr 20.21

* **29.3** Job 37.4, 5
* **29.4** Ps 68.33
* **29.5** Isa 2.13
* **29.6** Deut 3.9; Ps 114.4
* **29.8** Num 13.26
z **29.9** Or *causes the deer to calve*
* **29.9** Ps 26.8
* **29.10** Ps 10.16
* **29.11** Ps 28.8; 37.11

Psalm 30

* **30.1** Ps 25.2; 28.9
* **30.2** Ps 6.2; 88.13
a **30.3** Or *that I should not go down to the Pit*
* **30.3** Ps 28.1; 86.13
* **30.4** Ps 50.5; 97.12; 149.1
* **30.5** Ps 63.3; 103.9
* **30.7** Ps 104.29
* **30.9** Ps 6.5
b **30.10** Or *The LORD heard and was gracious to me; the LORD became my helper*
* **30.11** Ps 4.7; 6.8; Jer 31.4, 13
c **30.12** Heb *that glory*
* **30.12** Ps 16.9; 44.8

Psalm 31

* **31.1** Ps 25.2; Isa 49.23
* **31.2** Ps 71.2
* **31.3** Ps 18.2; 23.3
* **31.4** Ps 25.15; 28.8
* **31.5** Lk 23.46; Acts 7.59
d **31.6** Heb ms Gk Syr Jerome: MT *I hate*
* **31.6** Jon 2.8
* **31.7** Ps 10.14; 90.14; Jn 10.27
* **31.8** Deut 32.30; Ps 4.1
e **31.10** Gk Syr: Heb *my iniquity*
* **31.10** Ps 13.2; 38.3; 39.11
f **31.11** Cn: Heb *exceedingly*
* **31.11** Ps 38.11; 64.8; Isa 53.4
* **31.12** Ps 88.4, 5
* **31.13** Jer 20.10; Lam 2.20; Mt 27.1

* **31.14** Ps 140.6
* **31.15** Job 24.1; Ps 143.9
* **31.16** Num 6.25; Ps 4.6
* **31.17** Ps 25.2, 3
* **31.18** Ps 94.4; 120.2
* **31.19** Ps 5.11; Isa 64.4; Rom 11.22
* **31.20** Job 5.21; Ps 27.5
* **31.21** 1 Sam 23.7; Ps 17.7
g **31.22** Heb mss: MT *cut off*
* **31.22** Ps 116.11; Lam 3.54
* **31.23** Ps 34.9; 94.2; 145.20
* **31.24** Ps 27.14

Psalm 32

* **32.1** Ps 85.2
* **32.2** Jn 1.47; 2 Cor 5.19
* **32.3** Ps 31.10; 38.8; 39.2, 3
h **32.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **32.4** Job 33.7
* **32.5** Lev 26.40; Ps 103.12
i **32.6** Cn: Heb *at a time of finding only*
* **32.6** Ps 69.13; 144.7; Isa 43.2
* **32.7** Ex 15.1; Ps 31.20; 121.7
* **32.8** Ps 25.8; 33.18
* **32.9** Jas 3.3
* **32.10** Prov 16.20; Rom 2.9
* **32.11** Ps 64.10

Psalm 33

* **33.1** Ps 32.11; 147.1
* **33.2** Ps 92.3
* **33.3** Ps 96.1; 98.4
* **33.4** Ps 19.8; 119.90
* **33.5** Ps 11.7; 119.64
* **33.6** Gen 11.3; Job 23.13
* **33.8** Ps 67.7; 96.9
* **33.9** Gen 1.3; Ps 148.5
* **33.10** Isa 8.10; 19.3
* **33.11** Job 23.13; Ps 40.5; Prov 19.21
* **33.12** Ex 19.5; Deut 7.6; Ps 144.15

* **33.13** Job 28.24; Ps 11.4
* **33.15** Jer 32.19
* **33.16** Ps 44.6
* **33.17** Ps 20.7; Prov 21.31
* **33.18** Job 36.7; Ps 34.15; 147.11
* **33.19** Ps 37.19
* **33.21** Zech 10.7; Jn 16.22

Psalm 34

* **34.2** Ps 119.74; Jer 9.24
* **34.3** Lk 1.46
* **34.4** vv 6, 17, 19; Mt 7.7
j **34.5** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *their*
* **34.5** Ps 25.3; 36.9
* **34.7** 2 Kings 6.17; Dan 6.22
* **34.8** Ps 2.12; 1 Pet 2.3
* **34.9** Ps 23.1
* **34.10** Ps 84.11
* **34.11** Ps 111.10
* **34.12** 1 Pet 3.10
* **34.13** 1 Pet 2.22
* **34.14** Ps 37.27; Heb 12.14
* **34.15** Job 36.7; Ps 33.18
* **34.16** Prov 10.7; Jer 44.11
* **34.17** v 19; Ps 145.19
* **34.18** Ps 145.18; Isa 57.15
* **34.19** vv 4, 6, 17; Prov 24.16
* **34.20** Jn 19.36
* **34.21** Ps 94.23
* **34.22** 1 Kings 1.29; Ps 71.23

Psalm 35

* **35.1** Ps 43.1
* **35.4** Ps 70.2, 3
* **35.5** Job 21.18; Ps 1.4; Isa 29.5
* **35.6** Ps 73.18; Jer 23.12
k **35.7** Heb *a pit, their net*
l **35.7** The word *pit* is transposed from the preceding line
* **35.7** Ps 9.15
* **35.8** 1 Thess 5.3

* **35.9** Isa 61.10; Lk 1.47
* **35.10** Ex 15.11; Ps 18.17; 37.14
* **35.11** Ps 27.12
* **35.12** Jn 10.32
m **35.13** Or *My prayer turned back*
* **35.13** Job 30.25; Ps 69.10
* **35.15** Job 30.1, 8
n **35.16** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *like the profanest of mockers of a cake*
* **35.17** Ps 22.20; Hab 1.13
* **35.18** Ps 22.22, 25
* **35.19** Ps 13.4; 38.19; 69.4; Prov 6.13; Jn 15.25
* **35.21** Ps 22.13; 40.15
* **35.22** Ex 3.7; Ps 10.1; 28.1
* **35.23** Ps 44.23
* **35.24** v 19; Ps 9.4
o **35.25** Heb *him*
* **35.25** Lam 2.16
* **35.26** Ps 38.16; 40.14
* **35.27** Ps 9.4; 32.11; 40.16; 147.11
* **35.28** Ps 51.14

Psalm 36

* **36.1** Rom 3.18
* **36.3** Jer 4.22
* **36.4** Prov 4.16; Isa 65.2; Mic 2.1
* **36.6** Job 11.8; Ps 77.19; Rom 11.33
* **36.7** Ruth 2.12
* **36.8** Job 20.17; Ps 65.4; Rev 22.1
* **36.9** Jer 2.13; 1 Pet 2.9
* **36.12** Ps 140.10

Psalm 37

* **37.1** Prov 23.17
* **37.2** Ps 90.5, 6
* **37.3** Ps 62.8; Isa 40.11
* **37.4** Isa 58.14
* **37.5** Prov 16.3; 1 Pet 5.7
* **37.6** Job 11.17; Mic 7.9
* **37.7** Ps 40.1; 62.5
* **37.8** Ps 73.3; Eph 4.26

* **37.9** Isa 60.21
* **37.10** Job 24.24
* **37.11** Mt 5.5
* **37.12** Ps 35.16
* **37.13** 1 Sam 26.10
* **37.14** Ps 11.2; 35.10
* **37.15** Ps 9.16
* **37.16** Prov 15.16
* **37.17** Job 38.15; Ps 10.15
* **37.18** Ps 1.6
* **37.19** Job 5.20; Ps 33.19
* **37.20** Ps 102.3
* **37.21** Ps 112.5, 9
* **37.22** Job 5.3; Prov 3.33
p **37.23** Heb *A man's steps*
q **37.23** Heb *his*
* **37.23** 1 Sam 2.9; Ps 147.11
r **37.24** Heb *he stumbles, he*
s **37.24** Heb *him*
* **37.24** Ps 147.6; Prov 24.16
* **37.25** Job 15.23; Heb 13.5
* **37.26** Ps 147.13
* **37.27** Ps 34.14
* **37.28** Isa 14.20
* **37.29** vv 9, 18
* **37.30** Mt 12.35
* **37.31** v 23; Ps 40.8; Isa 51.7
* **37.32** Ps 10.8
* **37.33** Ps 109.31; 2 Pet 2.9
* **37.34** Ps 27.14; 52.5, 6
t **37.35** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **37.35** Job 5.3
u **37.36** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *he*
* **37.36** Job 20.5
* **37.37** Isa 57.1, 2
* **37.38** vv 9, 20, 28; Ps 1.4
* **37.39** Ps 3.8; 9.9
* **37.40** 1 Chr 5.20; Isa 31.5

Psalm 38

* **38.1** Ps 6.1

* **38.2** Job 6.4; Ps 32.4
* **38.3** Ps 6.2; Isa 1.6
* **38.4** Ezra 9.6
* **38.5** Ps 69.5
* **38.6** Ps 35.14; 42.9
* **38.7** v 3; Ps 102.3
* **38.8** Job 3.24; Ps 22.1
* **38.9** Ps 6.6; 10.17
* **38.11** Ps 31.11; Lk 23.49
* **38.12** Ps 35.4, 20; 54.3; 140.5
* **38.13** Ps 39.2, 9
* **38.15** Ps 17.6; 39.7
* **38.16** Ps 13.4; 35.26
* **38.17** Ps 13.2
* **38.18** Ps 32.5; 2 Cor 7.9
v **38.19** Q ms: MT *my living foes*
* **38.19** Ps 18.17; 35.19
* **38.20** Ps 35.12; 1 Jn 3.12
* **38.21** Ps 35.22
* **38.22** Ps 27.1; 40.13, 17

Psalm 39

* **39.1** 1 Kings 2.4; Job 2.10; Jas 3.2
* **39.2** Ps 38.13
* **39.4** Ps 90.12; 103.14
* **39.5** Ps 62.9; 89.47; 144.4
* **39.6** Job 27.17; Ps 127.2; Lk 12.20; 1 Pet 1.24
* **39.7** Ps 38.15
* **39.8** Ps 44.13; 51.9
* **39.9** v 2; Job 2.10
w **39.10** Heb *hostility*
* **39.10** Job 9.34; Ps 32.4
* **39.11** v 5; Job 13.28; 2 Pet 2.16
* **39.12** Ps 56.8; 102.1; Heb 11.13; 1 Pet 2.11
* **39.13** Job 10.20; 14.10

Psalm 40

* **40.1** Ps 27.14; 34.15
x **40.2** Cn: Heb *pit of tumult*
* **40.2** Ps 27.5; 69.2

* **40.3** Ps 33.3
* **40.4** Ps 84.12
* **40.5** Ps 136.4; 139.18; Isa 55.8
y **40.6** Heb *ears you have dug for me*
* **40.6** 1 Sam 15.22
z **40.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **40.8** Ps 37.31; Jn 4.34; Rom 7.22
* **40.9** Ps 22.22; 119.13
* **40.10** Ps 89.1; Acts 20.20
* **40.11** Ps 43.3
* **40.12** Ps 38.4; 69.4; 73.26; 116.3
* **40.13** Ps 70.1
* **40.14** Ps 35.4; 63.9
* **40.15** Ps 70.3
* **40.16** Ps 35.27; 70.4
* **40.17** Ps 70.5

Psalm 41

a **41.1** Or *weak*
* **41.1** Ps 82.3, 4; Prov 14.21
* **41.2** Ps 27.12; 37.22, 28
b **41.3** Heb *you change all his bed*
* **41.3** Ps 6.6
* **41.4** Ps 6.2; 51.4
* **41.5** Ps 38.12
* **41.6** Ps 12.2
* **41.7** Ps 56.5
* **41.8** Ps 71.10, 11
* **41.9** Job 19.19; Ps 55.12; Jn 13.18
* **41.10** Ps 3.3
* **41.11** Ps 25.2; 147.11
* **41.12** Job 36.7; Ps 37.17
* **41.13** Ps 106.48

Psalm 42

* **42.1** Ps 119.131
* **42.2** Ps 43.4; 63.1; Jer 10.10
* **42.3** Ps 79.10; 80.5
c **42.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **42.4** Ps 62.8; 100.4; Isa 30.29

* **42.5** Ps 38.6; 44.3; 77.3; Lam 3.24
* **42.7** Ps 88.7; Jon 2.3
* **42.8** Job 35.10; Ps 57.3; 63.6; 149.5
* **42.9** Ps 38.6
* **42.10** v 3
* **42.11** v 5

Psalm 43

* **43.1** 1 Sam 24.15; Ps 5.6; 26.1
* **43.2** Ps 18.1; 42.9; 44.9
* **43.3** Ps 36.9; 42.4; 84.1
* **43.4** Ps 26.6; 33.2
* **43.5** Ps 42.5, 11

Psalm 44

* **44.1** Ex 12.26; Ps 78.3, 12
* **44.2** Ex 15.17; Ps 78.55; 80.8
* **44.3** Deut 4.37; 7.7, 8; Josh 24.12; Ps 77.15
d **44.4** Gk Syr: Heb *You are my King, O God; command*
* **44.5** Ps 108.13; Dan 8.4
* **44.7** Ps 53.5; 136.24
* **44.8** Ps 30.12; 34.2
* **44.9** Ps 60.1, 10; 74.1
* **44.10** Lev 26.17; Josh 7.8; Ps 89.41
* **44.11** v 22; Deut 4.27; 28.64; Ps 106.27
* **44.12** Isa 52.3, 4; Jer 15.13
* **44.13** Ps 79.4; 80.6
e **44.14** Heb *a shaking of the head*
* **44.14** Ps 109.25; Jer 24.9
* **44.16** Ps 8.2; 74.10
* **44.17** Ps 78.7, 57; Dan 9.13
* **44.18** Job 23.11; Ps 78.57
* **44.19** Job 3.5; Ps 51.8
* **44.20** Ps 68.31; 78.11; 81.9
* **44.21** Ps 139.1, 2; Jer 17.10
* **44.22** Isa 53.7; Rom 8.36
* **44.23** Ps 7.6; 77.7; 78.65
* **44.24** Job 13.24; Ps 42.9
* **44.25** Ps 119.25
* **44.26** Ps 25.22; 35.2

Psalm 45

* **45.1** Ezra 7.6
* **45.2** Lk 4.22
* **45.3** Isa 9.6
f **45.4** Cn: Heb *and the meekness of*
* **45.4** Rev 6.2
g **45.6** Or *Your throne is a throne of God, it*
* **45.6** Ps 93.2; 98.9; Heb 1.8, 9
* **45.7** Ps 21.6; 33.5; 79.4; Isa 61.1
* **45.8** Song 1.3
* **45.9** 1 Kings 2.19; Song 6.8
* **45.10** Deut 21.13
* **45.11** Ps 95.6; Isa 54.5
* **45.12** Ps 22.29
h **45.13** Or *people*. [13]*All glorious is the princess within, gold embroidery is her clothing*
* **45.13** Isa 61.10
* **45.14** v 9; Song 1.4
i **45.16** Heb lacks *O king*
* **45.16** 1 Pet 2.9; Rev 1.6; 20.6
* **45.17** Ps 138.4; Mal 1.11

Psalm 46

j **46.1** Or *well proved*
* **46.1** Deut 4.7; Ps 9.9; 14.6
* **46.2** Ps 18.7; 23.4; 82.5
* **46.3** Ps 93.3, 4
* **46.4** Ps 48.1, 8; Isa 8.7; 60.14
k **46.5** Heb *of it*
* **46.5** Ps 37.40; Isa 12.6
* **46.6** Ps 2.1; 68.33; Mic 1.4
l **46.7** Or *fortress*
* **46.7** 2 Chr 13.12; Ps 9.9
* **46.8** Ps 66.5; Isa 61.4
* **46.9** Ps 76.3; Isa 2.4; Ezek 39.9
* **46.10** Ps 100.3; Isa 2.11, 17
m **46.11** Or *fortress*

Psalm 47

* **47.1** Ps 98.8; 106.47; Isa 55.12

* **47.2** Deut 7.21
* **47.3** Ps 18.47
* **47.4** 1 Pet 1.4
* **47.5** Ps 68.33; 98.6
* **47.6** Ps 68.4; 89.18
n **47.7** Heb *Maskil*
* **47.7** 1 Cor 14.15
* **47.8** 1 Chr 16.31
* **47.9** Ps 72.11; 89.18; 97.9; Rom 4.11, 12

Psalm 48

* **48.1** Ps 96.4; Zech 8.3
* **48.2** Ps 50.2; Lam 2.15; Mt 5.35
* **48.3** Ps 46.7
* **48.4** 2 Sam 10.6–19
* **48.5** Ex 15.15
* **48.7** Jer 18.17
* **48.10** Josh 7.9; Isa 41.10
o **48.11** Heb *daughters*
* **48.11** Ps 97.8
* **48.13** Ps 78.5–7; 122.7
* **48.14** Ps 23.4

Psalm 49

* **49.1** Ps 33.8; 78.1
* **49.3** Ps 37.30; 119.130
* **49.4** Num 12.8; Ps 78.2
* **49.5** Ps 23.4
* **49.6** Job 31.24
p **49.7** Or *no one can ransom a brother*
* **49.7** Job 36.18; Mt 25.8, 9
* **49.8** Mt 16.26
* **49.9** Ps 22.29; 89.48
* **49.10** Eccl 2.16, 18
q **49.11** Gk Syr Compare Tg: Heb *their inward thought*
* **49.11** Deut 3.14; Ps 10.6; 64.6
* **49.12** v 20
r **49.13** Tg: Heb *after them*
* **49.13** Lk 12.20
s **49.14** Cn: Heb *the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning*

t **49.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **49.14** Job 24.19; Ps 9.17; Dan 7.18; 1 Cor 6.2
* **49.15** Ps 56.13; 73.24
* **49.16** Ps 37.7
* **49.17** Ps 17.14
* **49.18** Lk 12.19
u **49.19** Cn: Heb *you*
* **49.19** Gen 15.15; Job 33.30
* **49.20** v 12

Psalm 50

* **50.1** Josh 22.22
* **50.2** Deut 33.2; Ps 48.2
* **50.3** Ps 96.13; 97.3; Dan 7.10
* **50.4** Deut 4.26; Isa 1.2
* **50.5** v 8; Ex 24.7
* **50.6** Ps 75.7; 89.5
* **50.7** Ps 81.8
* **50.8** Ps 40.6; Hos 6.6
* **50.9** Ps 69.31
* **50.10** Ps 104.24
v **50.11** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *mountains*
* **50.12** Ex 19.5
w **50.14** Or *make thanksgiving your sacrifice to God*
* **50.14** Deut 23.21; Heb 13.15
* **50.15** Ps 81.7; 91.15
* **50.16** Isa 29.13
* **50.17** Neh 9.26; Rom 2.21, 22
* **50.18** 1 Tim 5.22
* **50.20** Mt 10.21
* **50.21** Eccl 8.11
* **50.22** Job 8.13; Ps 7.2; 9.17
x **50.23** Heb *who set a way*

Psalm 51

* **51.1** Ps 4.1; 106.45; Acts 3.19
* **51.2** Heb 9.14; 1 Jn 1.7
* **51.3** Isa 59.12
* **51.4** Gen 20.6; Rom 3.4
* **51.5** Job 14.4; Ps 58.3

y **51.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **51.6** Ps 15.2; Prov 2.6
* **51.7** Lev 14.4; Isa 1.18
* **51.8** Ps 35.10
* **51.9** Jer 16.17
z **51.10** Or *steadfast*
* **51.10** Ps 78.37; Acts 15.9
* **51.11** 2 Kings 13.23; Eph 4.30
a **51.12** Or *generous*
* **51.12** Ps 13.5; 2 Cor 3.17
* **51.13** Ps 22.27; Acts 9.21, 22
* **51.14** 2 Sam 12.9; Ps 25.5; 35.28
* **51.15** Ps 9.14
* **51.16** 1 Sam 15.22; Ps 40.6
b **51.17** Or *My sacrifice, O God,*
* **51.17** Ps 34.18
* **51.18** Ps 102.16; Isa 51.3
* **51.19** Ps 4.5; 66.13, 15

Psalm 52

c **52.1** Cn Compare Syr: Heb *the kindness of God*
* **52.1** 1 Sam 22.9; Ps 94.4
* **52.2** Ps 50.19; 57.4
* **52.3** Jer 9.4, 5
* **52.4** Ps 120.3
* **52.5** Ps 27.13; Prov 2.22
d **52.6** Heb *him*
* **52.6** Ps 37.34; 40.3
e **52.7** Syr Tg: Heb *in his destruction*
* **52.7** Ps 49.6
* **52.8** Ps 13.5; Jer 11.16
f **52.9** Cn: Heb *wait for*
* **52.9** Ps 30.12; 54.6

Psalm 53

* **53.1** Ps 14.1–7; Rom 3.10
* **53.2** Ps 33.13
* **53.3** Rom 3.12
* **53.4** Jer 4.22
g **53.5** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *him who encamps against you*

h **53.5** Gk: Heb *you have put (them) to shame*
* **53.5** Lev 26.17, 36; Ezek 6.5
* **53.6** Ps 14.7

Psalm 54

* **54.1** 2 Chr 20.6; Ps 20.1
* **54.2** Ps 5.1; 55.1
* **54.3** Ps 36.1; 40.14; 86.14
i **54.4** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *is of those who uphold* or *is with those who uphold*
* **54.4** Ps 41.12; 118.7
* **54.5** Ps 89.49; 94.23; 143.12
* **54.6** Ps 50.14; 52.9
* **54.7** Ps 34.6; 59.10

Psalm 55

* **55.1** Ps 27.9; 61.1
* **55.2** Ps 66.19; 77.3; Isa 38.14
j **55.3** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *they cause to totter*
* **55.3** 2 Sam 16.7, 8; Ps 17.9; 71.11
* **55.4** Ps 116.3
* **55.5** Job 21.6; Ps 119.120
* **55.6** Job 3.13
* **55.8** Isa 4.6
* **55.9** Jer 6.7
* **55.11** Ps 5.9; 10.7
* **55.12** Ps 41.9
* **55.13** 2 Sam 15.12; Jer 9.4
* **55.14** Ps 42.4
* **55.15** Num 16.30, 33; Ps 64.7
* **55.16** Ps 57.2, 3
* **55.17** Ps 141.2; Dan 6.10
* **55.18** 2 Chr 32.7, 8; Ps 103.4
* **55.19** Deut 33.27; Ps 78.59
k **55.20** Heb lacks *with me*
* **55.20** Ps 7.4; 89.34
* **55.21** Ps 59.7; Prov 5.3
l **55.22** Or *Cast what he has given you*
* **55.22** Ps 37.24; Mt 6.25
* **55.23** Job 15.32; Ps 5.6; 73.18

Psalm 56

* **56.2** Ps 35.1; 57.3
* **56.3** Ps 11.1; 55.4, 5
* **56.4** Ps 118.6; Heb 13.6
* **56.5** Ps 41.7
* **56.6** Ps 19.10, 11; 59.3; 140.2

m **56.7** Gk Compare Syr Jerome: Heb *deliver them because of their iniquity*

* **56.7** Ps 36.12; 55.23
* **56.8** Ps 139.3

n **56.9** Or *because*

* **56.9** Ps 9.3; 102.2; Rom 8.31
* **56.12** Ps 50.14
* **56.13** Job 33.30; Ps 116.8

Psalm 57

* **57.1** Ps 2.12; 17.8; Isa 26.20
* **57.2** Ps 138.8
* **57.3** Ps 18.16; 40.11; 56.2

o **57.4** Cn: Heb *are aflame for*

* **57.4** Ps 35.17; 55.21; Prov 30.14
* **57.5** Ps 108.5
* **57.6** Ps 7.15; 35.7; 145.14; Prov 28.10
* **57.7** Ps 108.1
* **57.8** Ps 16.9; 30.12; 150.3
* **57.9** Ps 108.3
* **57.10** Ps 36.5
* **57.11** v 5

Psalm 58

* **58.1** Ps 82.2
* **58.2** Ps 94.20; Mal 3.15
* **58.3** Ps 51.5; 53.3; Isa 48.8
* **58.4** Ps 140.3; Eccl 10.11
* **58.5** Ps 81.11
* **58.6** Job 4.10; Ps 3.7

p **58.7** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **58.7** Josh 7.5; Ps 64.3; 112.10
* **58.8** Job 3.16
* **58.9** Ps 118.12; Prov 10.25
* **58.10** Ps 64.10; 68.23; 91.8

q **58.11** Or *there are gods who judge*
* **58.11** Ps 9.8; 18.20

Psalm 59

* **59.1** Ps 143.9
* **59.2** Ps 28.3; 139.19
* **59.3** Ps 56.6
* **59.4** Ps 35.19, 23
* **59.5** Ps 9.5; Jer 18.23
* **59.6** v 14
r **59.7** Heb *with swords*
s **59.7** Heb lacks *they think*
* **59.7** Ps 10.11; 57.4
* **59.8** Ps 2.4; 37.13
* **59.9** Ps 9.9
* **59.10** Ps 21.3; 54.7
* **59.11** Deut 4.9; Ps 84.9; 106.27
* **59.12** Ps 10.7; Prov 12.13; Zeph 3.11
* **59.13** Ps 83.18; 104.35
* **59.14** v 6
* **59.16** v 9; Ps 21.13; 46.1; 88.13; 101.1
* **59.17** vv 9, 10

Psalm 60

* **60.1** 2 Sam 5.20; Ps 44.9; 79.5; 80.3
* **60.2** 2 Chr 7.14; Ps 18.7
* **60.3** Ps 71.20; Isa 51.17, 22
t **60.4** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *because of the truth*
* **60.4** Ps 20.5
u **60.5** Or *me*
* **60.5** Ps 17.7; 108.6; 127.2
v **60.6** Or *by his holiness*
* **60.6** Gen 12.6; Josh 1.6; Ps 89.35
* **60.7** Gen 49.10; Deut 33.17; Josh 13.31
* **60.8** 2 Sam 8.1
* **60.10** v 1; Ps 44.9
* **60.11** Ps 146.3
* **60.12** Num 24.18; Ps 44.5

Psalm 61

* **61.1** Ps 64.1; 86.6
* **61.2** Ps 18.2; 77.3
* **61.3** Ps 62.7; Prov 18.10
* **61.4** Ps 23.6; 91.4
* **61.5** Ps 56.12; 86.11
* **61.6** Ps 21.4
* **61.7** Ps 40.11; 41.12
* **61.8** Ps 65.1; 71.22

Psalm 62

* **62.1** Ps 33.20
* **62.2** v 6; Ps 89.26
* **62.3** Isa 30.13
* **62.4** Ps 4.2; 28.3
* **62.6** v 2
* **62.7** Ps 46.1; 85.9
* **62.8** 1 Sam 1.15; Ps 37.3; 42.4; Lam 2.19
* **62.9** Ps 39.5, 11; Isa 40.15, 17; Rom 3.4
* **62.10** Job 31.25; Ps 52.7; Isa 30.12; 61.8; 1 Tim 6.7
* **62.11** 1 Chr 29.11; Job 33.14
* **62.12** Job 34.11; Mt 16.27; Col 3.25

Psalm 63

* **63.1** Ps 42.2; 84.2
* **63.2** Ps 27.4
* **63.3** Ps 69.16
* **63.4** Ps 28.2; 104.33
w **63.5** Heb *with fat and fatness*
* **63.5** Ps 36.8; 71.23
* **63.6** Ps 42.8
* **63.7** Ps 27.9
* **63.8** Ps 18.35
* **63.9** Ps 40.14; 55.15
* **63.11** Deut 6.13; Ps 21.1; Isa 45.23

Psalm 64

* **64.1** Ps 55.2; 140.1
* **64.2** Ps 56.6; 59.2
* **64.3** Ps 58.7
* **64.4** Ps 11.2; 55.19
x **64.5** Syr Jerome: Heb *them*
* **64.5** Ps 10.11
y **64.6** Cn: Heb *They search out crimes*
* **64.6** Ps 49.11
z **64.8** Cn: Heb *They will bring him to ruin, their tongue being against them*
* **64.8** Ps 9.3; 22.7; Prov 18.7
* **64.9** Jer 50.28
* **64.10** Ps 25.20; 32.11

Psalm 65

* **65.1** Ps 116.18
* **65.2** Isa 66.23
* **65.3** Ps 38.4; Heb 9.14
* **65.4** Ps 4.3; 33.12; 36.8
* **65.5** Ps 22.27; 66.3; 85.4; 107.23
a **65.6** Gk Jerome: Heb *his*
* **65.6** Ps 93.1
* **65.7** Isa 17.12; Mt 8.26
* **65.9** Ps 46.4; 68.9, 10; 104.14
* **65.12** Job 38.26, 27; Ps 98.8
* **65.13** Ps 72.16; 98.8; 144.13

Psalm 66

* **66.1** Ps 81.1; 100.1
* **66.2** Ps 79.9
* **66.3** Ps 18.44; 65.5
* **66.4** Ps 22.27; 67.3, 4
* **66.5** Ps 46.8; 106.22
* **66.6** Ex 14.21; Josh 3.16; Ps 105.43
* **66.7** Ps 11.4; 140.8; 145.13
* **66.8** Ps 98.4
* **66.9** Ps 121.3
* **66.10** Ps 17.3; Isa 48.10; Zech 13.9; 1 Pet 1.6, 7
* **66.11** Lam 1.13

b **66.12** Cn Compare Gk Syr Jerome Tg: Heb *to a saturation*

* **66.12** Isa 43.2; 51.23
* **66.13** Eccl 5.4
* **66.14** Ps 18.6
* **66.15** Num 6.14; Ps 51.19
* **66.16** Ps 34.11; 71.15, 24
* **66.18** Job 36.21; Isa 1.15; Jas 4.3
* **66.19** Ps 116.1, 2
* **66.20** Ps 22.24

Psalm 67

* **67.1** Num 6.25; Ps 4.6
* **67.2** Acts 18.25; Titus 2.11
* **67.4** Ps 96.10; 98.9
* **67.5** v 3
* **67.6** Lev 26.4; Ps 85.12; Ezek 34.27
* **67.7** Ps 33.8

Psalm 68

* **68.1** Num 10.35; Isa 33.3
* **68.2** Ps 97.5; Isa 9.18; Hos 13.3; Mic 1.4
* **68.3** Ps 32.11

c **68.4** Or *cast up a highway for him who rides through the deserts*

* **68.4** Ps 66.2; 83.18; Isa 40.3; 57.14
* **68.5** Deut 10.18; 26.15; Ps 146.9
* **68.6** Ps 107.34; 113.9; Acts 12.6
* **68.7** Ex 13.21; Judg 4.14
* **68.8** Ex 19.16, 18; Judg 5.4

* **68.9** Deut 11.11
* **68.10** Deut 26.5; Ps 74.19
d **68.11** Or *company of the women*
* **68.12** 1 Sam 30.24; Ps 135.11
* **68.13** Gen 49.14
e **68.14** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **68.14** Josh 10.10
* **68.16** Deut 12.5; Ps 87.1, 2
f **68.17** Cn: Heb *The Lord among them Sinai in the holy* (place)
* **68.17** Deut 33.2; Dan 7.10
* **68.18** Judg 5.12; Acts 1.9; Eph 4.8; 1 Tim 1.13
* **68.19** Ps 55.22; 65.5
* **68.20** Ps 49.15; 56.13
* **68.21** Ps 55.23; 110.6
* **68.22** Ex 14.22; Num 21.33
g **68.23** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *shatter*
* **68.23** 1 Kings 21.9; Ps 58.10
h **68.24** Or *have been seen*
* **68.24** Ps 63.2; 77.13
* **68.25** Judg 11.34; 1 Chr 13.8
* **68.26** Deut 33.28; Ps 26.12; Isa 48.1
* **68.27** 1 Sam 9.21
* **68.29** Ps 72.10
i **68.30** Cn: Heb *Trampling*
j **68.30** Meaning of Heb of 68.30 is uncertain
* **68.30** Ps 22.12; 89.10
* **68.31** Isa 19.19; 45.14
* **68.33** Deut 10.14; Ps 18.10; 29.4; 46.6
* **68.34** Ps 29.1
k **68.35** Gk: Heb *from your*
* **68.35** Ps 29.11; 47.2; 66.20

Psalm 69

* **69.1** vv 14, 15
* **69.2** Ps 40.2; Jon 2.3
* **69.3** Ps 6.6; 119.82; Isa 38.14
* **69.4** Ps 35.11, 19; 38.19; Jn 15.25
* **69.5** Ps 38.5; 44.21
* **69.7** Jer 15.15
* **69.8** Ps 31.11; Isa 53.3
* **69.9** Ps 89.50; Jn 2.17

l **69.10** Gk Syr: Heb *I wept, with fasting my soul*, or *I made my soul mourn with fasting*
* **69.10** Ps 35.13
* **69.11** Ps 35.13; Jer 24.9
* **69.12** Job 30.9
* **69.13** Ps 51.1; Isa 49.8; 2 Cor 6.2
* **69.14** v 2; Ps 144.7
* **69.15** Num 16.33; Ps 124.4, 5
* **69.16** Ps 25.16; 51.1; 63.3
* **69.17** Ps 27.9; 66.14
* **69.19** Ps 22.6, 7; Isa 53.3
* **69.20** Job 16.2; Isa 63.5; Jer 23.9
* **69.21** Mt 27.34; Jn 19.29
* **69.22** Rom 11.9, 10
* **69.23** Isa 6.9, 10; Dan 5.6
* **69.24** Ps 79.6
* **69.25** Mt 23.38; Acts 1.20
m **69.26** Gk Syr: Heb *recount the pain of*
* **69.26** Isa 53.4
* **69.28** Ex 32.32; Phil 4.3
* **69.29** Ps 59.1; 70.5
* **69.30** Ps 28.7; 34.3; 50.14
* **69.31** Ps 50.13, 14
* **69.32** Ps 22.26; 34.2
* **69.33** Ps 68.6
* **69.34** Ps 96.11; 148.1; Isa 44.23; 49.13
n **69.35** Syr: Heb *and they shall live*
* **69.35** Ps 51.18; Isa 44.26
* **69.36** Ps 37.29; 102.28

Psalm 70

* **70.1** Ps 40.13
* **70.2** Ps 35.4, 26
* **70.3** Ps 40.15
* **70.5** Ps 40.17; 141.1

Psalm 71

* **71.1** Ps 25.2, 3
* **71.2** Ps 17.6; 31.1
o **71.3** Gk: Heb *to come continually you have commanded*
* **71.3** Ps 31.2, 3; 44.4

* **71.4** Ps 140.1, 4
* **71.5** Jer 17.7
p **71.6** Q ms Gk Jerome: MT *from my mother's womb you took me*
* **71.6** Ps 22.9, 10; 34.1; Isa 46.3
* **71.7** Ps 61.3; 1 Cor 4.9
* **71.8** Ps 35.28
* **71.9** v 18
* **71.10** Ps 56.6; Mt 27.1
* **71.11** Ps 3.2; 7.2
* **71.12** Ps 35.22; 70.1
* **71.13** v 24; Ps 35.4; 109.29
* **71.15** Ps 35.28; 40.5
* **71.16** Ps 51.14; 106.2
* **71.17** Deut 4.5; 6.7; Ps 26.7
q **71.18** Gk Compare Syr: Heb *to a generation, to all who come*
* **71.18** v 9
* **71.19** Ps 35.10; 57.10
* **71.20** Ps 60.3; Hos 6.1, 2
* **71.22** Ps 33.2; 78.41
* **71.23** Ps 5.11; 103.4
* **71.24** v 13; Ps 35.28

Psalm 72

* **72.1** Ps 24.5
* **72.2** Ps 82.3; Isa 9.7
* **72.3** Ps 85.10; Isa 32.17
* **72.4** Isa 11.4
r **72.5** Gk: Heb *may they fear you*
* **72.5** Ps 89.36
* **72.6** 2 Sam 23.4; Hos 6.3
* **72.7** Ps 92.12
* **72.8** Ex 23.31; Zech 9.10
s **72.9** Cn: Heb *those who live in the wilderness*
* **72.9** Ps 74.14; Isa 49.23; Mic 7.17
* **72.10** 2 Chr 9.21; Ps 68.29
* **72.12** Job 29.12
* **72.14** Ps 116.15
* **72.15** Isa 60.6
* **72.16** Job 5.25; Ps 104.16
t **72.17** Or *bless themselves by him*
* **72.17** Gen 12.3; 22.18; Ps 89.36; Lk 1.48

* **72.18** Ps 41.13; 77.14; 106.48
* **72.19** Neh 9.5; Zech 14.9

Psalm 73

* **73.1** Ps 51.10; 86.5
* **73.2** Ps 94.18
* **73.3** Ps 37.1; Jer 12.1
* **73.5** Job 21.9
* **73.6** Ps 109.18
* **73.7** Job 15.27; Ps 17.10
* **73.8** Ps 53.1; Jude 16
u **73.10** Cn: Heb *his people return here*
v **73.10** Cn: Heb *abundant waters are drained by them*
* **73.11** Job 22.13
* **73.12** Ps 49.6; Jer 49.31
* **73.13** Job 21.15; Ps 26.6
* **73.14** Ps 38.6; 118.18
* **73.16** Eccl 8.17
* **73.17** Ps 77.13
* **73.18** Ps 35.6, 8
* **73.19** Num 26.21; Job 18.11
w **73.20** Cn: Heb *Lord*
* **73.20** 1 Sam 2.30; Job 20.8
* **73.22** Job 18.3; Ps 49.10
x **73.24** Or *to glory*
* **73.24** Ps 32.8; 48.14
* **73.25** Phil 3.8
y **73.26** Heb *rock*
* **73.26** Ps 16.5; 84.2
* **73.27** Ps 37.20
* **73.28** Ps 40.5; 71.7; Heb 10.22

Psalm 74

* **74.1** Deut 29.20; Ps 44.9, 23
* **74.2** Deut 32.6; Ps 77.15
* **74.3** Ps 79.1; Isa 61.4
* **74.4** Num 2.2; Lam 2.7
z **74.5** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **74.5** Jer 46.22
* **74.7** 2 Kings 25.9

* **74.8** Ps 83.4
* **74.9** 1 Sam 3.1; Ps 78.43
* **74.10** Lev 24.16
a **74.11** Cn: Heb *do you consume your right hand from*
* **74.11** Ps 59.13
* **74.12** Ps 44.4
* **74.13** Isa 51.9
b **74.14** Heb *food for the people*
* **74.15** Ex 17.5, 6; Num 20.11; Josh 3.13
c **74.16** Or *moon*; Heb *light*
* **74.16** Ps 104.19
* **74.17** Gen 8.22
* **74.18** v 10; Ps 39.8
* **74.19** Ps 9.18; Song 2.14
d **74.20** Gk Syr: Heb *the*
* **74.20** Gen 17.7; Ps 88.6; 106.45
* **74.21** Ps 35.10; 103.6
* **74.22** v 18; Ps 43.1
* **74.23** v 10; Ps 65.7

Psalm 75

* **75.1** Ps 44.1; 79.13; 145.18
* **75.4** Zech 1.21
* **75.5** Ps 94.4
* **75.6** Ps 3.3
* **75.7** 1 Sam 2.7; Ps 50.6; Dan 2.21
* **75.8** Ps 60.3; Prov 23.30; Jer 25.15
e **75.9** Gk: Heb *declare*
* **75.9** Ps 40.10
* **75.10** Ps 89.17; 148.14

Psalm 76

* **76.1** Ps 48.3
* **76.2** Ps 9.11; 27.5
* **76.3** Ps 46.9
f **76.4** Gk: Heb *the mountains of prey*
* **76.5** Ps 13.3; Isa 46.12
* **76.7** Ps 96.4; Nah 1.6
* **76.8** 2 Chr 20.29, 30; Ezek 38.20
* **76.9** Ps 9.7–9; 72.4

g **76.10** Heb lacks *your*
* **76.10** Ex 9.16; Rom 9.17
* **76.11** Ps 50.14; 68.29
* **76.12** Ps 68.35

Psalm 77

* **77.1** Ps 3.4
* **77.2** Ps 50.15; Isa 26.9, 16
* **77.3** Ps 142.3; 143.4
* **77.5** Deut 32.7; Isa 51.9
h **77.6** Gk Syr: Heb *My music*
i **77.6** Syr Jerome: Heb *my spirit searches*
* **77.6** Ps 4.4; 42.8
* **77.7** Ps 74.1; 85.1
* **77.8** Ps 89.49; 2 Pet 3.9
* **77.9** Ps 25.6; Isa 49.15
* **77.10** Ps 31.22; 44.2, 3
* **77.11** Ps 143.5
* **77.13** Ex 15.11; Ps 73.17
* **77.15** Ex 6.6; Deut 9.29
* **77.16** Ex 14.21
* **77.17** Judg 5.4; 2 Sam 22.15
* **77.18** 2 Sam 22.8
* **77.19** Ex 14.28; Hab 3.15
* **77.20** Ex 6.26; 13.21; Isa 63.11–13

Psalm 78

* **78.1** Isa 51.4
* **78.2** Mt 13.35
* **78.3** Ps 44.1
* **78.4** Ex 12.26; Ps 22.30
* **78.5** Deut 4.9
* **78.6** Ps 102.18
* **78.7** Deut 6.12; 27.1
* **78.8** v 37; Ex 32.9; Ezek 20.18
j **78.9** Heb *armed with shooting*
* **78.9** Judg 20.39; 1 Chr 12.2
* **78.10** 2 Kings 18.12; Ps 119.1
* **78.11** Ps 106.13
* **78.12** Ex 7–12; Isa 19.11, 13; Ezek 30.14

* **78.13** Ex 14.21; 15.8
* **78.14** Ex 13.21
* **78.15** Num 20.11; 1 Cor 10.4
* **78.17** Deut 9.22; Heb 3.16
* **78.18** Ex 16.2; 1 Cor 10.9
* **78.19** Num 11.4
* **78.20** Num 20.11
* **78.21** Num 11.1
* **78.22** Heb 3.18
* **78.23** Mal 3.10
* **78.24** Jn 6.31
* **78.26** Num 11.31
* **78.27** Ps 105.40
* **78.29** Num 11.20
* **78.31** Num 11.33
* **78.32** v 22; Num 14; 16; 17
* **78.33** Num 14.29, 35
* **78.34** Hos 5.15
* **78.35** Deut 32.4; Isa 41.14
* **78.36** Ex 32.7, 8; Ezek 33.31
* **78.38** Num 14.18; 1 Kings 21.29
* **78.39** Job 7.7, 16; Ps 103.14
* **78.40** Ps 95.8–10; Heb 3.16
* **78.41** Num 14.22; Ps 89.18
* **78.44** Ex 7.20
* **78.45** Ex 8.24; Ps 105.31
* **78.47** Ex 9.25
* **78.48** Ex 9.23
* **78.49** Ex 15.7
* **78.51** Ex 12.29; Ps 106.22
* **78.52** Ps 77.20
* **78.53** Ex 14.19, 27
* **78.54** Ex 15.17; Ps 44.3
* **78.55** Ps 44.2; 105.11
* **78.56** vv 18, 40
* **78.57** Ezek 20.27, 28; Hos 7.16
* **78.58** Deut 12.2; 32.16, 21; 1 Kings 11.7
* **78.60** 1 Sam 4.11
* **78.61** Judg 18.30
* **78.62** 1 Sam 4.10
* **78.63** Jer 7.34

* **78.64** 1 Sam 22.18; Job 27.15
* **78.65** Isa 42.13
* **78.66** 1 Sam 5.6
* **78.68** Ps 87.2
* **78.69** 1 Kings 6
* **78.70** 1 Sam 16.11, 12
* **78.71** Gen 33.13; 2 Sam 7.8; 1 Chr 11.2
* **78.72** 1 Kings 9.4

Psalm 79

* **79.1** Ex 15.17; Mic 3.12
* **79.2** Jer 7.33
* **79.3** Jer 14.16
* **79.4** Ps 44.13
* **79.5** Ps 74.1, 9; Zeph 3.8
* **79.6** Isa 45.4, 5; Jer 10.25; 2 Thess 1.8; Rev 16.1
* **79.8** Isa 64.9
* **79.9** 2 Chr 14.11; Jer 14.7
* **79.10** Ps 42.10; 94.1, 2
* **79.11** Ps 102.20
* **79.12** Ps 74.18, 22; Isa 65.6, 7; Jer 32.18; Lk 6.38
* **79.13** Ps 74.1; 95.7; Isa 43.21

Psalm 80

* **80.1** Ps 23.1; 77.20; 99.1
* **80.2** Ps 35.23
* **80.3** Num 6.25; Lam 5.21
* **80.4** Ps 85.5
* **80.5** Ps 42.3; 102.9

k **80.6** Syr: Heb *strife*

* **80.6** Ps 44.13; 79.4
* **80.8** Ps 44.2; Isa 5.1, 7; Jer 2.21; Ezek 15.6
* **80.9** Hos 14.5
* **80.12** Ps 89.40; Nah 2.2
* **80.13** Jer 5.6
* **80.14** Isa 63.15

l **80.15** Heb adds from 80.17 *and upon the one whom you made strong for yourself*

* **80.16** Ps 39.11; 76.6
* **80.17** Ps 89.21
* **80.18** Ps 71.20; Isa 50.5

Psalm 81

* **81.1** Ps 59.16; 66.1
* **81.3** Lev 23.24; Num 10.10
m **81.5** Or *against*
* **81.5** Ex 11.4
n **81.6** Heb *his*
o **81.6** Heb *his*
* **81.6** Isa 9.4; 10.27
* **81.7** Ex 2.23; 17.6, 7; 19.19; Ps 50.15
* **81.8** Ps 50.7
* **81.9** Deut 32.12; Isa 43.12
* **81.10** Ex 20.2; Ps 103.5
* **81.11** Ex 32.1
* **81.12** Acts 7.42; Rom 1.24
* **81.13** Deut 5.29; Ps 128.1; Isa 48.18
* **81.14** Ps 47.3; Am 1.8
p **81.16** Cn: Heb *he would feed him*
* **81.16** Deut 32.13; Ps 147.14

Psalm 82

* **82.1** Ex 21.6; Isa 3.13
* **82.2** Deut 1.17; Ps 58.1; Prov 18.5
* **82.3** Deut 24.17
* **82.4** Job 29.12
* **82.5** Ps 11.3; Mic 3.1
* **82.6** Ps 89.26; Jn 10.34
q **82.7** Or *fall as one man, O princes*
* **82.7** Ps 49.12; Ezek 31.14
* **82.8** Ps 2.8; 12.5; Mic 7.2, 7; Rev 11.15

Psalm 83

* **83.1** Ps 28.1; 109.1
* **83.2** Ps 2.1; 81.15
* **83.3** Ps 27.5
* **83.4** Esth 3.6
* **83.5** Ps 2.2
* **83.6** 2 Chr 20.1, 10, 11
* **83.9** Judg 4.22, 23
* **83.11** Judg 8.12, 21
* **83.12** 2 Chr 20.11; Ps 132.13

r **83.13** Or *a tumbleweed*
* **83.13** Ps 35.5; Isa 7.13
* **83.14** Deut 32.22
* **83.15** Job 9.17
* **83.17** Ps 70.2
* **83.18** Ex 6.3; Ps 59.13; 92.8

Psalm 84

* **84.1** Ps 27.4
* **84.2** Ps 42.1, 2
* **84.3** Ps 5.2; 43.4
* **84.4** Ps 65.4
s **84.5** Heb lacks *to Zion*
* **84.5** Ps 81.1
* **84.6** 2 Sam 5.23; Ps 107.35
* **84.7** Deut 16.16; Ps 132.13; Prov 4.18; 2 Cor 3.18
* **84.9** Gen 15.1; Ps 2.2
* **84.10** 1 Chr 23.5
* **84.11** Ps 34.10; Isa 60.19
* **84.12** Ps 2.12

Psalm 85

* **85.1** Jer 30.18; Ezek 39.25
* **85.2** Ps 32.1; 103.3
* **85.5** Ps 74.1; 79.5
* **85.6** Hab 3.2
t **85.8** Gk: Heb *but let them not turn back to folly*
* **85.8** Hab 2.1; Zech 7.9
* **85.9** Isa 46.13; Jn 1.14
* **85.10** Ps 72.3; Lk 2.14
* **85.12** Ps 84.11; Jas 1.17
* **85.13** Ps 89.14

Psalm 86

* **86.1** Ps 17.6; 40.17
* **86.2** Ps 4.3; 25.20; 31.14
* **86.3** Ps 57.1; 88.9
* **86.4** Ps 25.1; 143.8
* **86.5** Ps 130.7; Joel 2.13
* **86.6** Ps 55.1

* **86.7** Ps 17.6; 50.15
* **86.8** Ex 15.11; Deut 3.24
* **86.9** Ps 22.31; Isa 43.7; Rev 15.4
* **86.10** Ex 15.11; Ps 72.18; Mk 12.29
* **86.11** Ps 25.4
* **86.13** Ps 30.3
* **86.14** Ps 54.3
* **86.15** Ex 34.6; Joel 2.13
* **86.16** Ps 25.16; 68.35; 116.16
* **86.17** Ps 112.10; 118.13

Psalm 87

* **87.2** Ps 78.67
* **87.3** Isa 60.1
* **87.5** Ps 48.8
* **87.6** Ezek 13.9
* **87.7** Ps 36.9

Psalm 88

* **88.1** Ps 27.9; 51.14
* **88.2** Ps 18.6; 86.1
* **88.3** Ps 107.18, 26
* **88.4** Ps 28.1
* **88.5** Isa 53.8
* **88.6** Ps 69.15; 86.13; 143.3
* **88.7** Ps 42.7
* **88.8** Job 19.13; Ps 31.11; 142.4; Lam 3.7
* **88.9** Job 11.13; Ps 38.10; 86.3; 143.6
* **88.10** Ps 6.5; Isa 38.18
* **88.12** Job 10.21
* **88.13** Ps 5.3; 119.147
* **88.14** Job 13.24; Ps 13.1

u **88.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **88.15** Job 6.4
* **88.17** Ps 22.16
* **88.18** Job 19.13; Ps 31.11; 38.11

Psalm 89

v **89.1** Gk: Heb *the steadfast love of the* LORD

* **89.1** Ps 101.1

* **89.2** Ps 103.17
* **89.3** 1 Kings 8.16; Ps 132.11
* **89.4** 2 Sam 7.16; Lk 1.33
* **89.5** Ps 19.1; 149.1
* **89.6** Ps 29.1; Mic 7.18
w **89.7** Gk Syr: Heb *greatly awesome*
* **89.7** Ps 47.2; 96.4
* **89.8** Ps 71.19
* **89.9** Ps 65.7
* **89.10** Ps 68.1; Isa 51.9
* **89.11** 1 Chr 29.11; Ps 24.1, 2
x **89.12** Or *Zaphon and Yamin*
* **89.12** Josh 19.22
* **89.13** Ps 98.1
* **89.14** Ps 85.13; 97.2
* **89.15** Num 10.10
y **89.16** Cn: Heb *are exalted in*
* **89.17** Ps 28.8; 75.10
* **89.18** Ps 47.9; 71.22
z **89.19** Cn: Heb *help*
* **89.19** 1 Kings 11.34
* **89.20** 1 Sam 16.1, 12; Acts 13.22
* **89.22** 2 Sam 7.10
* **89.23** 2 Sam 7.9
* **89.24** 2 Sam 7.15
* **89.26** 2 Sam 7.14
* **89.27** Num 24.7; Col 1.15; Rev 1.5
* **89.28** Isa 55.3
* **89.29** Deut 11.21; Isa 9.7; Jer 33.17
* **89.30** 2 Sam 7.14
* **89.32** 2 Sam 7.14
* **89.33** 2 Sam 7.15
* **89.34** Num 23.19; Deut 7.9
* **89.35** Am 4.2
* **89.36** Ps 72.5
* **89.38** Deut 32.19; 1 Chr 28.9
* **89.39** Lam 5.16
* **89.40** Ps 80.12; Lam 2.2, 5
* **89.41** Ps 44.13
* **89.42** Ps 13.2; 80.6
* **89.43** Ps 44.10

a **89.44** Cn: Heb *removed his cleanness*
* **89.44** Ezek 28.7
* **89.45** Ps 44.15; 102.23
* **89.46** Ps 79.5
b **89.47** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **89.47** Job 7.7; 10.9; 14.1; Ps 39.5
* **89.48** Ps 49.9; Heb 11.5
* **89.49** 2 Sam 7.15; Ps 54.5
c **89.50** Cn: Heb *bosom all of many peoples*
* **89.50** Ps 69.9, 19
* **89.51** Ps 74.10
* **89.52** Ps 41.13

Psalm 90

d **90.1** Or *our refuge*
* **90.1** Deut 33.27; Ezek 11.16
* **90.2** Ps 93.2; 102.25; Prov 8.25
e **90.3** Heb *humankind*
* **90.3** Gen 3.19
* **90.4** Ps 39.5; 2 Pet 3.8
* **90.5** Job 27.20; Ps 73.20; 103.15; Isa 40.6
* **90.6** Job 14.2; Ps 92.7
* **90.8** Ps 19.12; 50.21; Jer 16.17
f **90.9** Syr: Heb *we bring our years to an end*
* **90.9** Ps 78.33
g **90.10** Cn Compare Gk Syr Jerome Tg: Heb *pride*
* **90.10** Eccl 12.2–7
* **90.11** Ps 76.7
* **90.12** Ps 39.4
* **90.13** Deut 32.26; Ps 135.14
* **90.14** Ps 65.4; 85.6
* **90.16** 1 Kings 8.11; Hab 3.2
* **90.17** Ps 27.4; Isa 26.12

Psalm 91

h **91.1** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **91.1** Ps 17.8; 27.5; 31.20
* **91.2** Ps 142.5
* **91.3** Ps 124.7
* **91.4** Ps 35.2; 40.11; 57.1; Isa 51.16

* **91.5** Ps 23.4; 64.4; Song 3.8
* **91.6** v 10; Job 5.22
* **91.8** Ps 37.34; Mal 1.5
i **91.9** Cn: Heb *Because you, LORD, are my refuge; you have made*
* **91.10** Prov 12.21
* **91.11** Ps 34.7; Mt 4.6; Lk 4.10; Heb 1.14
* **91.13** Lk 10.19
* **91.14** Ps 9.10; 59.1; 145.20
* **91.15** 1 Sam 2.30; Ps 50.15; Jn 12.26
* **91.16** Ps 21.4; 50.23

Psalm 92

* **92.1** Ps 147.1
* **92.2** Ps 89.1
* **92.3** 2 Chr 23.5; Ps 33.2
* **92.5** Ps 40.5; Isa 28.29; Rom 11.33
* **92.7** Ps 37.38; 90.5; 93.4; 94.4
* **92.8** Ps 83.18
* **92.9** Ps 68.1; 89.10
* **92.11** Ps 54.7; 59.10
* **92.12** Ps 52.8; 104.16; Isa 65.22; Hos 14.5, 6
* **92.14** Isa 37.31
* **92.15** Deut 32.4; Ps 25.8; Rom 9.14

Psalm 93

* **93.1** Ps 65.6; 96.10; 97.1; 99.1; 104.1
* **93.2** Ps 45.6; 90.2
j **93.4** Cn: Heb *majestic are the waves*
* **93.4** Ps 65.7; 89.9
* **93.5** Ps 19.7; 1 Cor 3.17

Psalm 94

* **94.1** Deut 32.35; Ps 50.2
* **94.2** Ps 7.6; 31.23
* **94.3** Job 20.5
* **94.4** Ps 10.3; 31.18
* **94.7** Ps 10.11
* **94.8** Ps 92.6
* **94.9** Ex 4.11; Prov 20.12
* **94.10** Job 35.11; Ps 44.2; Isa 28.26

k **94.11** Heb *the thoughts of humankind*
* **94.11** 1 Cor 3.20
* **94.12** Job 5.17; Heb 12.5
* **94.14** 1 Sam 12.22; Rom 11.1, 2
* **94.16** Ps 59.2; Isa 28.21
* **94.17** Ps 124.1
* **94.18** Ps 38.16
* **94.19** Isa 66.13
* **94.20** Isa 10.1; Am 6.3
* **94.21** Ps 56.6; Prov 17.15
* **94.22** Ps 59.9; 71.7
* **94.23** Ps 7.16

Psalm 95

* **95.1** 2 Sam 22.47; Ps 100.1
* **95.2** Ps 81.2; 100.4; Mic 6.6
* **95.3** Ps 96.4; 97.9; 135.5
* **95.5** Gen 1.9, 10
* **95.6** Ps 99.5, 9; 100.3
* **95.7** Ps 79.13; 100.3; Heb 3.7–11
* **95.8** Ex 17.2, 7; Deut 6.16
* **95.9** Ps 78.18; 1 Cor 10.9
* **95.10** Heb 3.10, 17
* **95.11** Heb 4.3, 5

Psalm 96

* **96.1** 1 Chr 16.23–33
* **96.2** Ps 71.15
* **96.3** Ps 145.12
* **96.4** Ps 18.3; 95.3; 145.3
* **96.5** 1 Chr 16.26; Ps 115.15
* **96.6** Ps 104.1
* **96.7** Ps 29.1, 2
* **96.8** Ps 79.9
* **96.9** Ps 29.2
* **96.10** Ps 67.4; 93.1
* **96.11** Ps 97.1; 98.7
* **96.13** Ps 67.4; Rev 19.11

Psalm 97

* **97.1** Ps 96.10, 11
* **97.2** 1 Kings 8.12; Ps 18.11; 89.14
* **97.3** Ps 18.8; Dan 7.10; Hab 3.5; Heb 12.29
* **97.5** Josh 3.11; Mic 1.4
* **97.7** Ex 20.4; Lev 26.1; Heb 1.6
l **97.8** Heb *daughters*
* **97.8** Ps 48.11
* **97.9** Ex 18.11; Ps 83.18; 95.3
* **97.10** Ps 34.14; 37.39; Prov 2.8; Dan 3.28; Am 5.15
m **97.11** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *is sown*
* **97.11** Job 22.28; Ps 112.4

Psalm 98

* **98.1** Ex 15.6; Ps 33.3; Isa 52.10
* **98.2** Rom 3.25
* **98.3** Isa 49.6; Lk 1.54
* **98.4** Ps 100.1
* **98.6** Num 10.10
* **98.7** Ps 24.1; 96.11
* **98.8** Ps 65.12; 93.3
* **98.9** Ps 96.10, 13

Psalm 99

* **99.1** Ex 25.22
* **99.2** Ps 97.9
n **99.4** Cn: Heb *And a king's strength*
* **99.4** Ps 11.7; 17.2; 103.6
* **99.5** Lev 19.2; Ps 132.7
* **99.6** Ex 14.15; 1 Sam 7.9; Jer 15.1
* **99.7** Ex 33.9
* **99.8** Num 14.20; Deut 9.20; Ps 106.44
* **99.9** Ps 34.3

Psalm 100

* **100.1** Ps 98.4
o **100.3** Or *and not we ourselves*
* **100.3** Ps 46.10; 95.6, 7
* **100.4** Ps 95.2; 96.2
* **100.5** Ps 25.8; 119.90

Psalm 101

* **101.1** Ps 89.1
* **101.2** 1 Sam 18.14; 1 Kings 9.4
* **101.3** Deut 15.9; Ps 40.4
* **101.4** Prov 11.20
* **101.5** Ps 50.20; Prov 6.17
* **101.6** Ps 119.1
* **101.8** Ps 75.10; 118.10–12

Psalm 102

* **102.1** 1 Sam 9.16
* **102.2** Ps 69.17; 71.2
* **102.3** Job 30.30; Ps 31.10; Jas 4.14
* **102.4** Ps 37.2
* **102.5** Lam 4.8

p **102.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **102.6** Isa 34.11
* **102.7** Ps 38.11; 77.4
* **102.8** Acts 23.12; 26.11
* **102.9** Ps 42.3
* **102.11** v 4; Job 14.2
* **102.12** Ps 135.13; Lam 5.19
* **102.13** Ps 75.2; Isa 60.10
* **102.15** 1 Kings 8.43; Ps 138.4
* **102.16** Isa 60.1, 2
* **102.17** Neh 1.6
* **102.18** Ps 22.31; Rom 15.4
* **102.19** Deut 26.15; Ps 33.13
* **102.20** Ps 79.11
* **102.21** Ps 22.22
* **102.22** Ps 86.9
* **102.23** Job 21.21
* **102.24** Isa 38.10; Hab 1.12
* **102.25** Gen 1.1; Ps 96.5
* **102.26** Isa 34.4; Mt 24.35; Rev 20.11
* **102.27** Mal 3.6; Jas 1.17
* **102.28** Ps 69.36; 89.4

Psalm 103

* **103.1** Ps 33.21; 104.1

* **103.3** Ex 15.26; Ps 130.8
* **103.4** Ps 5.12; 49.15
q **103.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **103.8** Ex 34.6; Ps 145.8
* **103.9** Ps 30.5; Isa 57.16; Jer 3.5
* **103.10** Ezra 9.13
* **103.11** Ps 36.5
* **103.12** 2 Sam 12.13; Isa 38.17; Heb 9.26
* **103.13** Mal 3.17
* **103.14** Gen 3.19; Isa 29.16
* **103.15** Job 14.1, 2; 1 Pet 1.24
* **103.18** Deut 7.9
* **103.19** Ps 11.4; 47.2
* **103.20** Ps 148.2; Mt 6.10; Heb 1.14
* **103.21** Ps 148.2

Psalm 104

* **104.1** Ps 103.1
* **104.2** Isa 40.22; Dan 7.9
r **104.3** Heb *his*
s **104.3** Heb *his*
* **104.3** Ps 18.10; Isa 19.1; Am 9.6
t **104.4** Heb *his*
u **104.4** Heb *his*
* **104.4** Heb 1.7
* **104.5** Job 26.7; Ps 24.2
* **104.6** Gen 7.19
* **104.8** Ps 33.7
* **104.9** Job 38.10, 11; Jer 5.22
* **104.10** Ps 107.35
* **104.11** Job 39.5
v **104.12** Heb *By them*
* **104.12** Mt 8.20
* **104.13** Ps 65.9; 147.8
* **104.14** Gen 1.29; Job 28.5; 38.27; Ps 147.8
* **104.15** Judg 9.13; Ps 23.5
w **104.16** Gk: Heb *trees of the* LORD
* **104.18** Prov 30.26
* **104.19** Gen 1.14
* **104.20** Isa 45.7
* **104.21** Job 38.39

* **104.23** Gen 3.19
* **104.24** Ps 40.5; 65.9; Prov 3.19
* **104.26** Job 41.1; Ps 107.23
* **104.27** Ps 136.25; 145.15
* **104.29** Job 34.14; Ps 146.4; Eccl 12.7
x **104.30** Or *your breath*
* **104.30** Isa 32.15; Ezek 37.9
* **104.31** Gen 1.31
* **104.32** Ps 97.4, 5; 144.5
* **104.33** Ps 63.4; 146.2
* **104.35** v 1; Ps 37.10; 59.13

Psalm 105

* **105.1** 1 Chr 16.8; Ps 145.12
* **105.2** Ps 77.12
* **105.3** Ps 33.21
* **105.4** Ps 27.8
* **105.5** Ps 77.11
y **105.6** Or *Israel*
* **105.7** Isa 26.9
* **105.9** Gen 17.2
* **105.10** Gen 28.13–15
* **105.11** Gen 13.15; 15.18
* **105.12** Gen 34.30; Heb 11.9
* **105.14** Gen 12.17; 35.5
z **105.16** Heb *staff of bread*
* **105.16** Lev 26.26; Isa 3.1; Ezek 4.16
* **105.17** Gen 37.28, 36; 45.5
* **105.18** Gen 39.20
* **105.19** Gen 40.20, 21
* **105.20** Gen 41.14
* **105.21** Gen 41.40
a **105.22** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *to bind*
* **105.23** Gen 46.6; Acts 13.17
* **105.24** Ex 1.7
* **105.25** Ex 1.8, 10
* **105.26** Ex 3.10; Num 16.5
* **105.27** Ex 7–12; Ps 78.43
b **105.28** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *they did not rebel*
* **105.28** Ex 10.22; Ps 99.7
* **105.29** Ex 7.20

* **105.30** Ex 8.6
* **105.31** Ex 8.16, 21
* **105.32** Ex 9.23
* **105.34** Ex 10.4; Ps 78.46
* **105.36** Ex 12.29; Ps 78.51
c **105.37** Heb *them*
* **105.37** Ex 12.35
* **105.38** Ex 12.33
* **105.39** Ex 13.21
* **105.40** Ex 16.12ff; Ps 78.24ff
* **105.41** Ex 17.6; 1 Cor 10.4
* **105.42** v 8
* **105.44** Josh 13.7
* **105.45** Deut 6.21–25

Psalm 106

* **106.1** 1 Chr 16.34; Ps 105.1
* **106.2** Ps 145.4, 12
* **106.3** Ps 15.2
d **106.4** Heb mss Gk: MT *me*
e **106.4** Heb mss Gk: MT *me*
* **106.4** Ps 119.132
* **106.5** Ps 1.3; 118.15
* **106.6** Dan 9.5
f **106.7** Cn: Heb *rebelled at the sea*
g **106.7** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **106.7** Ex 14.11
* **106.8** Ex 9.16
h **106.9** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **106.9** Ex 14.21; Isa 63.11–14
* **106.10** Ex 14.30
* **106.11** Ex 14.28; 15.5
* **106.12** Ex 14.31
* **106.13** Ex 15.24
* **106.14** 1 Cor 10.6, 9
* **106.15** Num 11.31
* **106.16** Num 16.1–3
* **106.17** Deut 11.6
* **106.18** Num 16.35
* **106.19** Ex 32.4
i **106.20** Compare Gk mss: Heb *exchanged their glory*

* **106.20** Jer 2.11; Rom 1.23
* **106.21** Deut 10.21
j **106.22** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **106.22** Ps 105.27
* **106.23** Ex 32.10
* **106.24** Heb 3.18, 19
* **106.25** Num 14.2
* **106.26** Num 14.28–35; Heb 3.11
k **106.27** Syr: Heb *cause to fall*
* **106.27** Ps 44.11
* **106.28** Num 25.2, 3
* **106.30** Num 25.7
* **106.31** Num 25.11–13
l **106.32** Heb *him*
* **106.32** Num 20.3, 13
* **106.33** Num 20.10
* **106.34** Deut 7.2, 16
* **106.35** Judg 3.5, 6
* **106.36** Judg 2.12
* **106.37** 2 Kings 7.17
* **106.38** Num 35.33
* **106.39** Num 15.39
* **106.40** Ps 78.59
* **106.41** Judg 2.14; Neh 9.27
* **106.43** Judg 2.16–18
* **106.44** Judg 3.9
* **106.45** Judg 2.18; Ps 105.8
* **106.46** Ezra 9.9; Jer 42.12
* **106.47** 1 Chr 16.35, 36; Ps 147.2
* **106.48** Ps 41.13

Psalm 107

* **107.1** Ps 106.1
* **107.2** Ps 106.10
m **107.3** Cn: Heb *sea*
* **107.3** Ps 106.47; Isa 43.5, 6
* **107.4** Num 14.33; 32.13
* **107.6** Ps 50.15
* **107.7** Ezra 8.21
* **107.8** vv 15, 21, 31
* **107.9** Ps 22.26; Lk 1.53

* **107.10** Job 36.8; Lk 1.79
* **107.11** 2 Chr 36.16; Ps 106.7
* **107.12** Ps 22.11
* **107.13** v 6
* **107.14** Ps 116.16; Lk 13.16; Acts 12.7
* **107.15** vv 8, 21, 31
* **107.16** Isa 45.2
n **107.17** Cn: Heb *fools*
* **107.17** Isa 65.6, 7
* **107.18** Job 33.20, 22; Ps 9.13; 88.3
* **107.20** Ps 30.2; 103.3; Mt 8.8
* **107.22** Lev 7.12; Ps 9.11; 50.14; 73.28; 118.17
* **107.25** Ps 93.3, 4; 105.31, 34; Jon 1.4
* **107.26** Ps 22.14; 119.28
* **107.27** Job 12.25
* **107.29** Ps 89.9; Mt 8.26
* **107.31** vv 8, 15, 21
* **107.32** Ps 22.22, 25; 35.18
* **107.33** Ps 74.15
* **107.34** Gen 13.10; 14.3; 19.25
* **107.35** Ps 114.8; Isa 41.18
* **107.37** Isa 65.21
* **107.38** Gen 12.2; 17.16, 20; Ex 1.7
* **107.39** Ps 57.6; Ezek 5.11
* **107.40** Job 12.21, 24
* **107.41** 1 Sam 2.8; Ps 113.7–9
* **107.42** Job 5.16; 22.19; Ps 52.6; 63.11; Rom 3.19
* **107.43** Ps 64.9; Jer 9.12; Hos 14.9

Psalm 108

o **108.1** Heb mss Gk Syr: MT lacks *my heart is steadfast*
p **108.1** Cn Compare 57.8: Heb *also my soul*
* **108.1** Ps 57.7
* **108.2** Ps 57.8–11
* **108.4** Ps 113.4
* **108.6** Ps 60.5–12
q **108.7** Or *by his holiness*
* **108.8** Ps 60.7
* **108.11** Ps 44.9

Psalm 109

* **109.1** Ps 83.1
* **109.3** Ps 69.4
r **109.4** Syr: Heb *I prayer*
* **109.4** Ps 38.20; 69.13
* **109.5** Ps 35.12; 38.20
s **109.6** Heb lacks *They say*
* **109.6** Zech 3.1
* **109.7** Prov 28.9
* **109.8** Acts 1.20
* **109.9** Ex 22.24
t **109.10** Gk: Heb *may they seek*
* **109.11** Job 5.5; 18.9
* **109.12** Isa 9.17
* **109.13** Ps 37.28; Prov 10.7
u **109.14** Cn: Heb *fathers*
* **109.14** Ex 20.5; Neh 4.5; Jer 18.23
v **109.15** Gk: Heb *their*
* **109.15** Ps 34.16
* **109.16** Ps 37.14, 32
* **109.17** Prov 14.14; Ezek 35.6
* **109.18** Num 5.22; Ps 73.6
* **109.20** Ps 71.10; 94.23; 2 Tim 4.14
* **109.21** Ps 69.16; 79.9
* **109.22** Ps 40.17; 143.4
* **109.23** Ps 102.11
* **109.24** Heb 12.12
* **109.25** Ps 22.6, 7; Mt 27.39; Mk 15.29
* **109.27** Job 37.7
w **109.28** Gk: Heb *They have risen up and have been put to shame*
* **109.28** 2 Sam 16.11, 12; Isa 65.14
* **109.29** Ps 35.26; 132.18
* **109.30** Ps 35.18
* **109.31** Ps 16.8; 121.5

Psalm 110

* **110.1** Mt 22.44; Mk 12.36; Lk 20.42; Acts 2.34; 1 Cor 15.25
* **110.2** Ps 2.9; 45.6
x **110.3** Heb mss Symmachus Jerome: MT *in holy splendor*
y **110.3** Cn: Heb *the dew of your youth*
* **110.3** Judg 5.2; Ps 96.9
z **110.4** Or *forever, a rightful king by my edict*
* **110.4** Heb 5.6, 10; 6.20; 7.11, 15, 21
* **110.5** Ps 2.5, 12; 16.8; Rom 2.5; Rev 11.18
* **110.6** Ps 68.21; Isa 2.4; 66.24
* **110.7** Ps 27.6

Psalm 111

* **111.1** Ps 138.1; 149.1
* **111.3** Ps 145.5
* **111.4** Ps 86.5; 103.8
* **111.5** Mt 6.26, 33
* **111.7** Ps 19.7; Rev 15.3
* **111.8** Ps 19.9; Mt 5.18
* **111.9** Ps 99.3; Lk 1.68
a **111.10** Gk Syr: Heb *them*
* **111.10** Ps 145.2; Prov 3.4; 9.10

Psalm 112

* **112.1** Ps 119.16; 128.1
* **112.2** Ps 25.13
* **112.4** Job 11.17; Ps 97.11
* **112.6** Prov 10.7
* **112.7** Ps 57.7; Prov 1.33
* **112.8** Ps 59.10; 118.7
* **112.9** Deut 24.13; Ps 75.10; 2 Cor 9.9
* **112.10** Ps 37.12; 58.7, 8; 86.17; Prov 10.28

Psalm 113

* **113.1** Ps 135.1
* **113.2** Dan 2.20
* **113.3** Ps 50.1
* **113.4** Ps 8.1; 97.9; 99.2

* **113.5** Ps 89.6; 103.19
* **113.6** Ps 11.4; 138.6; Isa 57.15
* **113.9** 1 Sam 2.5; Isa 54.1

Psalm 114

b **114.1** Psalms 114–115 are a single psalm in the earliest witnesses
* **114.1** Ex 13.3
c **114.2** Heb *his*
* **114.2** Ex 19.6
* **114.3** Ex 14.21; Josh 3.13, 16
* **114.4** Ps 29.6; Hab 3.6
* **114.7** Ps 96.9
* **114.8** Ex 17.6; Deut 8.15; Ps 107.35

Psalm 115

d **115.1** Psalms 114–115 are a single psalm in the earliest witnesses
* **115.1** Ps 96.8; Ezek 36.32
* **115.2** Ps 42.3
* **115.3** Ps 103.19; 135.6; Dan 4.35
* **115.4** Deut 4.28; Ps 135.15–17; Jer 10.3ff
* **115.8** Ps 135.18
* **115.9** Ps 33.20; 118.2–4
* **115.11** Ps 135.20
* **115.14** Deut 1.11
* **115.15** Gen 1.1; 14.19; Ps 96.5
* **115.16** Ps 8.6; 89.11
* **115.17** Ps 6.5; 31.17
* **115.18** Ps 113.2

Psalm 116

* **116.1** Ps 18.1; 66.19
* **116.2** Ps 40.1
* **116.3** Ps 18.4–6
* **116.5** Ex 34.6; Ezra 9.15; Neh 9.8; Ps 103.8; 145.17
* **116.7** Ps 13.6; Jer 6.16; Mt 11.29
* **116.8** Ps 56.13
e **116.10** Some early witnesses begin a new psalm here
* **116.11** Ps 31.22; Rom 3.4
* **116.14** Ps 22.25; Jon 2.9
* **116.15** Ps 72.14

* **116.16** Ps 86.16; 119.125; 143.12
* **116.17** v 13; Ps 50.14
* **116.19** Ps 96.8; 135.2

Psalm 117

* **117.1** Ps 22.23; Rom 15.11
* **117.2** Ps 103.11

Psalm 118

* **118.1** Ps 106.1; 136.1
* **118.2** Ps 115.9
* **118.5** Ps 18.19; 120.1
* **118.6** Ps 27.1; 56.4, 11; Heb 13.6
* **118.7** Ps 54.4; 59.10
* **118.8** Ps 40.4; Jer 17.5
* **118.9** Ps 146.3
* **118.10** Ps 3.6; 18.40

f **118.12** Gk: Heb *were extinguished*

g **118.13** Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *You pushed me hard*

* **118.13** Ps 86.17; 140.4
* **118.14** Ex 15.2; Isa 12.2
* **118.15** Ps 68.3; 89.13
* **118.16** Ex 15.6
* **118.17** Ps 73.28; Hab 1.12
* **118.18** 2 Cor 6.9
* **118.19** Isa 26.2
* **118.20** Ps 24.7; Rev 22.14
* **118.21** v 14; Ps 116.1
* **118.22** Mt 21.42; Mk 12.10; Lk 20.17; 1 Pet 2.4, 7

h **118.24** Or *in him*

i **118.26** Or *Blessed in the name of the* LORD *is the one who comes*

* **118.26** Mt 21.9; Mk 11.9; Jn 12.13

j **118.27** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **118.27** 1 Kings 18.39; 1 Pet 2.9
* **118.28** Ex 15.2; Isa 25.1
* **118.29** v 1

Psalm 119

* **119.1** Ps 101.2, 6; 128.1
* **119.3** 1 Jn 3.9; 5.18

* **119.6** v 80
* **119.7** v 62
* **119.9** 2 Chr 6.16
* **119.10** 2 Chr 15.15
* **119.11** Ps 37.31; Lk 2.19, 51
* **119.12** vv 26, 64, 68, 108, 124, 135, 171
* **119.13** v 72; Ps 40.9
* **119.15** vv 23, 48, 78; Ps 1.2
* **119.16** Ps 1.2
* **119.17** Ps 13.6
* **119.19** Gen 47.9; 1 Chr 29.15; Ps 39.12; 2 Cor 5.6; Heb 11.13
* **119.20** Ps 42.1, 2
* **119.21** vv 10, 118
* **119.22** Ps 39.8
* **119.23** v 15
* **119.24** v 16
* **119.25** v 37; Ps 44.25
* **119.26** v 12
* **119.27** Ps 145.5
* **119.28** Ps 107.26; 1 Pet 5.10
* **119.31** Deut 11.22
* **119.32** 1 Kings 4.29; 2 Cor 6.11
* **119.33** vv 5, 12
* **119.34** Prov 2.6; Jas 1.5
* **119.36** 1 Kings 8.58; Lk 12.15

k **119.37** Q ms: MT *give me life*

* **119.37** Ps 71.20; Isa 33.15
* **119.38** 2 Sam 7.25

l **119.40** Q ms: MT *give me life*

* **119.40** vv 20, 25
* **119.41** vv 77, 116
* **119.42** Prov 27.11
* **119.46** Mt 10.18; Acts 26.1, 2
* **119.48** v 15
* **119.50** Rom 15.4
* **119.51** Job 23.11; Ps 44.18; Jer 20.7
* **119.52** Ps 103.18
* **119.53** Ezra 9.3; Ps 89.30
* **119.55** Ps 63.6
* **119.57** Deut 33.9; Ps 16.5
* **119.58** v 41; 1 Kings 13.6

* **119.59** Lk 15.17, 18
* **119.61** v 83; Ps 140.5
* **119.62** Acts 16.25
* **119.63** Ps 101.6
* **119.64** v 12; Ps 33.5
* **119.67** Jer 31.18, 19; Heb 12.11
* **119.68** v 12; Deut 8.16; Ps 106.1
* **119.69** v 56; Job 13.4

m **119.70** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **119.70** v 16; Ps 17.10; Isa 6.10
* **119.72** Ps 19.10; Prov 8.10, 11, 19
* **119.73** v 34; Job 10.8; Ps 138.8
* **119.74** v 43; Ps 34.2
* **119.75** Heb 12.10
* **119.78** vv 15, 86; Jer 50.32
* **119.81** Ps 84.2
* **119.82** Ps 69.3
* **119.83** Job 30.30
* **119.84** Ps 39.4; Rev 6.10
* **119.85** Ps 35.7
* **119.86** Ps 35.19; 109.26
* **119.89** Mt 24.34, 35; 1 Pet 1.25
* **119.90** Ps 36.5; 148.6; Eccl 1.4
* **119.91** Jer 33.25
* **119.93** vv 16, 25
* **119.97** Ps 1.2
* **119.100** Job 32.7–9
* **119.101** Prov 1.15
* **119.103** Ps 19.10
* **119.104** vv 128, 130
* **119.105** Prov 6.23
* **119.106** Neh 10.29
* **119.107** v 25
* **119.108** Hos 14.2; Heb 13.15
* **119.109** v 16; Job 13.14
* **119.110** Ps 140.5
* **119.111** Deut 33.4
* **119.112** v 33
* **119.113** Jas 1.8
* **119.114** Ps 32.7; 91.1
* **119.115** Ps 6.8; 139.19; Mt 7.23

* **119.116** Ps 25.2; 54.4; Rom 5.5; 9.33
* **119.118** v 21
n **119.119** Q ms Gk Vg: MT *you bring to an end*
* **119.119** Ezek 22.18
* **119.120** Hab 3.16
* **119.122** Job 17.3
* **119.123** vv 81, 82
* **119.124** v 12
* **119.125** Ps 116.16
* **119.127** Ps 19.10
o **119.128** Gk Jerome: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **119.128** v 104
* **119.129** vv 18, 22
* **119.130** Ps 19.7; Prov 6.23
* **119.131** Ps 42.1
* **119.132** Ps 25.16
* **119.133** Ps 17.15
* **119.134** Ps 142.6
* **119.135** v 12; Ps 4.6
* **119.136** Jer 9.1; Ezek 9.4
* **119.137** Ezra 9.15; Jer 12.1
* **119.138** Ps 19.7–9
* **119.139** Ps 69.9
* **119.140** Ps 12.6
* **119.142** Ps 19.9
* **119.143** vv 24, 77
* **119.144** Ps 19.9
* **119.145** vv 10, 22, 55
* **119.147** Ps 5.3
* **119.149** vv 40, 154
* **119.151** Ps 145.18
* **119.152** Lk 21.33
* **119.153** Prov 3.1
* **119.154** 1 Sam 24.15
* **119.155** Job 5.4
p **119.156** Q ms: MT *give me life*
* **119.156** 2 Sam 24.14
* **119.157** v 51; Ps 7.1
* **119.158** Ps 139.21
q **119.159** Q ms: MT *give me life*
* **119.159** vv 47, 88

* **119.160** Ps 139.17
* **119.161** 1 Sam 24.11
* **119.162** 1 Sam 30.16
* **119.164** vv 7, 160
* **119.165** Prov 3.2; Isa 26.3; 32.17
* **119.166** Gen 49.18
* **119.168** Prov 5.21
* **119.169** Ps 18.6
* **119.170** Ps 28.2; 31.2
* **119.171** Ps 51.15
* **119.173** Ps 37.24
* **119.175** Isa 55.3
* **119.176** v 16; Isa 53.6

Psalm 120

* **120.1** Ps 102.2; Jon 2.2
* **120.4** Ps 45.5; 140.10
* **120.5** Gen 10.2; 25.13; Jer 49.28; Ezek 27.13

Psalm 121

* **121.2** Ps 115.15; 124.8
* **121.3** Ps 66.9; 127.1
* **121.5** Ps 16.8; Isa 25.4
* **121.6** Ps 91.5; Isa 49.10; Rev 7.16
* **121.7** Ps 91.10–12
* **121.8** Deut 28.6

Psalm 122

* **122.1** Isa 2.3; Zech 8.21
* **122.3** Ps 48.13
* **122.4** Ex 16.34; Deut 16.16
* **122.5** Deut 17.8; 2 Chr 19.8
* **122.6** Ps 51.18
* **122.9** Neh 2.10

Psalm 123

* **123.1** Ps 2.4; 11.4; 121.1; 141.8
* **123.2** Ps 25.15; Prov 27.18
* **123.3** Ps 4.1; 51.1

* **123.4** Ps 79.4

Psalm 124

* **124.1** Ps 94.17; 129.1
* **124.3** Ps 56.1; 57.3; Prov 1.12
* **124.4** Ps 69.2
* **124.6** Ps 27.2
* **124.7** Ps 91.3; Prov 6.5
* **124.8** Gen 1.1; Ps 121.2

Psalm 125

* **125.1** Ps 46.5
* **125.2** Ps 121.8; Zech 2.5
* **125.3** Ps 55.20; Prov 22.8; Isa 14.5
* **125.4** Ps 7.10; 94.15; 119.68
* **125.5** Ps 128.6; Prov 2.15

Psalm 126

r **126.1** Or *brought back those who returned to Zion*
* **126.1** Ps 85.1; Acts 12.9
* **126.2** Job 8.21; Ps 51.14; 71.19
* **126.3** Isa 25.9
* **126.4** Isa 35.6; 43.19
* **126.5** Isa 35.10; Jer 31.16

Psalm 127

* **127.1** Ps 78.69; 121.4
s **127.2** Or *for he provides for his beloved during sleep*
* **127.2** Gen 3.17; Job 11.18, 19
* **127.3** Gen 33.5; Deut 28.4; Josh 24.3, 4
* **127.5** Job 5.4; Prov 27.11

Psalm 128

* **128.1** Ps 112.1; 119.3
* **128.2** Eccl 8.12; Isa 3.10; Ezek 23.29
* **128.3** Ps 52.8; 144.12; Ezek 19.10
* **128.5** Ps 20.2; 122.9; 134.3
* **128.6** Gen 50.23; Job 42.16; Ps 125.5

Psalm 129

* **129.1** Ps 88.15; 124.1; Hos 2.15
* **129.2** Mt 16.18
* **129.4** Ps 119.137
* **129.5** Ps 71.13; Mic 4.11
* **129.6** Ps 37.2
* **129.8** Ps 118.26

Psalm 130

* **130.1** Ps 42.7; 69.2
* **130.2** 2 Chr 6.40; Ps 28.2; 64.1
* **130.3** Ps 76.7
* **130.4** Ex 34.7; 1 Kings 8.40; Jer 33.8
* **130.5** Ps 33.20; 119.81; Isa 8.17
* **130.6** Ps 63.6; 119.147
* **130.7** Ps 131.3; Isa 55.7
* **130.8** Lk 1.68

Psalm 131

* **131.1** Ps 101.5; Isa 5.15; Rom 12.16

t **131.2** Or *my soul within me is like a weaned child*

* **131.2** Ps 62.1; Mt 18.3; 1 Cor 14.20
* **131.3** Ps 130.7

Psalm 132

* **132.2** Gen 49.24
* **132.5** Acts 7.46
* **132.6** 1 Sam 17.12; 1 Chr 13.5
* **132.7** Ps 5.7; 99.5
* **132.8** Num 10.35; 2 Chr 6.41; Ps 78.61
* **132.9** Job 29.14; Isa 61.10
* **132.11** 2 Sam 7.12; 2 Chr 6.16; Ps 89.3, 4
* **132.12** Lk 1.32; Acts 2.30
* **132.13** Ps 48.1, 2; 68.16
* **132.15** Ps 107.9; 147.14
* **132.17** 1 Kings 11.36; 15.4; 2 Chr 21.7; Ezek 29.21; Lk 1.69
* **132.18** Ps 35.26; 109.29

Psalm 133

* **133.1** Gen 13.8; Heb 13.1
* **133.2** Ex 30.25; 39.24
* **133.3** Lev 25.21; Deut 4.48; Ps 42.8

Psalm 134

* **134.1** 1 Chr 9.33; Ps 103.21
* **134.2** Ps 28.2; 1 Tim 2.8

Psalm 135

* **135.2** Ps 92.13; Lk 2.37
* **135.3** Ps 119.68; 147.1
* **135.4** Ex 19.5; Deut 7.6, 7; 10.15; 1 Pet 2.9
* **135.5** Ps 48.1; 97.9
* **135.6** Ps 115.3
* **135.7** Job 38.22; Jer 10.13
* **135.8** Ex 12.12; Ps 78.51
* **135.9** Ps 78.43
* **135.10** Num 21.24
* **135.11** Num 21.21–26, 33–35
* **135.12** Ps 78.55
* **135.13** Ex 3.15; Ps 102.12
* **135.14** Deut 32.36
* **135.15** Ps 115.4–8
* **135.19** Ps 115.9
* **135.20** Ps 118.4
* **135.21** Ps 134.3

Psalm 136

* **136.1** 2 Chr 20.21
* **136.2** Deut 10.17
* **136.4** Ps 72.18
* **136.5** Gen 1.1; Jer 51.15
* **136.6** Gen 1.9; Jer 10.12
* **136.7** Gen 1.14, 16
* **136.8** Gen 1.16
* **136.10** Ex 12.29; Ps 135.8
* **136.11** Ex 12.51
* **136.12** Ex 6.6; Deut 4.34

u **136.13** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **136.13** Ex 14.21; Ps 78.13
* **136.14** Ex 14.22
v **136.15** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **136.15** Ex 14.27; Ps 135.9
* **136.16** Ex 13.18; Deut 8.15
w **136.16** Gk: Heb lacks *who made water . . . forever*
* **136.17** Ps 135.10–12
* **136.21** Josh 12.1
* **136.23** Ps 113.7
* **136.24** Ps 107.2
* **136.25** Ps 104.27; 145.15

Psalm 137

* **137.1** Neh 1.4; Ezek 1.1, 3
x **137.2** Or *poplars*
* **137.3** Ps 80.6
* **137.6** Ezek 3.26
* **137.7** Jer 49.7; Lam 4.22; Ezek 25.12; Ob 10–14
y **137.8** Or *you who are devastated*
* **137.8** Isa 13.1, 6; Jer 25.12; 50.15; Rev 18.6
* **137.9** 2 Kings 8.12; Isa 13.16

Psalm 138

z **138.1** Q mss Gk: MT lacks *O LORD*
* **138.1** Ps 95.3; 96.4; 111.1
a **138.2** Cn: Heb *you have exalted your word above all your name*
* **138.2** 1 Kings 8.29, 30; Ps 28.2; Isa 42.21
b **138.3** Syr Compare Gk Tg: Heb *you made me arrogant in my soul with strength*
* **138.3** Ps 28.7; 46.1; 118.5
* **138.4** Ps 102.15
* **138.6** Ps 113.5, 6; Prov 3.34; Isa 57.15; Jas 4.6
* **138.7** Ps 20.6; 23.3, 4; 71.20; Jer 51.25
* **138.8** Job 10.3, 8; 14.15; Ps 27.9; 57.2; 136.1; Phil 1.6

Psalm 139

* **139.1** Ps 17.3; Jer 12.3
* **139.2** 2 Kings 19.27; Mt 9.4; Jn 2.24
* **139.3** Job 31.4
* **139.4** Heb 4.13

* **139.5** Job 9.33; Ps 34.7
* **139.6** Job 42.3; Rom 11.33
* **139.7** Jer 23.24; Jon 1.3
* **139.8** Job 26.6; Prov 15.11; Am 9.2–4
* **139.10** Ps 23.2, 3
c **139.11** Q ms: MT *and the light around me become night*
* **139.11** Job 22.13
* **139.12** Job 34.22; Dan 2.22; Heb 4.13
* **139.13** Job 10.11; Ps 119.73
* **139.14** Ps 40.5
* **139.15** Job 10.8–10; Ps 63.9
d **139.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **139.17** Ps 40.5
e **139.18** Or *I awake*
* **139.19** Ps 119.115; Isa 11.4
f **139.20** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **139.20** Jude 15
* **139.21** Ps 119.158
* **139.23** Job 31.6; Ps 26.2; Jer 11.20
g **139.24** Heb *hurtful*
h **139.24** Or *the ancient way*
* **139.24** Ps 5.8; 143.10; Prov 15.9

Psalm 140

* **140.1** Ps 17.13; 18.48
* **140.2** Ps 36.4; 56.6
* **140.3** Ps 57.4; 58.4; Jas 3.8
* **140.4** Ps 71.4
i **140.5** Or *they have spread cords as a net*
* **140.5** Ps 31.4; 35.7; 141.9
* **140.6** Ps 16.2; 116.1; 143.1
* **140.7** Ps 28.8; 144.10
j **140.8** Heb adds *they are exalted*
* **140.8** Ps 10.2; 112.10
k **140.9** Cn: Heb *those who surround me are uplifted in head*
* **140.9** Ps 7.16
* **140.10** Ps 11.6; 21.9; 36.12
* **140.11** Ps 34.21
* **140.12** Ps 9.4; 35.10
* **140.13** Ps 11.7; 97.12

Psalm 141

* **141.1** Ps 22.19; 70.5; 143.1
* **141.2** Ex 29.39; Ps 134.2; Rev 5.8; 8.3
* **141.4** Ps 119.36; Prov 23.6
l **141.5** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
m **141.5** Cn: Heb *for continually and my prayer*
* **141.5** Ps 23.5; 35.14; Prov 9.8
n **141.7** Meaning of Heb of 141.5–7 is uncertain
* **141.7** Ps 53.5
* **141.8** Ps 2.12; 25.15; 27.9
* **141.9** Ps 38.12; 140.5
* **141.10** Ps 35.8

Psalm 142

* **142.1** Ps 30.8; 77.1
* **142.2** Isa 26.16
* **142.3** Ps 140.5; 143.4
* **142.4** Job 11.20; Ps 31.11; Jer 30.17
* **142.5** Ps 16.5; 27.13; 46.1
* **142.6** Ps 17.1; 79.8; 116.6
* **142.7** Ps 13.6; 146.7

Psalm 143

* **143.1** Ps 71.2; 89.1, 2; 140.6
* **143.2** Job 4.17; 14.3; Ps 130.3; Eccl 7.20; Rom 3.20
* **143.4** Ps 142.3; Lam 3.11
* **143.5** Ps 77.5, 12; 105.2
* **143.6** Ps 63.1; 88.9
* **143.7** Ps 27.9; 28.1; 69.17
* **143.8** Ps 25.1, 2; 27.11; 90.14
o **143.9** Heb ms Gk: MT *to you I have hidden*
* **143.9** Ps 31.15
* **143.10** Neh 9.20; Ps 23.3; 25.4, 5
* **143.11** Ps 31.1; 119.25
* **143.12** Ps 52.5; 54.5; 116.16

Psalm 144

* **144.1** Ps 18.2, 34
p **144.2** Cn: Heb *my steadfast love*

q **144.2** Q ms Heb mss Syr Aquila Jerome: MT *my people*
* **144.2** Ps 18.39; 59.9; 84.9; 91.2
* **144.3** Ps 8.4; Heb 2.6
* **144.4** Ps 39.11; 102.11
* **144.5** Ps 18.9; 104.32; Isa 64.1
* **144.6** Ps 7.13; 18.13, 14
* **144.7** Ps 18.44; 69.1, 14
* **144.8** Ps 12.2; Isa 44.20
* **144.9** Ps 33.2, 3
* **144.10** Ps 18.50; 140.7
* **144.11** Ps 12.2; Isa 44.20
* **144.12** Ps 128.3
r **144.14** Heb lacks *in the walls*
* **144.15** Ps 33.12

Psalm 145

* **145.2** Ps 71.6
* **145.3** Ps 96.4; Rom 11.33
* **145.4** Isa 38.19
s **145.5** Q ms Gk Vg: MT *On the glorious*
* **145.5** v 12; Ps 119.27
* **145.6** Deut 32.3; Ps 66.3
* **145.7** Ps 51.14; Isa 63.7
* **145.8** Ex 34.6; Ps 86.5, 15
* **145.9** Ps 100.5; Nah 1.7
* **145.10** Ps 19.1; 68.26
t **145.12** Gk Jerome Syr: Heb *his*
u **145.12** Heb *his*
v **145.13** Q ms Gk Syr: MT lacks *The* LORD *. . . his deeds*
* **145.13** Ps 146.10; 2 Pet 1.11
* **145.14** Ps 37.24; 146.8
* **145.15** Ps 104.27
* **145.18** Deut 4.7; Jn 4.24
* **145.19** Ps 37.4; Prov 15.29
* **145.20** Ps 9.5; 31.23; 97.10

Psalm 146

* **146.1** Ps 103.1
* **146.2** Ps 104.33
* **146.3** Ps 118.8; Isa 2.22

* **146.4** Ps 104.29; Eccl 12.7
* **146.5** Ps 71.5; 144.15
* **146.6** Ps 117.2; Acts 14.15
* **146.7** Ps 68.6; 103.6; 107.9
* **146.8** Ps 145.14; Mt 9.30; Jn 9.7
* **146.9** Ex 22.21; Ps 68.5; 147.6
* **146.10** Ex 15.18; Ps 10.16; Rev 11.15

Psalm 147

* **147.1** Ps 33.1; 135.3
* **147.2** Deut 30.3; Ps 102.16
* **147.3** Isa 30.26; 61.1
* **147.4** Isa 40.26
* **147.5** Ps 48.1; Isa 40.28
* **147.8** Job 38.26; Ps 104.13
* **147.9** Job 38.41; Ps 104.27
w **147.10** Heb *legs of a person*
* **147.10** 1 Sam 16.7; Ps 33.16, 17
x **147.14** Or *prosperity*
* **147.14** Ps 132.15; Isa 60.17
* **147.15** Job 37.12; Ps 104.4
* **147.16** Job 37.6; 38.29
* **147.18** Ps 33.9; 107.25
* **147.19** Deut 33.2; Mal 4.4
* **147.20** Deut 4.32

Psalm 148

* **148.2** Ps 103.20, 21
* **148.4** Gen 1.7; 1 Kings 8.27
* **148.5** Gen 1.1; Ps 33.6, 9
y **148.6** Or *he set a law that cannot pass away*
* **148.6** Job 38.33; Jer 33.25
* **148.7** Ps 74.13
* **148.8** Ps 147.15–18
* **148.9** Isa 44.23; 49.13; 55.12
* **148.13** Ps 8.1; 113.4; Isa 12.4
* **148.14** Deut 10.21; Ps 75.10; Eph 2.17

Psalm 149

* **149.1** Ps 33.3; 35.18

* **149.2** Ps 47.6; 95.6
* **149.3** Ps 81.2; 150.4
* **149.4** Ps 35.27; 132.16
* **149.5** Job 35.10; Ps 132.16
* **149.6** Ps 66.17; Heb 4.12; Rev 1.16
* **149.9** Ps 148.14; Ezek 28.26

Psalm 150

z **150.1** Or *dome*
* **150.1** Ps 19.1; 102.19
* **150.2** Deut 3.24; Ps 145.5, 6
* **150.3** Ps 149.3
* **150.4** Ex 15.20; Isa 38.20
* **150.5** 1 Chr 13.8; 15.16

Proverbs

Proverbs 1

1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:*

PROLOGUE

2For learning about wisdom and instruction,
for understanding words of insight,
3for gaining instruction in wise dealing,
righteousness, justice, and equity;*
4to teach shrewdness to the simple,
knowledge and prudence to the young—*
5let the wise, too, hear and gain in learning
and the discerning acquire skill,*
6to understand a proverb and a figure,
the words of the wise and their riddles.

7The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

WARNINGS AGAINST EVIL COMPANIONS

8Hear, my child, your father's instruction,
and do not reject your mother's teaching,*
9for they are a fair garland for your head
and pendants for your neck.*
10My child, if sinners entice you,
do not consent.*

[11]If they say, “Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood;
let us wantonly ambush the innocent;*
[12]like Sheol let us swallow them alive
and whole, like those who go down to the Pit.*
[13]We shall find all kinds of costly things;
we shall fill our houses with spoil.
[14]Throw in your lot among us;
we will all have one purse”—
[15]my child, do not walk in their way;
keep your foot from their paths,*
[16]for their feet run to evil,
and they hurry to shed blood.*
[17]For in vain is the net baited
while the bird is looking on;
[18]yet they lie in wait—to kill themselves!
and set an ambush—for their own lives!
[19]Such is the end[a] of all who are greedy for gain;
it takes away the life of its possessors.*

THE CALL OF WISDOM

[20]Wisdom cries out in the street;
in the squares she raises her voice.*
[21]At the busiest corner she cries out;
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
[22]“How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
and fools hate knowledge?*
[23]Give heed to my reproof;
I will pour out my thoughts to you;

I will make my words known to you.*
24 Because I have called and you refused,
have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,*
25 and because you have ignored all my counsel
and would have none of my reproof,*
26 I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when panic strikes you,*
27 when panic strikes you like a storm
and your calamity comes like a whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come upon you.
28 Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer;
they will seek me diligently but will not find me.*
29 Because they hated knowledge
and did not choose the fear of the LORD,
30 would have none of my counsel
and despised all my reproof,*
31 therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way
and be sated with their own devices.*
32 For waywardness kills the simple,
and the complacency of fools destroys them;*
33 but those who listen to me will be secure
and will live at ease without dread of disaster."*

Proverbs 2

THE VALUE OF WISDOM

[1]My child, if you accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,*
[2]making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding,
[3]if you indeed cry out for insight
and raise your voice for understanding,
[4]if you seek it like silver
and search for it as for hidden treasures—*
[5]then you will understand the fear of the LORD
and find the knowledge of God.*
[6]For the LORD gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;*
[7]he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,*
[8]guarding the paths of justice
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.*
[9]Then you will understand righteousness and justice
and equity, every good path,*
[10]for wisdom will come into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;
[11]prudence will watch over you,
and understanding will guard you.
[12]It will save you from the way of evil,
from those who speak perversely,
[13]who forsake the paths of uprightness

to walk in the ways of darkness,*
14 who rejoice in doing evil
and delight in the perverseness of evil,*
15 those whose paths are crooked
and who are devious in their ways.*

16 You will be saved from the loose woman,[b]
from the adulteress[c] with her smooth words,*
17 who forsakes the partner of her youth
and forgets her sacred covenant,
18 for her way[d] leads down to death
and her paths to the shades;*
19 those who go to her never come back,
nor do they regain the paths of life.

20 Therefore walk in the way of the good,
and keep to the paths of the just.
21 For the upright will abide in the land,
and the innocent will remain in it,*
22 but the wicked will be cut off from the earth,
and the treacherous will be rooted out of it.*

Proverbs 3

ADMONITION TO TRUST AND HONOR GOD

[1]My child, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments,*
[2]for length of days and years of life
and abundant welfare they will give you.*

[3]Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.*
[4]Then you will find favor and high regard
in the sight of God and of people.*

[5]Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.*
[6]In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.*
[7]Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD and turn away from evil.*
[8]It will be a healing for your flesh
and a refreshment for your body.*

[9]Honor the LORD with your substance
and with the first fruits of all your produce;*
[10]then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

[11]My child, do not despise the LORD's discipline
or be weary of his reproof,*

12 for the LORD reproves the one he loves,
as a father the son in whom he delights.*

THE TRUE WEALTH

13 Happy are those who find wisdom
and those who get understanding,
14 for her income is better than silver
and her revenue better than gold.*
15 She is more precious than jewels,
and nothing you desire can compare with her.*
16 Long life is in her right hand;
in her left hand are riches and honor.*
17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.*
18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her;
those who hold her fast are called happy.*

GOD'S WISDOM IN CREATION

19 The LORD by wisdom founded the earth;
by understanding he established the heavens;*
20 by his knowledge the deeps broke open,
and the clouds drop down the dew.*

THE TRUE SECURITY

21 My child, do not let these escape from your sight:
keep sound wisdom and prudence,
22 and they will be life for your soul
and adornment for your neck.*
23 Then you will walk on your way securely,

and your foot will not stumble.*
24 If you sit down,[e] you will not be afraid;
when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.
25 Then you will not be afraid of sudden panic
or of the storm that strikes the wicked,*
26 for the LORD will be your confidence
and will keep your foot from being caught.

27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,[f]
when it is in your power to do it.*
28 Do not say to your neighbor, "Go and come again;
tomorrow I will give it," when you have it with you.*
29 Do not plan harm against your neighbor
who lives trustingly beside you.*
30 Do not quarrel with anyone without cause,
when no harm has been done to you.*
31 Do not envy the violent,
and do not choose any of their ways,*
32 for the perverse are an abomination to the LORD,
but the upright are in his confidence.*
33 The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked,
but he blesses the abode of the righteous.*
34 Toward the scorners he is scornful,
but to the humble he shows favor.*
35 The wise will inherit honor,
but stubborn fools, disgrace.

Proverbs 4

PARENTAL ADVICE

[1]Listen, children, to a father's instruction,
and be attentive, that you may gain[g] insight,*
[2]for I give you good precepts:
do not forsake my teaching.
[3]When I was a son with my father,
tender and my mother's favorite,*
[4]he taught me and said to me,
"Let your heart hold fast my words;
keep my commandments and live.*
[5]Get wisdom; get insight: do not forget nor turn away
from the words of my mouth.*
[6]Do not forsake her, and she will keep you;
love her, and she will guard you.*
[7]The beginning of wisdom is this: get wisdom,
and whatever else you get, get insight.*
[8]Prize her highly, and she will exalt you;
she will honor you if you embrace her.*
[9]She will place on your head a fair garland;
she will bestow on you a beautiful crown."*

ADMONITION TO KEEP TO THE RIGHT PATH

[10]Hear, my child, and accept my words,
that the years of your life may be many.
[11]I have taught you the way of wisdom;
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.*

12 When you walk, your step will not be hampered,
and if you run, you will not stumble.*
13 Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;
guard her, for she is your life.
14 Do not enter the path of the wicked,
and do not walk in the way of evildoers.*
15 Avoid it; do not go on it;
turn away from it and pass on.
16 For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.*
17 For they eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.
18 But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.*
19 The way of the wicked is like deep darkness;
they do not know what they stumble over.*
20 My child, be attentive to my words;
incline your ear to my sayings.
21 Do not let them escape from your sight;
keep them within your heart.*
22 For they are life to those who find them
and healing to all their flesh.*
23 Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life.*
24 Put away from you crooked speech,
and put devious talk far from you.*
25 Let your eyes look directly forward
and your gaze be straight before you.

[26]Keep straight the path of your feet,
and all your ways will be sure.*
[27]Do not swerve to the right or to the left;
turn your foot away from evil.*

Proverbs 5

WARNING AGAINST IMPURITY AND INFIDELITY

[1]My child, be attentive to my wisdom;
incline your ear to my understanding,*
[2]so that you may hold on to prudence,
and your lips may guard knowledge.
[3]For the lips of a loose woman[h] drip honey,
and her speech is smoother than oil,*
[4]but in the end she is bitter as wormwood,
sharp as a two-edged sword.*
[5]Her feet go down to death;
her steps follow the path to Sheol.
[6]She does not keep straight to the path of life;
her ways wander, and she does not know it.

[7]And now, my child,[i] listen to me,
and do not depart from the words of my mouth.*
[8]Keep your way far from her,
and do not go near the door of her house,*
[9]lest you give your honor to others
and your years to the merciless,
[10]and strangers take their fill of your wealth,
and your labors go to the house of an alien,
[11]and at the end of your life you groan,
when your flesh and body are consumed,
[12]and you say, “Oh, how I hated discipline,
and my heart despised reproof!*

13 I did not listen to the voice of my teachers
or incline my ear to my instructors.
14 Now I am at the point of utter ruin
in the public assembly.”

15 Drink water from your own cistern,
flowing water from your own well.
16 Should your springs be scattered abroad,
streams of water in the streets?*
17 Let them be for yourself alone
and not for sharing with strangers.
18 Let your fountain be blessed,
and rejoice in the wife of your youth,*
19 a lovely deer, a graceful doe.
May her breasts satisfy you at all times;
may you be intoxicated always by her love.*
20 Why should you be intoxicated, my son, by another woman
and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?[j],*
21 For human ways are under the eyes of the LORD,
and he examines all their paths.*
22 The iniquities of the wicked ensnare them,
and they are caught in the coils of their sin.*
23 They die for lack of discipline,
and because of their great folly they are lost.*

Proverbs 6

PRACTICAL ADMONITIONS

[1]My child, if you have given your pledge to your neighbor,
if you have bound yourself to another,[k,*]
[2]you are snared by the utterance of your lips,[l]
caught by the words of your mouth.
[3]So do this, my child, and save yourself,
for you have come into your neighbor's power:
go, hurry,[m] and plead with your neighbor.
[4]Give your eyes no sleep
and your eyelids no slumber;[*]
[5]save yourself like a gazelle from the hunter,[n]
like a bird from the hand of the fowler.[*]

[6]Go to the ant, you lazybones;
consider its ways and be wise.[*]
[7]Without having any chief
or officer or ruler,
[8]it prepares its food in summer
and gathers its sustenance in harvest.[*]
[9]How long will you lie there, O lazybones?
When will you rise from your sleep?[*]
[10]A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to rest,
[11]and poverty will come upon you like a robber,
and want, like an armed warrior.[*]

[12]A scoundrel and a villain

goes around with crooked speech,*
13 winking the eyes, shuffling the feet,
pointing the fingers,*
14 with perverted mind devising evil,
continually sowing discord;*
15 on such a one calamity will descend suddenly,
in a moment, damage beyond repair.*

16 There are six things that the LORD hates,
seven that are an abomination to him:
17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue,
and hands that shed innocent blood,*
18 a heart that devises wicked plans,
feet that hurry to run to evil,*
19 a lying witness who testifies falsely,
and one who sows discord in a family.*

20 My child, keep your father's commandment,
and do not forsake your mother's teaching.*
21 Bind them upon your heart always;
tie them around your neck.*
22 When you walk, they[o] will lead you;
when you lie down, they[p] will watch over you;
and when you awake, they[q] will talk with you.*
23 For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light,
and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,*
24 to preserve you from the wife of another,[r]
from the smooth tongue of the adulteress.[s],*
25 Do not desire her beauty in your heart,
and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes,*

[26]for a prostitute's fee is only a loaf of bread,[t]
but the wife of another stalks a man's precious life.[*]
[27]Can fire be carried in the bosom
without burning one's clothes?
[28]Or can one walk on hot coals
without scorching the feet?
[29]So is he who sleeps with his neighbor's wife;
no one who touches her will go unpunished.[*]
[30]Thieves are not despised who steal only
to satisfy their appetite when they are hungry.
[31]Yet if they are caught, they will pay sevenfold;
they will forfeit all the goods of their house.[*]
[32]But he who commits adultery has no sense;
he who does it destroys himself.[*]
[33]He will get wounds and dishonor,
and his disgrace will not be wiped away.
[34]For jealousy arouses a husband's fury,
and he will show no restraint when he takes revenge.[*]
[35]He will accept no compensation
and will refuse a bribe no matter how great.

Proverbs 7

THE FALSE ATTRACTIONS OF ADULTERY

[1]My child, keep my words
and store up my commandments with you;*
[2]keep my commandments and live;
keep my teachings as the apple[u] of your eye;*
[3]bind them on your fingers;
write them on the tablet of your heart.*
[4]Say to wisdom, “You are my sister,”
and call insight your intimate friend,
[5]that they may keep you from the loose woman,[v]
from the adulteress[w] with her smooth words.*

[6]For at the window of my house
I looked out through my lattice,
[7]and I saw among the simple ones,
I observed among the youths,
a young man without sense,*
[8]passing along the street near her corner,
taking the road to her house*
[9]in the twilight, in the evening,
at the time of night and darkness.*

[10]Then a woman comes toward him
decked out like a prostitute, with hidden intent.
[11]She is loud and wayward;
her feet do not stay at home;*
[12]now in the street, now in the squares,

and at every corner she lies in wait.*
13She seizes him and kisses him,
and with impudent face she says to him:
14"I had to offer sacrifices,
and today I have paid my vows;*
15so now I have come out to meet you,
to seek you eagerly, and I have found you!
16I have decked my couch with coverings,
colored spreads of Egyptian linen;*
17I have perfumed my bed with myrrh,
aloes, and cinnamon.
18Come, let us take our fill of love until morning;
let us delight ourselves with love.
19For my husband is not at home;
he has gone on a long journey.
20He took a bag of money with him;
he will not come home until full moon."

21With much seductive speech she persuades him;
with her smooth talk she compels him.*
22Right away he follows her
and goes like an ox to the slaughter
or bounds like a stag toward the trap[x]
23until an arrow pierces its entrails.
He is like a bird rushing into a snare,
not knowing that it will cost him his life.*

24And now, my children, listen to me,
and be attentive to the words of my mouth.*
25Do not let your hearts turn aside to her ways;

do not stray into her paths.*
26For many are those she has laid low,
and numerous are her victims.*
27Her house is the way to Sheol,
going down to the chambers of death.*

Proverbs 8

THE GIFTS OF WISDOM

[1]Does not wisdom call
and understanding raise her voice?*
[2]On the heights, beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
[3]beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:*
[4]"To you, O people, I call,
and my cry is to all who live.
[5]O simple ones, learn prudence;
acquire intelligence, you who lack it.*
[6]Hear, for I will speak noble things,
and from my lips will come what is right,*
[7]for my mouth will utter truth;
wickedness is an abomination to my lips.*
[8]All the words of my mouth are righteous;
there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.
[9]They are all straight to one who understands
and right to those who find knowledge.*
[10]Take my instruction instead of silver
and knowledge rather than choice gold,*
[11]for wisdom is better than jewels,
and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.*
[12]I, wisdom, live with prudence,
and I attain knowledge and discretion.*
[13]The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil.

Pride and arrogance and the way of evil
and perverted speech I hate.*
14 I have good advice and sound wisdom;
I have insight; I have strength.*
15 By me kings reign,
and rulers decree what is just;*
16 by me rulers rule,
and nobles, all who govern rightly.
17 I love those who love me,
and those who seek me diligently find me.*
18 Riches and honor are with me,
enduring wealth and prosperity.*
19 My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold,
and my yield than choice silver.*
20 I walk in the way of righteousness,
along the paths of justice,
21 endowing with wealth those who love me
and filling their treasuries.

WISDOM'S PART IN CREATION

22 "The LORD created me at the beginning[y] of his work,[z]
the first of his acts of long ago.*
23 Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.*
24 When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
25 Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth,*
26 when he had not yet made earth and fields[a]

or the world's first bits of soil.
[27]When he established the heavens, I was there;
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,*
[28]when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
[29]when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,*
[30]then I was beside him, like a master worker,[b]
and I was daily his[c] delight,
playing before him always,*
[31]playing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.*

[32]"And now, my children, listen to me:
happy are those who keep my ways.*
[33]Hear instruction and be wise,
and do not neglect it.
[34]Happy is the one who listens to me,
watching daily at my gates,
waiting beside my doors.*
[35]For whoever finds me finds life
and obtains favor from the LORD,*
[36]but those who miss me injure themselves;
all who hate me love death."*

Proverbs 9

WISDOM'S FEAST

[1]Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn her seven pillars.*
[2]She has slaughtered her animals; she has mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.*
[3]She has sent out her female servants; she calls
from the highest places in the town,*
[4]"You who are simple, turn in here!"
To those without sense she says,*
[5]"Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.*
[6]Lay aside immaturity and live,
and walk in the way of insight."*

GENERAL MAXIMS

[7]Whoever corrects a scoffer wins abuse;
whoever rebukes the wicked gets hurt.*
[8]Do not rebuke a scoffer, lest he hate you;
rebuke the wise, and he will love you.*
[9]Give instruction[d] to the wise, and they will become wiser still;
teach the righteous, and they will gain in learning.*
[10]The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.*
[11]For by me your days will be multiplied,
and years will be added to your life.*

12 If you are wise, you are wise for yourself;
if you scoff, you alone will bear it.*

FOLLY'S INVITATION AND PROMISE

13 The foolish woman is loud;
she is ignorant and knows nothing.*
14 She sits at the door of her house,
on a seat at the high places of the town,
15 calling to those who pass by,
who are going straight on their way,
16 "You who are simple, turn in here!"
And to those without sense she says,
17 "Stolen water is sweet,
and bread eaten in secret is pleasant."*
18 But they do not know that the dead[e] are there,
that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.*

Proverbs 10

WISE SAYINGS OF SOLOMON

1 The proverbs of Solomon.

A wise child makes a glad father,
but a foolish child is a mother's grief.*
2 Treasures gained by wickedness do not profit,
but righteousness delivers from death.
3 The LORD does not let the righteous go hungry,
but he thwarts the craving of the wicked.*
4 A slack hand causes poverty,
but the hand of the diligent makes rich.*
5 A child who gathers in summer is prudent,
but a child who sleeps in harvest brings shame.*
6 Blessings are on the head of the righteous,
but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.*
7 The memory of the righteous is a blessing,
but the name of the wicked will rot.*
8 The wise of heart will heed commandments,
but one with foolish lips will come to ruin.*
9 Whoever walks in integrity walks securely,
but whoever follows perverse ways will be found out.*
10 Whoever winks the eye causes trouble,
but one who rebukes boldly makes peace.[f,*]
11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life,
but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.*
12 Hatred stirs up strife,

but love covers all offenses.*
13 On the lips of one who has understanding wisdom is found,
but a rod is for the back of one who lacks sense.*
14 The wise lay up knowledge,
but the mouth of a fool brings ruin near.
15 The wealth of the rich is their fortress;
the poverty of the poor is their ruin.*
16 The wage of the righteous leads to life,
the gain of the wicked to sin.
17 Whoever heeds instruction is on the path to life,
but one who rejects a rebuke goes astray.
18 Lying lips conceal hatred,
and whoever utters slander is a fool.
19 When words are many, transgression is not lacking,
but the prudent are restrained in speech.*
20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver;
the mind of the wicked is of little worth.*
21 The lips of the righteous feed many,
but fools die for lack of sense.
22 The blessing of the LORD makes rich,
and toil adds nothing to it.*
23 Doing wrong is like sport to a fool,
but wise conduct is pleasure to a person of understanding.*
24 What the wicked dread will come upon them,
but the desire of the righteous will be granted.*
25 When the tempest passes, the wicked are no more,
but the righteous are established forever.*
26 Like vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes,
so are the lazy to their employers.*

[27]The fear of the LORD prolongs life,
but the years of the wicked will be short.*
[28]The hope of the righteous ends in gladness,
but the expectation of the wicked comes to nothing.
[29]The way of the LORD is a stronghold for the upright
but destruction for evildoers.*
[30]The righteous will never totter,
but the wicked will not remain on the earth.*
[31]The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom,
but the perverse tongue will be cut off.*
[32]The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable,
but the mouth of the wicked what is perverse.

Proverbs 11

[1]A false balance is an abomination to the LORD,
but an accurate weight is his delight.*
[2]When pride comes, then comes disgrace,
but wisdom is with the humble.*
[3]The integrity of the upright guides them,
but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them.*
[4]Riches do not profit in the day of wrath,
but righteousness delivers from death.*
[5]The righteousness of the blameless keeps their ways straight,
but the wicked fall by their own wickedness.
[6]The righteousness of the upright saves them,
but the treacherous are taken captive by their schemes.*
[7]When the wicked die, hope perishes,
and the expectation of strength comes to nothing.*
[8]The righteous are delivered from trouble,
and the wicked come into it instead.*
[9]With their mouths the godless would destroy their neighbors,
but by knowledge the righteous are delivered.
[10]When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices,
and when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.*
[11]By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted,
but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.*
[12]Whoever belittles another lacks sense,
but an intelligent person remains silent.*
[13]A gossip goes about telling secrets,
but one who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a confidence.*

14 Where there is no guidance, a nation[g] falls,
but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.*
15 To guarantee loans for a stranger brings trouble,
but there is safety in refusing to do so.
16 A gracious woman gets honor,
but she who hates virtue is covered with shame.[h]
The timid become destitute,[i]
but the aggressive gain riches.*
17 Those who are kind reward themselves,
but the cruel do themselves harm.
18 The wicked earn no real gain,
but those who sow righteousness get a true reward.*
19 Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live,
but whoever pursues evil will die.
20 Crooked minds are an abomination to the LORD,
but those of blameless ways are his delight.*
21 Be assured, the wicked will not go unpunished,
but those who are righteous will escape.*
22 Like a gold ring in a pig's snout
is a beautiful woman without good sense.
23 The desire of the righteous ends only in good,
the expectation of the wicked in wrath.
24 Some give freely yet grow all the richer;
others withhold what is due and only suffer want.*
25 A generous person will be enriched,
and one who gives water will get water.*
26 The people curse those who hold back grain,
but a blessing is on the head of those who sell it.*
27 Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor,

but evil comes to the one who searches for it.*
28 Those who trust in their riches will wither,[j]
but the righteous will flourish like green leaves.*
29 Those who trouble their households will inherit wind,
and the fool will be servant to the wise.
30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,
and the wise capture souls.*
31 If the righteous are repaid on earth,
how much more the wicked and the sinner!*

Proverbs 12

[1]Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge,
but those who hate to be rebuked are stupid.*
[2]The good obtain favor from the LORD,
but those who devise evil he condemns.*
[3]No one finds security by wickedness,
but the root of the righteous will never be moved.*
[4]A good wife is the crown of her husband,
but she who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones.*
[5]The thoughts of the righteous are just;
the advice of the wicked is treacherous.
[6]The words of the wicked are a deadly ambush,
but the speech of the upright delivers them.*
[7]The wicked are overthrown and are no more,
but the house of the righteous will stand.*
[8]One is commended for good sense,
but a perverse mind is despised.
[9]Better to be despised and have produce[k]
than to be self-important and lack food.
[10]The righteous know the needs of their animals,
but the mercy of the wicked is cruel.*
[11]Those who till their land will have plenty of food,
but those who follow worthless pursuits have no sense.*
[12]The wicked covet the proceeds of wickedness,[l]
but the root of the righteous bears fruit.
[13]The evil are ensnared by the transgression of their lips,
but the righteous escape from trouble.*

14 From the fruit of the mouth one is filled with good things,
and manual labor has its reward.*
15 Fools think their own way is right,
but the wise listen to advice.*
16 Fools show their anger at once,
but the prudent ignore an insult.*
17 Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence,
but a false witness speaks deceitfully.*
18 Rash words are like sword thrusts,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.*
19 Truthful lips endure forever,
but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.*
20 Deceit is in the mind of those who plan evil,
but those who counsel peace have joy.*
21 No harm happens to the righteous,
but the wicked are filled with trouble.*
22 Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD,
but those who act faithfully are his delight.*
23 One who is clever conceals knowledge,
but the mind of a fool[m] broadcasts folly.*
24 The hand of the diligent will rule,
while the lazy will be put to forced labor.
25 Anxiety weighs down the human heart,
but a good word cheers it up.*
26 The righteous are released from misfortune,[n]
but the way of the wicked leads them astray.
27 The lazy do not roast[o] their game,
but the diligent obtain precious wealth.[p]
28 In the path of righteousness there is life;

in walking its path there is no death.*

Proverbs 13

1 A wise child loves discipline,[q]
but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.*
2 From the fruit of their words good persons eat good things,
but the desire of the treacherous is for wrongdoing.
3 Those who guard their mouths preserve their lives;
those who open wide their lips come to ruin.*
4 The appetite of the lazy craves and gets nothing,
while the appetite of the diligent is richly supplied.*
5 The righteous hate falsehood,
but the wicked act shamefully and disgracefully.
6 Righteousness guards one whose way is upright,
but sin overthrows the wicked.*
7 Some pretend to be rich yet have nothing;
others pretend to be poor yet have great wealth.*
8 Wealth is a ransom for a person's life,
but a poor person pays no attention to a rebuke.
9 The light of the righteous rejoices,[r]
but the lamp of the wicked goes out.*
10 By insolence the empty-headed person makes strife,
but wisdom is with those who take advice.*
11 Wealth hastily gotten[s] will dwindle,
but those who gather little by little will increase it.*
12 Hope deferred makes the heart sick,
but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.
13 Those who despise a word bring destruction on themselves,
but those who respect a command will be rewarded.*

14 The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life,
so that one may avoid the snares of death.*
15 Good sense wins favor,
but the way of the faithless is their ruin.t,*
16 The clever do all things intelligently,
but the fool displays folly.*
17 A bad messenger brings trouble,
but a faithful envoy, healing.*
18 Poverty and disgrace are for the one who ignores instruction,
but one who heeds reproof is honored.*
19 A desire realized is sweet to the soul,
but to turn away from evil is an abomination to fools.
20 Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise,
but the companion of fools suffers harm.*
21 Misfortune pursues sinners,
but prosperity rewards the righteous.*
22 The good leave an inheritance to their children's children,
but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous.*
23 The field of the poor may yield much food,
but it is swept away through injustice.*
24 Those who spare the rod hate their children,
but those who love them are diligent to discipline them.*
25 The righteous have enough to satisfy their appetite,
but the belly of the wicked is empty.*

Proverbs 14

1 The wise woman[u] builds her house,
but the foolish tears it down with her own hands.
2 Those who walk uprightly fear the LORD,
but one who is devious in conduct despises him.*
3 The talk of fools is a rod for their backs,[v]
but the lips of the wise preserve them.*
4 Where there are no oxen, there is no grain;
abundant crops come by the strength of the ox.
5 A faithful witness does not lie,
but a false witness breathes out lies.*
6 A scoffer seeks wisdom in vain,
but knowledge is easy for one who understands.
7 Leave the presence of a fool,
for there you do not find words of knowledge.
8 It is the wisdom of the clever to understand where they go,
but the folly of fools misleads.*
9 Fools mock at the guilt offering,[w]
but the upright enjoy God's favor.
10 The heart knows its own bitterness,
and no stranger shares its joy.
11 The house of the wicked is destroyed,
but the tent of the upright flourishes.*
12 There is a way that seems right to a person,
but its end is the way to death.[x,*]
13 Even in laughter the heart is sad,
and the end of joy is grief.*

14 The perverse get what their ways deserve,
and the good, what their deeds deserve.[y,*]
15 The simple believe everything,
but the clever consider their steps.
16 The wise are cautious and turn away from evil,
but the fool throws off restraint and is careless.*
17 One who is quick-tempered acts foolishly,
and the schemer is hated.*
18 The simple are adorned with[z] folly,
but the clever are crowned with knowledge.*
19 The evil bow down before the good,
the wicked at the gates of the righteous.*
20 The poor are disliked even by their neighbors,
but the rich have many friends.*
21 Those who despise their neighbors are sinners,
but happy are those who are kind to the poor.*
22 Do not those who plan evil err?
Those who plan good find loyalty and faithfulness.
23 In all toil there is profit,
but mere talk leads only to poverty.
24 The crown of the wise is their wealth,
but folly is the garland[a] of fools.
25 A truthful witness saves lives,
but one who utters lies is a betrayer.*
26 In the fear of the LORD one has strong confidence,
and one's children will have a refuge.*
27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life,
so that one may avoid the snares of death.*
28 The glory of a king is a multitude of people;

without people a prince is ruined.
29 Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding,
but one who has a hasty temper exalts folly.*
30 A tranquil mind gives life to the flesh,
but jealousy makes the bones rot.*
31 Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker,
but those who are kind to the needy honor him.*
32 The wicked are overthrown by their evildoing,
but the righteous find a refuge in their integrity.b,*
33 Wisdom is at home in the mind of one who has understanding,
but it is notc known in the heart of fools.*
34 Righteousness exalts a nation,
but sin is a reproach to any people.*
35 A servant who deals wisely has the king's favor,
but his wrath falls on one who acts shamefully.*

Proverbs 15

[1]A soft answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.*
[2]The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge,
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.*
[3]The eyes of the LORD are in every place,
keeping watch on the evil and the good.*
[4]A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
[5]A fool despises a parent's instruction,
but the one who heeds admonition is prudent.*
[6]In the house of the righteous there is much treasure,
but trouble befalls the income of the wicked.
[7]The lips of the wise spread knowledge;
not so the minds of fools.
[8]The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD,
but the prayer of the upright is his delight.*
[9]The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD,
but he loves the one who pursues righteousness.*
[10]There is severe discipline for one who forsakes the way;
one who hates a rebuke will die.*
[11]Sheol and Abaddon lie open before the LORD;
how much more human hearts!*
[12]Scoffers do not like to be rebuked;
they will not go to the wise.*
[13]A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance,
but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken.*

14 The mind of one who has understanding seeks knowledge,
but the mouths of fools feed on folly.
15 All the days of the poor are hard,
but a cheerful heart has a continual feast.
16 Better is a little with the fear of the LORD
than great treasure and trouble with it.*
17 Better is a dinner of vegetables where love is
than a fatted ox and hatred with it.*
18 Those who are hot-tempered stir up strife,
but those who are slow to anger calm contention.*
19 The way of the lazy is overgrown with thorns,
but the path of the upright is a level highway.*
20 A wise child makes a glad father,
but the foolish despise their mothers.*
21 Folly is a joy to one who has no sense,
but a person of understanding walks straight ahead.*
22 Without counsel, plans go wrong,
but with many advisers they succeed.*
23 To make an apt answer is a joy to anyone,
and a word in season, how good it is!*
24 For the wise the path of life leads upward,
in order to avoid Sheol below.*
25 The LORD tears down the house of the proud
but maintains the widow's boundaries.*
26 Evil plans are an abomination to the LORD,
but gracious words are pure.*
27 Those greedy for unjust gain make trouble for their households,
but those who hate bribes will live.*
28 The mind of the righteous ponders how to answer,

but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil.*
29 The LORD is far from the wicked,
but he hears the prayer of the righteous.*
30 The light of the eyes rejoices the heart,
and good news refreshes the body.
31 The ear that heeds wholesome admonition
will lodge among the wise.
32 Those who ignore instruction despise themselves,
but those who heed admonition gain understanding.*
33 The fear of the LORD is instruction in wisdom,
and humility goes before honor.*

Proverbs 16

[1]The plans of the mind belong to mortals,
but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.
[2]All one's ways may be pure in one's own eyes,
but the LORD weighs the spirit.*
[3]Commit your work to the LORD,
and your plans will be established.*
[4]The LORD has made everything for its purpose,
even the wicked for the day of trouble.*
[5]All those who are arrogant are an abomination to the LORD;
be assured, they will not go unpunished.*
[6]By loyalty and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for,
and by the fear of the LORD one avoids evil.*
[7]When the ways of people please the LORD,
he causes even their enemies to be at peace with them.*
[8]Better is a little with righteousness
than large income with injustice.
[9]The human mind plans the way,
but the LORD directs the steps.*
[10]Inspired decisions are on the lips of a king;
his mouth does not sin in judgment.
[11]Honest balances and scales are the LORD's;
all the weights in the bag are his work.*
[12]It is an abomination to kings to do evil,
for the throne is established by righteousness.*
[13]Righteous lips are the delight of a king,
and he loves those who speak what is right.*

[14]A king's wrath is a messenger of death,
and whoever is wise will appease it.*
[15]In the light of a king's face there is life,
and his favor is like the clouds that bring the spring rain.*
[16]How much better to get wisdom than gold!
To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.*
[17]The highway of the upright avoids evil;
those who guard their way preserve their lives.
[18]Pride goes before destruction
and a haughty spirit before a fall.*
[19]It is better to be of a lowly spirit among the poor
than to divide the spoil with the proud.
[20]Those who are attentive to a matter will prosper,
and happy are those who trust in the LORD.*
[21]The wise of heart is called perceptive,
and pleasant speech increases persuasiveness.
[22]Wisdom is a fountain of life to one who has it,
but folly is the punishment of fools.*
[23]The mind of the wise makes their speech judicious
and adds persuasiveness to their lips.
[24]Pleasant words are like a honeycomb,
sweetness to the soul and health to the body.
[25]Sometimes there is a way that seems to be right,
but in the end it is the way to death.*
[26]The appetite of workers works for them;
their hunger urges them on.
[27]Scoundrels concoct evil,
and their speech is like a scorching fire.*
[28]A perverse person spreads strife,

and a whisperer separates close friends.*
29 The violent entice their neighbors
and lead them in a way that is not good.*
30 One who winks the eyes plans[d] perverse things;
one who compresses the lips brings evil to pass.
31 Gray hair is a crown of glory;
it is gained in a righteous life.*
32 One who is slow to anger is better than the mighty,
and one whose temper is controlled than one who captures a city.*
33 The lot is cast into the lap,
but the decision is the LORD's alone.

Proverbs 17

[1]Better is a dry morsel with quiet
than a house full of feasting with strife.*
[2]A slave who deals wisely will rule over a child who acts shamefully
and will share the inheritance as one of the family.*
[3]The crucible is for silver and the furnace for gold,
but the LORD tests the heart.*
[4]An evildoer listens to wicked lips,
and a liar gives heed to a mischievous tongue.
[5]Those who mock the poor insult their Maker;
those who are glad at calamity will not go unpunished.*
[6]Grandchildren are the crown of the aged,
and the glory of children is their parents.*
[7]Excess speech is not becoming to a fool;
still less is false speech to a ruler.e
[8]A bribe is like a magic stone in the eyes of those who give it;
wherever they turn they prosper.*
[9]One who forgives an affront fosters friendship,
but one who dwells on disputes will alienate a friend.*
[10]A rebuke strikes deeper into a discerning person
than a hundred blows into a fool.
[11]Evil people seek only rebellion,
but a cruel messenger will be sent against them.
[12]Better to meet a she-bear robbed of its cubs
than to confront a fool immersed in folly.*
[13]Evil will not depart from the house

of one who returns evil for good.*
14 The beginning of strife is like letting out water,
so stop before the quarrel breaks out.*
15 One who justifies the wicked and one who condemns the righteous
are both alike an abomination to the LORD.*
16 Why should fools have a price in hand
to buy wisdom when they have no mind to learn?
17 A friend loves at all times,
and kinsfolk are born to share adversity.*
18 It is senseless to give a pledge,
to become surety for a neighbor.*
19 One who loves transgression loves strife;
one who builds a high threshold invites broken bones.*
20 The crooked of mind do not prosper,
and the perverse of tongue fall into calamity.*
21 The one who fathers a fool gets trouble;
the parent of a fool has no joy.*
22 A cheerful heart is a good medicine,
but a downcast spirit dries up the bones.*
23 The wicked accept a concealed bribe
to pervert the ways of justice.*
24 The discerning person looks to wisdom,
but the eyes of a fool to the ends of the earth.*
25 Foolish children are a grief to their father
and bitterness to her who bore them.*
26 To impose a fine on the innocent is not right
or to flog the noble for their integrity.*
27 One who spares words is knowledgeable;

one who is cool in spirit has understanding.*
28 Even fools who keep silent are considered wise;
when they close their lips, they are deemed intelligent.*

Proverbs 18

[1]The one who lives alone is self-indulgent,
showing contempt for all sound judgment.[f]
[2]A fool takes no pleasure in understanding,
but only in expressing personal opinion.[*]
[3]When wickedness comes, contempt comes also,
and with dishonor comes disgrace.
[4]The words of the mouth are deep waters;
the fountain of wisdom is a gushing stream.[*]
[5]It is not right to be partial to the guilty
or to subvert the innocent in judgment.[*]
[6]A fool's lips bring strife,
and a fool's mouth invites a flogging.
[7]The mouths of fools are their ruin,
and their lips a snare to themselves.[*]
[8]The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels;
they go down into the inner parts of the body.[*]
[9]One who is slack in work
is close kin to a vandal.[*]
[10]The name of the LORD is a strong tower;
the righteous run into it and are safe.[*]
[11]The wealth of the rich is their strong city;
in their imagination it is like a high wall.[*]
[12]Before destruction one's heart is haughty,
but humility goes before honor.[*]
[13]If one gives answer before hearing,
it is folly and shame.[*]

[14]The human spirit will endure sickness,
but a broken spirit—who can bear?
[15]An intelligent mind acquires knowledge,
and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.
[16]A gift opens doors;
it gives access to the great.*
[17]The one who first states a case seems right,
until the other comes and cross-examines.
[18]Casting the lot puts an end to disputes
and decides between powerful contenders.*
[19]An ally offended is stronger than a city;[g]
such quarreling is like the bars of a castle.
[20]From the fruit of the mouth one's stomach is satisfied;
the yield of the lips brings satisfaction.*
[21]Death and life are in the power of the tongue,
and those who love it will eat its fruits.*
[22]He who finds a wife finds a good thing
and obtains favor from the LORD.*
[23]The poor use entreaties,
but the rich answer roughly.*
[24]Some[h] friends play at friendship,[i]
but a true friend sticks closer than one's sibling.*

Proverbs 19

[1]Better the poor walking in integrity
than one perverse of speech who is a fool.*
[2]Desire without knowledge is not good,
and one who moves too hurriedly misses the way.
[3]One's own folly leads to ruin,
yet the heart rages against the LORD.*
[4]Wealth brings many friends,
but the poor are left friendless.*
[5]A false witness will not go unpunished,
and a liar will not escape.*
[6]Many seek the favor of the generous,
and everyone is a friend to a giver of gifts.*
[7]If the poor are hated even by their kin,
how much more are they shunned by their friends!
When they call after them, they are not there.[j],*
[8]To get wisdom is to love oneself;
to keep understanding is to prosper.*
[9]A false witness will not go unpunished,
and the liar will perish.
[10]It is not fitting for a fool to live in luxury,
much less for a slave to rule over princes.*
[11]Those with good sense are slow to anger,
and it is their glory to overlook an offense.*
[12]A king's anger is like the growling of a lion,
but his favor is like dew on the grass.*
[13]A stupid child is ruin to a father,

and a wife's quarreling is a continual dripping of rain.*
14 House and wealth are inherited from parents,
but a prudent wife is from the LORD.*
15 Laziness brings on deep sleep;
an idle person will suffer hunger.*
16 Those who keep the commandment will live;
those who are heedless of their ways will die.*
17 Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD
and will be repaid in full.*
18 Discipline your children while there is hope;
do not set your heart on their destruction.*
19 A violent-tempered person will pay the penalty;
if you effect a rescue, you will only have to do it again.[k]
20 Listen to advice and accept instruction,
that you may gain wisdom for the future.*
21 The human mind may devise many plans,
but it is the purpose of the LORD that will be established.*
22 What is desirable in a person is loyalty,
and it is better to be poor than a liar.
23 The fear of the LORD is life indeed;
filled with it one rests secure
and suffers no harm.*
24 The lazy person buries a hand in the dish
and will not even bring it back to the mouth.*
25 Strike a scoffer, and the simple will learn prudence;
reprove the intelligent, and they will gain knowledge.*
26 Those who do violence to their father and chase away their mother
are children who cause shame and bring reproach.

[27]My child, stop ignoring instruction,
straying[l] from words of knowledge.
[28]A worthless witness mocks at justice,
and the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity.*
[29]Punishments are prepared for scoffers
and flogging for the backs of fools.*

Proverbs 20

[1]Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler,
and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.*
[2]The dread anger of a king is like the growling of a lion;
anyone who provokes him to anger forfeits life itself.*
[3]It is honorable to refrain from strife,
but every fool is quick to quarrel.*
[4]The lazy person does not plow in season;
harvest comes, and there is nothing to be found.*
[5]The purposes in the human mind are like deep water,
but the intelligent will draw them out.*
[6]Many proclaim themselves loyal,
but who can find one worthy of trust?*
[7]The righteous walk in integrity—
happy are the children who follow them!*
[8]A king who sits on the throne of judgment
winnows all evil with his eyes.
[9]Who can say, "I have made my heart clean;
I am pure from my sin"?*
[10]Diverse weights and diverse measures
are both alike an abomination to the LORD.*
[11]Even children make themselves known by their acts,
by whether what they do is pure and right.*
[12]The hearing ear and the seeing eye—
the LORD has made them both.*
[13]Do not love sleep, or else you will come to poverty;
open your eyes, and you will have plenty of bread.*

14 “Bad, bad,” says the buyer,
then goes away and boasts.
15 There is gold and abundance of costly stones,
but the lips informed by knowledge are a precious jewel.
16 Take the garment of one who has given surety for a stranger;
seize the pledge given as surety for foreigners.
17 Bread gained by deceit is sweet,
but afterward the mouth will be full of gravel.*
18 Plans are established by taking advice;
wage war by following wise guidance.*
19 A gossip reveals secrets;
therefore do not associate with a babbler.*
20 If you curse father or mother,
your lamp will go out in utter darkness.*
21 An estate quickly acquired in the beginning
will not be blessed in the end.*
22 Do not say, “I will repay evil”;
wait for the Lord, and he will help you.*
23 Differing weights are an abomination to the Lord,
and false scales are not good.
24 All our steps are ordered by the Lord;
how then can we understand our own ways?*
25 It is a snare for one to say rashly, “It is holy,”
and begin to reflect only after making a vow.*
26 A wise king winnows the wicked
and drives the wheel over them.
27 The human spirit is the lamp of the Lord,
searching every inmost part.*
28 Loyalty and faithfulness preserve the king,

and his throne is upheld by righteousness.[m,*]
29 The glory of youths is their strength,
but the beauty of the aged is their gray hair.[*]
30 Blows that wound cleanse away evil;
beatings make clean the innermost parts.

Proverbs 21

[1]The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD;
he turns it wherever he will.
[2]All deeds are right in the sight of the doer,
but the LORD weighs the heart.*
[3]To do righteousness and justice
is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.*
[4]Haughty eyes and a proud heart—
the lamp of the wicked—are sin.*
[5]The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance,
but everyone who is hasty comes only to want.*
[6]The getting of treasures by a lying tongue
is a fleeting vapor and a snare[n] of death.*
[7]The violence of the wicked will sweep them away
because they refuse to do what is just.*
[8]The way of the guilty is crooked,
but the conduct of the pure is right.
[9]It is better to live in a corner of the housetop
than in a house shared with a contentious wife.*
[10]The souls of the wicked desire evil;
their neighbors find no mercy in their eyes.*
[11]When a scoffer is punished, the simple become wiser;
when the wise are instructed, they increase in knowledge.*
[12]The Righteous One observes the house of the wicked;
he casts the wicked down to ruin.*
[13]If you close your ear to the cry of the poor,
you will cry out and not be heard.*

[14]A gift in secret averts anger,
and a concealed bribe, strong wrath.*
[15]When justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous
but dismay to evildoers.
[16]Whoever wanders from the way of understanding
will rest in the assembly of the dead.*
[17]Whoever loves pleasure will suffer want;
whoever loves wine and oil will not be rich.
[18]The wicked is a ransom for the righteous
and the faithless for the upright.*
[19]It is better to live in a desert land
than with a contentious and fretful wife.
[20]Precious treasure remains[o] in the house of the wise,
but the fool devours it.*
[21]Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness
will find life[p] and honor.*
[22]One wise person went up against a city of warriors
and brought down the stronghold in which they trusted.*
[23]To watch over mouth and tongue
is to keep out of trouble.*
[24]The proud, haughty person, named Scoffer,
acts with arrogant pride.*
[25]The craving of the lazy person is fatal,
for lazy hands refuse to labor.*
[26]All day long the wicked covet,[q]
but the righteous give and do not hold back.*
[27]The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination;
how much more when brought with evil intent.*
[28]A false witness will perish,

but a good listener will testify successfully.
29 The wicked put on a bold face,
but the upright give thought to[r] their ways.*
30 No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel
can avail against the LORD.*
31 The horse is made ready for the day of battle,
but the victory belongs to the LORD.*

Proverbs 22

[1]A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favor is better than silver or gold.*
[2]The rich and the poor have this in common:
the LORD is the maker of them all.
[3]The clever see danger and hide,
but the simple go on and suffer for it.
[4]The reward for humility and fear of the LORD
is riches and honor and life.
[5]Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse;
the cautious will keep far from them.*
[6]Train children in the right way,
and when old, they will not stray.*
[7]The rich rule over the poor,
and the borrower is the slave of the lender.*
[8]Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.*
[9]Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.*
[10]Drive out a scoffer, and strife goes out;
quarreling and abuse will cease.*
[11]Those who love a pure heart and are gracious in speech
will have the king as a friend.*
[12]The eyes of the LORD keep watch over knowledge,
but he overthrows the words of the faithless.*
[13]The lazy person says, “There is a lion outside!
I shall be killed in the streets!”*

14 The mouth of a loose woman[s] is a deep pit;
he with whom the LORD is angry falls into it.
15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child,
but the rod of discipline drives it far away.*
16 Oppressing the poor in order to enrich oneself,
and giving to the rich, will lead only to loss.

SAYINGS OF THE WISE

17 The words of the wise:

Incline your ear and hear my words[t]
and apply your mind to my teaching,
18 for it will be pleasant if you keep them within you,
if all of them are ready on your lips.
19 So that your trust may be in the LORD,
I have made them known to you today, yes, to you.*
20 Have I not written for you thirty[u] sayings
of admonition and knowledge,*
21 to show you what is right and true,
so that you may give a true answer to those who sent you?*

22 Do not rob the poor because they are poor
or crush the afflicted at the gate,*
23 for the LORD pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.*
24 Make no friends with those given to anger,
and do not associate with hotheads,
25 lest you learn their ways
and entangle yourself in a snare.
26 Do not be one of those who give pledges,

who become surety for debts.*
27 If you have nothing with which to pay,
why should your bed be taken from under you?
28 Do not remove the ancient landmark
that your ancestors set up.*
29 Do you see those who are skillful in their work?
They will serve kings;
they will not serve common people.*

Proverbs 23

[1]When you sit down to eat with an official,
observe carefully what[v] is before you,
[2]and put a knife to your throat
if you have a big appetite.
[3]Do not desire an official's[w] delicacies,
for they are deceptive food.*
[4]Do not wear yourself out to get rich;
be wise enough to desist.*
[5]When your eyes light upon it, it is gone,
for suddenly it takes wings to itself,
flying like an eagle toward heaven.
[6]Do not eat the bread of the stingy;
do not desire their delicacies,*
[7]for like a hair in the throat, so are they.[x]
"Eat and drink!" they say to you,
but they do not mean it.*
[8]You will vomit up the little you have eaten,
and you will waste your pleasant words.
[9]Do not speak in the hearing of a fool,
who will only despise the wisdom of your words.*
[10]Do not remove an ancient landmark
or encroach on the fields of orphans,*
[11]for their vindicator[y] is strong;
he will plead their cause against you.*
[12]Apply your mind to instruction
and your ear to words of knowledge.*

13 Do not withhold discipline from your children;
if you beat them with a rod, they will not die.*
14 If you beat them with the rod,
you will save their lives from Sheol.
15 My child, if your heart is wise,
my heart also will be glad.
16 My soul will rejoice
when your lips speak what is right.
17 Do not let your heart envy sinners,
but always continue in the fear of the LORD.*
18 Surely there is a future,
and your hope will not be cut off.

19 Hear, my child, and be wise,
and direct your mind in the way.
20 Do not be among winebibbers
or among gluttonous eaters of meat,*
21 for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty,
and drowsiness will clothe them with rags.*

22 Listen to your father who begot you,
and do not despise your mother when she is old.*
23 Buy truth, and do not sell it;
buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.*
24 The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice;
he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him.*
25 Let your father and mother be glad;
let her who bore you rejoice.

26 My child, give me your heart,

and let your eyes observe[z] my ways.*
27For a prostitute is a deep pit;
and an adulteress[a] is a narrow well.*
28She lies in wait like a robber
and increases the number of the faithless.*

29Who has woe? Who has sorrow?
Who has strife? Who has complaining?
Who has wounds without cause?
Who has redness of eyes?*
30Those who linger late over wine,
those who keep trying mixed wines.*
31Do not look at wine when it is red,
when it sparkles in the cup
and goes down smoothly.
32At the last it bites like a serpent
and stings like an adder.
33Your eyes will see strange things,
and your mind utter perverse things.*
34You will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea,
like one who lies on the top of a mast.[b]
35"They struck me," you will say,[c] "but I was not hurt;
they beat me, but I did not feel it.
When shall I awake?
I will seek another drink."*

Proverbs 24

[1]Do not envy the wicked,
nor desire to be with them,*
[2]for their minds devise violence,
and their lips talk of mischief.*

[3]By wisdom a house is built,
and by understanding it is established;*
[4]by knowledge the rooms are filled
with all precious and pleasant riches.
[5]Wise warriors are mightier than strong ones[d]
and those who have knowledge than those who have strength,*
[6]for by wise guidance you can wage your war,
and in abundance of counselors there is victory.*
[7]Wisdom is too high for fools;
in the gate they do not open their mouths.*

[8]Whoever plans to do evil
will be called a mischief-maker.*
[9]The devising of folly is sin,
and the scoffer is an abomination to all.

[10]If you faint in the day of adversity,
your strength being small;*
[11]if you hold back from rescuing those taken away to death,
those who go staggering to the slaughter;*
[12]if you say, “Look, we did not know this”—
does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?

Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it?
And will he not repay all according to their deeds?*

13 My child, eat honey, for it is good,
and the drippings of the honeycomb are sweet to your taste.*
14 Know that wisdom is such to your soul;
if you find it, you will find a future,
and your hope will not be cut off.*

15 Do not lie in wait like an outlaw against the home of the righteous;
do no violence to the place where the righteous live;*
16 for though they fall seven times, they will rise again,
but the wicked are overthrown by calamity.*

17 Do not rejoice when your enemies fall,
and do not let your heart be glad when they stumble,*
18 lest the LORD see it and be displeased
and turn away his anger from them.

19 Do not fret because of evildoers.
Do not envy the wicked,*
20 for the evil have no future;
the lamp of the wicked will go out.*

21 My child, fear the LORD and the king,
and do not disobey either of them,[e],*
22 for disaster comes from them suddenly,
and who knows the ruin that both can bring?

FURTHER SAYINGS OF THE WISE

23 These also are sayings of the wise:

Partiality in judging is not good.*
24 Whoever says to the wicked, "You are innocent,"
will be cursed by peoples, abhorred by nations,*
25 but those who rebuke the wicked will have delight,
and a good blessing will come upon them.*
26 One who gives an honest answer
gives a kiss on the lips.

27 Prepare your work outside;
get everything ready for you in the field;
and after that build your house.

28 Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause,
and do not deceive with your lips.*
29 Do not say, "I will do to others as they have done to me;
I will pay them back for what they have done."*

30 I passed by the field of one who was lazy,
by the vineyard of a stupid person,*
31 and see, it was all overgrown with thorns;
the ground was covered with nettles,
and its stone wall was broken down.
32 Then I saw and considered it;
I looked and received instruction.
33 A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to rest,*
34 and poverty will come upon you like a robber,
and want, like an armed warrior.

Proverbs 25

FURTHER WISE SAYINGS OF SOLOMON

1 These are other proverbs of Solomon that the officials of King Hezekiah of Judah copied.*

2 It is the glory of God to conceal things,
but the glory of kings is to search things out.*
3 Like the heavens for height, like the earth for depth,
so the mind of kings is unsearchable.
4 Take away the dross from the silver,
and the smith has material for a vessel;*
5 take away the wicked from the presence of the king,
and his throne will be established in righteousness.*
6 Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
7 for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen*
8 do not hastily bring into court,
for[f] what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?*
9 Argue your case with your neighbor directly,
and do not disclose another's secret,*
10 or else someone who hears you will bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute will have no end.

11 A word fitly spoken

is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.*
12 Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold
is a wise rebuke to a listening ear.*
13 Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
are faithful messengers to those who send them;
they refresh the spirit of their masters.*
14 Like clouds and wind without rain
is one who boasts of a gift never given.*
15 With patience a ruler may be persuaded,
and a soft tongue can break bones.*
16 If you have found honey, eat only enough for you,
lest, having too much, you vomit it up.*
17 Let your foot be seldom in your neighbor's house,
lest the neighbor become weary of you and hate you.
18 Like a war club, a sword, or a sharp arrow
is one who bears false witness against a neighbor.*
19 Like a bad tooth or a lame foot
is trust in a faithless person in time of trouble.
20 Like vinegar on a wound[g]
is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.
Like a moth in clothing or a worm in wood,
sorrow gnaws at the human heart.[h]
21 If your enemies are hungry, give them bread to eat,
and if they are thirsty, give them water to drink,*
22 for you will heap coals of fire on their heads,
and the LORD will reward you.*
23 The north wind produces rain,
and a backbiting tongue, angry looks.*
24 It is better to live in a corner of the housetop

than in a house shared with a contentious wife.*
25 Like cold water to a thirsty soul,
so is good news from a far country.*
26 Like a muddied spring or a polluted fountain
are the righteous who give way before the wicked.*
27 It is not good to eat much honey
or to seek honor on top of honor.*
28 Like a city breached, without walls,
is one who lacks self-control.*

Proverbs 26

[1]Like snow in summer or rain in harvest,
so honor is not fitting for a fool.*
[2]Like a sparrow in its flitting, like a swallow in its flying,
an undeserved curse goes nowhere.*
[3]A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey,
and a rod for the back of fools.*
[4]Do not answer fools according to their folly,
lest you be a fool yourself.*
[5]Answer fools according to their folly,
lest they be wise in their own eyes.*
[6]It is like cutting off one's foot and drinking down violence,
to send a message by a fool.
[7]The legs of a lame person hang limp;
so does a proverb in the mouth of a fool.*
[8]It is like binding a stone in a sling
to give honor to a fool.*
[9]Like a thornbush brandished by the hand of a drunkard
is a proverb in the mouth of a fool.*
[10]Like an archer who wounds everybody
is one who hires a passing fool or drunkard.[i]
[11]Like a dog that returns to its vomit
is a fool who reverts to his folly.*
[12]Do you see people wise in their own eyes?
There is more hope for fools than for them.*
[13]The lazy person says, "There is a lion in the road!
There is a lion in the streets!"*

14 As a door turns on its hinges,
so does a lazy person in bed.
15 The lazy person buries a hand in the dish
and is too tired to bring it back to the mouth.*
16 The lazy person is wiser in self-esteem
than seven who can answer discreetly.
17 Like someone who takes a passing dog by the ears
is one who meddles in the quarrel of another.*
18 Like a maniac who shoots deadly firebrands and arrows,*
19 so is one who deceives a neighbor
and says, "I am only joking!"*
20 For lack of wood the fire goes out,
and where there is no whisperer, quarreling ceases.*
21 As charcoal is to hot embers and wood to fire,
so is a quarrelsome person for kindling strife.*
22 The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels;
they go down into the inner parts of the body.*
23 Like the glaze[j] covering an earthen vessel
are smooth[k] lips with an evil heart.
24 An enemy dissembles in speaking
while harboring deceit within;*
25 when an enemy speaks graciously, do not believe it,
for there are seven abominations concealed within;*
26 though hatred is covered with guile,
the enemy's wickedness will be exposed in the assembly.*
27 Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
and a stone will come back on the one who starts it rolling.*
28 A lying tongue hates its victims,
and a flattering mouth works ruin.*

Proverbs 27

[1]Do not boast about tomorrow,
for you do not know what a day may bring.*
[2]Let another praise you and not your own mouth,
a stranger and not your own lips.*
[3]A stone is heavy, and sand is weighty,
but a fool's provocation is heavier than both.*
[4]Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming,
but who is able to stand before jealousy?
[5]Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.*
[6]Well meant are the wounds a friend inflicts,
but profuse are the kisses of an enemy.
[7]The sated appetite spurns honey,
but to a ravenous appetite even the bitter is sweet.*
[8]Like a bird that strays from its nest
is one who strays from home.
[9]Perfume and incense make the heart glad,
but the soul is torn by trouble.[1]
[10]Do not forsake your friend or the friend of your parent;
do not go to the house of your kindred in the day of your calamity.
Better is a neighbor who is nearby
than kindred who are far away.*
[11]Be wise, my child, and make my heart glad,
so that I may answer whoever reproaches me.*
[12]The clever see danger and hide,

but the simple go on and suffer for it.*
13 Take the garment of one who has given surety for a stranger;
seize the pledge given as surety for foreigners.[m,*]
14 Whoever blesses a neighbor with a loud voice,
rising early in the morning,
will be counted as cursing.
15 A continual dripping on a rainy day
and a contentious wife are alike;*
16 to restrain her is to restrain the wind
or to grasp oil in the right hand.[n]
17 Iron sharpens iron,
and one person sharpens the wits[o] of another.
18 Anyone who tends a fig tree will eat its fruit,
and anyone who takes care of a master will be honored.*
19 Just as water reflects the face,
so one human heart reflects another.
20 Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied,
and human eyes are never satisfied.*
21 The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold,
so a person is tested[p] by being praised.*
22 Crush a fool in a mortar with a pestle
along with crushed grain,
but the folly will not be driven out.*

23 Know well the condition of your flocks,
and give attention to your herds,
24 for riches do not last forever,
nor a crown for all generations.*
25 When the grass is gone, and new growth appears,

and the herbage of the mountains is gathered,*
26 the lambs will provide your clothing,
and the goats the price of a field;
27 there will be enough goats' milk for your food,
for the food of your household
and nourishment for your female servants.

Proverbs 28

[1]The wicked flee when no one pursues,
but the righteous are as bold as a lion.*
[2]When a land rebels
it has many rulers;
but with an intelligent[q] person, honesty endures.*
[3]A poor person who oppresses the poor
is a beating rain that leaves no food.*
[4]Those who forsake the law praise the wicked,
but those who keep the law struggle against them.*
[5]The evil do not understand justice,
but those who seek the LORD understand it completely.*
[6]Better to be poor and walk in integrity
than to be crooked in one's ways even though rich.*
[7]Those who keep the law are wise children,
but companions of gluttons shame their parents.*
[8]One who augments wealth by exorbitant interest
gathers it for another who is kind to the poor.*
[9]When one will not listen to the law,
even one's prayers are an abomination.*
[10]Those who mislead the upright into evil ways
will fall into pits of their own making,
but the blameless will have a goodly inheritance.*
[11]The rich is wise in self-esteem,
but an intelligent poor person sees through the pose.*
[12]When the righteous rejoice, there is great glory,
but when the wicked prevail, people go into hiding.*

13 No one who conceals transgressions will prosper,
but one who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.*
14 Happy is the one who is never without fear,
but one who is hard-hearted will fall into calamity.*
15 Like a roaring lion or a charging bear
is a wicked ruler over a poor people.*
16 A ruler who lacks understanding is a cruel oppressor,
but one who hates unjust gain will enjoy a long life.
17 If someone is burdened with the blood of another,
let that killer be a fugitive until death;
let no one offer assistance.*
18 One who walks in integrity will be safe,
but whoever follows crooked ways will fall into the Pit.r,*
19 Anyone who tills the land will have plenty of bread,
but one who follows worthless pursuits will have plenty of poverty.*
20 The faithful will abound with blessings,
but one who is in a hurry to be rich will not go unpunished.*
21 To show partiality is not good,
yet for a piece of bread a person may do wrong.
22 The miser is in a hurry to get rich
and does not know that loss is sure to come.
23 Whoever rebukes a person will afterward find more favor
than one who flatters with the tongue.*
24 Anyone who robs father or mother
and says, "That is no crime,"
is partner to a thug.*
25 The greedy person stirs up strife,
but whoever trusts in the LORD will be enriched.*

[26]Those who trust in their own wits are fools,
but those who walk in wisdom come through safely.
[27]Whoever gives to the poor will lack nothing,
but one who turns a blind eye will get many a curse.*
[28]When the wicked prevail, people go into hiding,
but when they perish, the righteous increase.

Proverbs 29

[1]One who is often reproved, yet remains stubborn,
will suddenly be broken beyond healing.*
[2]When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice,
but when the wicked rule, the people groan.*
[3]A child who loves wisdom makes a parent glad,
but a companion of prostitutes destroys wealth.*
[4]By justice a king gives stability to the land,
but one who makes heavy exactions ruins it.
[5]Whoever flatters a neighbor
is spreading a net for the neighbor's feet.
[6]In the transgression of the evil there is a snare,
but the righteous sing and rejoice.
[7]The righteous know the rights of the poor;
the wicked have no such understanding.*
[8]Scoffers set a city aflame,
but the wise turn away wrath.*
[9]If the wise go to law with fools,
there is ranting and ridicule without relief.
[10]The bloodthirsty hate the blameless,
and they seek the life of the upright.*
[11]A fool gives full vent to anger,
but the wise quietly holds it back.*
[12]If a ruler listens to falsehood,
all his officials will be wicked.
[13]The poor and the oppressor have this in common:
the LORD gives light to the eyes of both.*

14 If a king judges the poor with equity,
his throne will be established forever.*
15 The rod and reproof give wisdom,
but a mother is disgraced by a neglected child.*
16 When the wicked are in authority, transgression increases,
but the righteous will look upon their downfall.*
17 Discipline your children, and they will give you rest;
they will give delight to your heart.*
18 Where there is no prophecy, the people cast off restraint,
but happy are those who keep the law.*
19 By mere words slaves are not disciplined,
for though they understand, they will not give heed.
20 Do you see someone who is hasty in speech?
There is more hope for a fool than for anyone like that.*
21 A slave pampered from childhood
will come to a bad end.[s]
22 One given to anger stirs up strife,
and the hothead causes much transgression.*
23 A person's pride will bring humiliation,
but one who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.*
24 To be a partner of a thief is to hate one's own life;
one hears the victim's curse but discloses nothing.[t,*]
25 The fear of others[u] lays a snare,
but one who trusts in the LORD is secure.*
26 Many seek the favor of a ruler,
but it is from the LORD that one gets justice.*
27 The unjust are an abomination to the righteous,
but the upright are an abomination to the wicked.

Proverbs 30

SAYINGS OF AGUR

1 The words of Agur son of Jakeh. An oracle.

Thus says the man: I am weary, O God;
I am weary, O God, and am wasting away.[v,*]
2Surely I am too stupid to be human;
I do not have human understanding.[*]
3I have not learned wisdom,
nor have I knowledge of the holy ones.[w,*]
4Who has ascended to heaven and come down?
Who has gathered the wind in the hollow of the hand?
Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment?
Who has established all the ends of the earth?
What is the person's name?
And what is the name of the person's child?
Surely you know![*]

5Every word of God proves true;
he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.[*]
6Do not add to his words,
lest he rebuke you, and you be found a liar.[*]

7Two things I ask of you;
do not deny them to me before I die:
8Remove far from me falsehood and lying;
give me neither poverty nor riches;
feed me with the food that I need,[*]

9 lest I be full and deny you
and say, “Who is the LORD?”
or I be poor and steal
and profane the name of my God.*

10 Do not slander a servant to a master,
lest the servant curse you, and you be held guilty.*

11 There are those who curse their fathers
and do not bless their mothers.*
12 There are those who are pure in their own eyes,
yet are not cleansed of their filthiness.*
13 There are those—how lofty are their eyes,
how high their eyelids lift!—*
14 there are those whose teeth are swords,
whose teeth are knives
to devour the poor from off the earth,
the needy from among mortals.*

15 The leech has two daughters;
“Give, give,” they cry.
Three things are never satisfied;
four never say, “Enough”:
16 Sheol, the barren womb,
the earth ever-thirsty for water,
and the fire that never says, “Enough.”*

17 The eye that mocks a father
and scorns to obey a mother
will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley
and eaten by the vultures.*

18 Three things are too wonderful for me;
four I do not understand:
19 the way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a woman.

20 This is the way of an adulteress:
she eats and wipes her mouth
and says, "I have done no wrong."*

21 Under three things the earth trembles;
under four it cannot bear up:
22 a slave when he becomes king
and a fool when glutted with food,*
23 a contemptible woman when she gets a husband
and a maid when she supplants her mistress.

24 Four things on earth are small,
yet they are exceedingly wise:
25 the ants are a people without strength,
yet they provide their food in the summer;*
26 the badgers are a people without power,
yet they make their homes in the rocks;*
27 the locusts have no king,
yet all of them march in rank;
28 the lizard[x] can be grasped in the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

29 Three things are stately in their stride;
four are stately in their gait:

30 the lion, which is mightiest among wild animals
and does not turn back before any;*
31 the strutting rooster,y the he-goat,
and a king against whom none can stand.

32 If you have been foolish, exalting yourself,
or if you have been devising evil,
put your hand on your mouth.*
33 For as pressing milk produces curds
and pressing the nose produces blood,
so pressing anger produces strife.*

Proverbs 31

THE TEACHING OF KING LEMUEL'S MOTHER

1 The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him:*

2 No, my son! No, son of my womb!
No, son of my vows!*
3 Do not give your strength to women,
your ways to those who destroy kings.*
4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel,
it is not for kings to drink wine
or for rulers to desire[z] strong drink,*
5 lest they drink and forget what has been decreed
and pervert the rights of all the afflicted.
6 Give strong drink to one who is perishing
and wine to those in bitter distress;
7 let them drink and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.
8 Speak out for those who cannot speak,
for the rights of all the destitute.[a,*]
9 Speak out; judge righteously;
defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

ODE TO A WOMAN OF STRENGTH

10 A woman of strength who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.*
11 The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.

12 She does him good and not harm
all the days of her life.
13 She seeks wool and flax
and works with willing hands.*
14 She is like the ships of the merchant;
she brings her food from far away.
15 She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her female servants.*
16 She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
17 She girds herself with strength
and makes her arms strong.
18 She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
19 She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
20 She opens her hand to the poor
and reaches out her hands to the needy.*
21 She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.*
22 She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
23 Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.*
24 She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
25 Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.*

[26]She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.*
[27]She looks well to the ways of her household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.*
[28]Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband, too, and he praises her:
[29]"Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all."*
[30]Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.*
[31]Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Proverbs 1

* **1.1** 1 Kings 4.32; Eccl 12.9
* **1.3** Prov 2.9; 19.20
* **1.4** Prov 2.10, 11; 8.5, 12
* **1.5** Prov 9.9; 14.6
* **1.7** Job 28.28; Ps 111.10; Eccl 12.13
* **1.8** Prov 4.1; 6.20
* **1.9** Gen 41.42; Prov 4.9
* **1.10** Deut 13.8; Eph 5.11
* **1.11** v 18; Prov 12.6
* **1.12** Ps 28.1; 124.3
* **1.15** Ps 1.1; 119.101
* **1.16** Isa 59.7

a **1.19** Gk: Heb *are the ways*

* **1.19** Prov 15.27
* **1.20** Prov 8.1
* **1.22** vv 4, 29, 32; Ps 1.1
* **1.23** Joel 2.28
* **1.24** Isa 65.12; Zech 7.11; Rom 10.21
* **1.25** Ps 107.11; Prov 15.10; Lk 7.30
* **1.26** Ps 2.4; Prov 6.15; 10.24
* **1.28** Isa 1.15; Ezek 8.18; Mic 3.4; Zech 7.13
* **1.30** Ps 81.11
* **1.31** Job 4.8; Prov 14.14; Isa 3.11; Jer 6.19
* **1.32** Jer 2.19
* **1.33** Ps 25.12

Proverbs 2

* **2.1** Prov 4.10
* **2.4** Prov 3.14; Mt 13.44
* **2.5** Prov 1.7
* **2.6** 1 Kings 3.9, 12; Jas 1.5
* **2.7** Ps 84.11
* **2.8** 1 Sam 2.9; Ps 66.9
* **2.9** Prov 4.18; 8.20
* **2.13** Jn 3.19
* **2.14** Prov 10.23; Jer 11.15
* **2.15** Ps 125.5

b **2.16** Heb *strange woman*

c **2.16** Heb *alien woman*
* **2.16** Prov 6.24; 23.27
d **2.18** Cn: Heb *house*
* **2.18** Prov 7.27
* **2.21** Ps 37.29
* **2.22** Deut 28.63; Ps 37.38

Proverbs 3

* **3.1** Ex 20.6; Deut 30.16; Prov 4.5
* **3.2** Ps 119.165; Prov 4.10
* **3.3** 2 Sam 15.20; Prov 1.9; 7.3
* **3.4** Ps 111.10; Prov 8.35
* **3.5** Ps 37.3, 5; Jer 9.23
* **3.6** 1 Chr 28.9; Isa 45.13
* **3.7** Prov 16.6; Rom 12.16
* **3.8** Job 21.24
* **3.9** Ex 23.19; Isa 43.23
* **3.11** Heb 12.5, 6
* **3.12** Deut 8.5
* **3.14** Job 28.13; Prov 8.10, 19
* **3.15** Job 28.18; Prov 8.11
* **3.16** Prov 8.18
* **3.17** Prov 16.7
* **3.18** Gen 2.9; Prov 11.30
* **3.19** Ps 104.24
* **3.20** Gen 7.11; Job 36.28
* **3.22** Prov 1.9; 4.22
* **3.23** Prov 4.12
e **3.24** Gk: Heb *lie down*
* **3.25** Job 5.21; Ps 91.5
f **3.27** Heb *from its owners*
* **3.27** Rom 13.7; Gal 6.10
* **3.28** Lev 19.13
* **3.29** Prov 14.22
* **3.30** Rom 12.18
* **3.31** Ps 37.1; Prov 24.1
* **3.32** Ps 25.14; Prov 11.20
* **3.33** Deut 11.28; Job 8.6; Mal 2.2
* **3.34** Jas 4.6; 1 Pet 5.5

Proverbs 4

g **4.1** Heb *know*
* **4.1** Prov 1.8; 2.2
* **4.3** 1 Chr 22.5
* **4.4** 1 Chr 28.9; Prov 7.2
* **4.5** v 7; Prov 16.16
* **4.6** 2 Thess 2.10
* **4.7** Prov 23.23
* **4.8** 1 Sam 2.30
* **4.9** Prov 1.9
* **4.11** 1 Sam 12.23
* **4.12** Ps 18.36; Prov 3.23
* **4.14** Ps 1.1; Prov 1.15
* **4.16** Ps 36.4; Mic 2.1
* **4.18** 2 Sam 23.4; Isa 26.7; Dan 12.3
* **4.19** Job 18.5; Isa 59.9, 10; Jer 23.12; Jn 12.35
* **4.21** Prov 3.21; 7.1, 2
* **4.22** Prov 3.8; 12.18
* **4.23** Mt 12.34; Mk 7.21; Lk 6.45
* **4.24** Prov 6.12; 19.1
* **4.26** Ps 119.5; Heb 12.13
* **4.27** Deut 5.32; 28.14; Prov 1.15

Proverbs 5

* **5.1** Prov 4.20; 22.17
h **5.3** Heb *strange woman*
* **5.3** Ps 55.21; Prov 2.16
* **5.4** Ps 57.4; Eccl 7.26
i **5.7** Gk Vg: Heb *children*
* **5.7** Ps 119.102; Prov 7.24
* **5.8** Prov 7.25; 9.14
* **5.12** Prov 1.29; 12.1
* **5.16** Prov 9.17
* **5.18** Eccl 9.9; Mal 2.14
* **5.19** Song 2.9; 4.5; 7.3
j **5.20** Heb *alien woman*
* **5.20** Prov 2.16; 7.5
* **5.21** Job 31.4; 34.21; Prov 15.3; Jer 16.17; 32.19; Hos 7.2; Heb 4.13
* **5.22** Ps 9.15
* **5.23** Job 4.21; 36.12

Proverbs 6

k **6.1** Or *a stranger*
* **6.1** Prov 11.15; 17.18; 20.16; 22.26; 27.13
l **6.2** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *the words of your mouth*
m **6.3** Or *humble yourself*
* **6.4** Ps 132.4
n **6.5** Cn: Heb *from the hand*
* **6.5** Ps 91.3
* **6.6** Prov 30.24, 25
* **6.8** Prov 10.5
* **6.9** Prov 24.33
* **6.11** Prov 10.4; 13.4; 20.4
* **6.12** Prov 10.32; 16.27
* **6.13** Ps 35.19; Prov 10.10
* **6.14** Mic 2.1
* **6.15** Prov 24.22; Jer 19.11
* **6.17** Ps 18.27; 120.2; Isa 1.15
* **6.18** Gen 6.5; Prov 1.16
* **6.19** Ps 27.12
* **6.20** Prov 1.8; 7.1
* **6.21** Prov 3.3
o **6.22** Heb *it*
p **6.22** Heb *it*
q **6.22** Heb *it*
* **6.22** Prov 3.23, 24
* **6.23** Ps 19.8
r **6.24** Gk: MT *the evil woman*
s **6.24** Heb *alien woman*
* **6.24** Prov 2.16; 5.3
* **6.25** Mt 5.28
t **6.26** Cn Compare Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *for because of a harlot to a piece of bread*
* **6.26** Prov 7.23; 29.3; Ezek 13.18
* **6.29** Ezek 18.6; 33.26
* **6.31** Ex 22.1–4
* **6.32** Prov 7.7
* **6.34** Prov 11.4; 27.4

Proverbs 7

* **7.1** Prov 2.1
u **7.2** Heb *little man*

* **7.2** Deut 32.10; Prov 4.4
* **7.3** Deut 6.8; Prov 3.3
v **7.5** Heb *strange woman*
w **7.5** Heb *alien woman*
* **7.5** Prov 2.16; 5.3; 6.24
* **7.7** Prov 1.22; 6.32
* **7.8** vv 12, 27
* **7.9** Job 24.15
* **7.11** Prov 9.13; 1 Tim 5.13
* **7.12** Prov 23.28
* **7.14** Lev 7.11, 16
* **7.16** Prov 31.22; Isa 19.9
* **7.21** Prov 5.3
x **7.22** Cn Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.23** Eccl 9.12
* **7.24** Prov 5.7
* **7.25** Prov 5.8
* **7.26** Prov 9.18
* **7.27** Prov 2.18; 5.5; 9.18

Proverbs 8

* **8.1** Prov 1.20; 9.3
* **8.3** Job 29.7
* **8.5** Prov 1.4, 22, 32
* **8.6** Prov 22.20
* **8.7** Ps 37.30
* **8.9** Prov 14.6
* **8.10** Prov 3.14, 15
* **8.11** Job 28.18; Prov 3.15
* **8.12** Prov 1.4
* **8.13** Prov 16.6
* **8.14** Prov 1.25; 2.7; Eccl 7.19
* **8.15** Dan 2.21; Rom 13.1
* **8.17** 1 Sam 2.30; Ps 91.14; Jn 14.21; Jas 1.5
* **8.18** Prov 3.16; Mt 6.33
* **8.19** Prov 3.14; 10.20
y **8.22** Or *me as the beginning*
z **8.22** Heb *way*
* **8.22** Prov 3.19
* **8.23** Jn 17.5
* **8.25** Ps 90.2

a **8.26** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.27** Job 26.10; Prov 3.19
* **8.29** Job 38.6, 10; Ps 104.9
b **8.30** Or *little child*
c **8.30** Gk: Heb lacks *his*
* **8.30** Jn 1.1–3
* **8.31** Ps 16.3
* **8.32** Ps 119.1, 2; Prov 5.7; Lk 11.28
* **8.34** Prov 3.13, 18
* **8.35** Prov 4.22; 12.2
* **8.36** Prov 20.2

Proverbs 9

* **9.1** Mt 16.18; Eph 2.20, 22
* **9.2** Mt 22.4
* **9.3** Ps 68.11; Mt 22.3
* **9.4** Prov 6.32; 8.5
* **9.5** Song 5.1; Isa 55.1; Jn 6.27
* **9.6** Ezek 11.20; 37.24
* **9.7** Prov 23.9
* **9.8** Ps 141.5; Mt 7.6
d **9.9** Heb lacks *instruction*
* **9.9** Prov 1.5
* **9.10** Job 28.28; Prov 1.7
* **9.11** Prov 3.16; 10.27
* **9.12** Prov 19.29
* **9.13** Prov 5.6; 7.11
* **9.17** Prov 20.17
e **9.18** Heb *shades*
* **9.18** Prov 7.27

Proverbs 10

* **10.1** Prov 1.1; 15.20; 29.3, 15
* **10.3** Ps 34.9, 10; 112.10; Mt 6.33
* **10.4** Prov 12.24; 13.4
* **10.5** Prov 6.8; 17.2
* **10.6** Esth 7.8
* **10.7** Ps 9.5, 6; Eccl 8.10
* **10.8** Prov 13.3
* **10.9** Ps 23.4; Prov 26.26; 28.18; Isa 33.15

f **10.10** Gk: Heb *but one with foolish lips will come to ruin*
* **10.10** Prov 6.13
* **10.11** Ps 37.30
* **10.12** 1 Pet 4.8
* **10.13** Prov 26.3
* **10.15** Job 31.24; Ps 52.7; Prov 18.11; 19.7
* **10.19** Prov 18.21; Eccl 5.3; Jas 3.2
* **10.20** Prov 8.19
* **10.22** Gen 24.35; Ps 37.22
* **10.23** Prov 15.21
* **10.24** Ps 145.19; Mt 5.6; 1 Jn 5.14, 15
* **10.25** Ps 15.5; Prov 12.7; Mt 7.24; 16.18
* **10.26** Prov 26.6
* **10.27** Ps 55.23; Prov 9.11
* **10.29** Ps 28.8; Prov 21.15
* **10.30** Ps 37.29
* **10.31** Ps 37.30; Prov 17.20

Proverbs 11

* **11.1** Lev 19.35; Deut 25.13–16
* **11.2** Prov 16.18
* **11.3** Prov 13.6
* **11.4** Gen 7.1; Ezek 7.19; Zeph 1.18
* **11.6** Eccl 10.8
* **11.7** Prov 10.28
* **11.8** Prov 21.18
* **11.10** Prov 28.12
* **11.11** Prov 29.8
* **11.12** Prov 10.19; 14.21
* **11.13** Lev 19.6; Prov 19.11; 20.19; 1 Tim 5.13
g **11.14** Or *an army*
* **11.14** Prov 15.22; 20.18; 24.6
h **11.16** Compare Gk Syr: Heb lacks *but she . . . shame*
i **11.16** Gk: Heb lacks *The timid . . . destitute*
* **11.16** Prov 31.30
* **11.18** Hos 10.12; Gal 6.8, 9
* **11.20** Ps 119.1; Prov 12.22
* **11.21** Ps 112.2; Prov 16.5
* **11.24** Prov 13.7; 19.17
* **11.25** Mt 5.7; 2 Cor 9.6–10
* **11.26** Job 29.13; Am 8.5, 6

* **11.27** Esth 7.10; Ps 7.15; 10.2
j **11.28** Cn: Heb *fall*
* **11.28** Ps 1.3; 52.7; Jer 17.8; Mk 10.24; 1 Tim 6.17
* **11.30** 1 Cor 9.19; Jas 5.20
* **11.31** 2 Sam 22.21, 25; Prov 13.21

Proverbs 12

* **12.1** Prov 9.8; 15.10
* **12.2** Prov 8.35
* **12.3** Prov 10.25
* **12.4** Prov 14.30; 31.23; 1 Cor 11.7
* **12.6** Prov 1.11; 14.3
* **12.7** Ps 37.36; Mt 7.24
k **12.9** Cn: Heb *servant*
* **12.10** Deut 25.4
* **12.11** Judg 9.4; Prov 28.19
l **12.12** Or *covet the catch of the wicked*
* **12.13** Prov 18.7; 2 Pet 2.9
* **12.14** Job 34.11; Prov 13.2; Isa 3.10, 11
* **12.15** Prov 14.12; Lk 18.11
* **12.16** Prov 29.11
* **12.17** Prov 14.5
* **12.18** Ps 57.4
* **12.19** Ps 52.5
* **12.20** v 5
* **12.21** Ps 91.10; Prov 14.14; 1 Pet 3.13
* **12.22** Prov 6.17; 11.20; Rev 22.15
m **12.23** Heb *the heart of fools*
* **12.23** Prov 13.16; 15.2
* **12.25** Prov 15.13; Isa 50.4
n **12.26** Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
o **12.27** Meaning of Heb uncertain
p **12.27** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **12.28** Prov 11.19

Proverbs 13

q **13.1** Cn: Heb *A wise child the discipline of his father*
* **13.1** Prov 10.1; 15.12
* **13.3** Ps 39.1; Jas 3.2
* **13.4** Prov 10.4

* **13.6** Prov 11.3, 5
* **13.7** Prov 11.24; Lk 12.20, 21, 33; 2 Cor 6.10
r **13.9** Or *shines*
* **13.9** Job 18.5; Prov 24.20
* **13.10** Prov 21.24
s **13.11** Gk Vg: Heb *from vanity*
* **13.11** v 23; Prov 10.2
* **13.13** 2 Chr 36.16
* **13.14** Ps 18.5; Prov 10.11
t **13.15** Cn Compare Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *is enduring*
* **13.15** Prov 21.8
* **13.16** Prov 12.23; 15.2
* **13.17** Prov 25.13
* **13.18** Prov 15.5, 31, 32
* **13.20** Prov 2.19; 15.31
* **13.21** Ps 32.10
* **13.22** Job 27.16, 17; Prov 28.8; Eccl 2.26
* **13.23** Prov 12.11
* **13.24** Prov 19.18; 22.15; 29.15, 17
* **13.25** Ps 34.10; 37.3

Proverbs 14

u **14.1** Heb *Wisdom of women*
* **14.2** Prov 19.1; Rom 2.4
v **14.3** Cn: Heb *a rod of pride*
* **14.3** Prov 12.6
* **14.5** Ex 20.16; Prov 6.19; 12.17
* **14.8** v 24; Prov 15.21
w **14.9** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **14.11** Prov 3.33; 12.7; 15.25
x **14.12** Heb *ways of death*
* **14.12** Prov 16.25; Rom 6.21
* **14.13** Prov 5.4; Eccl 2.2
y **14.14** Cn: Heb *from upon him*
* **14.14** Prov 1.31; 12.14
* **14.16** Prov 22.3
* **14.17** v 29
z **14.18** Or *inherit*
* **14.18** Prov 18.15
* **14.19** Prov 11.29
* **14.20** Prov 19.7

* **14.21** Ps 41.1; Prov 11.12
a **14.24** Cn: Heb *is the folly*
* **14.25** v 5
* **14.26** Prov 19.23; Isa 33.6
* **14.27** Prov 13.14
* **14.29** Prov 16.32; 29.20; Jas 1.19
* **14.30** Prov 12.4
* **14.31** v 21; Prov 17.5
b **14.32** Gk Syr: Heb *in their death*
* **14.32** Job 13.15; Ps 23.4; 2 Cor 1.9; 2 Tim 4.18
c **14.33** Gk Syr: Heb lacks *not*
* **14.33** Prov 2.10; 12.16
* **14.34** Prov 11.11
* **14.35** Mt 24.45

Proverbs 15

* **15.1** Judg 8.1–3; 1 Sam 25.10
* **15.2** Prov 12.23
* **15.3** Job 34.21; Heb 4.13
* **15.5** Prov 13.1, 18
* **15.8** Isa 1.11; Jer 6.20; Mic 6.7
* **15.9** Prov 21.21; 1 Tim 6.11
* **15.10** Prov 1.29–32
* **15.11** Job 26.6; Ps 139.8
* **15.12** Prov 13.1
* **15.13** Prov 12.25; 17.22
* **15.16** Ps 37.16; Prov 16.8; 1 Tim 6.6
* **15.17** Prov 17.1
* **15.18** Prov 14.29; 26.21; 29.22
* **15.19** Prov 22.5
* **15.20** Prov 10.1; 30.17
* **15.21** Prov 10.23; Eph 5.15
* **15.22** Prov 11.14
* **15.23** Prov 25.11
* **15.24** Prov 4.18
* **15.25** Ps 68.5, 6; Prov 12.7
* **15.26** Prov 6.16–19
* **15.27** Prov 28.25; Isa 33.15; 1 Tim 6.10
* **15.28** 1 Pet 3.15
* **15.29** Ps 34.16; 145.18
* **15.32** Prov 1.7

* **15.33** Prov 1.7; 18.12

Proverbs 16

* **16.2** Prov 21.2
* **16.3** Ps 37.5
* **16.4** Job 21.30; Isa 43.7
* **16.5** Prov 6.17; 11.21
* **16.6** Prov 14.16; Dan 4.27
* **16.7** 2 Chr 17.10
* **16.9** Ps 37.23; Prov 20.24; Jer 10.23
* **16.11** Prov 11.1
* **16.12** Prov 25.5
* **16.13** Prov 14.35
* **16.14** Prov 19.12
* **16.15** Job 29.23
* **16.16** Prov 8.10, 19
* **16.18** Prov 11.2
* **16.20** Ps 2.12; 34.8; Jer 17.7
* **16.22** Prov 7.22; 13.14
* **16.25** Prov 14.12
* **16.27** Prov 6.12, 14, 18; Jas 3.6
* **16.28** Prov 15.18; 17.9
* **16.29** Prov 1.10

d **16.30** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *to plan*

* **16.31** Prov 20.29
* **16.32** Prov 19.11

Proverbs 17

* **17.1** Prov 15.17
* **17.2** Prov 10.5
* **17.3** Ps 26.2; Prov 27.21
* **17.5** Job 31.29; Prov 14.31
* **17.6** Prov 13.22

e **17.7** Or *a noble*

* **17.8** Prov 21.14; Isa 1.23; Am 5.12
* **17.9** Prov 10.12; 16.28; Jas 5.20; 1 Pet 4.8
* **17.12** Hos 13.8
* **17.13** Ps 109.4, 5; Jer 18.20
* **17.14** Prov 20.3
* **17.15** Ex 23.7; Isa 5.23

* **17.17** Ruth 1.16; Prov 18.24
* **17.18** Prov 6.1
* **17.19** Prov 16.18; 29.22
* **17.20** Jas 3.8
* **17.21** Prov 10.1; 19.13
* **17.22** Ps 22.15; Prov 15.13
* **17.23** Ex 23.8
* **17.24** Eccl 2.14
* **17.25** Prov 10.1
* **17.26** Prov 18.5
* **17.27** Jas 1.19
* **17.28** Job 13.5

Proverbs 18

f **18.1** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **18.2** Prov 12.23
* **18.4** Prov 10.11; 20.5
* **18.5** Lev 19.15; Deut 1.17; Prov 24.23
* **18.7** Prov 10.14; Eccl 10.12
* **18.8** Prov 26.22
* **18.9** Prov 28.24
* **18.10** 2 Sam 22.3; Ps 18.2
* **18.11** Prov 10.15
* **18.12** Prov 11.2
* **18.13** Jn 7.51
* **18.16** Gen 32.20; 1 Sam 25.27
* **18.18** Prov 16.33
g **18.19** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **18.20** Prov 12.14
* **18.21** Mt 12.37
* **18.22** Prov 19.14
* **18.23** Jas 2.3
h **18.24** Syr Tg: Heb *A man of*
i **18.24** Cn Compare Syr Vg Tg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **18.24** Prov 17.17

Proverbs 19

* **19.1** Prov 28.6
* **19.3** Ps 37.7; Prov 11.3
* **19.4** Prov 14.20

* **19.5** Ex 23.1; Prov 6.19
* **19.6** Prov 29.26
j **19.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **19.7** Ps 38.11
* **19.8** Prov 16.20
* **19.10** Eccl 10.6, 7
* **19.11** Prov 16.32; Jas 1.19
* **19.12** Hos 14.5
* **19.13** Prov 10.1; 21.9
* **19.14** Prov 18.22; 2 Cor 12.14
* **19.15** Prov 6.9; 10.4
* **19.16** Lk 10.28
* **19.17** Eccl 11.1; Mt 10.42; 2 Cor 9.6–8; Heb 6.10
* **19.18** Prov 13.24
k **19.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **19.20** Prov 8.33
* **19.21** Ps 33.10, 11; Prov 16.1, 9
* **19.23** Ps 25.13; 1 Tim 4.8
* **19.24** Prov 26.15
* **19.25** Prov 21.11
l **19.27** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **19.28** Job 15.16
* **19.29** Prov 10.13

Proverbs 20

* **20.1** Gen 9.21; Isa 5.22
* **20.2** 1 Kings 2.23; Prov 19.12
* **20.3** Prov 17.14
* **20.4** Prov 10.4
* **20.5** Prov 18.4
* **20.6** Prov 25.14; Mt 6.2
* **20.7** Ps 37.26; 2 Cor 1.12
* **20.9** 1 Kings 8.46; 1 Jn 1.8
* **20.10** v 23; Deut 25.13
* **20.11** Mt 7.16
* **20.12** Ex 4.11
* **20.13** Prov 6.9, 10; Rom 12.11
* **20.17** Prov 9.17
* **20.18** Prov 15.22; 24.6; Lk 14.31
* **20.19** Prov 11.13; Rom 16.18
* **20.20** Job 18.5; Mt 15.4

* **20.21** Prov 28.20
* **20.22** Ps 27.14; Rom 12.17; 1 Pet 3.9
* **20.24** Ps 37.23; Prov 16.9; Jer 10.23
* **20.25** Eccl 5.4, 5
* **20.27** 1 Cor 2.11
m **20.28** Gk: Heb *loyalty*
* **20.28** Prov 29.14
* **20.29** Prov 16.31

Proverbs 21

* **21.2** Prov 16.2; Lk 16.15
* **21.3** 1 Sam 15.22; Mic 6.7, 8
* **21.4** Prov 6.17
* **21.5** Prov 10.4
n **21.6** Gk: Heb *seekers*
* **21.6** 2 Pet 2.3
* **21.7** Prov 10.25
* **21.9** Prov 25.24
* **21.10** Prov 2.14; 14.21
* **21.11** Prov 19.25
* **21.12** Prov 14.11
* **21.13** Mt 18.30–34; Jas 2.13; 1 Jn 3.17
* **21.14** Prov 18.16
* **21.16** Ps 49.14
* **21.18** Prov 11.8
o **21.20** Gk: Heb *and oil*
* **21.20** Job 20.15, 18; Prov 22.4
p **21.21** Gk: Heb *life and righteousness*
* **21.21** Mt 5.6
* **21.22** Eccl 9.15, 16
* **21.23** Prov 12.13; Jas 3.2
* **21.24** Ps 1.1; Prov 1.22; Isa 16.6; Jer 48.29
* **21.25** Prov 13.4
q **21.26** Gk: Heb *all day long one covets covetously*
* **21.26** Ps 37.26; Mt 5.42; Eph 4.28
* **21.27** Isa 66.3; Jer 6.20; Am 5.22
r **21.29** Or *establish*
* **21.29** Eccl 8.1
* **21.30** Isa 8.9, 10; Jer 9.23
* **21.31** Ps 3.8; Isa 31.1; 1 Cor 15.28

Proverbs 22

* **22.1** Eccl 7.1
* **22.5** Prov 15.19
* **22.6** Eph 6.4
* **22.7** Prov 18.23; Jas 2.6
* **22.8** Ps 125.3; Prov 24.16
* **22.9** 2 Cor 9.6
* **22.10** Prov 18.6; 26.20
* **22.11** Prov 16.13; Mt 5.8
* **22.12** Prov 21.12
* **22.13** Prov 26.13

s **22.14** Heb *strange woman*

* **22.15** Prov 13.24; 23.14

t **22.17** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *Incline your ear, and hear the words of the wise*

* **22.19** Prov 3.5

u **22.20** Cn: Heb *in the past* or *noble*

* **22.20** Prov 8.6, 10
* **22.21** Lk 1.3, 4
* **22.22** Zech 7.10; Mal 3.5
* **22.23** 1 Sam 25.39; Ps 12.5; 35.10; Prov 23.11
* **22.26** Prov 11.15
* **22.28** Prov 23.10
* **22.29** 1 Kings 10.8; Rom 12.11

Proverbs 23

v **23.1** Or *who*

w **23.3** Heb *his*

* **23.3** v 6; Ps 141.4
* **23.4** Prov 28.20; Rom 12.16; 1 Tim 6.9, 10
* **23.6** Ps 141.4

x **23.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **23.7** Prov 26.24, 25
* **23.9** Prov 1.7; Mt 7.6
* **23.10** Prov 22.28; Jer 22.3; Zech 7.10

y **23.11** Or *redeemer*

* **23.11** Prov 22.23
* **23.12** Prov 22.17
* **23.13** Prov 13.24; 19.18; 29.15
* **23.17** Ps 37.1; Prov 28.14
* **23.20** Isa 5.22; Mt 24.49; Lk 21.34; Rom 13.13; Eph 5.18

* **23.21** Prov 6.10, 11; 21.17
* **23.22** Prov 1.8; 30.17; Eph 6.1
* **23.23** Prov 4.5, 7; Mt 13.44
* **23.24** Prov 10.1; 15.20
z **23.26** Or *delight in*
* **23.26** Ps 1.2; Prov 3.1; 4.4
a **23.27** Heb *alien woman*
* **23.27** Prov 22.14
* **23.28** Prov 7.12; Eccl 7.26
* **23.29** Isa 5.11, 22
* **23.30** Ps 75.8; Eph 5.18
* **23.33** Prov 2.12
b **23.34** Meaning of Heb uncertain
c **23.35** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb lacks *you will say*
* **23.35** Jer 5.3

Proverbs 24

* **24.1** Ps 37.1; 73.3; Prov 3.31
* **24.2** Job 15.35; Jer 22.17
* **24.3** Prov 9.1
d **24.5** Gk Compare Syr Tg: Heb *A wise man is strength*
* **24.5** Prov 21.22
* **24.6** Lk 14.31
* **24.7** Ps 10.5
* **24.8** Prov 6.14; Rom 1.30
* **24.10** Jer 51.46; Heb 12.3
* **24.11** Ps 82.4; Isa 58.6, 7
* **24.12** Ps 94.9–11; 121.3–8; Prov 12.14; 21.2; Eccl 5.8
* **24.13** Song 5.1
* **24.14** Prov 2.10
* **24.15** Ps 10.9, 10
* **24.16** v 22; Ps 34.19; Mic 7.8
* **24.17** Job 31.29; Ob 12
* **24.19** Ps 37.1
* **24.20** Prov 13.9
e **24.21** Gk: Heb *do not associate with those who change*
* **24.21** Rom 13.1–7; 1 Pet 2.17
* **24.23** Lev 19.15; Deut 1.17; Prov 1.6; 18.5
* **24.24** Prov 17.15
* **24.25** Prov 28.23
* **24.28** Prov 25.18; Eph 4.25

* **24.29** Prov 20.22; Mt 5.39; Rom 12.17
* **24.30** Prov 6.6–11
* **24.33** Prov 6.9; 20.13

Proverbs 25

* **25.1** Prov 1.1
* **25.2** Deut 29.29; Ezra 6.1
* **25.4** 2 Tim 2.21
* **25.5** Prov 16.12; 20.8
* **25.7** Lk 14.7–11
f **25.8** Cn: Heb *or else*
* **25.8** Mt 5.25
* **25.9** Prov 11.13; Mt 18.15
* **25.11** Prov 15.23
* **25.12** Prov 15.31; 20.12
* **25.13** v 25; Prov 13.17
* **25.14** Prov 20.6; Jude 12
* **25.15** Gen 32.4; 1 Sam 25.24; Prov 15.1; 16.14
* **25.16** v 27
* **25.18** Ps 57.4; Prov 12.18
g **25.20** Gk: Heb *Like one who takes off a garment on a cold day, like vinegar on lye*
h **25.20** Gk Syr Tg: Heb lacks *Like a moth . . . human heart*
* **25.21** Ex 23.4, 5; Mt 5.44; Rom 12.20
* **25.22** 2 Sam 16.12
* **25.23** Ps 101.5
* **25.24** Prov 21.9
* **25.25** v 13; Prov 15.30
* **25.26** Ezek 32.2; 34.18, 19
* **25.27** v 16; Prov 27.2
* **25.28** Prov 16.32

Proverbs 26

* **26.1** 1 Sam 12.17
* **26.2** Num 23.8; Deut 23.5
* **26.3** Ps 32.9
* **26.4** Prov 23.9; 29.9
* **26.5** Mt 16.1–4; 21.24–27
* **26.7** v 9
* **26.8** v 1
* **26.9** v 7

i **26.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **26.11** Ex 8.15; 2 Pet 2.22
* **26.12** v 5; Prov 3.7; 29.20
* **26.13** Prov 22.13
* **26.15** Prov 19.24
* **26.17** Prov 3.30
* **26.18** Isa 50.11
* **26.19** Prov 24.28
* **26.20** Prov 16.28; 22.10
* **26.21** Prov 15.18
* **26.22** Prov 18.8
j **26.23** Cn: Heb *silver of dross*
k **26.23** Gk: Heb *burning*
* **26.24** Prov 10.18; 12.20
* **26.25** Ps 28.3; Jer 9.8
* **26.26** Mt 23.28; Lk 8.17
* **26.27** Ps 7.15; Prov 28.10; Eccl 10.8
* **26.28** Prov 29.5

Proverbs 27

* **27.1** Lk 12.19, 20; Jas 4.14
* **27.2** Prov 25.27; 2 Cor 10.12, 18
* **27.3** Prov 12.16
* **27.5** Prov 28.23
* **27.7** Prov 25.16
l **27.9** Gk: Heb *the sweetness of a friend is better than one's own counsel*
* **27.10** 2 Chr 10.6–8; Prov 17.17; 18.24
* **27.11** Ps 119.42; Prov 10.1; 23.15
* **27.12** Prov 22.3
m **27.13** Vg and 20.16: Heb *for a foreign woman*
* **27.13** Prov 20.16
* **27.15** Prov 19.13
n **27.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
o **27.17** Heb *face*
* **27.18** Lk 12.42–44; 19.17; 1 Cor 9.7
* **27.20** Eccl 1.8; Hab 2.5
p **27.21** Heb lacks *is tested*
* **27.21** Lk 6.26
* **27.22** Prov 23.35; Jer 5.3
* **27.24** Job 19.9; Prov 23.5
* **27.25** Ps 104.14

Proverbs 28

* **28.1** Lev 26.17; Ps 53.5
q **28.2** Heb *intelligent knowledgeable*
* **28.2** Prov 11.11
* **28.3** Mt 18.28
* **28.4** 1 Kings 18.18; Rom 1.32
* **28.5** Ps 92.6; Jn 7.17; 1 Cor 2.15
* **28.6** v 18; Prov 19.1
* **28.7** Prov 23.20
* **28.8** Lev 25.36; Prov 13.22; 14.31
* **28.9** Ps 66.18; Prov 15.8
* **28.10** Prov 26.27; Mt 6.33; Heb 6.12
* **28.11** Prov 18.17; 26.5, 12
* **28.12** Prov 11.10; Eccl 10.5, 6
* **28.13** Ps 32.3, 5
* **28.14** Ps 16.8; Rom 2.5
* **28.15** Mt 2.16; 1 Pet 5.8
* **28.17** Gen 9.6; Ex 21.14
r **28.18** Syr: Heb *fall all at once*
* **28.18** v 6; Prov 10.9, 25
* **28.19** Prov 12.11
* **28.20** v 22; Prov 10.6; 1 Tim 6.9
* **28.23** Prov 27.5, 6
* **28.24** Prov 18.9; 19.26
* **28.25** Prov 15.18; 29.25
* **28.27** Deut 15.7; Prov 19.17; 21.13

Proverbs 29

* **29.1** 1 Sam 2.25; 2 Chr 36.16; Prov 6.15
* **29.2** Esth 8.15; Prov 28.12
* **29.3** Prov 5.9, 10; 10.1; Lk 15.13
* **29.7** Job 29.16; Ps 41.1
* **29.8** Prov 11.11; 16.14
* **29.10** 1 Jn 3.12
* **29.11** Prov 12.16; 19.11
* **29.13** Ps 13.3
* **29.14** Ps 72.4; Prov 16.12; 25.5; Isa 11.4
* **29.15** Prov 10.1; 13.24
* **29.16** Ps 37.36; 58.10; 91.8; 92.11
* **29.17** v 15; Prov 10.1

* **29.18** 1 Sam 3.1; Am 8.11, 12; Jn 13.17
* **29.20** Prov 26.12; Jas 1.19
s **29.21** Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **29.22** Prov 15.18; 17.19
* **29.23** Job 22.29; Isa 66.2; Dan 4.30; Mt 23.12
t **29.24** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **29.24** Lev 5.1
u **29.25** Or *human fear*
* **29.25** Gen 12.12; Ps 91.1–16
* **29.26** Isa 49.4

Proverbs 30

v **30.1** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **30.1** Prov 31.1
* **30.2** Ps 73.22
w **30.3** Or *Holy One*
* **30.3** Prov 9.10
* **30.4** Job 38.8, 9; Ps 104.3; Isa 40.12; 45.18; Jn 3.13
* **30.5** Ps 12.6; 18.30; 84.11
* **30.6** Deut 4.2; 12.32; Rev 22.18
* **30.8** Mt 6.11
* **30.9** Deut 8.12; Neh 9.25; Job 31.24; Hos 13.6
* **30.10** Eccl 7.21
* **30.11** Prov 20.20
* **30.12** Lk 18.11
* **30.13** Ps 131.1; Prov 6.17
* **30.14** Job 29.17; Ps 14.4; 52.2; Am 8.4
* **30.16** Prov 27.20
* **30.17** Gen 9.22; Deut 28.26; Prov 23.22
* **30.20** Prov 5.6
* **30.22** Prov 19.10
* **30.25** Prov 6.6–8
* **30.26** Ps 104.18
x **30.28** Or *spider*
* **30.30** Judg 14.18; Mic 5.8
y **30.31** Gk Syr Tg Compare Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **30.32** Job 21.5; 40.4; Mic 7.16
* **30.33** Prov 10.12; 29.22

Proverbs 31

* **31.1** Prov 30.1
* **31.2** Isa 49.15
* **31.3** Deut 17.17; 1 Kings 11.1; Neh 13.26; Prov 5.9
z **31.4** Cn: Heb *where*
* **31.4** Prov 20.1; Eccl 10.17; Hos 4.11
a **31.8** Heb *all children of passing away*
* **31.8** Job 29.12–17
* **31.9** Lev 19.15; Deut 1.16
* **31.10** Prov 12.4; 19.14
* **31.13** vv 21–24
* **31.15** Lk 12.42; Rom 12.11
* **31.20** Eph 4.28; Heb 13.16
* **31.21** 2 Sam 1.24
* **31.23** Ruth 4.1, 11; Prov 12.4
* **31.25** v 17
* **31.26** Prov 10.31
* **31.27** Prov 19.15
* **31.29** Prov 12.4
* **31.30** Prov 6.25; 22.4

Ecclesiastes

Ecclesiastes 1

REFLECTIONS OF A ROYAL PHILOSOPHER

1 The words of the Teacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.*

[2]Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.*
[3]What do people gain from all the toil
at which they toil under the sun?*
[4]A generation goes, and a generation comes,
but the earth remains forever.*
[5]The sun rises, and the sun goes down
and hurries to the place where it rises.*
[6]The wind blows to the south
and goes around to the north;
round and round goes the wind,
and on its circuits the wind returns.*
[7]All streams run to the sea,
but the sea is not full;
to the place where the streams flow,
there they continue to flow.
[8]All things[a] are wearisome,
more than one can express;
the eye is not satisfied with seeing
or the ear filled with hearing.*
[9]What has been is what will be,
and what has been done is what will be done;

there is nothing new under the sun.*

10 Is there a thing of which it is said,
"See, this is new"?
It has already been
in the ages before us.
11 The people of long ago are not remembered,
nor will there be any remembrance
of people yet to come
by those who come after them.

THE FUTILITY OF SEEKING WISDOM

12 I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. 13 I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with.* 14 I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.*

15 What is crooked cannot be made straight,
and what is lacking cannot be counted.*

16 I said to myself, "I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and my mind has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge."* 17 And I applied my mind to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a chasing after wind.*

18 For in much wisdom is much vexation,
and those who increase knowledge increase sorrow.*

Ecclesiastes 2

THE FUTILITY OF SELF-INDULGENCE

1 I said to myself, "Come now, I will make a test of pleasure; enjoy
yourself." But again, this also was vanity.* [2]I said of laughter, "It is mad,"
and of pleasure, "What use is it?"* [3]I searched with my mind how to cheer
my body with wine—my mind still guiding me with wisdom—and how to
lay hold on folly, until I might see what was good for mortals to do under
heaven during the few days of their life. [4]I made great works; I built houses
and planted vineyards for myself;* [5]I made myself gardens and parks and
planted in them all kinds of fruit trees.* [6]I made myself pools from which to
water the forest of growing trees. [7]I bought male and female slaves and had
slaves who were born in my house; I also had great possessions of herds
and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. [8]I also
gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and of the
provinces; I got singers, both men and women, and delights of the flesh,
many concubines.[b,*]

9 So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem;
also my wisdom remained with me.* [10]Whatever my eyes desired I did not
keep from them; I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found
pleasure from all my toil, and this was my reward from all my toil.* [11]Then
I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had spent in doing it,
and again, all was vanity and a chasing after wind, and there was nothing to
be gained under the sun.*

WISDOM AND JOY GIVEN TO ONE WHO PLEASES GOD

12 So I turned to consider wisdom and madness and folly, for what can
the king's successor do? Only what has already been done.* [13]Then I saw
that wisdom excels folly as light excels darkness.

[14]The wise have eyes in their head,
but fools walk in darkness.

Yet I perceived that the same fate befalls all of them.* 15Then I said to myself, “What happens to the fool will happen to me also; why then have I been so very wise?” And I said to myself that this also is vanity.* 16For there is no enduring remembrance of the wise or of fools, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How can the wise die just like fools? 17So I hated life because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a chasing after wind.*

18 I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor,* 19and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. 20So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun,* 21because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.* 22What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun?* 23For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.*

24 There is nothing better for mortals than to eat and drink and find enjoyment in their toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God,* 25for apart from him[c] who can eat or who can have enjoyment? 26For to the one who pleases him God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he gives the work of gathering and heaping, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a chasing after wind.*

Ecclesiastes 3

EVERYTHING HAS ITS TIME

1 For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:*

[2]a time to be born and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;*
[3]a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build up;
[4]a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;*
[5]a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;*
[6]a time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to throw away;
[7]a time to tear and a time to sew;
a time to keep silent and a time to speak;*
[8]a time to love and a time to hate;
a time for war and a time for peace.*

THE GOD-GIVEN TASK

9 What gain have the workers from their toil?* [10]I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.* [11]He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.* [12]I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; [13]moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. [14]I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it nor anything

taken from it; God has done this so that all should stand in awe before him.* 15That which is already has been, that which is to be already is, and God seeks out what has gone by.[d,*]

JUDGMENT AND THE FUTURE BELONG TO GOD

16 Moreover, I saw under the sun that, in the place of justice, wickedness was there, and in the place of righteousness, wickedness was there as well. 17I said to myself, "God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for he has appointed a time for every matter and for every work."* 18I said to myself with regard to humans that God is testing[e] them to show that they are but animals.* 19For the fate of humans and the fate of animals is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath, and humans have no advantage over the animals, for all is vanity.* 20All go to one place, all are from the dust, and all turn to dust again.* 21Who knows whether the human spirit goes upward and the spirit of animals goes downward to the earth?* 22So I saw that there is nothing better than that all should enjoy their work, for that is their lot; who can bring them to see what will be after them?*

Ecclesiastes 4

1 Again I saw all the oppressions that are practiced under the sun. Look, the
tears of the oppressed—with no one to comfort them! On the side of their
oppressors there was power—with no one to comfort them.* [2]And I
commended the dead, who have already died, more than the living, who are
still alive, [3]but better than both is the one who has not yet been and has not
seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun.*

4 Then I saw that all toil and all skill in work come from one person's
envy of another. This also is vanity and a chasing after wind.*

[5]Fools fold their hands
and consume their own flesh.*

[6]Better is a handful with quiet
than two handfuls with toil
and a chasing after wind.*

7 Again, I saw vanity under the sun: [8]the case of solitary individuals,
without sons or brothers; yet there is no end to all their toil, and their eyes
are never satisfied with riches. "For whom am I toiling," they ask, "and
depriving myself of pleasure?" This also is vanity and an unhappy
business.*

THE VALUE OF A FRIEND

9 Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil.
[10]For if they fall, one will lift up the other, but woe to one who is alone and
falls and does not have another to help. [11]Again, if two lie together, they
keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone?* [12]And though one might
prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not
quickly broken.

13 Better is a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who will
no longer take advice.* [14]One can indeed come out of prison to reign, even
though born poor in the kingdom.* [15]I saw all the living who, moving about

under the sun, follow that[f] youth who replaced the king;[g] 16there was no end to all those people whom he led.[h] Yet those who come later will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and a chasing after wind.[*]

Ecclesiastes 5

REVERENCE, HUMILITY, AND CONTENTMENT

1 [i]Guard your steps when you go to the house of God; to draw near to listen
is better than the sacrifice offered by fools, for they do not know how to
keep from doing evil.[j,*] [2][k]Never be rash with your mouth nor let your heart
be quick to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you upon
earth; therefore let your words be few.[*]

3 For dreams come with many cares, and a fool's voice with many words.

4 When you make a vow to God, do not delay fulfilling it, for he has no
pleasure in fools. Fulfill what you vow.[*] [5]It is better that you should not
vow than that you should vow and not fulfill it.[*] [6]Do not let your mouth
lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake;
why should God be angry at your words and destroy the work of your
hands?

7 With many dreams come vanities and a multitude of words,[l] but fear
God.[*]

8 If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of
justice and right, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is
watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them.[*] [9]But all
things considered, this is an advantage for a land: a king for a plowed
field.[m]

10 The lover of money will not be satisfied with money, nor the lover of
wealth with gain. This also is vanity.[*]

11 When goods increase, those who eat them increase, and what gain has
their owner but to see them with his eyes?

12 Sweet is the sleep of laborers, whether they eat little or much, but the
abundance of the rich will not let them sleep.[*]

13 There is a grievous ill that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept
by their owners to their hurt,[*] [14]and those riches were lost in a bad venture;
though they are parents of children, they have nothing in their hands. [15]As
they came from their mother's womb, so they shall go again, naked as they

came; they shall take nothing for their toil that they may carry away with their hands.* 16This also is a grievous ill: just as they came, so shall they go, and what gain do they have from toiling for the wind?* 17Besides, all their days they eat in darkness, in much anger and sickness and resentment.*

18 This is what I have seen to be good: it is fitting to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of the life God gives us, for this is our lot.* 19Likewise, all to whom God gives wealth and possessions and whom he enables to enjoy them and to accept their lot and find enjoyment in their toil—this is the gift of God.* 20For they will scarcely brood over the days of their lives because God keeps them occupied with the joy of their hearts.

Ecclesiastes 6

THE FRUSTRATION OF DESIRES

1 There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy upon humankind:* [2]those to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that they lack nothing of all that they desire, yet God does not enable them to enjoy these things, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous ill.* [3]A man may father a hundred children and live many years, but however many are the days of his years, if he does not enjoy life's good things or has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he.* [4]For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered; [5]moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. [6]Even though he should live a thousand years twice over yet enjoy no good—do not all go to one place?

7 All human toil is for the mouth, yet the appetite is not satisfied.* [8]For what advantage have the wise over fools? And what do the poor have who know how to conduct themselves before the living?* [9]Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of desire; this also is vanity and a chasing after wind.*

10 Whatever has come to be has already been named, and it is known what humans are and that they are not able to dispute with those who are stronger.* [11]The more words, the more vanity, so how is one the better? [12]For who knows what is good for mortals while they live the few days of their vain life, which they pass like a shadow? For who can tell them what will be after them under the sun?*

Ecclesiastes 7

A DISILLUSIONED VIEW OF LIFE

[1]A good name is better than precious ointment,
and the day of death, than the day of birth.*
[2]It is better to go to the house of mourning
than to go to the house of feasting,
for this is the end of everyone,
and the living will lay it to heart.*
[3]Sorrow is better than laughter,
for by sadness of countenance the heart is made glad.*
[4]The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning,
but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.
[5]It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise
than to hear the song of fools.*
[6]For like the crackling of thorns under a pot,
so is the laughter of fools;
this also is vanity.
[7]Surely oppression makes the wise foolish,
and a bribe corrupts the heart.*
[8]Better is the end of a thing than its beginning;
the patient in spirit are better than the proud in spirit.*
[9]Do not be quick to anger,
for anger lodges in the bosom of fools.*
[10]Do not say, “Why were the former days better than these?”
For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.
[11]Wisdom is as good as an inheritance,
an advantage to those who see the sun.*

[12]For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money,
and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to the one who possesses it.
[13]Consider the work of God;
who can make straight what he has made crooked?*

14 In the day of prosperity, be joyful, and in the day of adversity, consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that mortals may not find out anything that comes after them.*

THE RIDDLES OF LIFE

15 In my vain life I have seen everything; there are righteous people who perish in their righteousness, and there are wicked people who prolong their life in their evildoing.* [16]Do not be too righteous, and do not act too wise; why should you destroy yourself?* [17]Do not be too wicked, and do not be a fool; why should you die before your time? [18]It is good that you should take hold of the one without letting go of the other, for the one who fears God shall succeed with both.

19 Wisdom gives strength to the wise more than ten rulers who are in a city.*

20 Surely there is no one on earth so righteous as to do good without ever sinning.*

21 Do not give heed to everything that people say, or you may hear your servant cursing you; [22]your heart knows that many times you have yourself cursed others.

23 All this I have tested by wisdom; I said, "I will be wise," but it was far from me.* [24]That which is, is far off, and deep, very deep; who can find it out?* [25]I turned my mind to know and to search out and to seek wisdom and the sum of things and to know that wickedness is folly and that foolishness is madness.* [26]I found more bitter than death the woman who is a trap, whose heart is nets, whose hands are fetters; one who pleases God escapes her, but the sinner is taken by her.* [27]See, this is what I found, says the Teacher, adding one thing to another to find the sum,* [28]which my mind has sought repeatedly, but I have not found. One man among a thousand I

found, but a woman among all these I have not found. [29]See, this alone I found, that God made human beings straightforward, but they have devised many schemes.*

Ecclesiastes 8

OBEY THE KING AND ENJOY YOURSELF

[1]Who is like the wise man?
And who knows the interpretation of a thing?
Being wise makes one's face shine,
but arrogance changes one's face.*

2 Keep[n] the king's command, and because of your sacred oath* [3]do not be terrified; go from his presence; do not delay when the matter is unpleasant, for he does whatever he pleases. [4]For the word of the king is powerful, and who can say to him, "What are you doing?"* [5]Whoever obeys a command will meet no harm, and the wise mind will know the time and way. [6]For every matter has its time and way, although the troubles of mortals lie heavy upon them.* [7]Indeed, they do not know what is to be, for who can tell them how it will be?* [8]No one has power over the wind[o] to restrain the wind[p] or power over the day of death; there is no discharge from the battle, nor does wickedness deliver those who practice it.* [9]All this I observed, applying my mind to all that is done under the sun, while one person exercises authority over another to the other's hurt.*

GOD'S WAYS ARE INSCRUTABLE

10 Then I saw the wicked approaching to sacrifice;[q] they go in and out of the holy place, and they boast[r] in the city that they have done such things. This also is vanity. [11]Because sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the human heart is fully set to do evil. [12]Though sinners do evil a hundred times and prolong their lives, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they stand in fear before him,* [13]but it will not be well with the wicked, neither will they prolong their days like a shadow, because they do not stand in fear before God.*

14 There is a vanity that takes place on earth, that there are righteous people who are treated according to the conduct of the wicked and wicked

people who are treated according to the conduct of the righteous. I said that this also is vanity.* 15So I commend enjoyment, for there is nothing better for people under the sun than to eat and drink and enjoy themselves, for this will go with them in their toil through the days of life that God gives them under the sun.*

16 When I applied my mind to know wisdom and to see the business that is done on earth, how one's eyes see sleep neither day nor night, 17then I saw all the work of God, that no one can find out what is happening under the sun. However much they may toil in seeking, they will not find it out; even though those who are wise claim to know, they cannot find it out.*

Ecclesiastes 9

TAKE LIFE AS IT COMES

1 All this I laid to heart, examining it all, how the righteous and the wise
and their deeds are in the hand of God; whether it is love or hate one does
not know. Everything that confronts them [2]is vanity,[s] since the same fate
comes to all, to the righteous and the wicked, to the good and the evil,[t] to
the clean and the unclean, to those who sacrifice and those who do not
sacrifice. As are the good, so are the sinners; those who swear are like those
who shun an oath.* [3]This is an evil in all that happens under the sun, that
the same fate comes to everyone. Moreover, the hearts of humans are full of
evil; madness is in their hearts while they live, and after that they go to the
dead.* [4]But whoever is joined with all the living has hope, for a living dog
is better than a dead lion. [5]The living know that they will die, but the dead
know nothing; they have no more reward, and even the memory of them is
lost.* [6]Their love and their hate and their envy have already perished; never
again will they have any share in all that happens under the sun.*

7 Go, eat your bread with enjoyment and drink your wine with a merry
heart, for God has long ago approved what you do.* [8]Let your garments
always be white; do not let oil be lacking on your head.* [9]Enjoy life with
the wife whom you love all the days of your vain life that are given you
under the sun,[u] because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which
you toil under the sun.* [10]Whatever your hand finds to do, do with your
might, for there is no work or thought or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol, to
which you are going.*

11 Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the
battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor
favor to the skillful, but time and chance happen to them all.* [12]For no one
can anticipate one's time. Like fish taken in a cruel net or like birds caught
in a snare, so mortals are snared at a time of calamity, when it suddenly falls
upon them.*

WISDOM SUPERIOR TO FOLLY

13 I have also seen this example of wisdom under the sun, and it seemed
great to me. [14]There was a little city with few people in it. A great king
came against it and besieged it, building great siegeworks against it. [15]Now
there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the
city. Yet no one remembered that poor man.* [16]So I said, "Wisdom is better
than might; yet the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not
heeded."*

[17]The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded
than the shouting of a ruler among fools.*

[18]Wisdom is better than weapons of war,
but one bungler destroys much good.*

Ecclesiastes 10

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS

[1]Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a foul odor;[v]
so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor.
[2]The heart of the wise inclines to the right,
but the heart of a fool to the left.
[3]Even when fools walk on the road, they lack sense
and show to everyone that they are fools.*
[4]If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your post,
for calmness will undo great offenses.*

5 There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as great an error as if it proceeded from the ruler: [6]folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place.* [7]I have seen slaves on horseback and princes walking on the ground like slaves.

[8]Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
and whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a snake.*
[9]Whoever quarries stones will be hurt by them,
and whoever splits logs will be endangered by them.
[10]If the iron is blunt and one does not whet the edge,
then more strength must be exerted,
but wisdom helps one to succeed.
[11]If the snake bites before it is charmed,
there is no advantage in a charmer.*

[12]Words spoken by the wise bring them favor,
but the lips of fools consume them.*
[13]The words of their mouths begin in foolishness,
and their talk ends in wicked madness,*

14 yet fools talk on and on.
No one knows what is to happen,
and who can tell anyone what the future holds?*
15 The toil of fools wears them out,
for they do not even know the way to town.

16 Alas for you, O land, when your king is a child
and your princes feast in the morning!*
17 Happy are you, O land, when your king is a nobleman,
and your princes feast at the proper time—
for strength and not for drunkenness!*
18 Through sloth the roof sinks in,
and through indolence the house leaks.*
19 Feasts are made for laughter,
wine gladdens life,
and money meets every need.*
20 Do not curse the king, even in your thoughts,
or curse the rich, even in your bedroom,
for a bird of the air may carry your voice,
or some winged creature tell the matter.*

Ecclesiastes 11

THE VALUE OF DILIGENCE

[1]Send out your bread upon the waters,
for after many days you will get it back.*
[2]Divide your means seven ways, or even eight,
for you do not know what disaster may happen on earth.*
[3]When clouds are full,
they empty rain on the earth;
whether a tree falls to the south or to the north,
in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie.
[4]Whoever observes the wind will not sow,
and whoever regards the clouds will not reap.

5 Just as you do not know how the breath comes to the bones in the mother's womb, so you do not know the work of God, who makes everything.*

6 In the morning sow your seed, and at evening do not let your hands be idle, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good.*

YOUTH AND OLD AGE

7 Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.*

8 Even those who live many years should rejoice in them all, yet let them remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes is vanity.*

9 Rejoice, young man, while you are young, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Follow the inclination of your heart and the desire of your eyes, but know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment.*

10 Banish anxiety from your mind, and put away pain from your body, for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.*

Ecclesiastes 12

1 Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the days of
trouble come and the years draw near when you will say, “I have no
pleasure in them”; [2]before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars
are darkened and the clouds return with[w] the rain; [3]in the day when the
guards of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the women
who grind cease working because they are few, and those who look through
the windows see dimly; [4]when the doors on the street are shut, and the
sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all
the daughters of song are brought low;* [5]when one is afraid of heights, and
terrors are in the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags
itself along,[x] and the caper bud falls; because all must go to their eternal
home, and the mourners will go about the streets;* [6]before the silver cord is
snapped,[y] and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is broken at the
fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern, [7]and the dust returns to the
earth as it was, and the breath[z] returns to God who gave it.* [8]Vanity of
vanities, says the Teacher; all is vanity.

EPILOGUE

9 Besides being wise, the Teacher also taught the people knowledge,
weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs.* [10]The Teacher
sought to find pleasing words, and he wrote words of truth plainly.*

11 The sayings of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are
the collected sayings that are given by one shepherd.[a,*] [12]Of anything
beyond these, my child, beware. Of making many books there is no end,
and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

13 The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God, and keep his
commandments, for that is the whole duty of everyone.* [14]For God will
bring every deed into judgment, including[b] every secret thing, whether good
or evil.*

Ecclesiastes 1

* **1.1** v 12; Eccl 7.27; 12.8–10
* **1.2** Ps 39.5, 6; 62.9; 144.4; Eccl 12.8
* **1.3** Eccl 2.22; 3.9
* **1.4** Ps 104.5; 119.90
* **1.5** Ps 19.5, 6
* **1.6** Eccl 11.5; Jn 3.8

a **1.8** Or *words*

* **1.8** Prov 27.20
* **1.9** Eccl 2.12; 3.15
* **1.13** v 17; Eccl 3.10
* **1.14** Eccl 2.11, 17
* **1.15** Eccl 7.13
* **1.16** 1 Kings 3.12, 13; 4.30; 10.23; Eccl 2.9
* **1.17** Eccl 2.3, 12; 7.23, 25
* **1.18** Eccl 12.12

Ecclesiastes 2

* **2.1** Eccl 1.2; Lk 12.19
* **2.2** Prov 14.13; Eccl 7.6
* **2.4** 1 Kings 7.1–12; Song 8.10, 11
* **2.5** Neh 2.8; Song 4.16; 5.1

b **2.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **2.8** 2 Sam 19.35; 1 Kings 4.21; 9.28; 10.10, 14, 21; 20.14
* **2.9** Eccl 1.16
* **2.10** Eccl 3.22
* **2.11** Eccl 1.3, 14
* **2.12** Eccl 1.17; 7.25
* **2.14** Ps 49.10; Prov 17.24; Eccl 9.2, 3, 11
* **2.15** Eccl 6.8, 11
* **2.17** vv 22, 23; Eccl 4.2
* **2.18** v 11; Ps 39.6; 49.10
* **2.20** v 11
* **2.21** v 18; Eccl 4.4
* **2.22** Eccl 1.3; 3.9
* **2.23** Job 5.7; 14.1; Ps 127.2; Eccl 1.18
* **2.24** Eccl 3.12, 13, 22; 5.18; 8.15

c **2.25** Gk Syr: Heb *apart from me*

* **2.26** Job 27.16, 17; 32.8; Eccl 1.14

Ecclesiastes 3

* **3.1** v 17; Eccl 8.6
* **3.2** Heb 9.27
* **3.4** Ex 15.20; Ps 126.2; Rom 12.15
* **3.5** 1 Cor 7.5
* **3.7** Am 5.13
* **3.8** Lk 14.26
* **3.9** Eccl 1.3
* **3.10** Eccl 1.13
* **3.11** Gen 1.31; Eccl 8.17; Rom 11.33
* **3.14** Eccl 5.7; Jas 1.17

d **3.15** Heb *what is pursued*

* **3.15** Eccl 1.9; 6.10
* **3.17** v 1; Mt 16.27; Rom 2.6–8; 2 Cor 5.10; 2 Thess 1.6, 7

e **3.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **3.18** Ps 73.22
* **3.19** Eccl 9.12
* **3.20** Gen 3.19; Eccl 12.7
* **3.21** Eccl 12.7
* **3.22** Eccl 2.24; 5.18; 6.12; 8.7; 10.14

Ecclesiastes 4

* **4.1** Eccl 3.16; 5.8
* **4.3** Eccl 6.3
* **4.4** Eccl 1.14; 2.21
* **4.5** Prov 6.10; Isa 9.20
* **4.6** Prov 15.16, 17; 16.8
* **4.8** Prov 27.20; 1 Jn 2.16
* **4.11** 1 Kings 1.1
* **4.13** Eccl 9.15
* **4.14** Gen 41.14, 41–43

f **4.15** Heb *the second*

g **4.15** Heb *him*

h **4.16** Heb *who were before them*

* **4.16** Eccl 1.14

Ecclesiastes 5

i **5.1** 4.17 in Heb

j **5.1** Cn: Heb *they do not know how to do evil*

* **5.1** Ex 3.5; 1 Sam 15.22; Prov 15.8, 21–27; Isa 1.12; Hos 6.6

k **5.2** 5.1 in Heb
* **5.2** Prov 10.19; 20.25; Mt 6.7
* **5.4** Deut 23.21–23; Ps 50.14; 66.13, 14; 76.11
* **5.5** Prov 20.25; Acts 5.4
l **5.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.7** Eccl 3.14; 12.13
* **5.8** Ps 12.5; 58.11; 82.1; Eccl 4.1
m **5.9** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.10** Eccl 2.10, 11
* **5.12** Prov 3.24
* **5.13** Eccl 6.1, 2
* **5.15** Job 1.21; Ps 49.17; 1 Tim 6.7
* **5.16** Prov 11.29; Eccl 1.3
* **5.17** Eccl 2.23
* **5.18** Eccl 2.10, 24; 3.22
* **5.19** 2 Chr 1.12; Eccl 2.24; 3.13; 6.2

Ecclesiastes 6

* **6.1** Eccl 5.13
* **6.2** 1 Kings 3.13; Ps 17.14; 73.7
* **6.3** 2 Kings 9.35; Eccl 4.3; Isa 14.19, 20; Jer 22.19
* **6.7** Prov 16.26
* **6.8** Eccl 2.15
* **6.9** Eccl 1.14; 11.9
* **6.10** Job 9.32; Eccl 1.9; Isa 45.9; Jer 49.19
* **6.12** Ps 39.6; Eccl 8.7; Jas 4.14

Ecclesiastes 7

* **7.1** Prov 15.30; 22.1; Eccl 4.2
* **7.2** Ps 90.12; Eccl 2.16
* **7.3** 2 Cor 7.10
* **7.5** Ps 141.5; Prov 13.18; 15.31, 32
* **7.7** Ex 23.8; Deut 16.19
* **7.8** v 1; Prov 14.29; Gal 5.22; Eph 4.2
* **7.9** Prov 14.17; Jas 1.19
* **7.11** Prov 8.10, 11
* **7.13** Eccl 1.15; 3.11; 8.17; Isa 14.27
* **7.14** Deut 8.5; Eccl 3.4
* **7.15** Eccl 6.12; 8.14
* **7.16** Rom 12.3

* **7.19** Eccl 9.13–18
* **7.20** 1 Kings 8.46; 2 Chr 6.36; Prov 20.9; Rom 3.23
* **7.23** Rom 1.22
* **7.24** Job 28.12; Rom 11.33
* **7.25** Eccl 1.17; 2.12
* **7.26** Prov 5.3, 4; 22.14
* **7.27** Eccl 1.1, 2
* **7.29** Gen 1.27; 3.6, 7

Ecclesiastes 8

* **8.1** Deut 28.50; Prov 4.8, 9
n **8.2** Heb *I keep*
* **8.2** Ezek 17.18
* **8.4** Job 9.12; Dan 4.35
* **8.6** Eccl 3.1, 17
* **8.7** Prov 24.22; Eccl 6.12; 9.12; 10.14
o **8.8** Or *breath*
p **8.8** Or *breath*
* **8.8** v 13; Deut 20.5–8; Ps 49.6, 7
* **8.9** Eccl 4.1; 5.8
q **8.10** Cn: Heb *buried*
r **8.10** Gk: Heb *they were forgotten*
* **8.12** Ps 18.19; 37.11; Prov 1.32, 33; Isa 3.10, 11; 65.20
* **8.13** v 8; Eccl 6.12; Isa 3.11
* **8.14** Job 21.7; Ps 73.14; Eccl 7.15; Mal 3.15
* **8.15** Eccl 2.24; 3.12, 13; 5.18; 9.7
* **8.17** v 7; Job 5.9; Ps 73.16; Eccl 3.11; Rom 11.33

Ecclesiastes 9

s **9.2** Syr Compare Gk: Heb *Everything that confronts them* ^{2}*is everything*
t **9.2** Gk Syr Vg: Heb lacks *and the evil*
* **9.2** Job 9.22; Eccl 6.6; 7.2
* **9.3** v 2; Eccl 1.17; 8.11
* **9.5** Job 14.21; Ps 88.12; Eccl 1.11; 2.16; Isa 26.14
* **9.6** Eccl 3.22
* **9.7** Eccl 8.15
* **9.8** Ps 23.5; Rev 3.4
u **9.9** Cn: Heb *sun, all the days of your vanity*
* **9.9** Eccl 6.12; 7.15
* **9.10** Isa 38.10; Rom 12.11; Col 3.23

* **9.11** Deut 8.17, 18; 1 Sam 6.9; Am 2.14, 15
* **9.12** Prov 29.6; Eccl 8.7; Isa 24.18; Lk 21.34, 35
* **9.15** Eccl 2.16; 4.13; 8.10
* **9.16** Prov 21.22; Eccl 7.19
* **9.17** Eccl 7.5; 10.12
* **9.18** v 16; Josh 7.1, 11, 12

Ecclesiastes 10

v **10.1** Gk Vg Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **10.3** Prov 13.16; 18.2
* **10.4** 1 Sam 25.24–33; Prov 25.15; Eccl 8.3
* **10.6** Esth 3.1
* **10.8** Ps 7.15; Prov 26.27
* **10.11** Ps 58.4, 5; Jer 8.17
* **10.12** Prov 10.14, 32; 18.7; Lk 4.22
* **10.13** Eccl 7.25
* **10.14** Prov 15.2; Eccl 3.22; 6.12; 8.7
* **10.16** Isa 3.4, 5, 12; 5.11
* **10.17** Prov 31.4; Isa 5.11
* **10.18** Prov 24.30–34
* **10.19** Ps 104.15; Eccl 7.12
* **10.20** Ex 22.28; 2 Kings 6.12; Lk 12.3; Acts 23.5

Ecclesiastes 11

* **11.1** Deut 15.10; Prov 19.17; Isa 32.20; Mt 10.42; 2 Cor 9.8; Gal 6.9, 10; Heb 6.10
* **11.2** Ps 112.9; Eccl 12.1; Lk 6.30; 1 Tim 6.18, 19
* **11.5** Ps 139.14, 15; Jn 3.8
* **11.6** Eccl 9.10
* **11.7** Eccl 7.11
* **11.8** Eccl 9.7; 12.1
* **11.9** Num 15.39; Eccl 2.10; 3.17; 12.14; Rom 14.10
* **11.10** 2 Cor 7.1; 2 Tim 2.22

Ecclesiastes 12

w **12.2** Or *after*
* **12.4** 2 Sam 19.35; Jer 25.10
x **12.5** Or *is a burden*
* **12.5** Job 17.13; Jer 9.17
y **12.6** Syr Vg Compare Gk: Heb *is removed*
z **12.7** Or *the spirit*

* **12.7** Gen 3.19; Job 34.14, 15; Ps 90.3; Isa 57.16; Zech 12.1
* **12.9** 1 Kings 4.32
* **12.10** Prov 10.32; 22.20, 21
a **12.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **12.11** Ezra 9.8; Eccl 7.5; Isa 22.23; Acts 2.37
* **12.13** Deut 4.2; Eccl 8.5; Mic 6.8
b **12.14** Or *into the judgment on*
* **12.14** Mt 10.26; 12.36; 1 Cor 4.5

The
Song of Songs

Song of Songs 1

1 The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's.*

COLLOQUY OF THE YOUNG WOMAN AND FRIENDS

[2]Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth!
For your love is better than wine;*
[3]your anointing oils are fragrant;
your name is perfume poured out;
therefore the maidens love you.*
[4]Draw me after you; let us make haste.
The king has brought me into his chambers.
We will exult and rejoice in you;
we will extol your love more than wine;
rightly do they love you.*

[5]I am black and beautiful,
O daughters of Jerusalem,
like the tents of Kedar,
like the curtains of Solomon.*
[6]Do not gaze at me because I am dark,
because the sun has gazed on me.
My mother's sons were angry with me;
they made me keeper of the vineyards,
but my own vineyard I have not kept!*
[7]Tell me, you whom my soul loves,

where you pasture your flock,
where you make it lie down at noon,
for why should I be like one who is veiled
beside the flocks of your companions?*

8 If you do not know,
O fairest among women,
follow the tracks of the flock
and pasture your kids
beside the shepherds' tents.*

COLLOQUY OF THE YOUNG MAN, FRIENDS, AND THE YOUNG WOMAN

9 I compare you, my love,
to a mare among Pharaoh's chariots.*
10 Your cheeks are comely with ornaments,
your neck with strings of jewels.*
11 We will make you ornaments of gold,
studded with silver.

12 While the king was on his couch,
my nard gave forth its fragrance.
13 My beloved is to me a bag of myrrh
that lies between my breasts.
14 My beloved is to me a cluster of henna blossoms
in the vineyards of En-gedi.*

15 Ah, you are beautiful, my love;
ah, you are beautiful;
your eyes are doves.*
16 Ah, you are beautiful, my beloved,

truly lovely.
Our couch is green;
17 the beams of our house are cedar;
our rafters[a] are pine.*

Song of Songs 2

[1]I am a rose of Sharon,
a lily of the valleys.*

[2]As a lily among brambles,
so is my love among maidens.

[3]As an apple tree among the trees of the wood,
so is my beloved among young men.
With great delight I sat in his shadow,
and his fruit was sweet to my taste.*
[4]He brought me to the banqueting house,
and his intention toward[b] me was love.*
[5]Sustain me with raisins,
refresh me with apples,
for I am faint with love.*
[6]O that his left hand were under my head
and that his right hand embraced me!*
[7]I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the wild does:
do not stir up or awaken love
until it is ready!*

SPRINGTIME RHAPSODY

[8]The voice of my beloved!
Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.*

[9]My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.*
[10]My beloved speaks and says to me:
"Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away,*
[11]for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
[12]The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.*
[13]The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.*
[14]O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
in the covert of the cliff,
let me see your face;
let me hear your voice,
for your voice is sweet,
and your face is lovely.*
[15]Catch us the foxes,
the little foxes,
that ruin the vineyards—
for our vineyards are in blossom."*

16 My beloved is mine, and I am his;
    he pastures his flock among the lilies.*
17 Until the day breathes
    and the shadows flee,
turn, my beloved, be like a gazelle
    or a young stag on the cleft mountains.c,*

Song of Songs 3

LOVE'S DREAM

[1]Upon my bed at night
I sought him whom my soul loves;
I sought him but found him not;
I called him, but he gave no answer.[d,*]
[2]"I will rise now and go about the city,
in the streets and in the squares;
I will seek him whom my soul loves."
I sought him but found him not.[*]
[3]The sentinels found me,
as they went about in the city.
"Have you seen him whom my soul loves?"[*]
[4]Scarcely had I passed them,
when I found him whom my soul loves.
I held him and would not let him go
until I brought him into my mother's house
and into the chamber of her that conceived me.[*]
[5]I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the wild does:
do not stir up or awaken love
until it is ready![*]

THE YOUNG MAN AND HIS PARTY APPROACH

[6]Who is that coming up from the wilderness
like a column of smoke,
perfumed with myrrh and frankincense,

with all the fragrant powders of the merchant?*
[7]Look, it is the litter of Solomon!
Around it are sixty mighty men
of the mighty men of Israel,
[8]all equipped with swords
and expert in war,
each with his sword at his thigh
because of alarms by night.*
[9]King Solomon made himself a palanquin
from the wood of Lebanon.
[10]He made its posts of silver,
its back of gold, its seat of purple;
its interior was inlaid with stone.
Daughters[e] of Jerusalem,*
[11]come out and look[f]
at King Solomon,
at the crown with which his mother crowned him
on the day of his wedding,
on the day of the gladness of his heart.

Song of Songs 4

THE YOUNG WOMAN'S BEAUTY EXTOLLED

[1]How beautiful you are, my love,
how very beautiful!
Your eyes are doves
behind your veil.
Your hair is like a flock of goats,
moving down the slopes of Gilead.*
[2]Your teeth are like a flock of shorn ewes
that have come up from the washing,
all of which bear twins,
and not one among them is bereaved.*
[3]Your lips are like a crimson thread,
and your mouth is lovely.
Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate
behind your veil.*
[4]Your neck is like the tower of David,
built in courses;
on it hang a thousand bucklers,
all of them shields of warriors.*
[5]Your two breasts are like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle,
that feed among the lilies.*
[6]Until the day breathes
and the shadows flee,
I will hasten to the mountain of myrrh
and the hill of frankincense.*

7 You are altogether beautiful, my love;
there is no flaw in you.*
8 Come with me from Lebanon, my bride;
come with me from Lebanon.
Depart[g] from the peak of Amana,
from the peak of Senir and Hermon,
from the dens of lions,
from the mountains of leopards.*

9 You have ravished my heart, my sister, my bride;
you have ravished my heart with a glance of your eyes,
with one jewel of your necklace.*
10 How sweet is your love, my sister, my bride!
How much better is your love than wine
and the fragrance of your oils than any spice!*
11 Your lips distill nectar, my bride;
honey and milk are under your tongue;
the scent of your garments is like the scent of Lebanon.*
12 A garden locked is my sister, my bride,
a garden[h] locked, a fountain sealed.*
13 Your channel[i] is an orchard of pomegranates
with all choicest fruits,
henna with nard,*
14 nard and saffron, calamus and cinnamon,
with all trees of frankincense,
myrrh and aloes,
with all chief spices—*
15 a garden fountain, a well of living water,
and flowing streams from Lebanon.*

16 Awake, O north wind,
and come, O south wind!
Blow upon my garden
that its fragrance may be wafted abroad.
Let my beloved come to his garden
that he may eat its choicest fruits.*

Song of Songs 5

[1]I come to my garden, my sister, my bride;
I gather my myrrh with my spice;
I eat my honeycomb with my honey;
I drink my wine with my milk.

Eat, friends, drink,
and be drunk with love.*

ANOTHER DREAM

[2]I was sleeping, but my heart was awake.
The sound of my beloved knocking!
"Open to me, my sister, my love,
my dove, my perfect one,
for my head is wet with dew,
my locks with the drops of the night."*
[3]I had put off my garment;
how could I put it on again?
I had bathed my feet;
how could I soil them?*
[4]My beloved thrust his hand into the opening,
and my inmost being yearned for him.
[5]I arose to open to my beloved,
and my hands dripped with myrrh,
my fingers with liquid myrrh,
upon the handles of the bolt.*
[6]I opened to my beloved,
but my beloved had turned away and was gone.

My soul failed me when he spoke.
I sought him but did not find him;
I called him, but he gave no answer.*
7Making their rounds in the city
the sentinels found me;
they beat me; they wounded me;
they took away my mantle,
those sentinels of the walls.*
8I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
if you find my beloved,
tell him this:
I am faint with love.*

COLLOQUY OF FRIENDS AND THE YOUNG WOMAN

9What is your beloved more than another beloved,
O fairest among women?
What is your beloved more than another beloved,
that you thus charge us?*

10My beloved is all radiant and ruddy,
distinguished among ten thousand.
11His head is the finest gold;
his locks are wavy,
black as a raven.
12His eyes are like doves
beside springs of water,
bathed in milk,
fitly set.j,*
13His cheeks are like beds of spices,
yielding fragrance.

His lips are lilies,
dripping liquid myrrh.*
14His arms are rounded gold,
set with jewels.
His body is an ivory panel,k
decorated with sapphires.
15His legs are alabaster columns,
set upon bases of gold.
His appearance is like Lebanon,
choice as the cedars.
16His speech is most sweet,
and he is altogether desirable.
This is my beloved, and this is my friend,
O daughters of Jerusalem.*

Song of Songs 6

[1]Where has your beloved gone,
O fairest among women?
Which way has your beloved turned
that we may seek him with you?*

[2]My beloved has gone down to his garden,
to the beds of spices,
to pasture his flock in the gardens
and to gather lilies.*
[3]I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine;
he pastures his flock among the lilies.*

THE YOUNG WOMAN'S MATCHLESS BEAUTY

[4]You are beautiful as Tirzah, my love,
comely as Jerusalem,
terrible as an army with banners.*
[5]Turn away your eyes from me,
for they overwhelm me!
Your hair is like a flock of goats,
moving down the slopes of Gilead.*
[6]Your teeth are like a flock of ewes
that have come up from the washing;
all of them bear twins,
and not one among them is bereaved.*
[7]Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate
behind your veil.*
[8]There are sixty queens and eighty concubines

and maidens without number.*
9My dove, my perfect one, is the only one,
the darling of her mother,
flawless to her who bore her.
The maidens saw her and called her happy;
the queens and concubines praised her.*
10"Who is this that looks forth like the dawn,
fair as the moon, bright as the sun,
terrible as an army with banners?"*

11I went down to the nut orchard
to look at the blossoms of the valley,
to see whether the vines had budded,
whether the pomegranates were in bloom.*
12Before I was aware, my desire set me
in a chariot beside my prince.[l]

13[m]Return, return, O Shulammite!
Return, return, that we may look upon you.

Why should you look upon the Shulammite,
as upon a dance before two armies?[n],*

Song of Songs 7

EXPRESSIONS OF PRAISE

[1]How graceful are your feet in sandals,
O queenly maiden!
Your rounded thighs are like jewels,
the work of a master hand.*
[2]Your navel is a rounded bowl;
may it never lack mixed wine.
Your belly is a heap of wheat,
encircled with lilies.
[3]Your two breasts are like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle.*
[4]Your neck is like an ivory tower.
Your eyes are pools in Heshbon,
by the gate of Bath-rabbim.
Your nose is like a tower of Lebanon,
overlooking Damascus.*
[5]Your head crowns you like Carmel,
and your flowing locks are like purple;
a king is held captive in the tresses.*

[6]How fair and pleasant you are,
O loved one, delectable maiden![o,*]
[7]You are stately[p] as a palm tree,
and your breasts are like its clusters.
[8]I said, "I will climb the palm tree
and lay hold of its branches."
O may your breasts be like clusters of the vine,

and the scent of your breath like apples,*
9 and your kisses[q] like the best wine
that goes down[r] smoothly,
gliding over lips and teeth.[s]

10 I am my beloved's,
and his desire is for me.*
11 Come, my beloved,
let us go forth into the fields
and lodge in the villages;
12 let us go out early to the vineyards;
let us see whether the vines have budded,
whether the grape blossoms have opened
and the pomegranates are in bloom.
There I will give you my love.*
13 The mandrakes give forth fragrance,
and over our doors are all choice fruits,
new as well as old,
which I have laid up for you, O my beloved.*

Song of Songs 8

[1]O that you were like a brother to me,
who nursed at my mother's breast!
If I met you outside, I would kiss you,
and no one would despise me.
[2]I would lead you and bring you
into my mother's house
and into the chamber of the one who bore me.[t]
I would give you spiced wine to drink,
from the juice of my pomegranates.[*]
[3]O that his left hand were under my head
and that his right hand embraced me![*]
[4]I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
do not stir up or awaken love
until it is ready![*]

HOMECOMING

[5]Who is that coming up from the wilderness,
leaning upon her beloved?

Under the apple tree I awakened you.
There your mother was in labor with you;
there she who bore you was in labor.[*]

[6]Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death,
passion fierce as the grave.

Its flashes are flashes of fire,
a raging flame.*
7 Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.
If one offered for love
all the wealth of one's house,
it[u] would be utterly scorned.

8 We have a little sister,
and she has no breasts.
What shall we do for our sister,
on the day when she is spoken for?*
9 If she is a wall,
we will build upon her a battlement of silver,
but if she is a door,
we will enclose her with boards of cedar.
10 I was a wall,
and my breasts were like towers;
then I was in his eyes
as one who brings[v] peace.
11 Solomon had a vineyard at Baal-hamon;
he entrusted the vineyard to keepers;
each one was to bring for its fruit a thousand pieces of silver.*
12 My vineyard, my very own, is for myself;
you, O Solomon, may have the thousand
and the keepers of the fruit two hundred!

13 O you who dwell in the gardens,
my companions are listening for your voice;
let me hear it.*

[14]Make haste, my beloved,
and be like a gazelle
or a young stag
upon the mountains of spices![*]

Song of Songs 1

* **1.1** 1 Kings 4.32
* **1.2** Song 4.10
* **1.3** Eccl 7.1; Song 4.10
* **1.4** Ps 45.14, 15
* **1.5** Song 2.7, 14; 4.3; 5.8
* **1.6** Ps 69.8; Song 8.11
* **1.7** Song 2.16; 3.1–4; 8.13
* **1.8** Song 5.9; 6.1
* **1.9** 2 Chr 1.16; Song 2.2, 10, 13
* **1.10** Ezek 16.11–13
* **1.14** Song 4.13
* **1.15** Song 4.1; 5.12

a **1.17** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **1.17** 1 Kings 6.9, 10; 2 Chr 3.5

Song of Songs 2

* **2.1** Song 5.13; 7.2; Isa 35.1, 2
* **2.3** Song 4.13; 8.5

b **2.4** Heb *banner above*

* **2.4** Ps 20.5
* **2.5** Song 5.8; 7.8
* **2.6** Song 8.3
* **2.7** Song 3.5; 8.4
* **2.8** v 17
* **2.9** v 17
* **2.10** v 13
* **2.12** Ps 74.19
* **2.13** v 10; Song 7.12; Mt 24.32
* **2.14** Song 1.5; 5.2; 8.13; Jer 48.28
* **2.15** Ezek 13.4
* **2.16** Song 6.3; 7.10

c **2.17** Or *on the mountains of Bether*; meaning of Heb uncertain

* **2.17** vv 8, 9; Song 4.6

Song of Songs 3

d **3.1** Gk: Heb lacks this line

* **3.1** Song 1.7; 5.6; Isa 26.9

* **3.2** Jer 5.1
* **3.3** Song 5.7
* **3.4** Song 8.2
* **3.5** Song 2.7; 8.4
* **3.6** Song 1.13; 4.6, 14; 8.5
* **3.8** Ps 45.3; 91.5; Jer 50.9
e **3.10** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *with love from the daughters*
* **3.10** Song 1.5
f **3.11** Gk: Heb adds *daughters of Zion*

Song of Songs 4

* **4.1** Song 1.15; 5.12; 6.5, 7
* **4.2** Song 6.6
* **4.3** Song 6.7
* **4.4** Neh 3.19; Song 7.4
* **4.5** Song 2.16; 6.2, 3; 7.3
* **4.6** v 14; Song 2.17
* **4.7** Song 1.15
g **4.8** Or *Look*
* **4.8** Deut 3.9; Song 5.1
* **4.9** vv 10, 12; Prov 1.9; Ezek 16.11
* **4.10** Song 1.2–4
* **4.11** Gen 27.27; Prov 5.3; 24.13; Hos 14.6
h **4.12** Heb mss Gk Vg Syr: MT *heap of stones*
* **4.12** Gen 29.3; Prov 5.15–18
i **4.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.13** v 16; Eccl 2.5; Song 1.14; 6.11; 7.12
* **4.14** v 6; Ex 30.23; Song 1.12; 3.6; Jn 19.39
* **4.15** Jn 4.10; 7.38
* **4.16** Song 5.1; 6.2

Song of Songs 5

* **5.1** Song 4.9, 11, 14; 6.2; Lk 15.7, 10; Jn 3.29
* **5.2** v 11; Song 4.9; 6.9
* **5.3** Gen 19.2; Lk 11.7
* **5.5** v 13
* **5.6** Prov 1.28; Song 3.1; 6.1
* **5.7** Song 3.3
* **5.8** Song 2.5, 7; 3.5
* **5.9** Song 1.8; 6.1

j **5.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.12** Song 1.15; 4.1
* **5.13** Song 2.1; 6.2
k **5.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.16** 2 Sam 1.23; Song 7.9

Song of Songs 6

* **6.1** Song 1.8; 5.6
* **6.2** Song 1.7; 2.1; 4.16; 5.1, 13
* **6.3** Song 2.16; 7.10
* **6.4** v 10; Song 1.15
* **6.5** Song 4.1
* **6.6** Song 4.2
* **6.7** Song 4.3
* **6.8** 1 Kings 11.3; Song 1.3
* **6.9** Gen 30.13; Song 2.14; 5.2
* **6.10** v 4
* **6.11** Song 7.12
l **6.12** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
m **6.13** 7.1 in Heb
n **6.13** Or *dance of Mahanaim*
* **6.13** Gen 32.2; Judg 21.21

Song of Songs 7

* **7.1** Ps 45.13
* **7.3** Song 4.5
* **7.4** Song 4.4
* **7.5** Isa 35.2
o **7.6** Syr: Heb *in delights*
* **7.6** Song 1.15, 16
p **7.7** Heb *This your stature is*
* **7.8** Song 2.5
q **7.9** Heb *palate*
r **7.9** Heb *to my lover*
s **7.9** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *lips of sleepers*
* **7.10** Ps 45.11; Song 2.16; 6.3
* **7.12** Song 6.11
* **7.13** Gen 30.14; Song 2.3; 4.13, 16

Song of Songs 8

t **8.2** Gk Syr: Heb *my mother; she* (or *you*) *will teach me*
* **8.2** Song 3.4
* **8.3** Song 2.6
* **8.4** Song 2.7; 3.5
* **8.5** Song 2.3; 3.6
* **8.6** Prov 6.34; Isa 49.16; Jer 22.24; Hag 2.23
u **8.7** Or *he*
* **8.8** Ezek 16.7
v **8.10** Or *finds*
* **8.11** Eccl 2.4; Song 1.6; 2.3; Isa 7.23; Mt 21.33
* **8.13** Song 1.7; 2.14
* **8.14** Song 2.17; 4.6

Isaiah

Isaiah 1

1 The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and
Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of
Judah.*

THE WICKEDNESS OF JUDAH

2 Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth,
for the LORD has spoken:
I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against me.*
3 The ox knows its owner
and the donkey its master's crib,
but Israel does not know;
my people do not understand.*

4 Woe, sinful nation,
people laden with iniquity,
offspring who do evil,
children who act corruptly,
who have forsaken the LORD,
who have despised the Holy One of Israel,
[[who are utterly estranged!]][a,*]

5 Why do you seek further beatings?
Why do you continue to rebel?
The whole head is injured,
and the whole heart faint.*

6 From the sole of the foot to the head,
there is no soundness in it,
only bruises and sores
and bleeding wounds;
they have not been drained or bound up
or softened with oil.*

7 Your country lies desolate;
your cities are burned with fire;
in your very presence
aliens devour your land;
it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners.*
8 And daughter Zion is left
like a booth in a vineyard,
like a shelter in a cucumber field,
like a besieged city.
9 If the LORD of hosts
had not left us a few survivors,
we would have been like Sodom
and become like Gomorrah.*

10 Hear the word of the LORD,
you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!*
11 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the LORD;
I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams
and the fat of fed beasts;
I do not delight in the blood of bulls
or of lambs or of goats.*

12 When you come to appear before me,[b]
who asked this from your hand?
Trample my courts no more![*]
13 Bringing offerings is futile;
incense is an abomination to me.
New moon and Sabbath and calling of convocation—
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.[*]
14 Your new moons and your appointed festivals
my soul hates;
they have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.[*]
15 When you stretch out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.[*]
16 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove your evil deeds
from before my eyes;
cease to do evil;[*]
17 learn to do good;
seek justice;
rescue the oppressed;
defend the orphan;
plead for the widow.[*]

18 Come now, let us argue it out,
says the LORD:
If your sins are like scarlet,
will they become like snow?

If they are red like crimson,
will they become like wool?*
19If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the land,*
20but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be devoured by the sword,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.*

THE DEGENERATE CITY

21How the faithful city
has become a prostitute!
She that was full of justice,
righteousness lodged in her—
but now murderers!*
22Your silver has become dross;
your wine is mixed with water.*
23Your princes are rebels
and companions of thieves.
Everyone loves a bribe
and runs after gifts.
They do not defend the orphan,
and the widow's cause does not come before them.*

24Therefore says the Sovereign, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel:
Surely I will pour out my wrath on my enemies
and avenge myself on my foes!*
25I will turn my hand against you;
I will smelt away your dross as with lye
and remove all your alloy.*

[26]And I will restore your judges as at the first
and your counselors as at the beginning.
Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness,
the faithful city.*

[27]Zion shall be redeemed by justice,
and those in her who repent, by righteousness.
[28]But rebels and sinners shall be destroyed together,
and those who forsake the LORD shall be consumed.*
[29]For you shall be ashamed of the oaks
in which you delighted,
and you shall blush for the gardens
that you have chosen.*
[30]For you shall be like an oak
whose leaf withers
and like a garden without water.
[31]The strong shall become like tinder
and their work like a spark;
they and their work shall burn together,
with no one to quench them.*

Isaiah 2

THE FUTURE HOUSE OF GOD

1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.*

2 In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.*
3 Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*
4 He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.*
5 O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!*

JUDGMENT PRONOUNCED ON ARROGANCE

6 You have forsaken your people,

the house of Jacob,
for they are full of diviners[c] from the East
and of soothsayers like the Philistines,
and they clasp hands with foreigners.*
7Their land is filled with silver and gold,
and there is no end to their treasures;
their land is filled with horses,
and there is no end to their chariots.*
8Their land is filled with idols;
they bow down to the work of their hands,
to what their own fingers have made.*
9And so people are humbled,
and everyone is brought low—
[[do not forgive them!*
10Enter into the rock,
and hide in the dust
from the terror of the LORD
and from the glory of his majesty.]][d,*]
11The haughty eyes of people shall be brought low,
and the pride of everyone shall be humbled,
and the LORD alone will be exalted on that day.*
12For the LORD of hosts has a day
against all that is proud and lofty,
against all that is lifted up and high;[e,*]
13against all the cedars of Lebanon,
lofty and lifted up;
and against all the oaks of Bashan;*
14against all the high mountains
and against all the lofty hills;*

15 against every high tower
and against every fortified wall;
16 against all the ships of Tarshish
and against all the highly prized vessels.*
17 The haughtiness of people shall be humbled,
and the pride of everyone shall be brought low,
and the LORD alone will be exalted on that day.*
18 The idols shall utterly pass away.*
19 Enter the caves of the rocks
and the holes of the ground,
from the terror of the LORD
and from the glory of his majesty,
when he rises to terrify the earth.*
20 On that day people will throw away
to the moles and to the bats
their idols of silver and their idols of gold,
which they made for themselves to worship,*
21 to enter the caverns of the rocks
and the clefts in the crags,
from the terror of the LORD
and from the glory of his majesty,
when he rises to terrify the earth.*
22 [[Turn away from mortals,
who have only breath in their nostrils,
for of what account are they?]][f,*]

Isaiah 3

[1]For now the Sovereign, the LORD of hosts,
    is taking away from Jerusalem and from Judah
support and staff—
    all support of bread
    and all support of water—*
[2]warrior and soldier,
    judge and prophet,
    diviner and elder,*
[3]captain of fifty
    and dignitary,
counselor and skillful magician
    and expert enchanter.
[4]And I will make youths their princes,
    and children shall rule over them.*
[5]The people will be oppressed,
    everyone by another
    and everyone by a neighbor;
the youth will be insolent to the elder
    and the base to the honorable.*

[6]Someone will seize a relative,
    a member of the clan, saying,
"You have a cloak;
    you shall be our leader,
and this heap of ruins
    shall be under your rule."*
[7]But the other will cry out on that day, saying,

“I will not be a healer;
in my house there is neither bread nor cloak;
you shall not make me
leader of the people.”*
8For Jerusalem has stumbled,
and Judah has fallen,
because their speech and their deeds are against the LORD,
defying his glorious presence.*

9The look on their faces bears witness against them;
they proclaim their sin like Sodom;
they do not hide it.
Woe to them,
for they have brought evil on themselves.*
10Tell the innocent how fortunate they are,
for they shall eat the fruit of their labors.*
11Woe to the guilty! How unfortunate they are,
for what their hands have done shall be done to them.*
12My people—their oppressors extort them,
and creditors[g] rule over them.
O my people, your leaders mislead you
and confuse the course of your paths.*

13The LORD rises to argue his case;
he stands to judge the peoples.*
14The LORD enters into judgment
with the elders and princes of his people:
It is you who have devoured the vineyard;
the spoil of the poor is in your houses.*
15What do you mean by crushing my people,

by grinding the face of the poor? says the Lord GOD of hosts.*

16The LORD said:
Because the daughters of Zion are haughty
and walk with outstretched necks,
glancing wantonly with their eyes,
mincing along as they go,
tinkling with their feet;*
17the Lord will afflict with scabs
the heads of the daughters of Zion,
and the LORD will lay bare their scalps and heads.

18 On that day the Lord will take away the finery of the anklets, the headbands, and the crescents;* 19the pendants, the bracelets, and the scarfs; 20the headdresses, the armlets, the sashes, the perfume boxes, and the amulets;* 21the signet rings and nose rings;* 22the festal robes, the mantles, the cloaks, and the handbags; 23the garments of gauze, the linen garments, the turbans, and the veils.

24Instead of perfume there will be a stench;
and instead of a sash, a rope;
and instead of well-styled hair, baldness;
and instead of a rich robe, a binding of sackcloth;
instead of beauty, shame.h,*
25Your men shall fall by the sword
and your warriors in battle.*
26And her gates shall lament and mourn;
desolate, she shall sit upon the ground.*

Isaiah 4

1 Seven women shall take hold of one man on that day, saying,
"We will eat our own bread and wear our own clothes;
just let us be called by your name;
take away our disgrace."*

THE FUTURE GLORY OF THE SURVIVORS IN ZION

2 On that day the branch of the LORD shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and glory of the survivors of Israel.* [3]Whoever is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem,* [4]once the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and cleansed the bloodstains of Jerusalem from its midst by a spirit of judgment and by a spirit of burning.* [5]Then the LORD will create over the whole site of Mount Zion and over its places of assembly a cloud by day and smoke and the shining of a flaming fire by night. Indeed, over all the glory there will be a canopy.* [6]It will serve as a pavilion, a shade by day from the heat and a refuge and a shelter from the storm and rain.*

Isaiah 5

THE SONG OF THE UNFRUITFUL VINEYARD

[1]I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.*
[2]He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.*

[3]And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.*
[4]What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?*

[5]And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.*

6I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.*

7For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!*

SOCIAL INJUSTICE DENOUNCED

8Woe to those who join house to house,
who add field to field,
until there is room for no one,
and you are left to live alone
in the midst of the land!*
9The LORD of hosts has sworn in my hearing:
Surely many houses shall be desolate,
large and beautiful houses, without inhabitant.*
10For ten acres of vineyard shall yield but one bath,
and a homer of seed shall yield a mere ephah.[i],*

11Woe to those who rise early in the morning
in pursuit of strong drink,
who linger in the evening
to be inflamed by wine,*

12 whose feasts consist of lyre and harp,
tambourine and flute and wine,
but who do not regard the deeds of the LORD
or see the work of his hands!*
13 Therefore my people go into exile for lack of knowledge;
their nobles are dying of hunger,
and their multitude is parched with thirst.*

14 Therefore Sheol has enlarged its appetite
and opened its mouth beyond measure;
the nobility of Jerusalem[j] and her multitude go down,
her throng and all who exult in her.*
15 People are bowed down, everyone is brought low,
and the eyes of the haughty are humbled.*
16 But the LORD of hosts is exalted by justice,
and the Holy God shows himself holy by righteousness.*
17 Then the lambs shall graze as in their pasture;
fatted calves and kids[k] shall feed among the ruins.

18 Woe to those who drag iniquity along with cords of falsehood,
who drag sin along as with cart ropes,*
19 who say, "Let him make haste;
let him speed his work
that we may see it;
let the plan of the Holy One of Israel hasten to fulfillment,
that we may know it!"*
20 Woe to those who call evil good
and good evil,
who put darkness for light
and light for darkness,

who put bitter for sweet
and sweet for bitter![*]
21 Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes
and shrewd in their own sight![*]
22 Woe to those who are heroes in drinking wine
and valiant at mixing drink,[*]
23 who acquit the guilty for a bribe
and deprive the innocent of their rights![*]

FOREIGN INVASION PREDICTED

24 Therefore, as the tongue of fire devours the stubble
and as dry grass sinks down in the flame,
so their root will become rotten,
and their blossom go up like dust,
for they have rejected the instruction of the LORD of hosts
and have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.[*]

25 Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against his people,
and he stretched out his hand against them and struck them;
the mountains quaked,
and their corpses were like refuse
in the streets.
For all this his anger has not turned away,
and his hand is stretched out still.[*]

26 He will raise a signal for a nation far away
and whistle for a people at the ends of the earth.
Here they come, swiftly, speedily![*]
27 None of them is weary; none stumbles;
none slumbers or sleeps;

not a loincloth is loose;
    not a sandal strap broken;*
28 their arrows are sharp;
    all their bows strung;
their horses' hoofs seem like flint,
    and their wheels like the whirlwind.*
29 Their roaring is like a lion;
    like young lions they roar;
they growl and seize their prey;
    they carry it off, and no one can rescue.*
30 They will roar over it on that day,
    like the roaring of the sea.
And if one look to the land—
    only darkness and distress;
and the light grows dark with its clouds.*

Isaiah 6

A VISION OF GOD IN THE TEMPLE

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high
and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple.* [2]Seraphs were in
attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their
faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.* [3]And
one called to another and said,

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."*

[4]The pivots[l] on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and
the house filled with smoke. [5]And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a
man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes
have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"*

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been
taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. [7]The seraph[m] touched my mouth
with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has
departed and your sin is blotted out."* [8]Then I heard the voice of the Lord
saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am
I; send me!"* [9]And he said, "Go and say to this people:

'Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.'*

[10]Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes
and listen with their ears
and comprehend with their minds
and turn and be healed."*

[11]Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said,

“Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;*
12until the LORD sends everyone far away,
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.*
13Even if a tenth part remain in it,
it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak
whose stump remains standing
when it is felled.”n
(The holy seed is its stump.)*

Isaiah 7

ISAIAH REASSURES KING AHAZ

1 In the days of Ahaz son of Jotham son of Uzziah, king of Judah, King
Rezin of Aram and King Pekah son of Remaliah of Israel went up to attack
Jerusalem but could not conquer it.* [2]When the house of David heard that
Aram had allied itself with Ephraim, the heart of Ahaz[o] and the heart of his
people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind.*

3 Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go out to meet Ahaz, you and your son
Shear-jashub,[p] at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to
the fuller's field,* [4]and say to him: Take heed, be quiet, do not fear, and do
not let your heart be faint because of these two smoldering stumps of
firebrands, because of the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram and the son of
Remaliah.* [5]Because Aram—with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah—has
plotted evil against you, saying, [6]'Let us go up against Judah and terrify it[q]
and conquer it for ourselves and make the son of Tabeel king in it';
[7]therefore thus says the Lord GOD:

It shall not stand,
and it shall not come to pass.*
[8]For the head of Aram is Damascus,
and the head of Damascus is Rezin.
(Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be shattered, no longer a people.)*
[9]The head of Ephraim is Samaria,
and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah.
If you do not stand firm in faith,
you shall not stand at all."*

ISAIAH GIVES AHAZ THE SIGN OF IMMANUEL

10 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, [11]"Ask a sign of the LORD your
God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven."* [12]But Ahaz said, "I will

not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." 13Then Isaiah[r] said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? 14Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel.[s,*] 15He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.[*] 16For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.[*] 17The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on your ancestral house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."[*]

18 On that day the LORD will whistle for the fly that is at the sources of the streams of Egypt and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria.[*] 19And they will all come and settle in the steep ravines and in the clefts of the rocks and on all the thornbushes and on all the watering holes.[t,*]

20 On that day the Lord will shave with a razor hired beyond the River—with the king of Assyria—the head and the hair of the feet, and it will take off the beard as well.[*]

21 On that day one will keep alive a young cow and two sheep 22and will eat curds because of the abundance of milk that they give, for everyone left in the land shall eat curds and honey.

23 On that day every place where there used to be a thousand vines, worth a thousand shekels of silver, will become briers and thorns. 24With bow and arrows one will go there, for all the land will be briers and thorns, 25and as for all the hills that used to be hoed with a hoe, you will not go there for fear of briers and thorns, but they will become a place where cattle are let loose and where sheep tread.

Isaiah 8

ISAIAH'S SON A SIGN OF THE ASSYRIAN INVASION

1 Then the LORD said to me, "Take a large tablet and write on it in common
characters, 'Belonging to Maher-shalal-hash-baz,'[u,*] [2]and have it attested[v]
for me by reliable witnesses, the priest Uriah and Zechariah son of
Jeberechiah."* [3]And I went to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a
son. Then the LORD said to me, "Name him Maher-shalal-hash-baz, [4]for
before the child knows how to call 'My father' or 'My mother,' the wealth
of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be carried away by the king of
Assyria."*

5 The LORD spoke to me again: [6]"Because this people has refused the
waters of Shiloah that flow gently and melt in fear before[w] Rezin and the
son of Remaliah,* [7]therefore the Lord is bringing up against it the mighty
flood waters of the River, the king of Assyria and all his glory; it will rise
above all its channels and overflow all its banks; [8]it will sweep on into
Judah as a flood and, pouring over, will reach up to the neck, and its
outspread wings will fill the breadth of your land, O Immanuel.*

[9]Take notice,[x] you peoples, and be dismayed;
listen, all you far countries;
gird yourselves and be dismayed![y]
[10]Take counsel together, but it shall be brought to naught;
speak a word, but it will not stand,
for God is with us."*

11 The LORD spoke thus to me while his hand was strong upon me and
warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying:* [12]"Do not call
conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what it fears
or be in dread.* [13]But the LORD of hosts, him you shall regard as holy; let
him be your fear, and let him be your dread.* [14]He will become a sanctuary,
a stone one strikes against; for both houses of Israel he will become a rock
one stumbles over, a trap and a snare for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.*

15And many among them shall stumble; they shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken.”*

DISCIPLES OF ISAIAH

16 Bind up the testimony; seal the teaching among my disciples.* 17I will wait for the LORD, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him.* 18See, I and the children whom the LORD has given me are signs and portents in Israel from the LORD of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.* 19Now if people say to you, “Consult the ghosts and the familiar spirits that chirp and mutter; should not a people consult their gods, the dead on behalf of the living,* 20for teaching and for instruction?” surely those who speak like this will have no dawn!* 21They will pass through the land,z greatly distressed and hungry; when they are hungry, they will be enraged and will curse[a] their king and their gods. They will turn their faces upward,* 22or they will look to the earth, but they will see only distress and darkness, the gloom of anguish, and they will be thrust into thick darkness.[b,*]

Isaiah 9

THE RIGHTEOUS REIGN OF THE COMING KING

1 [c]But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former
time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land
beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.*

[2][d]The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.*
[3]You have multiplied exultation;[e]
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.*
[4]For the yoke of their burden
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.*
[5]For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.*
[6]For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

[7]Great will be his authority,[f]
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

JUDGMENT ON ARROGANCE AND OPPRESSION

[8]The Lord sent a word against Jacob,
and it fell on Israel,
[9]and all the people knew it—
Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria—
but in pride and arrogance of heart they said:*
[10]"The bricks have fallen,
but we will build with dressed stones;
the sycamores have been cut down,
but we will put cedars in their place."
[11]So the LORD raised adversaries[g] against them
and stirred up their enemies,*
[12]the Arameans on the east and the Philistines on the west,
and they devoured Israel with open mouth.
For all this his anger has not turned away;
his hand is stretched out still.*

[13]The people did not turn to him who struck them
or seek the LORD of hosts.*
[14]So the LORD cut off from Israel head and tail,
palm branch and reed in one day—*
[15]elders and dignitaries are the head,

and prophets who teach lies are the tail,*
16 for those who led this people led them astray,
and those who were led by them were left in confusion.*
17 That is why the Lord did not have pity on[h] their young people
or compassion on their orphans and widows,
for everyone was godless and an evildoer,
and every mouth spoke folly.
For all this his anger has not turned away;
his hand is stretched out still.*

18 For wickedness burned like a fire,
consuming briers and thorns;
it kindled the thickets of the forest,
and they swirled upward in a column of smoke.*
19 Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts
the land was burned,
and the people became like fuel for the fire;
no one spared another.*
20 They gorged on the right but still were hungry,
and they devoured on the left but were not satisfied;
they devoured the flesh of their own kindred;[i],*
21 Manasseh devoured Ephraim, and Ephraim Manasseh,
and together they were against Judah.
For all this his anger has not turned away;
his hand is stretched out still.*

Isaiah 10

[1]Woe to those who make iniquitous decrees,
who write oppressive statutes,*
[2]to turn aside the needy from justice
and to rob the poor of my people of their right,
to make widows their spoil
and to plunder orphans!*
[3]What will you do on the day of punishment,
in the calamity that will come from far away?
To whom will you flee for help,
and where will you leave your wealth,*
[4]so as not to crouch among the prisoners
or fall among the slain?
For all this his anger has not turned away;
his hand is stretched out still.*

ARROGANT ASSYRIA ALSO JUDGED

[5]Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger—
the club in their hands is my fury!*
[6]Against a godless nation I send him,
and against the people of my wrath I command him,
to take spoil and seize plunder,
and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.*
[7]But this is not what he intends,
nor does he have this in mind,
but it is in his heart to destroy
and to cut off nations not a few.*

[8]For he says:

"Are not my commanders all kings?*

[9]Is not Calno like Carchemish?

Is not Hamath like Arpad?

Is not Samaria like Damascus?*

[10]As my hand has reached to the kingdoms of the idols

whose images were greater than those of Jerusalem and Samaria,*

[11]shall I not do to Jerusalem and her idols

what I have done to Samaria and her images?"

12 When the Lord has finished all his work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, he[j] will punish the arrogant boasting of the king of Assyria and his haughty pride.* [13]For he says:

"By the strength of my hand I have done it,

and by my wisdom, for I have understanding;

I have removed the boundaries of peoples

and have plundered their treasures;

like a bull I have brought down those who sat on thrones.*

[14]My hand has found, like a nest,

the wealth of the peoples,

and as one gathers eggs that have been forsaken,

so I have gathered all the earth,

and there was none that moved a wing

or opened its mouth or chirped."*

[15]Shall the ax vaunt itself over the one who wields it

or the saw magnify itself against the one who handles it?

As if a rod should raise the one who lifts it up,

or as if a staff should lift the one who is not wood!*

[16]Therefore the Sovereign, the LORD of hosts,

will send wasting sickness among his stout warriors,
and under his glory a burning will be kindled
like the burning of fire.*
17 The light of Israel will become a fire
and his Holy One a flame,
and it will burn and devour
his thorns and briers in one day.*
18 The glory of his forest and his fruitful land
the LORD will destroy, both soul and body,
and it will be as when an invalid wastes away.*
19 The remnant of the trees of his forest will be so few
that a child can write them down.*

THE REPENTANT REMNANT OF ISLAEL

20 On that day the remnant of Israel and the survivors of the house of Jacob will no longer lean on the one who struck them but will lean on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.* 21 A remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God.* 22 For though your people, O Israel, were like the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will return. Destruction is decreed, an overwhelming verdict.* 23 For the Lord GOD of hosts will make a full end, as decreed, in all the earth.[k],*

24 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD of hosts: "O my people who live in Zion, do not be afraid of the Assyrians when they beat you with a rod and lift up their staff against you as the Egyptians did. 25 For in a very little while my indignation will come to an end, and my anger will be directed to their destruction."* 26 The LORD of hosts will wield a whip against them, as when he struck Midian at the rock of Oreb; his staff will be over the sea, and he will lift it as he did in Egypt.* 27 On that day his burden will be removed from your shoulder, and his yoke will be destroyed from your neck.

He has gone up from Samaria;[l],*

[28]he has come to Aiath;
he has passed through Migron;
at Michmash he stores his baggage;*
[29]they have crossed over the pass;
at Geba they lodge for the night;
Ramah trembles;
Gibeah of Saul has fled.*
[30]Cry aloud, O daughter Gallim!
Listen, O Laishah!
Answer her, O Anathoth!*
[31]Madmenah is in flight;
the inhabitants of Gebim flee for safety.*
[32]This very day he will halt at Nob;
he will shake his fist
at the mount of daughter Zion,
the hill of Jerusalem.*

[33]Look, the Sovereign, the LORD of hosts,
will lop the boughs with terrifying power;
the tallest trees will be cut down,
and the lofty will be brought low.*
[34]He will hack down the thickets of the forest with an ax,
and Lebanon with its majestic trees[m] will fall.

Isaiah 11

THE PEACEFUL KINGDOM

[1]A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow[n] out of his roots.*
[2]The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.*
[3]His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,*
[4]but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.*
[5]Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.*

[6]The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed[o] together,
and a little child shall lead them.
[7]The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
[8]The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

[9]They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.*

RETURN OF THE REMNANT OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

10 On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.*

11 On that day the Lord will again raise[p] his hand to recover the remnant that is left of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea.*

[12]He will raise a signal for the nations
and will assemble the outcasts of Israel
and gather the dispersed of Judah
from the four corners of the earth.*
[13]The jealousy of Ephraim shall depart;
the hostility of Judah shall be cut off;
Ephraim shall not be jealous of Judah,
and Judah shall not be hostile toward Ephraim.*
[14]But they shall swoop down on the backs of the Philistines in the west;
together they shall plunder the people of the east.
They shall put forth their hand against Edom and Moab,
and the Ammonites shall obey them.*
[15]And the LORD will dry up[q]
the tongue of the sea of Egypt
and will wave his hand over the River
with his scorching wind
and will split it into seven channels

and make a way to cross on foot;*
16 so there shall be a highway from Assyria
for the remnant that is left of his people,
as there was for Israel
when they came up from the land of Egypt.*

Isaiah 12

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

[1]You will say on that day:
"I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
and you comforted me.*

[2]Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust and will not be afraid,
for the LORD[r] is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation."*

3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.* [4]And you will say on that day:
"Give thanks to the LORD;
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.

[5]Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.*
[6]Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal[s] Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."*

Isaiah 13

PROCLAMATION AGAINST BABYLON

1 The oracle concerning Babylon that Isaiah son of Amoz saw.*

2 On a bare hill raise a signal;
cry aloud to them;
wave the hand for them to enter
the gates of the nobles.*
3 I myself have commanded my consecrated ones,
have summoned my warriors, my proudly exulting ones,
to execute my anger.t,*

4 Listen, a tumult on the mountains
as of a great multitude!
Listen, an uproar of kingdoms,
of nations gathering together!
The LORD of hosts is mustering
an army for battle.*
5 They come from a distant land,
from the end of the heavens,
the LORD and the weapons of his indignation,
to destroy the whole earth.*

6 Wail, for the day of the LORD is near;
it will come like destruction from the Almighty!u,*
7 Therefore all hands will be feeble,
and every human heart will melt,*
8 and they will be terrified.
Pangs and agony will seize them;

they will be in anguish like a woman in labor.
They will look aghast at one another;
their faces will be aflame.*
9 See, the day of the LORD is coming,
cruel, with wrath and fierce anger,
to make the earth a desolation
and to destroy its sinners from it.*
10 For the stars of the heavens and their constellations
will not give their light;
the sun will be dark at its rising,
and the moon will not shed its light.*
11 I will punish the world for its evil
and the wicked for their iniquity;
I will put an end to the pride of the arrogant
and lay low the insolence of tyrants.*
12 I will make mortals more rare than fine gold
and humans than the gold of Ophir.
13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble,
and the earth will be shaken out of its place
at the wrath of the LORD of hosts
in the day of his fierce anger.*
14 Like a gazelle on the run
or like sheep with no one to gather them,
all will turn back to their own people,
and all will flee to their own lands.*
15 Whoever is found will be thrust through,
and whoever is caught will fall by the sword.
16 Their infants will be dashed to pieces
before their eyes;
their houses will be plundered

and their wives raped.*
17 See, I am stirring up the Medes against them,
who have no regard for silver
and do not delight in gold.*
18 Their bows will slaughter the young men;
they will have no mercy on the fruit of the womb;
their eyes will not pity children.*
19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms,
the splendor and pride of the Chaldeans,
will be like Sodom and Gomorrah
when God overthrew them.*
20 It will never be inhabited
or lived in for all generations;
Arabs will not pitch their tents there;
shepherds will not make their flocks lie down there.*
21 But wild animals will lie down there,
and its houses will be full of howling creatures;
there ostriches will live,
and there goat-demons will dance.*
22 Hyenas will cry in its towers
and jackals in the pleasant palaces;
its time is close at hand;
and its days will not be prolonged.*

Isaiah 14

RESTORATION OF JUDAH

1 But the LORD will have compassion on Jacob and will again choose Israel
and will settle them in their own land, and aliens will join them and attach
themselves to the house of Jacob.* 2And the nations will take them and
bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess the nations[v] as
male and female slaves in the LORD's land; they will take captive those who
were their captors and rule over those who oppressed them.*

DOWNFALL OF THE KING OF BABYLON

3 When the LORD has given you rest from your pain and turmoil and the
hard service with which you were made to serve,* 4you will take up this
taunt against the king of Babylon:

How the oppressor has ceased!
How his insolence[w] has ceased!*
5The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked,
the scepter of rulers,
6that struck down the peoples in wrath
with unceasing blows,
that ruled the nations in anger
with unrelenting persecution.*
7The whole earth is at rest and quiet;
they break forth into singing.
8The cypresses exult over you,
the cedars of Lebanon, saying,
"Since you were laid low,
no one comes to cut us down."*
9Sheol beneath is stirred up

to meet you when you come;
it rouses the shades to greet you,
all who were leaders of the earth;
it raises from their thrones
all who were kings of the nations.*
10All of them will speak
and say to you:
"You, too, have become as weak as we!
You have become like us!"
11Your pomp is brought down to Sheol,
and the sound of your harps;
maggots are the bed beneath you,
and worms are your covering.*

12How you are fallen from heaven,
O Morning Star, son of Dawn!
How you are cut down to the ground,
you who laid the nations low!*
13You said to yourself,
"I will ascend to heaven;
I will raise my throne
above the stars of God;
I will sit on the mount of assembly
on the heights of Zaphon;x,*
14I will ascend to the tops of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High."*
15But you are brought down to Sheol,
to the depths of the Pit.*
16Those who see you will stare at you
and ponder over you:

"Is this the man who made the earth tremble,
who shook kingdoms,*
17 who made the world like a desert
and overthrew its cities,
who would not let his prisoners go home?"*
18 All the kings of the nations lie in glory,
each in his own tomb,
19 but you are cast out, away from your grave,
like loathsome carrion,[y]
clothed with the dead, those pierced by the sword,
who go down to the stones of the Pit
like a corpse trampled underfoot.*
20 You will not be joined with them in burial
because you have destroyed your land;
you have killed your people.

May the descendants of evildoers
nevermore be named!*
21 Prepare a place of slaughter for his sons
because of the guilt of their father.[z]
Let them never rise to possess the earth
or cover the face of the world with cities.*

22 I will rise up against them, says the LORD of hosts, and will cut off from Babylon name and remnant, offspring and posterity, says the LORD.* 23 And I will make it a possession of the screech owl[a] and pools of water, and I will sweep it with the broom of destruction, says the LORD of hosts.*

AN ORACLE CONCERNING ASSYRIA

24 The LORD of hosts has sworn:
As I have designed,

so shall it be,
and as I have planned,
so shall it come to pass:*
25 I will break the Assyrian in my land
and on my mountains trample him under foot;
his yoke shall be removed from them
and his burden from their shoulders.*
26 This is the plan that is planned
concerning the whole earth,
and this is the hand that is stretched out
over all the nations.*
27 For the LORD of hosts has planned,
and who will annul it?
His hand is stretched out,
and who will turn it back?*

AN ORACLE CONCERNING PHILISTIA

28 In the year that King Ahaz died this oracle came:*

29 Do not rejoice, all you Philistines,
that the rod that struck you is broken,
for from the root of the snake will come forth an adder,
and its fruit will be a flying fiery serpent.*
30 In my pastures the poor[b] will graze
and the needy lie down in safety,
but I will make your root die of famine,
and your remnant I[c] will kill.*
31 Wail, O gate; cry, O city;
melt in fear, O Philistia, all of you!
For smoke comes out of the north,

and there is no straggler in its ranks.*

32 What will one answer the messengers of the nation?
"The LORD has founded Zion,
and the needy among his people
will find refuge in her."*

Isaiah 15

AN ORACLE CONCERNING MOAB

1 An oracle concerning Moab.

Because Ar is laid waste in a night,
  Moab is undone;
because Kir is laid waste in a night,
  Moab is undone.*
2Daughter Dibon[d] has gone up
  to the high places to weep;
over Nebo and over Medeba
  Moab wails.
Every head is shaved;
  every beard is shorn;*
3in the streets they bind on sackcloth;
  on the housetops and in the squares
  everyone wails and melts in tears.*
4Heshbon and Elealeh cry out;
  their voices are heard as far as Jahaz;
therefore the loins of Moab quiver;[e]
  his soul trembles.
5My heart cries out for Moab;
  his fugitives flee to Zoar,
  to Eglath-shelishiyah.
For at the ascent of Luhith
  they go up weeping;
on the road to Horonaim
  they raise a cry of destruction;*

[6]the waters of Nimrim
    are a desolation;
the grass is withered; the new growth fails;
    vegetation is no more.*
[7]Therefore the abundance they have gained
    and what they have laid up
they carry away
    over the Wadi of the Willows.*
[8]For a cry has gone
    around the land of Moab;
the wailing reaches to Eglaim;
    the wailing reaches to Beer-elim.
[9]For the waters of Dibon[f] are full of blood,
    yet I will bring upon Dibon[g] even more—
a lion for those of Moab who escape,
    for the remnant of the land.*

Isaiah 16

[1]Send lambs
to the ruler of the land,
from Sela, by way of the desert,
to the mount of daughter Zion.*
[2]Like fluttering birds,
like scattered nestlings,
so are the daughters of Moab
at the fords of the Arnon.*
[3]"Give counsel;
grant justice;
make your shade like night
at the height of noon;
hide the outcasts;
do not betray the fugitive;*
[4]let the outcasts of Moab
settle among you;
be a refuge to them
from the destroyer."

When the oppressor is no more,
and destruction has ceased,
and marauders have vanished from the land,*
[5]then a throne shall be established in steadfast love
in the tent of David,
and on it shall sit in faithfulness
a ruler who seeks justice
and is swift to do what is right.*

6 We have heard of the pride of Moab
—how proud he is!—
of his arrogance, his pride, and his insolence;
his boasts are false.*
7 Therefore let Moab wail;
let everyone wail for Moab.
Mourn, utterly stricken,
for the raisin cakes of Kir-hareseth.*

8 For the fields of Heshbon languish,
and the vines of Sibmah,
whose clusters once made drunk
the lords of the nations,
reached to Jazer
and strayed to the desert;
their shoots once spread abroad
and crossed over the sea.*
9 Therefore I weep as Jazer weeps
for the vines of Sibmah;
I drench you with my tears,
O Heshbon and Elealeh,
for the shout over your fruit harvest
and your grain harvest has ceased.*
10 Joy and gladness are taken away
from the fruitful field,
and in the vineyards no exultation is heard;
no shouts are raised;
no treader treads out wine in the presses;
the vintage shout is hushed.h,*
11 Therefore my heart moans like a harp for Moab

and my very soul for Kir-heres.*

12 When Moab presents himself, when he wearies himself upon the high
place, when he comes to his sanctuary to pray, he will not prevail.*

13 This was the word that the LORD spoke concerning Moab in the past.
[14]But now the LORD says, "In three years, like the years of a hired worker,
the glory of Moab will be brought into contempt, in spite of all its great
multitude, and those who survive will be very few and feeble."*

Isaiah 17

AN ORACLE CONCERNING DAMASCUS

1 An oracle concerning Damascus.

See, Damascus will cease to be a city
and will become a heap of ruins.*
2 Her towns will be deserted forever;[i]
they will be places for flocks,
which will lie down, and no one will make them afraid.*
3 The fortress will disappear from Ephraim
and the kingdom from Damascus,
and the remnant of Aram will be
like the glory of the people of Israel,
says the LORD of hosts.*

4 On that day
the glory of Jacob will be brought low,
and the fat of his flesh will grow lean.*
5 And it shall be as when reapers gather standing grain
and their arms harvest the ears,
and as when one gleans the ears of grain
in the Valley of Rephaim.*
6 Gleanings will be left in it,
as when an olive tree is beaten—
two or three berries
in the top of the highest bough,
four or five
on the branches of a fruit tree,

says the LORD God of Israel.*

7 On that day people will look to their Maker, with their eyes on the Holy
One of Israel;* [8]they will not have regard for the altars, the work of their
hands, and they will not look to what their own fingers have made, either
the sacred poles[j] or the altars of incense.*

9 On that day their fortified cities will be like the deserted places of the
Hivites and the Amorites,[k] which they deserted because of the people of
Israel, and there will be desolation.*

[10]For you have forgotten God your Savior
and have not remembered the Rock of your refuge;
therefore, though you plant pleasant gardens
and set out branches of a foreign god,*
[11]though you make them grow on the day that you plant them
and make them blossom in the morning that you sow,
yet the harvest will flee away
in a day of sickness and incurable pain.*

[12]Woe, the thunder of many peoples,
they thunder like the thundering of the sea!
The roar of nations,
they roar like the roaring of mighty waters!*
[13][[When the nations roar like the roaring of many waters,]][l]
he will rebuke them, and they will flee far away,
chased like chaff on the mountains before the wind
and like whirling dust before the storm.*
[14]At evening time, sudden terror!
Before morning, they are no more.
This is the fate of those who despoil us
and the lot of those who plunder us.*

Isaiah 18

AN ORACLE CONCERNING CUSH

[1]Woe, land of buzzing[m] wings
beyond the rivers of Cush,*
[2]sending ambassadors by the Nile
in vessels of papyrus on the waters!
Go, you swift messengers,
to a nation tall and smooth,
to a people feared near and far,
a nation mighty[n] and conquering,
whose land the rivers divide.*

[3]All you inhabitants of the world,
you who live on the earth,
when a signal is raised on the mountains, look!
When a trumpet is blown, listen!*
[4]For thus the LORD said to me:
"I will quietly look from my dwelling
like clear heat in sunshine,
like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest."*
[5]For before the harvest, when the blossom is over
and the flower becomes a ripening grape,
he will cut off the shoots with pruning hooks,
and the spreading branches he will hew away.*
[6]They shall all be left
to the birds of prey of the mountains
and to the animals of the earth.
And the birds of prey will summer on them,

and all the animals of the earth will winter on them.*

7 At that time gifts will be brought to the LORD of hosts from[o] a people
tall and smooth, from a people feared near and far, a nation mighty and
conquering, whose land the rivers divide, to Mount Zion, the place of the
name of the LORD of hosts.*

Isaiah 19

AN ORACLE CONCERNING EGYPT

1 An oracle concerning Egypt.

See, the LORD is riding on a swift cloud
and comes to Egypt;
the idols of Egypt will tremble at his presence,
and the heart of the Egyptians will melt within them.*
2 I will stir up Egyptians against Egyptians,
and they will fight, one against the other,
neighbor against neighbor,
city against city, kingdom against kingdom;*
3 the spirit of the Egyptians within them will be emptied out,
and I will confound their plans;
they will consult the idols and the spirits of the dead
and the ghosts and the familiar spirits;*
4 I will deliver the Egyptians
into the hand of a hard master;
a fierce king will rule over them,
says the Sovereign, the LORD of hosts.*

5 The waters of the Nile will be dried up,
and the river will be parched and dry;*
6 its canals will become foul,
and the branches of Egypt's Nile will diminish and dry up.
Reeds and rushes will rot away,*
7 the reeds beside the Nile;[p]
all that is sown by the Nile will dry up,

be driven away, and be no more.
[8]Those who fish will mourn;
all who cast hooks in the Nile will lament,
and those who spread nets on the water will languish.
[9]The workers in flax will be in despair,
and the carders and those at the loom will grow pale.
[10]Its weavers will be dismayed,
and all who work for wages will be grieved.*

[11]Clearly the princes of Zoan are foolish;
the wise counselors of Pharaoh give stupid counsel.
How can you say to Pharaoh,
"I am one of the sages,
a descendant of ancient kings"?*
[12]Where now are your sages?
Let them tell you and make known
what the LORD of hosts has planned against Egypt.*
[13]The princes of Zoan have become fools,
and the princes of Memphis are deluded;
those who are the cornerstones of its tribes
have led Egypt astray.*
[14]The LORD has poured into them[q]
a spirit of confusion;
and they have made Egypt stagger in all its doings
as a drunkard staggers around in his vomit.*
[15]Neither head nor tail, palm branch or reed,
will be able to do anything for Egypt.

16 On that day the Egyptians will be like women and tremble with fear before the hand that the LORD of hosts raises against them.* [17]And the land of Judah will become a terror[r] to the Egyptians; everyone to whom it is

mentioned will fear because of the plan that the LORD of hosts is planning against them.*

EGYPT, ASSYRIA, AND ISRAEL BLESSED

18 On that day there will be five cities in the land of Egypt that speak the language of Canaan and swear allegiance to the LORD of hosts. One of these will be called the City of the Sun.s,*

19 On that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt and a pillar to the LORD at its border.* 20It will be a sign and a witness to the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt; when they cry to the LORD because of oppressors, he will send them a savior and will defend and deliver them.* 21The LORD will make himself known to the Egyptians, and the Egyptians will know the LORD on that day and will serve with sacrifice and offerings, and they will make vows to the LORD and perform them.* 22The LORD will strike Egypt, striking but healing, so that they will return to the LORD, and he will listen to their supplications and heal them.*

23 On that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come into Egypt and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians will serve with the Assyrians.*

24 On that day Israel will be the third party with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth, 25whom the LORD of hosts has blessed, saying, "Blessed be Egypt my people and Assyria the work of my hands and Israel my heritage."*

Isaiah 20

ISAIAH DRAMATIZES THE CONQUEST OF EGYPT AND CUSH

1 In the year that the commander-in-chief, who was sent by King Sargon of
Assyria, came to Ashdod and fought against it and took it* —[2]at that time
the LORD had spoken to Isaiah son of Amoz, saying, "Go and loose the
sackcloth from your loins and take your sandals off your feet," and he had
done so, walking naked and barefoot.* [3]Then the LORD said, "Just as my
servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot for three years as a sign and a
portent against Egypt and Cush,* [4]so shall the king of Assyria lead away the
Egyptians as captives and the Cushites as exiles, both the young and the
old, naked and barefoot, with buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.*
[5]And they shall be dismayed and confounded because of Cush their hope
and of Egypt their boast.* [6]On that day the inhabitants of this coastland will
say, 'See, this is what has happened to those in whom we hoped and to
whom we fled for help and deliverance from the king of Assyria! And we,
how shall we escape?' "*

Isaiah 21

ORACLES CONCERNING BABYLON, EDOM, AND ARABIA

1 The oracle concerning the wilderness of the sea.

As whirlwinds in the Negeb sweep on,
    it comes from the desert,
    from a terrible land.*
[2]A stern vision is told to me;
    the betrayer betrays,
    and the destroyer destroys.
Go up, O Elam;
    lay siege, O Media;
all the sighing she has caused
    I bring to an end.*
[3]Therefore my loins are filled with anguish;
    pangs have seized me
    like the pangs of a woman in labor;
I am bowed down so that I cannot hear;
    I am dismayed so that I cannot see.*
[4]My mind reels; horror has appalled me;
    the twilight I longed for
    has been turned for me into trembling.*
[5]They prepare the table;
    they spread the rugs;
    they eat; they drink.
Rise up, commanders;
    oil the shield!*
[6]For thus the Lord said to me:

"Go, post a lookout;
let him announce what he sees.
7When he sees riders, horsemen in pairs,
riders on donkeys, riders on camels,
let him watch closely,
very closely."*
8Then the watcher[t] called out:
"Upon a watchtower I stand, O Lord,
continually by day,
and at my post I am stationed
throughout the night.*
9Look, there they come, riders,
horsemen in pairs!"
Then he responded,
"Fallen, fallen is Babylon,
and all the images of her gods
lie shattered on the ground."*
10O my threshed and winnowed one,
what I have heard from the LORD of hosts,
the God of Israel, I announce to you.*

11 The oracle concerning Dumah.

One is calling to me from Seir,
"Sentinel, what of the night?
Sentinel, what of the night?"*
12The sentinel says:
"Morning comes and also the night.
If you will inquire, inquire;
come back again."

13 The oracle concerning the desert plain.

In the scrub of the desert plain you will lodge,
O caravans of Dedanites.*
14 Bring water to the thirsty,
O inhabitants of the land of Tema;
meet the fugitive with bread.*
15 For they have fled from the swords,
from the drawn sword,
from the bent bow,
and from the stress of battle.*

16 For thus the Lord said to me: "Within a year, according to the years of a hired worker, all the glory of Kedar will come to an end,* 17 and the remaining bows of Kedar's warriors will be few, for the LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken."*

Isaiah 22

A WARNING OF DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

1 The oracle concerning the valley of vision.

What has happened that you have gone up,
all of you, to the housetops,*
2 city full of shouting,
tumultuous city, panic-stricken town?
Your slain are not slain by the sword,
nor are they dead in battle.*
3 Your rulers have all fled together;
they were captured without the use of a bow.[u]
All of your people who were found were captured,
though they had fled far away.[v],*
4 Therefore I said:
"Look away from me;
let me weep bitter tears;
do not try to comfort me
for the destruction of my beloved people."*

5 For the Lord GOD of hosts has a day
of tumult and trampling and confusion
in the valley of vision,
a battering down of walls
and a cry for help to the mountains.*
6 Elam bore the quiver
with chariots and cavalry,[w]
and Kir uncovered the shield.*

[7]Your choicest valleys were full of chariots,
and the cavalry took their stand at the gates.*
[8]He has taken away the covering of Judah.

On that day you looked to the weapons of the House of the Forest,* [9]and you saw that there were many breaches in the city of David, and you collected the waters of the lower pool.* [10]You counted the houses of Jerusalem, and you broke down the houses to fortify the wall. [11]You made a reservoir between the two walls for the water of the old pool. But you did not look to him who did it or have regard for him who planned it long ago.*

[12]On that day the Lord God of hosts
called for weeping and mourning,
for baldness and putting on sackcloth,*
[13]but instead there was joy and festivity,
killing oxen and slaughtering sheep,
eating meat and drinking wine.
"Let us eat and drink,
for tomorrow we die."*
[14]The Lord of hosts has revealed himself in my ears:
"Surely this iniquity will not be forgiven you until you die,"
says the Lord God of hosts.*

DENUNCIATION OF SELF-SEEKING OFFICIALS

15 Thus says the Lord God of hosts: "Go to the steward Shebna, who is master of the household, and say to him:* [16]What right do you have here? Who are your relatives here, that you have cut out a tomb here for yourself, cutting a tomb[x] on the height and carving a habitation for yourself[y] in the rock?* [17]The Lord is about to hurl you away violently, my fellow. He will seize firm hold on you, [18]whirl you round and round, and throw you like a ball into a wide land; there you shall die, and there your splendid chariots

shall lie, O you disgrace to your master's house!* 19I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your post.

20 "On that day I will call my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah* 21and will clothe him with your robe and bind your sash on him. I will commit your authority to his hand, and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. 22I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and no one shall shut; he shall shut, and no one shall open.* 23I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honor to his ancestral house.* 24And they will hang on him the whole weight of his ancestral house, the offspring and issue, every small vessel, from the cups to all the flagons. 25On that day, says the LORD of hosts, the peg that was fastened in a secure place will give way; it will be cut down and fall, and the load that was on it will perish, for the LORD has spoken."*

Isaiah 23

AN ORACLE CONCERNING TYRE

1 The oracle concerning Tyre.

Wail, O ships of Tarshish,
for your fortress is destroyed.[z]
When they came in from Cyprus
they learned of it.*
2 Be still, O inhabitants of the coast,
O merchants of Sidon;
your messengers crossed over the sea[a],*
3 and were on the mighty waters;
your revenue[b] was the grain of Shihor,
the harvest of the Nile;
you were the merchant of the nations.*
4 Be ashamed, O Sidon, for the sea has spoken,
the fortress of the sea, saying:
"I have neither labored nor given birth;
I have neither reared young men
nor brought up young women."*
5 When the report comes to Egypt,
they will be in anguish over the report about Tyre.
6 Cross over to Tarshish—
wail, O inhabitants of the coast!
7 Is this your exultant city
whose origin is from days of old,
whose feet carried her
to settle far away?*

[8]Who has planned this
against Tyre, the bestower of crowns,
whose merchants were princes,
whose traders were the honored of the earth?
[9]The LORD of hosts has planned it—
to defile the pride of all glory,
to shame all the honored of the earth.*
[10]Cross over to your own land,
O ships of[c] Tarshish;
this is a harbor[d] no more.
[11]He has stretched out his hand over the sea;
he has shaken the kingdoms;
the LORD has given command concerning Canaan,
to destroy its fortresses.*
[12]He said:
"You will exult no longer,
O oppressed virgin daughter Sidon;
rise, cross over to Cyprus—
even there you will have no rest."*

13 Look at the land of the Chaldeans! This is the people; it was not Assyria. They destined it for wild animals.[e] They erected their siege towers; they tore down her palaces; they made her a ruin.*

[14]Wail, O ships of Tarshish,
for your fortress is destroyed.*

[15]From that day Tyre will be forgotten for seventy years, the lifetime of one king. At the end of seventy years, it will happen to Tyre as in the song about the prostitute:*

[16]Take a harp;
go about the city,
you forgotten prostitute!

Make sweet melody;
sing many songs,
that you may be remembered.

17 At the end of seventy years, the LORD will visit Tyre, and she will return
to her trade and will prostitute herself with all the kingdoms of the world on
the face of the earth.* 18 Her merchandise and her wages will be dedicated to
the LORD; her profits[f] will not be stored or hoarded, but her merchandise
will supply abundant food and fine clothing for those who live in the
presence of the LORD.*

Isaiah 24

IMPENDING JUDGMENT ON THE EARTH

[1]Now the LORD is about to lay waste the earth and make it
desolate,
and he will twist its surface and scatter its inhabitants.*
[2]And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest;
as with the male slave, so with his master;
as with the female slave, so with her mistress;
as with the buyer, so with the seller;
as with the lender, so with the borrower;
as with the creditor, so with the debtor.*
[3]The earth shall be utterly laid waste and utterly despoiled,
for the LORD has spoken this word.*

[4]The earth dries up and withers;
the world languishes and withers;
the heavens languish together with the earth.
[5]The earth lies polluted
under its inhabitants,
for they have transgressed laws,
violated the statutes,
broken the everlasting covenant.*
[6]Therefore a curse devours the earth,
and its inhabitants suffer for their guilt;
therefore the inhabitants of the earth dwindled,
and few people are left.*
[7]The wine dries up;
the vine languishes;

all the merry-hearted sigh.*
8 The mirth of the timbrels is stilled;
the noise of the jubilant has ceased;
the mirth of the lyre is stilled.*
9 No longer do they drink wine with singing;
strong drink is bitter to those who drink it.
10 The city of chaos is broken down;
every house is shut up so that no one can enter.*
11 There is an outcry in the streets for lack of wine;
all joy has reached its eventide;
the gladness of the earth is banished.*
12 Desolation is left in the city;
the gates are battered into ruins.
13 For thus it shall be on the earth
and among the nations,
as when an olive tree is beaten,
as at the gleaning when the grape harvest is ended.*

14 They lift up their voices; they sing for joy;
they shout from the west over the majesty of the LORD.*
15 Therefore in the east give glory to the LORD;
in the coastlands of the sea glorify the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.*
16 From the ends of the earth we hear songs of praise,
of glory to the Righteous One.

But I say, "I pine away;
I pine away. Woe is me!
For the treacherous deal treacherously;
the treacherous deal very treacherously."*

17 Terror, the pit, and the snare
    are upon you, O inhabitants of the earth!*
18 Whoever flees at the sound of the terror
    shall fall into the pit,
and whoever climbs out of the pit
    shall be caught in the snare.
For the windows of heaven are opened,
    and the foundations of the earth tremble.*
19 The earth is utterly broken;
    the earth is torn apart;
    the earth is violently shaken.*
20 The earth staggers like a drunkard;
    it sways like a hut;
its transgression lies heavy upon it,
    and it falls and will not rise again.*

21 On that day the LORD will punish
    the host of heaven in heaven
    and on earth the kings of the earth.*
22 They will be gathered together
    like prisoners in a pit;
they will be shut up in a prison,
    and after many days they will be punished.*
23 Then the moon will be abashed
    and the sun ashamed,
for the LORD of hosts will reign
    on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,
and before his elders he will be glorified.*

Isaiah 25

PRAISE FOR DELIVERANCE FROM OPPRESSION

[1]O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.*
[2]For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.*
[3]Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
[4]For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,*
[5]the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.*

[6]On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.*
[7]And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;
[8]he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.*
9It will be said on that day,
"See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."*
10For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

The Moabites shall be trodden down in their place
as straw is trodden down in the manure.*
11Though they spread out their hands in the midst of it,
as swimmers spread out their hands to swim,
their pride will be laid low despite the struggle[g] of their hands.
12The high fortifications of his walls will be brought down,
laid low, cast to the ground, even to the dust.

Isaiah 26

JUDAH'S SONG OF VICTORY

1 On that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city;
he sets up walls and bulwarks as a safeguard.*
2 Open the gates,
so that the righteous nation that maintains faithfulness
may enter in.*
3 Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace,
in peace because they trust in you.
4 Trust in the LORD forever,
for in the LORD GOD[h]
you have an everlasting rock.*
5 For he has brought low
the inhabitants of the height;
the lofty city he lays low.
He lays it low to the ground,
casts it to the dust.*
6 The foot tramples it,
the feet of the poor,
the steps of the needy.*

7 The way of the righteous is level;
straight is the path of the righteous that you clear.*
8 In the path of your judgments,
O LORD, we have placed hope;
your name and your renown
are the soul's desire.*

[9]My soul yearns for you in the night;
my spirit within me earnestly seeks you.
For when your judgments are in the earth,
the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.*
[10]If favor is shown to the wicked,
they do not learn righteousness;
they corrupt what is upright on the earth
and do not see the majesty of the LORD.*
[11]O LORD, your hand is lifted up,
but they do not see it.
Let them see your zeal for your people and be ashamed.
Let the fire for your adversaries consume them.*
[12]O LORD, may you ordain peace for us,
for indeed, all that we have done, you have done for us.*
[13]O LORD our God,
other lords besides you have ruled over us,
but we acknowledge your name alone.*
[14]The dead do not live;
shades do not rise
because you have punished and destroyed them
and wiped out all memory of them.*
[15]But you have increased the nation, O LORD;
you have increased the nation; you are glorified;
you have enlarged all the borders of the land.*

[16]O LORD, in distress they sought you;
they poured out a prayer[i]
when your chastening was on them.*
[17]Like a woman with child
about to give birth

writhes and cries out in her pain,
so were we because of you, O LORD;*
18 we were with child; we writhed,
but we gave birth only to wind.
We have won no victories on earth,
and no one is born to inhabit the world.*
19 Your dead shall live; their corpses[j] shall rise.
Those who dwell in the dust will awake and shout for joy![k]
For your dew is a radiant dew,
and the earth will give birth to those long dead.[l],*

20 Come, my people, enter your chambers,
and shut your doors behind you;
hide yourselves for a little while
until the wrath is past.*
21 For the LORD comes out from his place
to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity;
the earth will disclose the blood shed on it
and will no longer cover its slain.*

Isaiah 27

ISRAEL'S REDEMPTION

1 On that day the LORD with his cruel and great and strong sword will
punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan the twisting serpent, and he
will kill the dragon that is in the sea.*

2 On that day:
A pleasant vineyard—sing about it!*
3 I, the LORD, am its keeper;
every moment I water it.
I guard it night and day
so that no one can harm it;*
4 I have no wrath.
If it gives me thorns and briers,
I will march to battle against it.
I will burn it up.*
5 Or else let it cling to me for protection;
let it make peace with me;
let it make peace with me.*

6 In days to come[m] Jacob shall take root;
Israel shall blossom and put forth shoots
and fill the whole world with fruit.*

7 Has he struck them down as he struck down those who struck
them?
Or have they been killed as their killers[n] were killed?*
8 By expulsion,[o] by exile you struggled against them;

with his fierce blast he removed them in the day of the east wind.*

9Therefore by this the guilt of Jacob will be expiated,
and this will be the full fruit of the removal of his sin:
when he makes all the stones of the altars
like chalkstones crushed to pieces;
no sacred poles[p] or incense altars will remain standing.*

10For the fortified city is solitary,
a habitation deserted and forsaken, like the wilderness;
the calves graze there;
there they lie down and strip its branches.*

11When its boughs are dry, they are broken;
women come and make a fire of them.
For this is a people without understanding;
therefore he who made them will not have compassion on them;
he who formed them will show them no favor.*

12 On that day the LORD will thresh from the channel of the Euphrates to the Wadi of Egypt, and you will be gathered one by one, O people of Israel.* 13And on that day a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were lost in the land of Assyria and those who were driven out to the land of Egypt will come and worship the LORD on the holy mountain at Jerusalem.*

Isaiah 28

JUDGMENT ON CORRUPT RULERS, PRIESTS, AND PROPHETS

[1]Woe to the proud garland of the drunkards of Ephraim
and the fading flower of its glorious beauty,
at the head of the fertile valley,
those overcome with wine![*]
[2]See, the Lord has one who is mighty and strong,
like a storm of hail, a destroying tempest,
like a storm of mighty, overflowing waters;
with force he will hurl them down to the earth.[*]
[3]Trampled under foot will be
the proud garland of the drunkards of Ephraim.[*]
[4]And the fading flower of its glorious beauty,
at the head of the fertile valley,
will be like a first-ripe fig before the summer;
whoever sees it eats it up
as soon as it comes to hand.[*]

[5]On that day the LORD of hosts will be a garland of glory
and a diadem of beauty to the remnant of his people[*]
[6]and a spirit of justice to the one who sits in judgment
and strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.[*]

[7]These also reel with wine
and stagger with strong drink;
the priest and the prophet reel with strong drink;
they are confused with wine;
they stagger with strong drink;

they err in vision;
    they stumble in giving judgment.*
[8]All tables are covered with filthy vomit;
    no place is clean.*

[9]"Whom will he teach knowledge,
    and to whom will he explain the message?
Those who are weaned from milk,
    those taken from the breast?*
[10]For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept,
    line upon line, line upon line,
    here a little, there a little."[q,*]

[11]Truly, with stammering lip
    and with another tongue
he will speak to this people,*
    [12]to whom he has said,
"This is rest;
    give rest to the weary,
and this is repose,"
    yet they would not hear.*
[13]Therefore the word of the LORD will be to them,
    "Precept upon precept, precept upon precept,
    line upon line, line upon line,
    here a little, there a little,"[r]
in order that they may go and fall backward
    and be broken and snared and taken.*

[14]Therefore hear the word of the LORD, you scoffers
    who rule this people in Jerusalem.*
[15]Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death,

and with Sheol we have an agreement;
when the overwhelming scourge passes through
it will not come to us,
for we have made lies our refuge,
and in falsehood we have taken shelter";*
16 therefore thus says the Lord GOD,
"See, I am laying[s] in Zion a foundation stone,
a tested stone,
a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation:
'One who trusts will not panic.'*
17 And I will make justice the line
and righteousness the plummet;
hail will sweep away the refuge of lies,
and waters will overwhelm the shelter.*
18 Then your covenant with death will be annulled,
and your agreement with Sheol will not stand;
when the overwhelming scourge passes through,
you will be beaten down by it.*
19 As often as it passes through, it will take you,
for morning by morning it will pass through,
by day and by night,
and it will be sheer terror to understand the message."*
20 For the bed is too short to stretch oneself on it,
and the covering is too narrow to wrap oneself in it.
21 For the LORD will rise up as on Mount Perazim;
he will rage as in the valley of Gibeon
to do his deed—strange is his deed!—
and to work his work—alien is his work!*
22 Now therefore do not scoff,
or your bonds will be made stronger,

for I have heard a decree of destruction
from the Lord GOD of hosts upon the whole land.*

23 Listen and hear my voice;
Pay attention and hear my speech.
24 Do those who plow for sowing plow continually?
Do they continually open and harrow their ground?
25 When they have leveled its surface,
do they not scatter dill, sow cumin,
and plant wheat in rows
and barley in its proper place[t]
and spelt as the border?
26 For they are well instructed;
their God teaches them.

27 For dill is not threshed with a threshing sledge,
nor is a cart wheel rolled over cumin,
but dill is beaten out with a stick
and cumin with a rod.*
28 Grain is crushed for bread,
but one does not thresh it forever;
one drives the cart wheel and horses over it
but does not pulverize it.
29 This also comes from the LORD of hosts;
he is wonderful in counsel
and excellent in wisdom.*

Isaiah 29

THE SIEGE OF JERUSALEM

[1]Woe to Ariel, Ariel,
the city where David encamped!
Add year to year;
let the festivals run their round.*
[2]Yet I will oppress Ariel,
and there shall be moaning and lamentation,
and you[u] shall be to me like an Ariel.[v],*
[3]And like David[w] I will encamp against you;
I will besiege you with towers
and raise siegeworks against you.*
[4]Then deep from the earth you shall speak;
from low in the dust your words shall come;
your voice shall come from the ground like the voice of a ghost,
and your speech shall whisper out of the dust.*

[5]But the multitude of your arrogant ones[x] shall be like fine dust
and the multitude of tyrants like flying chaff.
And in an instant, suddenly,*
[6]you will be visited by the LORD of hosts
with thunder and earthquake and great noise,
with whirlwind and tempest and the flame of a devouring fire.*
[7]And the multitude of all the nations that fight against Ariel,
all that fight against her and her stronghold and who distress her,
shall be like a dream, a vision of the night.*
[8]Just as when a hungry person dreams of eating

and wakes up still hungry
or a thirsty person dreams of drinking
and wakes up faint, still thirsty,
so shall the multitude of all the nations be
that fight against Mount Zion.*

9 Be astounded and stunned;
blind yourselves and be blind!
Be drunk but not from wine;
stagger but not from strong drink!*
10 For the LORD has poured out upon you
a spirit of deep sleep;
he has closed your eyes (the prophets)
and covered your heads (the seers).*
11 The vision of all this has become for you like the words of a sealed document. If it is given to those who can read with the command, "Read this," they say, "We cannot, for it is sealed."* 12 And if it is given to those who cannot read, saying, "Read this," they say, "We cannot read."

13 The Lord said:
Because these people draw near with their mouths
and honor me with their lips,
while their hearts are far from me
and their worship of me is a human commandment learned by rote,*
14 so I will again do
amazing things with this people,
shocking and amazing.
The wisdom of their wise shall perish,
and the discernment of the discerning shall be hidden.*

15 Woe to those who hide a plan too deep for the LORD,

whose deeds are in the dark,
and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?"*
16 You turn things upside down!
Shall the potter be regarded as the clay?
Shall the thing made say of its maker,
"He did not make me,"
or the thing formed say of the one who formed it,
"He has no understanding"?*

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

17 Shall not Lebanon in a very little while
become a fruitful field
and the fruitful field be regarded as a forest?*
18 On that day the deaf shall hear
the words of a scroll,
and freed from gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind shall see.*
19 The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,
and the neediest people shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.*
20 For the tyrant shall be no more,
and the scoffer shall cease to be;
all those alert to do evil shall be cut off—*
21 those who cause a person to lose a lawsuit,
who set a trap for the arbiter in the gate
and undermine justice for the one in the right.*

22 Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob:

"No longer shall Jacob be ashamed;
no longer shall his face grow pale.*

[23]For when he sees his children,
the work of my hands, in his midst,
they will sanctify my name;
they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob
and will stand in awe of the God of Israel.*
[24]And those who err in spirit will come to understanding,
and those who grumble will accept instruction."*

Isaiah 30

THE FUTILITY OF RELIANCE ON EGYPT

[1]Woe to the rebellious children, says the LORD,
who carry out a plan but not mine;
who make an alliance but against my will,
adding sin to sin;*
[2]who set out to go down to Egypt
without asking for my counsel,
to take refuge in the protection of Pharaoh
and to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt.*
[3]Therefore the protection of Pharaoh shall become your shame,
and the shelter in the shadow of Egypt your humiliation.*
[4]For though his officials are at Zoan
and his envoys reach Hanes,*
[5]everyone comes to shame
through a people that cannot profit them,
that brings neither help nor profit,
only shame and disgrace.*

6 An oracle concerning the animals of the Negeb.
Through a land of trouble and distress,
of lioness and roaring[y] lion,
of viper and flying serpent,
they carry their riches on the backs of donkeys
and their treasures on the humps of camels
to a people that cannot profit them.*
[7]For Egypt's help is worthless and empty;
therefore I have called her,

"Rahab who sits still."[z,*]

A REBELLIOUS PEOPLE

[8]Go now, write it before them on a tablet,
and inscribe it on a scroll,
so that it may be for the time to come
as a witness forever.*
[9]For they are a rebellious people,
faithless children,
children who will not hear
the instruction of the LORD;*
[10]who say to the seers, "Do not see,"
and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right;
speak to us smooth things;
prophesy illusions;*
[11]leave the way; turn aside from the path;
let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel."*
[12]Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel:
Because you reject this word
and put your trust in oppression and deceit
and rely on them,*
[13]therefore this iniquity shall become for you
like a break in a high wall, bulging out and about to collapse,
whose crash comes suddenly, in an instant;*
[14]its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel
that is smashed so ruthlessly
that among its fragments not a sherd is found
for taking fire from the hearth
or dipping water out of the cistern.*

15For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel:
In returning and rest you shall be saved;
in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.
But you refused* 16and said,
'No! We will flee upon horses'—
therefore you shall flee!
and, 'We will ride upon swift steeds'—
therefore your pursuers shall be swift!*
17A thousand shall flee at the threat of one;
at the threat of five you shall flee
until you are left
like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain,
like a signal on a hill.*

GOD'S PROMISE TO ZION

18Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you;
therefore he will rise up to show mercy to you.
For the LORD is a God of justice;
blessed are all those who wait for him.*

19 O people in Zion, inhabitants of Jerusalem, you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when he hears it, he will answer you.* 20Though the Lord may give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself any longer, but your eyes shall see your Teacher.* 21And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."* 22Then you will defile your silver-covered idols and your gold-plated images. You will scatter them like impure things; you will say to them, "Away with you!"*

23 He will give rain for the seed with which you sow the ground, and grain, the produce of the ground, will be rich and plenteous. On that day your cattle will graze in broad pastures,* 24and the oxen and donkeys that till the ground will eat silage that has been winnowed with shovel and fork.

25 On every lofty mountain and every high hill there will be brooks running
with water—on a day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall.
26 Moreover, the light of the moon will be like the light of the sun, and the
light of the sun will be sevenfold, like the light of seven days, on the day
when the LORD binds up the injuries of his people and heals the wounds
inflicted by his blow.*

JUDGMENT ON ASSYRIA

27 See, the name of the LORD comes from far away,
    his anger burning and his burden heavy;[a]
his lips are full of indignation,
    and his tongue is like a devouring fire;*
28 his breath is like an overflowing stream
    that reaches up to the neck—
to sift the nations with the sieve of destruction
    and to place on the jaws of the peoples a bridle that leads them
        astray.*

29 You shall have a song as in the night when a holy festival is kept and
gladness of heart, as when one sets out to the sound of the flute to go to the
mountain of the LORD, to the Rock of Israel.* 30 And the LORD will cause his
majestic voice to be heard and the descending blow of his arm to be seen, in
furious anger and a flame of devouring fire, with a cloudburst and tempest
and hailstones.* 31 The Assyrian will be terror-stricken at the voice of the
LORD when he strikes with his rod.* 32 And every stroke of the staff of
punishment[b] that the LORD lays upon him will be to the sound of timbrels
and lyres with dancing;[c] with brandished arm he will fight with him.* 33 For
his burning place[d] has long been prepared, also for the king;[e] its pyre is
made deep and wide, with fire and wood in abundance; the breath of the
LORD, like a stream of sulfur, kindles it.*

Isaiah 31

ALLIANCE WITH EGYPT IS FUTILE

[1]Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help
and who rely on horses,
who trust in chariots because they are many
and in horsemen because they are very strong,
but do not look to the Holy One of Israel
or consult the LORD![*]
[2]Yet he is wise and can bring disaster;
he does not depart from his words
but will rise against the house of the evildoers
and against the helpers of those who work iniquity.[*]
[3]The Egyptians are human and not God;
their horses are flesh and not spirit.
When the LORD stretches out his hand,
the helper will stumble, and the one helped will fall,
and they will all perish together.[*]

[4]For thus the LORD said to me,
"As a lion or a young lion growls over its prey
and, when a band of shepherds is called out against it,
is not terrified by their shouting
or daunted at their noise,
so the LORD of hosts will come down
to fight upon Mount Zion and upon its hill.[*]
[5]Like birds hovering overhead, so the LORD of hosts
will protect Jerusalem;
he will protect and deliver it;

he will spare and rescue it."*

6 Turn back to him whom you[f] have deeply betrayed, O people of Israel.*
7For on that day all of you shall throw away your idols of silver and idols of
gold, which your hands have sinfully made for you.*

8"Then the Assyrian shall fall by a sword not of mortals,
and a sword not of humans shall devour him;
he shall flee from the sword,
and his young men shall be put to forced labor.*
9His rock shall pass away in terror,
and his officers desert the standard in panic,"
says the LORD, whose fire is in Zion
and whose furnace is in Jerusalem.*

Isaiah 32

GOVERNMENT WITH JUSTICE PREDICTED

[1]See, a king will reign in righteousness,
and princes[g] will rule with justice.*
[2]Each will be like a hiding place from the wind,
a covert from the tempest,
like streams of water in a dry place,
like the shade of a great rock in a weary land.*
[3]Then the eyes of those who have sight will not be closed,
and the ears of those who have hearing will listen.*
[4]The minds of the rash will have good judgment,
and the tongues of stammerers will speak readily and distinctly.*
[5]A fool will no longer be called noble
nor a villain said to be honorable.*
[6]For fools speak folly,
and their minds plot iniquity:
to practice ungodliness,
to utter error concerning the LORD,
to leave the craving of the hungry unsatisfied,
and to deprive the thirsty of drink.*
[7]The villainies of villains are evil;
they devise wicked devices
to ruin the poor with lying words,
even when the plea of the needy is right.*
[8]But those who are noble plan noble things,
and by noble things they stand.*

COMPLACENT WOMEN WARNED OF DISASTER

[9]Rise up, you women who are at ease, hear my voice;
you complacent daughters, listen to my speech.*
[10]In little more than a year
you will shudder, you complacent ones,
for the vintage will fail;
the fruit harvest will not come.*
[11]Tremble, you women who are at ease;
shudder, you complacent ones;
strip and make yourselves bare,
and put sackcloth on your loins.*
[12]Beat your breasts for the pleasant fields,[h]
for the fruitful vine,*
[13]for the soil of my people
growing up in thorns and briers,
yes, for all the joyous houses
in the jubilant city.*
[14]For the palace will be forsaken,
the populous city deserted;
the hill and the watchtower
will become dens forever,
the joy of wild asses,
a pasture for flocks;*
[15]until a spirit from on high is poured out on us,
and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field is deemed a forest.*

THE PEACE OF GOD'S REIGN

[16]Then justice will dwell in the wilderness

and righteousness abide in the fruitful field.*
17The effect of righteousness will be peace,
and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.*
18My people will abide in a peaceful habitation,
in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.
19The forest will disappear completely,[i]
and the city will be utterly laid low.*
20Happy will you be who sow beside every stream,
who let the ox and the donkey range freely.*

Isaiah 33

A PROPHECY OF DELIVERANCE FROM FOES

[1]Woe to the destroyer,
who yourself have not been destroyed;
you treacherous one,
with whom no one has dealt treacherously!
When you have ceased to destroy,
you will be destroyed;
and when you have stopped dealing treacherously,
you will be dealt with treacherously.*

[2]O LORD, be gracious to us; we wait for you.
Be our arm every morning,
our salvation in the time of trouble.*
[3]At the sound of tumult, peoples fled;
before your majesty, nations scattered.*
[4]Spoil was gathered as the caterpillar gathers;
as locusts leap, they leaped[j] upon it.
[5]The LORD is exalted; he dwells on high;
he filled Zion with justice and righteousness;*
[6]he will be the stability of your times,
abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge;
the fear of the LORD is Zion's treasure.[k,*]

[7]Listen! The people of Ariel[l] cry out in the streets;
the envoys of peace weep bitterly.*
[8]The highways are deserted;
travelers have quit the road.

The treaty is broken;
its oaths[m] are despised,
the people are disregarded.
9The land mourns and languishes;
Lebanon is confounded and withers away;
Sharon is like a desert,
and Bashan and Carmel shake off their leaves.

10"Now I will arise," says the LORD,
"now I will lift myself up;
now I will be exalted.
11You conceive chaff; you bring forth stubble;
wind like a fire[n] will consume you.
12And the peoples will be as if burned to lime,
like thorns cut down that are burned in the fire."

13Hear, you who are far away, what I have done,
and you who are near, acknowledge my might.
14The sinners in Zion are afraid;
trembling has seized the godless:
"Who among us can live with the devouring fire?
Who among us can live with everlasting flames?"
15Those who walk righteously and speak uprightly,
who despise the gain of oppression,
who wave away a bribe instead of accepting it,
who stop their ears from hearing of bloodshed
and shut their eyes from looking on evil,
16they will live on the heights;
their refuge will be the fortresses of rocks;
their food will be supplied, their water assured.

THE LAND OF THE MAJESTIC KING

17 Your eyes will see the king in his beauty;
they will behold a land that stretches far away.
18 Your mind will muse on the terror:
"Where is the one who counted?
Where is the one who weighed the tribute?
Where is the one who counted the towers?"*
19 No longer will you see the insolent people,
the people of an obscure speech that you cannot comprehend,
stammering in a language that you cannot understand.*
20 Look on Zion, the city of our appointed festivals!
Your eyes will see Jerusalem,
a quiet habitation, an immovable tent
whose stakes will never be pulled up
and none of whose ropes will be broken.*
21 But there the LORD in majesty will be for us
a place of broad rivers and streams
where no galley with oars can go
nor stately ship can pass.*
22 For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our ruler;
the LORD is our king; he will save us.*

23 Your rigging hangs loose;
it cannot hold the mast firm in its place
or keep the sail spread out.

Then the blind will divide abundant spoil,[o]
and the lame will take plunder.*
24 And no inhabitant will say, "I am sick";
the people who live there will be forgiven their iniquity.*

Isaiah 34

JUDGMENT ON THE NATIONS

[1]Draw near, O nations, to hear;
O peoples, give heed!
Let the earth hear and all that fills it,
the world and all that comes from it.*
[2]For the LORD is enraged against all the nations
and furious against all their hordes;
he has doomed them, has given them over for slaughter.*
[3]Their slain shall be cast out,
and the stench of their corpses shall rise;
the mountains shall flow with their blood.*
[4]All the host of heaven shall rot away,
and the skies roll up like a scroll.
All their host shall wither
like a leaf withering on a vine
or fruit withering on a fig tree.*

[5]When my sword has drunk its fill in the heavens,
upon Edom it will fall,
upon the people I have doomed to judgment.*
[6]The LORD has a sword; it is sated with blood;
it is gorged with fat,
with the blood of lambs and goats,
with the fat of the kidneys of rams.
For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah,
a great slaughter in the land of Edom.*
[7]Wild oxen shall fall with them

and young steers with the mighty bulls.
Their land shall be soaked with blood,
and their soil made rich with fat.*

8For the LORD has a day of vengeance,
a year of vindication for Zion's cause.p,*
9And the streams of Edomq shall be turned into pitch
and her soil into sulfur;
her land shall become burning pitch.*
10Night and day it shall not be quenched;
its smoke shall go up forever.
From generation to generation it shall lie waste;
no one shall pass through it forever and ever.*
11But the desert owlr and the screech owls shall possess it;
the great owl and the raven shall live in it.
He shall stretch the line of confusion
and the plummet of chaos over it.*
12They shall call its nobles No Kingdom There,
and all its princes shall be nothing.
13Thorns shall grow over its strongholds,
nettles and thistles in its fortresses.
It shall be the haunt of jackals,
an abode for ostriches.*
14Wildcats shall meet with hyenas;
goat-demons shall call to each other;
there also Lilith shall repose
and find a place to rest.*
15There shall the owl nest
and lay and hatch and brood in its shadow;
there also the buzzards shall gather,

each one with its mate.*
16Seek and read from the book of the LORD:
Not one of these shall be missing;
none shall be without its mate.
For his mouth, it has commanded,
and his spirit, it has gathered them.*
17He has cast the lot for them;
his hand has portioned it out to them with the line.
[[They shall possess it;
from generation to generation they shall live in it.*

Isaiah 35

THE RETURN OF THE REDEEMED TO ZION

[1]The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus* [2]it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.]][t,*]

[3]Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.*
[4]Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."*

[5]Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;*
[6]then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;*
[7]the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;[u]
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.*

8A highway shall be there,[v]
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,[w]
but it shall be for God's people;[x]
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.*
9No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.*
10And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

Isaiah 36

SENNACHERIB THREATENS JERUSALEM

1 In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, King Sennacherib of Assyria
came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them.* [2]The
king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King
Hezekiah at Jerusalem. He stood by the conduit of the upper pool on the
highway to the fuller's field.* [3]And there came out to him Eliakim son of
Hilkiah, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and
Joah son of Asaph, the recorder.*

4 The Rabshakeh said to them, "Say to Hezekiah: Thus says the great
king, the king of Assyria: On what do you base this reliance of yours?* [5]Do
you think that mere words are strategy and power for war? On whom, then,
do you now rely, that you have rebelled against me?* [6]See, you are relying
on Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of anyone
who leans on it. Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who rely on him.*
[7]But if you say to me, 'We rely on the LORD our God,' [[is it not he whose
high places and altars Hezekiah has removed, saying to Judah and to
Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar'?]][y,* [8]Come now, make a
wager with my master the king of Assyria: I will give you two thousand
horses, if you are able on your part to set riders on them. [9]How then can you
repulse a single captain among the least of my master's servants, when you
rely on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?* [10]Moreover, is it without the
LORD that I have come up against this land to destroy it? The LORD said to
me, Go up against this land, and destroy it."

11 Then Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah said to the Rabshakeh, "Please speak
to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it; do not speak to us in the
language of Judah within the hearing of the people who are on the wall."*
[12]But the Rabshakeh said, "Has my master sent me to speak these words to
your master and to you and not to the people sitting on the wall, who are
doomed with you to eat their own dung and drink their own urine?"

13 Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the
language of Judah, "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria!*

[14]Thus says the king: Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be
able to deliver you.* [15]Do not let Hezekiah make you rely on the LORD by
saying, 'The LORD will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the
hand of the king of Assyria.'* [16]Do not listen to Hezekiah, for thus says the
king of Assyria: Make your peace with me and come out to me; then every
one of you will eat from your own vine and your own fig tree and drink
water from your own cistern,* [17]until I come and take you away to a land
like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards.
[18]Do not let Hezekiah mislead you by saying, 'The LORD will deliver us.'
Has any of the gods of the nations delivered their land out of the hand of the
king of Assyria?* [19]Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are
the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?*
[20]Who among all the gods of these countries have delivered their countries
out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?"*

21 But they were silent and answered him not a word, for the king's
command was, "Do not answer him." [22]Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah, who
was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah son of
Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn and told him
the words of the Rabshakeh.*

Isaiah 37

HEZEKIAH CONSULTS ISAIAH

1 When King Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes, covered himself with
sackcloth and went into the house of the LORD.* [2]And he sent Eliakim, who
was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests,
covered with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz.* [3]They said to
him, "Thus says Hezekiah: This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of
disgrace; children have come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring
them forth.* [4]It may be that the LORD your God heard the words of the
Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the
living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard;
therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left."*

[[**5** When the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, [6]Isaiah said to
them, "Say to your master: Thus says the LORD: Do not be afraid because of
the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of
Assyria have reviled me.* [7]I myself will put a spirit in him, so that he shall
hear a rumor and return to his own land; I will cause him to fall by the
sword in his own land."]][z,*]

8 The Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against
Libnah, for he had heard that the king had left Lachish. [9]Now the king[a]
heard concerning King Tirhakah of Cush, "He has set out to fight against
you." When he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,* [10]"Thus
shall you speak to King Hezekiah of Judah: Do not let your God on whom
you rely deceive you by promising that Jerusalem will not be given into the
hand of the king of Assyria.* [11]See, you have heard what the kings of
Assyria have done to all lands, destroying them utterly. Shall you be
delivered?* [12]Have the gods of the nations delivered them, the nations that
my predecessors destroyed, Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and the people of Eden
who were in Telassar?* [13]Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad,
the king of Laar, Sepharvaim, Hena, or Ivvah?"

HEZEKIAH'S PRAYER

14 Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read
it; then Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD and spread it before the
LORD. 15And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD, saying: 16"O LORD of hosts, God
of Israel, who are enthroned above the cherubim, you are God, you alone,
of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth.*
17Incline your ear, O LORD, and hear; open your eyes, O LORD, and see; hear
all the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.*
18Truly, O LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations and
their lands* 19and have hurled their gods into the fire, though they were no
gods but the work of human hands—wood and stone—and so they were
destroyed.* 20So now, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, so that all
the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone are the LORD."*

21 Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying: "Thus says the
LORD, the God of Israel: Because you have prayed to me concerning King
Sennacherib of Assyria,* 22this is the word that the LORD has spoken
concerning him:

She despises you; she scorns you—
virgin daughter Zion;
she tosses her head—behind your back,
daughter Jerusalem.*

23"Whom have you mocked and reviled?
Against whom have you raised your voice
and haughtily lifted your eyes?
Against the Holy One of Israel!*
24By your servants you have mocked the Lord,
and you have said, 'With my many chariots
I have gone up the heights of the mountains,
to the far recesses of Lebanon;
I felled its tallest cedars,
its choicest cypresses;
I came to its remotest height,
its densest forest.*

25 I dug wells
and drank waters;
I dried up with the sole of my foot
all the streams of Egypt.'

26 "Have you not heard
that I determined it long ago?
I planned from days of old
what now I bring to pass,
that you should make fortified cities
crash into heaps of ruins,*
27 while their inhabitants, shorn of strength,
are dismayed and confounded;
they have become like plants of the field
and like tender grass,
like grass on the housetops
that is scorched before the east wind.[b,*]

28 "I know your rising up[c] and your sitting down,
your going out and coming in
and your raging against me.*
29 Because you have raged against me
and your arrogance has come to my ears,
I will put my hook in your nose
and my bit in your mouth;
I will turn you back on the way
by which you came.*

30 "And this shall be the sign for you: This year eat what grows of itself and in the second year what springs from that; then in the third year sow, reap, plant vineyards, and eat their fruit. 31 The surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward,* 32 for

from Jerusalem a remnant shall go out and from Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

33 "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria: He shall not come into this city, shoot an arrow there, come before it with a shield, or cast up a siege ramp against it. [34]By the way that he came, by the same he shall return; he shall not come into this city, says the LORD. [35]For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David."*

SENNACHERIB'S DEFEAT AND DEATH

36 Then the angel of the LORD set out and struck down one hundred eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians; when morning dawned, they were all dead bodies.* [37]Then King Sennacherib of Assyria left, went home, and lived at Nineveh. [38]As he was worshiping in the house of his god Nisroch, his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer killed him with the sword, and they escaped into the land of Ararat. His son Esar-haddon succeeded him.*

Isaiah 38

HEZEKIAH'S ILLNESS

1 In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. The
prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came to him and said to him, "Thus says the
LORD: Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover."*
2Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD:
3"Remember now, O LORD, I implore you, how I have walked before you in
faithfulness with a whole heart and have done what is good in your sight."
And Hezekiah wept bitterly.*

4 Then the word of the LORD came to Isaiah: 5"Go and say to Hezekiah,
Thus says the LORD, the God of your ancestor David: I have heard your
prayer; I have seen your tears; I will add fifteen years to your life.* 6I will
deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria and defend
this city.*

7 "This is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing
that he has promised:* 8See, I will make the shadow cast by the declining
sun on the dial of Ahaz turn back ten steps." So the sun turned back on the
dial the ten steps by which it had declined.[d],*

9 A writing of King Hezekiah of Judah, after he had been sick and had
recovered from his sickness:

10I said: In the noontide of my days
I must depart;
I am consigned to the gates of Sheol
for the rest of my years.*
11I said, I shall not see the LORD
in the land of the living;
I shall look upon mortals no more
among the inhabitants of the world.*
12My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me

like a shepherd's tent;
like a weaver I have rolled up my life;
he cuts me off from the loom;
from day to night you bring me to an end;*
13 I cry for help[e] until morning;
like a lion he breaks all my bones;
from day to night you bring me to an end.*

14 Like a swallow or a crane[f] I clamor;
I moan like a dove.
My eyes are weary with looking upward.
O Lord, I am oppressed; be my security!*
15 But what can I say? For he has spoken to me,
and he himself has done it.
All my sleep has fled[g]
because of the bitterness of my soul.*

16 O Lord, by these things people live,
and in all these is the life of my spirit.[h]
Oh, restore me to health and make me live!
17 Surely it was for my welfare
that I had great bitterness,
but you have held back[i] my life
from the pit of destruction,
for you have cast all my sins
behind your back.*
18 For Sheol cannot thank you;
death cannot praise you;
those who go down to the Pit cannot hope
for your faithfulness.*

[19]The living, the living, they thank you,
as I do this day;
fathers make known to children
your faithfulness.*

[20]The LORD will save me,
and we will sing to stringed instruments[j]
all the days of our lives,
at the house of the LORD.*

[[**21** Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a lump of figs and apply it to the boil, so that he may recover."* [22]Hezekiah also had said, "What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the LORD?"]][k]

Isaiah 39

ENVOYS FROM BABYLON WELCOMED

1 At that time King Merodach-baladan son of Baladan of Babylon sent
envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been
sick and had recovered.* [2]Hezekiah welcomed them; he showed them his
treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his whole
armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his
house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them.* [3]Then the
prophet Isaiah came to King Hezekiah and said to him, "What did these
men say? From where did they come to you?" Hezekiah answered, "They
have come to me from a far country, from Babylon."* [4]He said, "What have
they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in
my house; there is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them."

5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD of hosts:*
[6]Days are coming when all that is in your house and that which your
ancestors have stored up until this day shall be carried to Babylon; nothing
shall be left, says the LORD.* [7]Some of your own sons who are born to you
shall be taken away; they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of
Babylon."* [8]Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD that you
have spoken is good." For he thought, "There will be peace and security in
my days."*

Isaiah 40

GOD'S PEOPLE ARE COMFORTED

[1]Comfort, O comfort my people,
  says your God.*
[2]Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
  and cry to her
that she has served her term,
  that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
  double for all her sins.*

[3]A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
  make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*
[4]Every valley shall be lifted up,
  and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
  and the rough places a plain.*
[5]Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
  and all flesh shall see it together,
  for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

[6]A voice says, "Cry out!"
  And I said,[1] "What shall I cry?"
All flesh is grass;
  their constancy is like the flower of the field.*
[7]The grass withers; the flower fades,
  [[when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;

surely the people are grass.*
8The grass withers; the flower fades,]][m]
but the word of our God will stand forever.*
9Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;[n]
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;[o]
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"*
10See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him
and his recompense before him.*
11He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms
and carry them in his bosom
and gently lead the mother sheep.*

12Who has measured the waters of the sea[p] in the hollow of his hand
and marked off the heavens with a span,
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure
and weighed the mountains in scales
and the hills in a balance?*
13Who has directed the spirit of the LORD
or as his counselor has instructed him?*
14Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,
and who taught him the path of justice?
[[Who taught him knowledge

and showed him the way of understanding?
15 Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket
and are accounted as dust on the scales;
see, he takes up the isles like fine dust.*
16 Lebanon would not provide fuel enough,
nor are its animals enough for a burnt offering.]]q
17 All the nations are as nothing before him;
they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.*

18 To whom, then, will you liken God,
or what likeness compare with him?*
19 An idol? A workman casts it,
and a goldsmith overlays it with gold
and casts for it silver chains.*
20 As a gift one chooses mulberry woodr
—wood that will not rot—
then seeks out a skilled artisan
to set up an image that will not topple.*

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?*
22 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers,
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain
and spreads them like a tent to live in,*
23 who brings princes to naught
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.*

24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.*

25To whom, then, will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.*
26Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.*

27Why do you say, O Jacob,
and assert, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?*
28Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.*
29He gives power to the faint
and strengthens the powerless.*
30Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted,
31but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.*

Isaiah 41

ISRAEL ASSURED OF GOD'S HELP

[1]Listen to me in silence, O coastlands;
let the peoples renew their strength;
let them approach, then let them speak;
let us together draw near for judgment.*

[2]Who has roused a victor from the east,
summoned him to his service?
He delivers up nations to him
and tramples kings under foot;
he makes them like dust with his sword,
like driven stubble with his bow.*
[3]He pursues them and passes on safely,
scarcely touching the path with his feet.
[4]Who has performed and done this,
calling the generations from the beginning?
I, the LORD, am first
and will be with the last.*
[5]The coastlands have seen and are afraid;
the ends of the earth tremble;
they have drawn near and come.*
[6]Each one helps the other,
saying to one another, "Take courage!"*
[7]The artisan encourages the goldsmith,
and the one who smooths with the hammer encourages the one who strikes the anvil,
saying of the soldering, "It is good,"

and they fasten it with nails so that it cannot be moved.*
8 But you, Israel, my servant,
Jacob, whom I have chosen,
the offspring of Abraham, my friend;*
9 you whom I took from the ends of the earth
and called from its farthest corners,
saying to you, "You are my servant;
I have chosen you and not cast you off";*
10 do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you; I will help you;
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.*

11 All who are incensed against you
shall be ashamed and disgraced;
those who strive against you
shall be as nothing and shall perish.*
12 You shall seek those who contend with you,
but you shall not find them;
those who war against you
shall be as nothing at all.*
13 For I, the LORD your God,
hold your right hand;
it is I who say to you, "Do not fear,
I will help you."*

14 Do not fear, you worm Jacob,
you maggot[s] Israel!
I will help you, says the LORD;
your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.*

15 I will make of you a threshing sledge,
sharp, new, and having teeth;
you shall thresh the mountains and crush them,
and you shall make the hills like chaff.*
16 You shall winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away,
and the tempest shall scatter them.
Then you shall rejoice in the LORD;
in the Holy One of Israel you shall glory.*

17 When the poor and needy seek water,
and there is none,
and their tongue is parched with thirst,
I the LORD will answer them,
I the God of Israel will not forsake them.*
18 I will open rivers on the bare heights
and fountains in the midst of the valleys;
I will make the wilderness a pool of water
and the dry land springs of water.*
19 I will put in the wilderness the cedar,
the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive;
I will set in the desert the cypress,
the plane and the pine together,
20 so that all may see and know,
all may consider and understand,
that the hand of the LORD has done this,
the Holy One of Israel has created it.*

THE FUTILITY OF IDOLS

21 Set forth your case, says the LORD;
bring your proofs, says the King of Jacob.*

[22]Let them bring them and tell us
what is to happen.
Tell us the former things, what they were,
so that we may consider them
and that we may know their outcome
or declare to us the things to come.*
[23]Tell us what is to come hereafter,
that we may know that you are gods;
do good, or do harm,
that we may be afraid and terrified.*
[24]You, indeed, are nothing,
and your work is nothing at all;
whoever chooses you is an abomination.*

[25]I stirred up one from the north, and he has come,
from the rising of the sun he was summoned by name.[t]
He shall trample[u] on rulers as on mortar,
as the potter treads clay.*
[26]Who declared it from the beginning, so that we might know,
and beforehand, so that we might say, "He is right"?
There was no one who declared it, none who proclaimed,
none who heard your words.*
[27]I first have declared it to Zion,[v]
and I give to Jerusalem a herald of good tidings.*
[28]But when I look there is no one;
among these there is no counselor
who, when I ask, gives an answer.*
[29]No, they are all a delusion;
their works are nothing;
their images are empty wind.*

Isaiah 42

THE SERVANT, A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

[1]Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.*
[2]He will not cry out or lift up his voice
or make it heard in the street;
[3]a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.*
[4]He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth,
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.*

[5]Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:*
[6]I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,[w]
a light to the nations,*
[7]to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.*
[8]I am the LORD; that is my name;

my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.*
9See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.*

A HYMN OF PRAISE

10Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise from the end of the earth!
Let the sea roar[x] and all that fills it,
the coastlands and their inhabitants.*
11Let the desert and its towns lift up their voice,
the villages that Kedar inhabits;
let the inhabitants of Sela shout for joy;
let them shout from the tops of the mountains.
12Let them give glory to the LORD
and declare his praise in the coastlands.*
13The LORD goes forth like a soldier;
like a warrior he stirs up his fury;
he cries out; he shouts aloud;
he shows himself mighty against his foes.*

14For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.*
15I will lay waste mountains and hills
and dry up all their herbage;
I will turn the rivers into islands

and dry up the pools.*
16 I will lead the blind
by a road they do not know;
by paths they have not known
I will guide them.
I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.
These are the things I will do,
and I will not forsake them.*
17 They shall be turned back and utterly put to shame—
those who trust in carved images,
who say to cast images,
"You are our gods."*

18 Listen, you who are deaf,
and you who are blind, look up and see!
19 Who is blind but my servant
or deaf like my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind like my dedicated one
or blind like the servant of the LORD?*
20 He sees many things, but he does[y] not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.*

ISRAEL'S DISOBEDIENCE

21 The LORD was pleased, for the sake of his righteousness,
to magnify his teaching and make it glorious.*
22 But this is a people robbed and plundered;
all of them are trapped in holes
and hidden in prisons;
they have become a prey with no one to rescue,

a spoil with no one to say, “Restore!”*
23 Who among you will give heed to this;
who will attend and listen for the time to come?
24 Who gave up Jacob to the spoiler
and Israel to the robbers?
Was it not the Lord, against whom they sinned,[z]
in whose ways they would not walk,
and whose law they would not obey?*
25 So he poured upon him the heat of his anger
and the fury of war;
it set him on fire all around, but he did not understand;
it burned him, but he did not take it to heart.*

Isaiah 43

RESTORATION AND PROTECTION PROMISED

[1]But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.*
[2]When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.*
[3]For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.*
[4]Because you are precious in my sight
and honored and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.*
[5]Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;*
[6]I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—*
[7]everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."*

[8]Bring forth the people who are blind yet have eyes,
who are deaf yet have ears!*
[9]Let all the nations gather together,
and let the peoples assemble.
Who among them declared this
and foretold to us the former things?
Let them bring their witnesses to justify them,
and let them hear and say, "It is true."*
[10]You are my witnesses, says the LORD,
and my servant whom I have chosen,
so that you may know and believe me
and understand that I am he.
Before me no god was formed,
nor shall there be any after me.*
[11]I, I am the LORD,
and besides me there is no savior.*
[12]I am the one who declared and saved and proclaimed,
not some strange god among you;
you are my witnesses, says the LORD, and I am God.*
[13]Indeed, since that day I am he;
there is no one who can deliver from my hand;
I work, and who can hinder it?*

[14]Thus says the LORD,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
For your sake I will send to Babylon
and break down all the bars,

and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to
lamentation.[a,*]
15 I am the LORD, your Holy One,
the Creator of Israel, your King.
16 Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,[*]
17 who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down; they cannot rise;
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:[*]
18 Do not remember the former things
or consider the things of old.[*]
19 I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.[*]
20 The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,[*]
21 the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.[*]

22 Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob;
but you have been weary of me, O Israel![*]
23 You have not brought me your sheep for burnt offerings
or honored me with your sacrifices.
I have not burdened you with offerings

or wearied you with frankincense.*
24 You have not bought me sweet cane with money
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.
Rather, you have burdened me with your sins;
you have wearied me with your iniquities.*

25 I alone am the one
who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,
and I will not remember your sins.*
26 Accuse me; let us go to trial;
set forth your case, so that you may be proved right.*
27 Your first ancestor sinned,
and your mediators rebelled against me.
28 Therefore I profaned the princes of the sanctuary;
I delivered Jacob to utter destruction
and Israel to reviling.*

Isaiah 44

GOD'S BLESSING ON ISRAEL

[1]But now hear, O Jacob my servant,
Israel whom I have chosen![*]
[2]Thus says the LORD who made you,
who formed you in the womb and will help you:
Do not fear, O Jacob my servant,
Jeshurun whom I have chosen.[*]
[3]For I will pour water on the thirsty land
and streams on the dry ground;
I will pour my spirit upon your descendants
and my blessing on your offspring.[*]
[4]They shall spring up like a green tamarisk,[b]
like willows by flowing streams.
[5]This one will say, "I am the LORD's";
another will be called by the name of Jacob;
yet another will write on the hand, "The LORD's,"
and adopt the name of Israel.[*]

[6]Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.[*]
[7]Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?[c]
Let them tell us[d] what is yet to be.[*]
[8]Do not fear or be afraid;

have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.*

THE ABSURDITY OF IDOL WORSHIP

9 All who make idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit; their witnesses neither see nor know, and so they will be put to shame.* [10]Who would fashion a god or cast an image that can do no good?* [11]All its devotees shall be put to shame; the artisans, too, are merely human. Let them all assemble; let them stand up; they shall be terrified; they shall all be put to shame.*

12 The blacksmith works it with a tool over the coals, shaping it with hammers and forging it with his strong arm; he becomes hungry, and his strength fails; he drinks no water and is faint.* [13]The carpenter stretches a line, marks it out with a stylus, fashions it with planes, and marks it with a compass; he makes it in human form, with human beauty, to be set up in a shrine.* [14]He cuts down cedars or chooses a holm tree or an oak and lets it grow strong among the trees of the forest. He plants a cedar and the rain nourishes it. [15]Then it can be used as fuel. Part of it he takes and warms himself; he kindles a fire and bakes bread. Then he makes a god and worships it, makes it a carved image and bows down before it.* [16]Half of it he burns in the fire; over this half he roasts meat, eats it,[e] and is satisfied. He also warms himself and says, "Ah, I am warm[f] by the fire!" [17]The rest of it he makes into a god, his idol, bows down to it and worships it; he prays to it and says, "Save me, for you are my god!"*

18 They do not know, nor do they comprehend, for their eyes are shut, so that they cannot see, and their minds as well, so that they cannot understand.* [19]No one considers, nor is there knowledge or discernment to say, "Half of it I burned in the fire; I also baked bread on its coals; I roasted meat and have eaten. Now shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Shall I fall down before a block of wood?"* [20]He feeds on ashes; a deluded mind has led him astray, and he cannot save himself or say, "Is not this thing in my right hand a fraud?"*

ISRAEL IS NOT FORGOTTEN

[21]Remember these things, O Jacob,
and Israel, for you are my servant;
I formed you, you are my servant;
O Israel, do not forget me.[g,*]
[22]I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud
and your sins like mist;
return to me, for I have redeemed you.[*]

[23]Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it;
shout, O depths of the earth;
break forth into singing, O mountains,
O forest and every tree in it!
For the LORD has redeemed Jacob
and will be glorified in Israel.[*]

[24]Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer,
who formed you in the womb:
I am the LORD, who made all things,
who alone stretched out the heavens,
who by myself spread out the earth;[*]
[25]who frustrates the omens of soothsayers
and makes fools of diviners;
who turns back the wise
and makes their knowledge foolish;[*]
[26]who confirms the word of his servant
and fulfills the prediction of his messengers;
who says of Jerusalem, "It shall be inhabited,"
and of the cities of Judah, "They shall be rebuilt,
and I will raise up their ruins";[*]

[27]who says to the deep, “Be dry—
I will dry up your rivers”;*
[28]who says of Cyrus, “He is my shepherd,
and he shall carry out all my purpose”;
and who says of Jerusalem, “It shall be rebuilt,”
and of the temple, “Your foundation shall be laid.”*

Isaiah 45

CYRUS, GOD'S INSTRUMENT

[1]Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:*
[2]I will go before you
and level the mountains;[h]
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;*
[3]I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.*
[4]For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.*
[5]I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,*
[6]so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.*
[7]I form light and create darkness,

I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.*

8Shower, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness;
let the earth open, that salvation may spring up,[i]
and let it cause righteousness to sprout up also;
I the LORD have created it.*

9Woe to those who strive with their Maker,
earthen vessels with the potter![j]
Does the clay say to the one who fashions it, "What are you making"?
or "Your work has no handles"?*
10Woe to anyone who says to a father, "What are you fathering?"
or to a woman, "With what are you in labor?"
11Thus says the LORD,
the Holy One of Israel and its Maker:
Will you question me[k] about my children
or command me concerning the work of my hands?*
12I made the earth
and created humankind upon it;
it was my hands that stretched out the heavens,
and I commanded all their host.*
13I have aroused Cyrus[l] in righteousness,
and I will make all his paths straight;
he shall build my city
and set my exiles free,
not for price or reward,
says the LORD of hosts.*
14Thus says the LORD:

The wealth of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush
and the Sabeans, tall of stature,
shall come over to you and be yours;
they shall follow you;
they shall come over in chains and bow down to you.
They will make supplication to you, saying,
"God is with you alone, and there is no other;
there is no god besides him."*
15Truly, you are a God who hides himself,
O God of Israel, the Savior.*
16All of them are put to shame and confounded;
the makers of idols go in disgrace together.*
17But Israel is saved by the LORD
with everlasting salvation;
you shall not be put to shame or confounded
ever again.*

18For thus says the LORD,
who created the heavens
(he is God!),
who formed the earth and made it
(he established it;
he did not create it a chaos;
he formed it to be inhabited!):
I am the LORD, and there is no other.*
19I did not speak in secret
in a land of darkness;
I did not say to the offspring of Jacob,
"Seek me in chaos."
I the LORD speak the truth;

I declare what is right.*

IDOLS CANNOT SAVE BABYLON

20 Assemble yourselves and come together;
draw near, you survivors of the nations!
They have no knowledge—
those who carry about their wooden idols
and keep on praying to a god
that cannot save.*
21 Declare and present your case;
take counsel together![m]
Who told this long ago?
Who declared it of old?
Was it not I, the LORD?
There is no other god besides me,
a righteous God and a Savior;
there is no one besides me.*

22 Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other.*
23 By myself I have sworn;
from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness
a word that shall not return:
"To me every knee shall bow,
every tongue shall swear."*

24 Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me,
are righteousness and strength;
all who were incensed against him
shall come to him and be ashamed.*

[25]In the LORD all the offspring of Israel
shall triumph and glory.*

Isaiah 46

[1]Bel bows down; Nebo stoops;
their idols are on beasts and cattle;
these things you carry are loaded
as burdens on weary animals.*
[2]They stoop; they bow down together;
they cannot save the burden
but themselves go into captivity.*

[3]Listen to me, O house of Jacob,
all the remnant of the house of Israel,
who have been borne by me from your birth,
carried from the womb;*
[4]even to your old age I am he;
even when you turn gray I will carry you.
I have made, and I will bear;
I will carry and will save.*

[5]To whom will you liken me and make me equal
and compare me, as though we were alike?*
[6]Those who lavish gold from the purse
and weigh out silver in the scales—
they hire a goldsmith, who makes it into a god;
then they fall down and worship!*
[7]They lift it to their shoulders; they carry it;
they set it in its place, and it stands there;
it cannot move from its place.
If one cries out to it, it does not answer

or save anyone from trouble.*

8Remember this and consider;n
recall it to mind, you transgressors;*
9remember the former things of old,
for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is no one like me,*
10declaring the outcome from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,
saying, "My purpose shall stand,
and I will fulfill my intention,"*
11calling a bird of prey from the east,
the man for my purpose from a far country.
I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;
I have planned, and I will do it.*

12Listen to me, you stubborn of heart,
you who are far from deliverance:*
13I bring near my deliverance; it is not far off,
and my salvation will not tarry;
I will put salvation in Zion,
for Israel my glory.*

Isaiah 47

THE HUMILIATION OF BABYLON

[1]Come down and sit in the dust,
virgin daughter Babylon!
Sit on the ground without a throne,
daughter Chaldea!
For you shall no more be called
tender and delicate.*
[2]Take the millstones and grind meal;
remove your veil;
strip off your robe; uncover your legs;
pass through the rivers.
[3]Your nakedness shall be uncovered,
and your shame shall be seen.
I will take vengeance,
and I will spare no one.o,*
[4]Our Redeemer—the LORD of hosts is his name—
is the Holy One of Israel.*

[5]Sit in silence, and go into darkness,
daughter Chaldea!
For you shall no more be called
the mistress of kingdoms.*
[6]I was angry with my people;
I profaned my heritage;
I gave them into your hand;
you showed them no mercy;
on the aged you made your yoke

exceedingly heavy.*
7You said, “I shall be mistress forever,”
so that you did not lay these things to heart
or remember their end.*

8Now therefore hear this, you lover of pleasures,
who sit securely,
who say in your heart,
“I am, and there is no one besides me;
I shall not sit as a widow
or know the loss of children”—*
9both these things shall come upon you
in a moment, in one day:
the loss of children and widowhood
shall come upon you in full measure,
in spite of your many sorceries
and the great power of your enchantments.*

10You felt secure in your wickedness;
you said, “No one sees me.”
Your wisdom and your knowledge
led you astray,
and you said in your heart,
“I am, and there is no one besides me.”*
11But evil shall come upon you,
which you cannot charm away;
disaster shall fall upon you,
which you will not be able to ward off,
and ruin shall come on you suddenly,
of which you know nothing.*

12 Stand fast in your enchantments
and your many sorceries,
with which you have labored from your youth;
perhaps you may be able to succeed;
perhaps you may inspire terror.*
13 You are wearied with your many consultations;
let those who study[p] the heavens
stand up and save you,
those who gaze at the stars
and at each new moon predict
what[q] shall befall you.*

14 See, they are like stubble;
the fire consumes them;
they cannot deliver themselves
from the power of the flame.
No coal for warming oneself is this,
no fire to sit before!*
15 Such to you are those with whom you have labored,
who have trafficked with you from your youth;
they all wander about in their own paths;
there is no one to save you.*

Isaiah 48

GOD THE CREATOR AND REDEEMER

[1]Hear this, O house of Jacob,
who are called by the name of Israel
and who came forth from the loins[r] of Judah,
who swear by the name of the LORD
and invoke the God of Israel
but not in truth or right.*
[2]For they call themselves after the holy city
and lean on the God of Israel;
the LORD of hosts is his name.*

[3]The former things I declared long ago;
they went out from my mouth, and I made them known;
then suddenly I did them, and they came to pass.*
[4]Because I know that you are obstinate,
and your neck is an iron sinew
and your forehead brass,*
[5]I declared them to you from long ago,
before they came to pass I announced them to you,
so that you would not say, "My idol did them;
my carved image and my cast image commanded them."*

[6]You have heard; now see all this;
and will you not declare it?
From this time forward I tell you new things,
hidden things that you have not known.*
[7]They are created now, not long ago;

before today you have never heard of them,
so that you could not say, “I already knew them.”
[8]You have never heard; you have never known;
from of old your ear has not been opened.
For I knew that you would act very treacherously
and that from birth you were called a rebel.*

[9]For my name’s sake I defer my anger;
for the sake of my praise I restrain it for you,
so that I may not cut you off.*
[10]See, I have refined you but not like[s] silver;
I have tested you in the furnace of adversity.*
[11]For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it,
for why should my name[t] be profaned?
My glory I will not give to another.*

[12]Listen to me, O Jacob,
and Israel, whom I called:
I am he; I am the first,
and I am the last.*
[13]My hand laid the foundation of the earth,
and my right hand spread out the heavens;
when I summon them,
they stand at attention.*

[14]Assemble, all of you, and hear!
Who among them has declared these things?
The one the LORD loves shall perform his purpose against Babylon,
and his arm shall be against the Chaldeans.*
[15]I, even I, have spoken and called him;

I have brought him, and he will prosper in his way.*
16 Draw near to me; hear this!
From the beginning I have not spoken in secret;
from the time it came to be I have been there.
And now the Lord GOD has sent me and his spirit.*

17 Thus says the LORD,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
I am the LORD your God,
who teaches you how to succeed,
who leads you in the way you should go.*
18 O that you had paid attention to my commandments!
Then your prosperity would have been like a river
and your success like the waves of the sea;*
19 your offspring would have been like the sand
and your descendants like its grains;
their name would never be cut off
or destroyed from before me.*

20 Go out from Babylon; flee from Chaldea;
declare this with a shout of joy; proclaim it;
send it forth to the end of the earth;
say, "The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob!"*
21 They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts;
he made water flow for them from the rock;
he split open the rock, and the water gushed out.*

22 "There is no peace," says the LORD, "for the wicked."*

Isaiah 49

THE SERVANT'S MISSION

[1]Listen to me, O coastlands;
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.*
[2]He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.*
[3]And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."*
[4]But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD
and my reward with my God."*

[5]And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—*
[6]he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."*

7Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."*

ZION'S CHILDREN TO BE BROUGHT HOME

8Thus says the LORD:
In a time of favor I have answered you;
on a day of salvation I have helped you;
I have kept you and given you
as a covenant to the people,[u]
to establish the land,
to apportion the desolate heritages,*
9saying to the prisoners, "Come out,"
to those who are in darkness, "Show yourselves."
They shall feed along the ways;
on all the bare heights[v] shall be their pasture;*
10they shall not hunger or thirst,
neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down,
for he who has pity on them will lead them
and by springs of water will guide them.*
11And I will turn all my mountains into a road,
and my highways shall be raised up.*
12Look, some shall come from far away,

some from the north and from the west,
and some from the land of Syene.[w,*]

13 Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the LORD has comforted his people
and will have compassion on his suffering ones.*

14 But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me;
my Lord has forgotten me."*
15 Can a woman forget her nursing child
or show no compassion for the child of her womb?
Even these might forget,
yet I will not forget you.*
16 See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands;
your walls are continually before me.*
17 Your builders outdo your destroyers,[x]
and those who laid you waste go away from you.*
18 Lift up your eyes all around and see;
they all gather; they come to you.
As I live, says the LORD,
you shall put all of them on like an ornament,
and like a bride you shall bind them on.*

19 For your wastelands, your desolate places,
and your devastated land—
now you will be too crowded for your inhabitants,
and those who swallowed you up will be far away.*
20 The children born in the time of your bereavement
will yet say in your hearing:
"The place is too crowded for me;

make room for me to settle."*
21 Then you will say in your heart,
"Who has borne me these?
I was bereaved and barren,
exiled and put away—
so who has reared these?
I was left all alone—
where, then, have these come from?"*

22 Thus says the Lord GOD:
I will soon lift up my hand to the nations
and raise my signal to the peoples,
and they shall bring your sons in their bosom,
and your daughters shall be carried on their shoulders.*
23 Kings shall be your foster fathers
and their queens your nursing mothers.
With their faces to the ground they shall bow down to you
and lick the dust of your feet.
Then you will know that I am the LORD;
those who wait for me shall not be put to shame.*

24 Can the prey be taken from the mighty
or the captives of a tyrant[y] be rescued?
25 But thus says the LORD:
Even the captives of the mighty will be taken,
and the prey of the tyrant will be rescued,
for I will contend with those who contend with you,
and I will save your children.*
26 I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh,
and they shall be drunk with their own blood as with wine.
Then all flesh shall know

that I am the LORD your Savior
and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.*

Isaiah 50

[1]Thus says the LORD:
Where is your mother's bill of divorce
with which I dismissed her?
Or which of my creditors is it
to whom I have sold you?
No, because of your sins you were sold,
and for your transgressions your mother was dismissed.*
[2]Why was no one there when I came?
Why did no one answer when I called?
Is my arm powerless to redeem?
Or have I no strength to deliver?
By my rebuke I dry up the sea;
I make the rivers a desert,
so that their fish stink for lack of water
and die of thirst.z,*
[3]I clothe the heavens with blackness
and make sackcloth their covering.*

THE SERVANT'S HUMILIATION AND VINDICATION

[4]The Lord GOD has given me
a trained tongue,a
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens,
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.*
[5]The Lord GOD has opened my ear,

and I was not rebellious;
I did not turn backward.*
6I gave my back to those who struck me
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.*

7The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;*
8he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand in court together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.*
9It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.*

10Who among you fears the Lord
and obeys the voice of his servant,
who walks in darkness
and has no light,
yet trusts in the name of the Lord
and relies upon his God?*
11But all of you are kindlers of fire,
lighters of firebrands.[b]
Walk in the flame of your fire
and among the brands that you have kindled!

This is what you shall have from my hand:
you shall lie down in torment.*

Isaiah 51

BLESSINGS IN STORE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

[1]Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.*
[2]Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.*
[3]For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.*

[4]Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.*
[5]I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.*
[6]Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,

for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
    the earth will wear out like a garment,
    and those who live on it will die like gnats,[c]
but my salvation will be forever,
    and my deliverance will never be ended.*

7Listen to me, you who know righteousness,
    you people who have my teaching in your hearts;
do not fear the reproach of others,
    and do not be dismayed when they revile you.*
8For the moth will eat them up like a garment,
    and the worm will eat them like wool,
but my deliverance will be forever
    and my salvation to all generations.*

9Awake, awake, put on strength,
    O arm of the LORD!
Awake, as in days of old,
    the generations of long ago!
Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces,
    who pierced the dragon?*
10Was it not you who dried up the sea,
    the waters of the great deep;
who made the depths of the sea a way
    for the redeemed to cross over?*
11So the ransomed of the LORD shall return
    and come to Zion with rejoicing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
    they shall obtain joy and gladness,
    and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

12 I, I am he who comforts you;
  why then are you afraid of a mere mortal who must die,
  a human being who fades like grass?*
13 You have forgotten the LORD, your Maker,
  who stretched out the heavens
  and laid the foundations of the earth.
You fear continually all day long
  because of the fury of the oppressor,
who is bent on destruction.
  But where is the fury of the oppressor?*
14 The oppressed shall speedily be released;
  they shall not die and go down to the Pit,
  nor shall they lack bread.*
15 For I am the LORD your God,
  who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—
  the LORD of hosts is his name.*
16 I have put my words in your mouth
  and hidden you in the shadow of my hand,
stretching out[d] the heavens
  and laying the foundations of the earth
  and saying to Zion, "You are my people."*

17 Rouse yourself, rouse yourself!
  Stand up, O Jerusalem,
you who have drunk at the hand of the LORD
  the cup of his wrath,
who have drunk to the dregs
  the cup of staggering.*
18 There is no one to guide her
  among all the children she has borne;

there is no one to take her by the hand
among all the children she has brought up.*
19These two things have befallen you
—who will grieve with you?—
devastation and destruction, famine and sword.
Who will comfort you?e,*
20Your children have fainted;
they lie at the head of every street
like an antelope in a net;
they are full of the wrath of the LORD,
the rebuke of your God.*

21Therefore hear this, you who are wounded,f
who are drunk but not with wine:*
22Thus says your Sovereign, the LORD,
your God who pleads the cause of his people:
See, I have taken from your hand the cup of staggering;
you shall drink no more
from the cup of my wrath.*
23And I will put it into the hand of your tormentors,
who have said to you,
"Bow down, that we may walk on you,"
and you have made your back like the ground
and like the street for them to walk on.*

Isaiah 52

LET ZION REJOICE

[1]Awake; awake;
put on your strength, O Zion!
Put on your beautiful garments,
O Jerusalem, the holy city,
for the uncircumcised and the unclean
shall enter you no more.*
[2]Shake yourself from the dust; rise up,
O captive[g] Jerusalem;
loose the bonds from your neck,
O captive daughter Zion!*

3 For thus says the LORD: You were sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without money.* [4]For thus says the Lord GOD: Long ago, my people went down into Egypt to reside there as aliens; the Assyrian, too, has oppressed them without cause.* [5]Now therefore what am I doing here, says the LORD, seeing that my people are taken away without cause? Their rulers howl, says the LORD, and continually, all day long, my name is despised.* [6]Therefore my people shall know my name; on[h] that day they shall know that it is I who speak—it is I!*

[7]How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."*
[8]Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy,

for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.*
9Break forth; shout together for joy,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.*
10The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.*

11Depart, depart, go out from there!
Touch no unclean thing;
go out from the midst of it; purify yourselves,
you who carry the vessels of the LORD.*
12For you shall not go out in haste,
and you shall not go in flight,
for the LORD will go before you,
and the God of Israel will be your rear guard.*

THE SUFFERING SERVANT

13See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up
and shall be very high.*
14Just as there were many who were astonished at him[i]
—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals—*
15so he shall startle[j] many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
for that which had not been told them they shall see,

and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.*

Isaiah 53

[1]Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?*
[2]For he grew up before him like a young plant
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.*
[3]He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering[k] and acquainted with infirmity,
and as one from whom others hide their faces[l]
he was despised, and we held him of no account.*

[4]Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases,
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.*
[5]But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.*
[6]All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.*

[7]He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter

and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.*
8By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.*
9They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb[m] with the rich,[n]
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.*

10Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with affliction.
When you make his life an offering for sin,[o]
he shall see his offspring and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.*
11Out of his anguish he shall see;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one,[p] my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.*
12Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out himself to death
and was numbered with the transgressors,
yet he bore the sin of many
and made intercession for the transgressors.*

Isaiah 54

THE ETERNAL COVENANT OF PEACE

[1]Shout for joy, O barren one who has borne no children;
burst into song and shout,
you who have not been in labor!
For the children of the desolate woman will be more
than the children of the one who is married, says the LORD.*
[2]Enlarge the site of your tent,
and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out;
do not hold back; lengthen your cords
and strengthen your stakes.*
[3]For you will spread out to the right and to the left,
and your descendants will possess nations
and will settle desolate towns.*

[4]Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed;
do not be discouraged, for you will not suffer disgrace,
for you will forget the shame of your youth,
and the disgrace of your widowhood you will remember no more.*
[5]For your Maker is your husband;
the LORD of hosts is his name;
the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer;
the God of the whole earth he is called.*
[6]For the LORD has called you
like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,
like the wife of a man's youth when she is cast off,
says your God.*

7For a brief moment I abandoned you,
but with great compassion I will gather you.*
8In overflowing wrath for a moment
I hid my face from you,
but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,
says the LORD, your Redeemer.*

9This is like the days of Noah to me:
Just as I swore that the waters of Noah
would never again go over the earth,
so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you
and will not rebuke you.*
10For the mountains may depart
and the hills be removed,
but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,
says the LORD, who has compassion on you.*

11O afflicted one, storm-tossed and not comforted,
I am about to set your stones in antimony
and lay your foundations with sapphires.q,*
12I will make your pinnacles of rubies,
your gates of jewels,
and all your wall of precious stones.
13All your children shall be taught by the LORD,
and great shall be the prosperity of your children.*
14In righteousness you shall be established;
you shall be far from oppression; indeed, you shall not fear;
and from terror; indeed, it shall not come near you.*
15If anyone stirs up strife,

it is not from me;
whoever stirs up strife with you
shall fall because of you.*
16 See, it is I who have created the smith
who blows the fire of coals
and produces a weapon fit for its purpose;
I have also created the ravager to destroy.
17 No weapon that is fashioned against you shall prosper,
and you shall confute every tongue that rises against you in judgment.
This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD
and their vindication from me, says the LORD.*

Isaiah 55

AN INVITATION TO ABUNDANT LIFE

[1]Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.*
[2]Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.*
[3]Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.*
[4]See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.*
[5]Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.*

[6]Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;*
[7]let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.*
8For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
9For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

10For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,*
11so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

12For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*
13Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*

Isaiah 56

THE COVENANT EXTENDED TO ALL WHO OBEY

[1]Thus says the LORD:
Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.*

[2]Happy is the mortal who does this,
the one who holds it fast,
who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it,
and refrains from doing any evil.*

[3]Do not let the foreigner joined to the LORD say,
"The LORD will surely separate me from his people,"
and do not let the eunuch say,
"I am just a dry tree."*
[4]For thus says the LORD:
To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me
and hold fast my covenant,*
[5]I will give, in my house and within my walls,
a monument and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name
that shall not be cut off.*

[6]And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—*
7these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.*
8Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.[r,*]

THE CORRUPTION OF ISRAEL'S RULERS

9All you wild animals,
all you wild animals in the forest, come to devour!*
10Israel's[s] sentinels are blind;
they are all without knowledge;
they are all silent dogs
that cannot bark,
dreaming, lying down,
loving to slumber.*
11The dogs have a mighty appetite;
they never have enough.
The shepherds also have no understanding;
they have all turned to their own way,
to their own gain, one and all.
12"Come," they say, "let us[t] get wine;
let us fill ourselves with strong drink.
And tomorrow will be like today,

great beyond measure.”

Isaiah 57

ISRAEL'S FUTILE IDOLATRY

[1]The righteous perish,
and no one considers why;
the devout are taken away,
while no one understands
that it is due to evil that the righteous are taken away.*
[2]Those who walk uprightly enter into peace
and rest on their couches.*
[3]But as for you, come here,
you children of a sorceress,
you offspring of an adulterer and a prostitute.u,*
[4]Whom are you mocking?
Against whom do you open your mouth wide
and stick out your tongue?
Are you not children of transgression,
the offspring of deceit—*
[5]you who burn with lust among the oaks,
under every green tree;
you who slaughter your children in the valleys,
under the clefts of the rocks?*
[6]Among the smooth stones of the valley is your portion;
it is they who are your lot;
to them you have poured out a drink offering;
you have brought a grain offering.
Should these acts cause me to relent?*
[7]Upon a high and lofty mountain

you have set your bed,
and there you went up to offer sacrifice.*
8Behind the door and the doorpost
you have set up your symbol,
for in deserting me[v] you have uncovered your bed;
you have gone up to it;
you have made it wide;
and you have made a bargain for yourself with them;
you have loved their bed;
you have gazed on their nakedness.[w,*]
9You journeyed to Molech[x] with oil
and multiplied your perfumes;
you sent your envoys far away
and sent them down to Sheol.*
10You grew weary from your many wanderings,
but you did not say, "It is no use!"
You found your desire rekindled,
and so you did not weaken.*

11Whom did you dread and fear
so that you lied
and did not remember me
or give me a thought?
Have I not kept silent and closed my eyes,[y]
and so you do not fear me?*
12I will announce your verdict,
and the objects you made will not help you.
13When you cry out, let your collection of idols deliver you!
The wind will carry them off;
a breath will take them away.

But whoever takes refuge in me shall possess the land
and inherit my holy mountain.*

A PROMISE OF HELP AND HEALING

14It shall be said,
"Build up, build up, prepare the way;
remove every obstruction from my people's way."*
15For thus says the high and lofty one
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
I dwell in the high and holy place
and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit,
to revive the spirit of the humble
and to revive the heart of the contrite.*
16For I will not continually accuse,
nor will I always be angry,
for then the spirits would grow faint before me,
even the souls that I have made.*
17Because of their wicked covetousness I was angry;
I struck them; I hid and was angry,
but they kept turning back to their own ways.*
18I have seen their ways, but I will heal them;
I will lead them and repay them with comfort,
19creating for their mourners the fruit of the lips.z
Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the LORD,
and I will heal them.*
20But the wicked are like the tossing sea
that cannot keep still;
its waters toss up mire and mud.*
21There is no peace, says my God, for the wicked.*

Isaiah 58

FALSE AND TRUE WORSHIP

[1]Shout out; do not hold back!
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.*
[2]Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.[a,*]
[3]"Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.*
[4]You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.*
[5]Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?*

[6]Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?*
7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?*
8 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator[b] shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.*
9 Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,*
10 if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.*
11 The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.*
12 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,

the restorer of streets to live in.*

13If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;*
14then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.*

Isaiah 59

INJUSTICE AND OPPRESSION TO BE PUNISHED

[1]See, the LORD's arm is not too short to save,
nor his ear too dull to hear.*
[2]Rather, your iniquities have been barriers
between you and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you
so that he does not hear.*
[3]For your hands are defiled with blood
and your fingers with iniquity;
your lips have spoken lies;
your tongue mutters wickedness.*
[4]No one brings suit justly;
no one goes to law honestly;
they rely on empty pleas; they speak lies,
conceiving mischief and bearing iniquity.*
[5]They hatch adders' eggs
and weave the spider's web;
whoever eats their eggs dies,
and the crushed egg hatches out a viper.*
[6]Their webs cannot serve as clothing;
they cannot cover themselves with what they make.
Their works are works of iniquity,
and deeds of violence are in their hands.*
[7]Their feet run to evil,
and they rush to shed innocent blood;
their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity;

desolation and destruction are in their highways.*
8The way of peace they do not know,
and there is no justice in their ways.
Their roads they have made crooked;
no one who walks in them knows peace.*

9Therefore justice is far from us,
and deliverance does not reach us;
we wait for light, but there is only darkness;
and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.*
10We grope like the blind along a wall,
groping like those who have no eyes;
we stumble at noon as in the twilight,
among the vigorous[c] as though we were dead.*
11We all growl like bears;
like doves we moan mournfully.
We wait for justice, but there is none;
for salvation, but it is far from us.*
12For our transgressions before you are many,
and our sins testify against us.
Our transgressions indeed are with us,
and we know our iniquities:*
13transgressing and denying the LORD
and turning away from following our God,
talking oppression and revolt,
conceiving lying words and uttering them from the heart.*
14Justice is turned back,
and deliverance stands at a distance,
for truth stumbles in the public square,
and uprightness cannot enter.*

15 Truth is lacking,
and whoever turns from evil is despoiled.

The LORD saw it, and it displeased him
that there was no justice.*
16 He saw that there was no one
and was appalled that there was no one to intervene,
so his own arm brought him victory,
and his righteousness upheld him.*
17 He put on righteousness like a breastplate
and a helmet of salvation on his head;
he put on garments of vengeance for clothing
and wrapped himself in fury as in a mantle.*
18 According to their deeds, so will he repay
wrath to his adversaries, requital to his enemies;
to the coastlands he will render requital.*
19 So those in the west shall fear the name of the LORD,
and those in the east, his glory,
for he will come like a pent-up stream
that the wind of the LORD drives on.*

20 And he will come to Zion as Redeemer,
to those in Jacob who turn from transgression, says the LORD.*
21 And as for me, this is my covenant with them, says the LORD: my spirit that is upon you and my words that I have put in your mouth shall not depart out of your mouth or out of the mouths of your children or out of the mouths of your children's children, says the LORD, from now on and forever.*

Isaiah 60

THE INGATHERING OF THE DISPERSED

[1]Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.*
[2]For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.*
[3]Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.*

[4]Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together; they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.*
[5]Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,[d]
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.*
[6]A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.*
[7]All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you;
the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;
they shall be acceptable on my altar,[e]

and I will glorify my glorious house.*

8 Who are these that fly like a cloud
and like doves to their windows?
9 For the coastlands shall wait for me,
the ships of Tarshish first,
to bring your children from far away,
their silver and gold with them,
for the name of the LORD your God
and for the Holy One of Israel,
because he has glorified you.*
10 Foreigners shall build up your walls,
and their kings shall minister to you,
for in my wrath I struck you down,
but in my favor I have had mercy on you.*
11 Your gates shall always be open;
day and night they shall not be shut,
so that nations shall bring you their wealth,
with their kings led in procession.*
12 For the nation and kingdom
that will not serve you shall perish;
those nations shall be utterly laid waste.*
13 The glory of Lebanon shall come to you,
the cypress, the plane, and the pine,
to beautify the place of my sanctuary,
and I will glorify where my feet rest.*
14 The descendants of those who oppressed you
shall come bending low to you,
and all who despised you
shall bow down at your feet;

they shall call you the City of the LORD,
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.*
15 Whereas you have been forsaken and hated,
with no one passing through,
I will make you majestic forever,
a joy from age to age.*
16 You shall suck the milk of nations;
you shall suck the breasts of kings,
and you shall know that I, the LORD, am your Savior
and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.*

17 Instead of bronze I will bring gold;
instead of iron I will bring silver;
instead of wood, bronze;
instead of stones, iron.
I will appoint Peace as your overseer
and Righteousness as your taskmaster.
18 Violence shall no more be heard in your land,
devastation or destruction within your borders;
you shall call your walls Salvation
and your gates Praise.*

GOD THE GLORY OF ZION

19 The sun shall no longer be
your light by day,
nor for brightness shall the moon
give light to you by night,[f]
but the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.*
20 Your sun shall no more go down

or your moon withdraw itself,
for the LORD will be your everlasting light,
and your days of mourning shall be ended.*
21 Your people shall all be righteous;
they shall possess the land forever.
They are the shoot that I planted, the work of my hands,
so that I might be glorified.*
22 The least of them shall become a clan
and the smallest one a mighty nation;
I am the LORD;
in its time I will accomplish it quickly.*

Isaiah 61

THE GOOD NEWS OF DELIVERANCE

[1]The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,*
[2]to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,*
[3]to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.*
[4]They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.*

[5]Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks;
foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines,*
[6]but you shall be called priests of the LORD;
you shall be named ministers of our God;
you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations,
and in their riches you shall glory.*

7 Because their[g] shame was double
and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,
therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion;
everlasting joy shall be theirs.*

8 For I, the LORD, love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;[h]
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.*
9 Their descendants shall be known among the nations
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.*
10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my whole being shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*
11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.*

Isaiah 62

THE VINDICATION AND SALVATION OF ZION

[1]For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn
and her salvation like a burning torch.*
[2]The nations shall see your vindication
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.*
[3]You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the LORD
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.*
[4]You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her
and your land Married,
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.*
[5]For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder[i] marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.*
[6]Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,
I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night
they shall never be silent.
You who remind the LORD,

take no rest,*
7and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.*
8The LORD has sworn by his right hand
and by his mighty arm:
I will not again give your grain
to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink the wine
for which you have labored,*
9but those who harvest it shall eat it
and praise the LORD,
and those who gather it shall drink it
in my holy courts.*

10Go through, go through the gates;
prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway;
clear it of stones;
lift up an ensign over the peoples.*
11The LORD has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:
Say to daughter Zion,
"Look, your savior comes;
his reward is with him
and his recompense before him."*
12They shall be called, "The Holy People,
The Redeemed of the LORD,"
and you shall be called, "Sought Out,
A City Not Forsaken."*

Isaiah 63

VENGEANCE ON EDOM

1 “Who is this coming from Edom,
from Bozrah in garments stained crimson?
Who is this so splendidly robed,
marching in his great might?”

“It is I, announcing vindication,
mighty to save.”*

2 “Why are your robes red
and your garments like theirs who tread the winepress?”*

3 “I have trodden the winepress alone,
and from the peoples no one was with me;
I trod them in my anger
and trampled them in my wrath;
their juice spattered on my garments,
and I stained all my robes.*
4 For the day of vengeance was in my mind,
and the year for my redeeming work had come.*
5 I looked, but there was no helper;
I was abandoned, and there was no one to sustain me,
so my own arm brought me victory,
and my wrath sustained me.*
6 I trampled down peoples in my anger;
I crushed them[j] in my wrath,
and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.”*

GOD'S MERCY REMEMBERED

[7]I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.*
[8]For he said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not act deceitfully,"
and he became their savior
[9]in all their distress.
It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;
in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.*

[10]But they rebelled
and grieved his holy spirit;
therefore he became their enemy;
he himself fought against them.*
[11]Then they[k] remembered the days of old,
of Moses his servant.[l]
Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?
Where is the one who put within them
his holy spirit,*
[12]who caused his glorious arm
to march at the right hand of Moses,
who divided the waters before them
to make for himself an everlasting name,*

[13]who led them through the depths?
Like a horse in the desert,
they did not stumble.*
[14]Like cattle that go down into the valley,
the spirit of the LORD gave them rest.
Thus you led your people,
to make for yourself a glorious name.*

A PRAYER OF PENITENCE

[15]Look down from heaven and see,
from your holy and glorious habitation.
Where are your zeal and your might?
Your great pity and your compassion are withheld from me.*
[16]For you are our father,
though Abraham does not know us
and Israel does not acknowledge us;
you, O LORD, are our father;
our Redeemer from of old is your name.*
[17]Why, O LORD, do you let us stray from your ways
and let our heart harden, so that we do not fear you?
Turn back for the sake of your servants,
the tribes that are your heritage.*
[18]Your holy people took possession for a little while,
but now our adversaries have trampled down your sanctuary.*
[19]We have long been like those whom you do not rule,
like those not called by your name.*

Isaiah 64

[1]O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—*
[2][m]as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!*
[3]When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.*
[4]From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.*
[5]You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.[n],*
[6]We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.*
[7]There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered[o] us into the hand of our iniquity.*
[8]Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;

we are all the work of your hand.*
9Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.*
10Your holy cities have become a wilderness;
Zion has become a wilderness,
Jerusalem a desolation.*
11Our holy and beautiful house,
where our ancestors praised you,
has been burned by fire,
and all our pleasant places have become ruins.*
12After all this, will you restrain yourself, O LORD?
Will you keep silent and punish us so severely?*

Isaiah 65

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD'S JUDGMENT

[1]I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.
I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.*
[2]I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;*
[3]a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;*
[4]who sit inside tombs
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat the flesh of pigs,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;*
[5]who say, "Keep to yourself;
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."
These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.*
[6]See, it is written before me:
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their laps*
[7]their[p] iniquities and their[q] ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.*
8Thus says the LORD:
As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, “Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,”
so I will do for my servants’ sake
and not destroy them all.
9I will bring forth descendants from Jacob
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.*
10Sharon shall become a pasture for flocks
and the Valley of Achor a place for herds to lie down,
for my people who have sought me.*
11But you who forsake the LORD,
who forget my holy mountain,
who set a table for Fortune
and fill cups of mixed wine for Destiny,*
12I will destine you to the sword,
and all of you shall bow down to the slaughter;
because, when I called, you did not answer,
when I spoke, you did not listen,
but you did what was evil in my sight
and chose what I did not delight in.*
13Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
My servants shall eat,
but you shall be hungry;

my servants shall drink,
but you shall be thirsty;
my servants shall rejoice,
but you shall be put to shame;*
14 my servants shall sing with gladness of heart,
but you shall cry out in pain of heart
and shall wail in anguish of spirit.*
15 You shall leave your name to my chosen to use as a curse,
and the Lord GOD will put you to death,
but to his servants he will give a different name.*
16 Then whoever invokes a blessing in the land
shall bless by the God of faithfulness,
and whoever takes an oath in the land
shall swear by the God of faithfulness,
because the former troubles are forgotten
and are hidden from my sight.*

THE GLORIOUS NEW CREATION

17 For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.*
18 But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating,
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy
and its people as a delight.*
19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it
or the cry of distress.*

[20]No more shall there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime,
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.*
[21]They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.*
[22]They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat,
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.*
[23]They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,[r]
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—
and their descendants as well.*
[24]Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.*
[25]The wolf and the lamb shall feed together;
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
says the LORD.*

Isaiah 66

THE WORSHIP GOD DEMANDS

[1]Thus says the LORD:
Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool;
so what kind of house could you build for me,
what sort of place for me to rest?*
[2]All these things my hand has made,
so all these things are mine,[s]
says the LORD.
But this is the one to whom I will look,
to the humble and contrite in spirit
who trembles at my word.*

[3]Whoever slaughters an ox is like one who kills a human,
whoever sacrifices a lamb like one who breaks a dog's neck,
whoever presents a grain offering like one who offers pig's blood,
whoever makes a memorial offering of frankincense like one who blesses an idol.
Just as these have chosen their own ways
and in their abominations they take delight,*
[4]so I will choose their punishments
and bring upon them what they fear,
because, when I called, no one answered,
when I spoke, they did not listen,
but they did what was evil in my sight
and chose what did not please me.*

THE LORD VINDICATES ZION

[5]Hear the word of the LORD,
you who tremble at his word:
Your own people who hate you
and reject you for my name's sake
have said, "Let the LORD be glorified,
so that we may see your joy,"
but it is they who shall be put to shame.*

[6]Listen, a roar from the city!
A voice from the temple!
The voice of the LORD,
dealing retribution to his enemies!*

[7]Before she was in labor
she gave birth;
before her pain came upon her
she delivered a son.*
[8]Who has heard of such a thing?
Who has seen such things?
Shall a land be born in one day?
Shall a nation be delivered in one moment?
Yet as soon as Zion was in labor
she delivered her children.*
[9]Shall I open the womb and not deliver?
says the LORD;
shall I, the one who delivers, shut the womb?
says your God.

[10]Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,
all you who love her;

rejoice with her in joy,
all you who mourn over her—*
11 that you may nurse and be satisfied
from her consoling breast,
that you may drink deeply with delight
from her glorious bosom.*

12 For thus says the LORD:
I will extend prosperity to her like a river
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream,
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm
and bounced on her knees.*
13 As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.*

THE REIGN AND INDIGNATION OF GOD

14 You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;
your bodies[t] shall flourish like the grass,
and it shall be known that the power of the LORD is with his servants,
and his indignation is against his enemies.*
15 For the LORD will come in fire
and his chariots in a whirlwind,[u]
to vent his anger in fury
and his rebuke in flames of fire.*
16 For by fire will the LORD execute judgment,
and by his sword on all flesh;
and those slain by the LORD shall be many.*

17 Those who sanctify and purify themselves to go into the gardens, following the one in the center, eating the flesh of pigs, vermin, and rodents, shall come to an end together, says the LORD,* 18for I know[v] their works and their thoughts.

I am[w] coming to gather all nations and tongues, and they shall come and shall see my glory,* 19and I will set a sign among them. From them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Put,[x] and Lud, to Meshech,[y] Tubal, and Javan, to the coastlands far away that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory, and they shall declare my glory among the nations.* 20They shall bring all your kindred from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and on mules, and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring a grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD.* 21And I will also take some of them as priests and as Levites, says the LORD.*

22For as the new heavens and the new earth,
  which I will make,
shall remain before me, says the LORD,
  so shall your descendants and your name remain.*
23From new moon to new moon
  and from Sabbath to Sabbath,
all flesh shall come to worship before me,
says the LORD.*

24 And they shall go out and look at the dead bodies of the people who have rebelled against me, for their worm shall not die, their fire shall not be quenched, and they shall be an abhorrence to all flesh.*

Isaiah 1

* **1.1** Num 12.6; 2 Kings 15.1, 13, 32; 16.1; 18.1; Isa 2.1
* **1.2** Deut 32.1
* **1.3** Jer 8.7; 9.3, 6
a **1.4** Gk OL lack: Heb adds *who are utterly estranged*
* **1.4** v 28; Isa 5.24; 14.20
* **1.5** Isa 31.6; 33.24
* **1.6** Job 2.7; Ps 38.3; Isa 30.26; Lk 10.34
* **1.7** Isa 6.11; Jer 44.6
* **1.9** Isa 10.20–22; Rom 9.29
* **1.10** Isa 3.9; 28.14; Ezek 16.46; Rev 11.8
* **1.11** 1 Sam 15.22; Jer 6.20; Mic 6.7
b **1.12** Or *see my face*
* **1.12** Ex 23.17
* **1.13** Ex 12.16; 1 Chr 23.31; Isa 66.3; Jer 7.9, 10
* **1.14** Lev 23.2; Num 28.11; Isa 7.13; 43.24
* **1.15** 1 Kings 8.22; Isa 8.17; 59.2, 3; Mic 3.4
* **1.16** Isa 52.11; 55.7; Jer 4.14; 25.5
* **1.17** Ps 82.3; Isa 58.6; Jer 22.3
* **1.18** Ps 51.7; Isa 43.26; Rev 7.14
* **1.19** Deut 30.15, 16
* **1.20** Isa 3.25; 34.16
* **1.21** Isa 59.7; Jer 2.20
* **1.22** Ezek 22.18
* **1.23** Ex 23.8; Jer 5.28; Hos 9.15; Mic 7.3; Zech 7.10
* **1.24** Isa 35.4; 49.26
* **1.25** Mal 3.3
* **1.26** Jer 33.7; Zech 8.3
* **1.28** Ps 9.5; Isa 24.20; 2 Thess 1.8, 9
* **1.29** Isa 57.5; 65.3
* **1.31** Isa 5.24; 66.24; Mt 3.12

Isaiah 2

* **2.1** Isa 1.1
* **2.2** Isa 27.13; 56.7; 66.20; Mic 4.1–3
* **2.3** Isa 55.5; 66.18; Zech 8.20–23; Lk 24.47
* **2.4** Isa 32.17, 18; Hos 2.18
* **2.5** Isa 58.1; 60.1, 2, 19
c **2.6** Cn: Heb lacks *of diviners*

* **2.6** Deut 31.17; 2 Kings 16.7, 8
* **2.7** Deut 17.16
* **2.8** Isa 10.11; 17.8
* **2.9** Neh 4.5; Isa 5.15
d **2.9–10** Q ms lacks *do not forgive . . . majesty*
* **2.10** 2 Thess 1.9; Rev 6.15
* **2.11** Isa 13.11; Zech 9.16
e **2.12** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *low*
* **2.12** Isa 24.4, 21
* **2.13** Isa 10.33, 34; Zech 11.2
* **2.14** Isa 30.25
* **2.16** 1 Kings 10.22
* **2.17** v 11
* **2.18** Isa 21.9
* **2.19** Hos 10.8; 2 Thess 1.9; Heb 12.26; Rev 9.6
* **2.20** Isa 30.22
* **2.21** vv 10, 19
f **2.22** Gk OL lack 2.22
* **2.22** Job 27.3; Ps 146.3; Jas 4.14

Isaiah 3

* **3.1** Lev 26.26; Jer 37.21
* **3.2** 2 Kings 24.14
* **3.4** Eccl 10.16
* **3.5** Isa 9.19; Mic 7.3–6
* **3.6** Isa 4.1
* **3.7** Ezek 34.4
* **3.8** Isa 1.7; 6.11; 9.17; 65.3, 5
* **3.9** Gen 13.13; Isa 1.10
* **3.10** Deut 28.1–14
* **3.11** Isa 65.6, 7
g **3.12** Gk: Heb *women*
* **3.12** v 4; Isa 9.16
* **3.13** Isa 66.16; Mic 6.2
* **3.14** Isa 10.1, 2; Ezek 20.35, 36; Jas 2.6
* **3.15** Ps 94.5
* **3.16** Isa 4.4
* **3.18** Judg 8.21
* **3.20** Ex 39.28
* **3.21** Ezek 16.12
h **3.24** Q ms: MT lacks *shame*

* **3.24** Prov 31.24; Isa 15.3; 22.12
* **3.25** Isa 1.20; 65.12
* **3.26** Jer 14.2; Lam 2.10

Isaiah 4

* **4.1** Isa 13.12; 54.4; 2 Thess 3.12
* **4.2** Ps 72.16; Isa 10.20; 11.1; Zech 3.8; 6.12
* **4.3** Isa 28.5; 52.1; 60.21; Lk 10.20
* **4.4** Isa 1.15; 3.16, 24; 28.6; Mal 3.2, 3
* **4.5** Ex 13.21; Isa 60.1, 2
* **4.6** Isa 25.4

Isaiah 5

* **5.1** Ps 80.8; Mt 21.33; Mk 12.1; Lk 20.9
* **5.2** Jer 2.21; Mt 21.19; Mk 11.13; Lk 13.6
* **5.3** Mt 21.40
* **5.4** Mt 23.37
* **5.5** Ps 80.12; 89.40; Isa 6.13; 10.6; Lk 21.24; Rev 11.2
* **5.6** 1 Kings 8.35; Isa 24.1, 3; Heb 6.8
* **5.7** Ps 80.8–11; Isa 3.14, 15
* **5.8** Mic 2.2
* **5.9** Isa 6.11, 12; 22.14

i **5.10** The Heb *bath*, *homer*, and *ephah* are measures of quantity

* **5.10** Isa 7.23; Ezek 45.11
* **5.11** Prov 23.29, 30; Eccl 10.16
* **5.12** Job 34.27; Ps 28.5; Am 6.5, 6
* **5.13** Isa 1.3; 3.3; 9.14, 15; Hos 4.6

j **5.14** Heb *her nobility*

* **5.14** Num 16.30–34; Ps 141.7; Prov 30.16
* **5.15** Isa 2.9, 11
* **5.16** Isa 2.11, 17; 8.13; 29.23

k **5.17** Gk: Heb *aliens*

* **5.18** Isa 59.4–8
* **5.19** Ezek 12.22; 2 Pet 3.3, 4
* **5.20** Prov 17.15; Mt 6.22, 23; Lk 11.34, 35
* **5.21** Rom 12.16
* **5.22** v 11
* **5.23** Ps 94.21; Isa 10.1, 2
* **5.24** Job 18.16; Isa 9.18, 19; Hos 5.12; Acts 13.41
* **5.25** 2 Kings 22.13; Isa 9.12, 17, 21; 14.19; 23.11; Jer 4.24

* **5.26** Deut 28.49; Isa 7.18; 13.2–5
* **5.27** Dan 5.6; Joel 2.7, 8
* **5.28** Ps 7.12, 13; Jer 4.13
* **5.29** Isa 10.6; 42.22; Jer 51.38
* **5.30** Isa 8.22; 17.12

Isaiah 6

* **6.1** 1 Kings 22.19; 2 Kings 15.7; Isa 1.1
* **6.2** Ezek 1.11; Rev 4.8
* **6.3** Ps 72.19; Rev 4.8
l **6.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.5** Ex 33.20; Jer 9.3–8; 51.57
m **6.7** Heb *He*
* **6.7** Isa 40.2; Jer 1.9; 1 Jn 1.7
* **6.8** Ezek 10.5; Acts 9.4; 26.19
* **6.9** Ezek 3.11; Mt 13.14, 15; Mk 4.12; Lk 8.10; Jn 12.40; Rom 11.8
* **6.10** Ps 119.70; Jer 5.21
* **6.11** Mic 3.12
* **6.12** Jer 4.29
n **6.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.13** Ezra 9.2; Job 14.7; Isa 1.9

Isaiah 7

* **7.1** 2 Kings 15.25, 37; 16.1
o **7.2** Heb *his heart*
* **7.2** v 13; Isa 8.12
p **7.3** That is, *a remnant shall return*
* **7.3** 2 Kings 18.17; Isa 10.21
* **7.4** Isa 10.24; 30.15; 35.4
q **7.6** Or *cut it off*
* **7.7** Isa 8.10
* **7.8** Isa 17.1–3
* **7.9** 2 Chr 20.20
* **7.11** 2 Kings 19.29; Isa 37.30; 38.7, 8
r **7.13** Heb *he*
s **7.14** That is, *God is with us*
* **7.14** Isa 8.8; 9.6; Mt 1.23; Lk 1.31
* **7.15** v 22
* **7.16** Isa 8.4
* **7.17** 1 Kings 12.16; 2 Chr 28.19

* **7.18** Isa 5.26
t **7.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.19** Isa 2.19; Jer 16.16
* **7.20** Isa 8.7; 10.5, 15; 24.1; Ezek 5.1–4

Isaiah 8

u **8.1** That is, *the spoil speeds, the prey hastens*
* **8.1** Isa 30.8; Hab 2.2
v **8.2** Q ms Gk Syr: MT *and I caused to be attested*
* **8.2** 2 Kings 16.10
* **8.4** Isa 7.8, 9, 16
w **8.6** Cn: Heb *rejoicing with*
* **8.6** Neh 3.15; Isa 7.1, 2, 6; Jn 9.7
* **8.8** Isa 7.14; 10.6; 30.28
x **8.9** Gk: Heb *Be shattered*
y **8.9** Q mss: MT repeats *gird yourselves and be dismayed!*
* **8.10** Job 5.12; Isa 7.7; Rom 8.31
* **8.11** Ezek 2.8; 3.14
* **8.12** Isa 7.2; 1 Pet 3.14, 15
* **8.13** Num 20.12; Isa 5.16
* **8.14** Ezek 11.16; Lk 2.34; Rom 9.33; 1 Pet 2.8
* **8.15** Isa 28.13; Mt 21.44; Lk 20.18; Rom 9.32
* **8.16** Dan 12.4
* **8.17** Isa 54.8; Hab 2.3
* **8.18** Ps 71.7; Zech 3.8; Heb 2.13
* **8.19** 1 Sam 28.8; Isa 19.3; 30.2; 45.11
* **8.20** Mic 3.6; Lk 16.29
z **8.21** Heb *it*
a **8.21** Or *curse by*
* **8.21** Isa 9.20, 21; Rev 16.11
b **8.22** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.22** Isa 5.30; 9.1

Isaiah 9

c **9.1** 8.23 in Heb
* **9.1** 2 Kings 15.29; 2 Chr 16.4
d **9.2** 9.1 in Heb
* **9.2** Mt 4.15, 16
e **9.3** Cn: Heb *multiplied the nation not*
* **9.3** 1 Sam 30.16; Isa 26.15

* **9.4** Isa 10.26, 27; 14.4
* **9.5** Isa 2.4
* **9.6** Isa 7.14; 10.21; 28.29; 63.16; Mt 28.18; Lk 2.11; Jn 3.16; 1 Cor 15.25; Eph 2.14
f **9.7** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.7** Isa 11.4, 5; 37.32; Dan 2.44; Lk 1.32, 33
* **9.9** Isa 7.8, 9; 46.12
g **9.11** Cn: Heb *the adversaries of Rezin*
* **9.11** Isa 7.1, 8
* **9.12** 2 Kings 16.6; 2 Chr 28.18; Ps 79.7; Isa 5.25
* **9.13** Isa 31.1; Jer 5.3; Hos 7.10
* **9.14** Isa 19.15; Rev 18.8
* **9.15** Isa 3.2, 3; 28.15
* **9.16** Isa 3.12
h **9.17** Q ms: MT *rejoice over*
* **9.17** Isa 5.25; 10.6; 27.11; Jer 18.21; Mic 7.2
* **9.18** Isa 10.17; Mal 4.1
* **9.19** Isa 1.31; 10.6; 24.6; Joel 2.3; Mic 7.2, 6
i **9.20** Or *arm*
* **9.20** Isa 8.21, 22; 49.26
* **9.21** Isa 5.25

Isaiah 10

* **10.1** Ps 94.20
* **10.2** Isa 1.23; 5.23
* **10.3** Job 31.14; Isa 5.26; 20.6; Hos 9.7; Lk 19.44
* **10.4** Isa 5.25; 22.2; 24.22
* **10.5** Jer 51.20
* **10.6** Isa 5.25, 29; 9.17, 19; Jer 34.22
* **10.7** Gen 50.20
* **10.8** 2 Kings 18.24, 34; 19.10
* **10.9** 2 Kings 16.9; 2 Chr 35.20; Am 6.2
* **10.10** 2 Kings 19.17, 18
j **10.12** Gk: Heb *I*
* **10.12** 2 Kings 19.31; Isa 37.23; Jer 50.18
* **10.13** Isa 37.24; Ezek 28.4; Dan 4.30
* **10.14** Job 31.25
* **10.15** v 5; Jer 51.20; Rom 9.20, 21
* **10.16** v 18; Ps 106.15; Isa 17.4
* **10.17** Isa 27.4; 30.33; 37.23
* **10.18** Jer 21.14
* **10.19** Isa 21.17

* **10.20** 2 Kings 16.7; 2 Chr 28.20; Isa 17.7, 8
* **10.21** Isa 6.13; 9.6
* **10.22** Isa 28.22; Rom 9.27, 28
k **10.23** Or *land*
* **10.23** Dan 9.27
* **10.25** v 5; Isa 17.14
* **10.26** Ex 14.16, 27; Judg 7.25; Isa 37.36–38
l **10.27** Cn: Heb *and his yoke from your neck, and a yoke will be destroyed because of fatness*
* **10.27** Isa 9.4; 30.23
* **10.28** 1 Sam 13.2, 5; 14.2; 17.22
* **10.29** Josh 18.25; 21.17; 1 Sam 10.26
* **10.30** Josh 21.18; 1 Sam 25.44
* **10.31** Josh 15.31
* **10.32** 1 Sam 21.1; Neh 11.32; Isa 13.2; 37.22
* **10.33** Am 2.9
m **10.34** Cn Compare Gk Vg: Heb *with a majestic one*

Isaiah 11

n **11.1** Cn Compare Syr: Heb *bear fruit*
* **11.1** Isa 4.2; Zech 6.12; Acts 13.23; Rev 5.5
* **11.2** Isa 61.1; Mt 3.16; Jn 1.32
* **11.3** Jn 2.25; 7.24
* **11.4** Job 4.9; Isa 3.14; 9.7; 29.19; Mal 4.6; 2 Thess 2.8
* **11.5** Isa 25.1; Eph 6.14
o **11.6** Q ms Gk Syr: MT *and the fatted calf*
* **11.9** Job 5.23; Hab 2.14
* **11.10** Isa 14.3; Lk 2.32; Jn 3.14, 15; Rom 15.12
p **11.11** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *the Lord will again a second time*
* **11.11** Isa 66.19; Mic 7.12; Zech 10.10
* **11.12** v 10; Isa 24.16; Zech 10.6
* **11.13** Jer 3.18; Ezek 37.16, 17, 22; Hos 1.11
* **11.14** Isa 16.14; 25.10; Dan 11.41; Joel 3.19
q **11.15** Gk Syr: Heb *destroy*
* **11.15** Isa 7.20; 8.7; 19.16; 43.16
* **11.16** Ex 14.26–29; Isa 19.23; 51.10; 62.10; 63.12, 13

Isaiah 12

* **12.1** Isa 25.1; 26.1; 40.1, 2
r **12.2** Q ms Heb mss Gk Syr Vg Tg: MT *for Yah, the* LORD
* **12.2** Ex 15.2; Ps 118.14; Isa 26.3; 33.2

* **12.3** Isa 41.18; Jn 4.10; 7.37, 38
* **12.5** Ex 15.1; Ps 98.1; Isa 24.14
s **12.6** Or *O inhabitant of*
* **12.6** Isa 49.26; Zeph 3.14

Isaiah 13

* **13.1** Jer 50; 51
* **13.2** Isa 10.32; Jer 50.2; 51.25
t **13.3** Gk: Heb *for my anger*
* **13.3** Ps 149.2; Joel 3.11
* **13.4** Isa 5.30; 42.13
* **13.5** Isa 5.26; 10.5; 24.1
u **13.6** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*
* **13.6** Isa 10.25; Joel 1.15; Zeph 1.7
* **13.7** Ezek 7.17; 21.7
* **13.8** Isa 21.3; 26.17
* **13.9** Isa 66.15, 16
* **13.10** Isa 5.30; Joel 2.10; Mt 24.29; Mk 13.24; Lk 21.25
* **13.11** Isa 2.11; 11.4; 26.21; Jer 48.29
* **13.13** Isa 34.4; 51.6; Jer 10.10; Am 8.8; Hag 2.6
* **13.14** 1 Kings 22.17; Jer 50.16; 51.9
* **13.16** Ps 137.9; Nah 3.10; Zech 14.2
* **13.17** Isa 21.2; Jer 51.11; Dan 5.28
* **13.18** 2 Kings 8.12; Ezek 9.5, 10
* **13.19** Gen 19.24; Deut 29.23; Isa 21.9; Jer 49.18; Dan 4.30
* **13.20** Jer 51.37–43
* **13.21** Isa 34.11–15
* **13.22** Jer 51.33

Isaiah 14

* **14.1** Ps 102.13; Isa 60.4, 5, 10; Zech 1.17; 2.12; Eph 2.12–19
v **14.2** Heb *them*
* **14.2** Isa 49.22; 60.9, 10, 14; 66.20
* **14.3** Isa 40.2
w **14.4** Q ms Compare Gk Syr Vg: Meaning of MT uncertain
* **14.4** Isa 13.19; Hab 2.6; Rev 18.6
* **14.6** Isa 10.14; 47.6
* **14.8** Isa 55.12
* **14.9** Ezek 32.21
* **14.11** Isa 5.14; 51.8; Ezek 26.13

* **14.12** Isa 34.4; Lk 10.18
x **14.13** Or *assembly in the far north*
* **14.13** Ezek 28.2; Dan 8.10
* **14.14** Isa 47.8; 2 Thess 2.4
* **14.15** Mt 11.23
* **14.16** Jer 50.23
* **14.17** Isa 45.13; Joel 2.3
y **14.19** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *like a loathed branch*
* **14.19** Isa 5.25; 22.16–18; Jer 41.7, 9
* **14.20** Job 18.19; Ps 21.10; 37.28; Isa 31.2
z **14.21** Syr Compare Gk: Heb *fathers*
* **14.21** Ex 20.5; Isa 13.16; 27.6; Mt 23.35
* **14.22** Prov 10.7; Isa 26.14; 47.9
a **14.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **14.23** Isa 13.6; 34.11–15; Zeph 2.14
* **14.24** Isa 45.23; 55.8, 9; Acts 4.28
* **14.25** Isa 10.12, 27
* **14.26** Ex 15.12; Isa 23.9
* **14.27** 2 Chr 20.6; Isa 43.13; Dan 4.31, 35
* **14.28** 2 Kings 16.20
* **14.29** 2 Chr 26.6; Jer 47.1–7
b **14.30** Heb mss: MT *the firstborn of the poor*
c **14.30** Q ms Vg: MT *he*
* **14.30** Isa 3.14, 15; 7.21; 8.21; Jer 25.16, 20
* **14.31** v 29; Isa 3.26; 34.16; Jer 1.14
* **14.32** Ps 87.1, 5; Isa 37.9; Zeph 3.12; Zech 11.11

Isaiah 15

* **15.1** Isa 11.14; Jer 48; Ezek 25.8–11
d **15.2** Cn: Heb *the house and Dibon*
* **15.2** Lev 21.5
* **15.3** Isa 22.4; Jer 48.38; Jon 3.6–8
e **15.4** Or *the armed men of Moab cry aloud*
* **15.5** Isa 59.7; Jer 48.5, 31, 34
* **15.6** Isa 19.5–7; Joel 1.10–12
* **15.7** Isa 30.6
f **15.9** Q ms Vg: MT *Dimon*
g **15.9** Q ms Vg: MT *Dimon*
* **15.9** 2 Kings 17.25; Jer 50.17

Isaiah 16

* **16.1** 2 Kings 3.4; 14.7; Isa 10.32
* **16.2** Num 21.13, 14
* **16.3** Isa 25.4
* **16.4** Isa 9.4; 54.14
* **16.5** Isa 9.7; Dan 7.14; Mic 4.7; Lk 1.33
* **16.6** Jer 48.29, 30; Zeph 2.8, 10
* **16.7** 2 Kings 3.25; 1 Chr 16.3; Jer 48.31
* **16.8** Num 32.38; Isa 15.4; Jer 48.32
* **16.9** Isa 15.4; Jer 40.10, 12; 48.32

h **16.10** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *I have hushed*

* **16.10** Job 24.11; Isa 24.7, 8; Jer 48.33
* **16.11** Isa 15.5; 63.15; Jer 48.36
* **16.12** 1 Kings 18.29; 2 Kings 19.12; Isa 15.2; Jer 48.35
* **16.14** Isa 21.16; 25.10

Isaiah 17

* **17.1** 2 Kings 16.9; Isa 8.4; 10.9; Jer 49.23; Am 1.3; Zech 9.1

i **17.2** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *the cities of Aroer are deserted*

* **17.2** Jer 7.33
* **17.3** Isa 7.16; 8.4
* **17.4** Isa 10.3, 16
* **17.5** 2 Sam 5.18, 22; Jer 51.33
* **17.6** Isa 24.13; 27.12
* **17.7** Isa 10.20; Mic 7.7

j **17.8** Heb *Asherahs*

* **17.8** Ex 34.13; Deut 7.5; Isa 27.9; 30.22; 31.7

k **17.9** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *places of the wood and the highest bough*

* **17.9** Isa 7.25
* **17.10** Ps 68.19; Isa 26.4; 30.29; 51.13
* **17.11** Job 4.8; Ps 90.6
* **17.12** Ps 18.4; Jer 6.23; Ezek 43.2

l **17.13** Heb mss Syr lack *When . . . waters*

* **17.13** Ps 9.5; Isa 13.14; 29.5; 33.3; 41.15, 16
* **17.14** 2 Kings 19.35; Isa 41.12

Isaiah 18

m **18.1** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **18.1** Isa 20.3–5; Ezek 30.4, 5, 9; Zeph 2.12; 3.10

n **18.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **18.2** v 7; Ex 2.3; 2 Chr 12.2–4
* **18.3** Ps 49.1; Isa 5.26; 26.11
* **18.4** 2 Sam 23.4; Isa 26.19, 21
* **18.5** Isa 27.11; Ezek 17.6–10
* **18.6** Isa 46.11; 56.9; Jer 7.33
o **18.7** Q ms Gk Vg: MT *of*
* **18.7** Ps 68.31; Isa 45.14; Zeph 3.10; Zech 14.16, 17

Isaiah 19

* **19.1** Ex 12.12; Ps 18.10; 104.3; Isa 13.1; Jer 43.12; 46.13–26; Ezek 29; 30
* **19.2** Judg 7.22; 1 Sam 14.16, 20; 2 Chr 20.23; Mt 10.21, 36
* **19.3** vv 11–14; Isa 8.19
* **19.4** Isa 20.4; Jer 46.26; Ezek 29.19
* **19.5** Jer 51.36; Ezek 30.12
* **19.6** Ex 7.18; Isa 15.6; 37.25
p **19.7** Gk: Heb *beside the Nile, beside the mouth of the Nile*
* **19.10** Ps 11.3
* **19.11** Num 13.22; 1 Kings 4.30; Acts 7.22
* **19.12** Isa 14.24; Rom 9.17; 1 Cor 1.20
* **19.13** Jer 2.16; Ezek 30.13; Zech 10.4
q **19.14** Gk Compare Tg: Heb *it*
* **19.14** Isa 3.12; 9.16; 28.7; 29.10; Mt 17.17
* **19.16** Isa 2.19; 11.15; 30.32; Jer 51.30
r **19.17** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **19.17** Isa 14.24
s **19.18** Q mss Heb mss Tg Vg: MT *city of destruction*
* **19.18** Isa 45.23; 65.16
* **19.19** Gen 28.18; Ex 24.4; Josh 22.10, 26, 27; Isa 56.7
* **19.20** Isa 43.3, 11; 49.25
* **19.21** Isa 11.9; 44.5; Mal 1.11
* **19.22** Isa 27.13; 30.26; 45.14
* **19.23** Isa 11.16; 27.13
* **19.25** Isa 45.14; Hos 2.23; Eph 2.10

Isaiah 20

* **20.1** 1 Sam 5.1; 2 Kings 18.17
* **20.2** 1 Sam 19.24; Ezek 24.17, 23; Mic 1.8; Zech 13.4
* **20.3** Isa 8.18; 37.9; 43.3
* **20.4** Isa 3.17; 19.4; Jer 13.22, 26
* **20.5** 2 Kings 18.21; Isa 30.3, 5, 7; Ezek 29.6, 7

* **20.6** Isa 10.3; 30.7; Mt 23.33; Heb 2.3

Isaiah 21

* **21.1** Isa 13.1; Jer 51.42; Zech 9.14
* **21.2** Isa 13.17; 33.1; Jer 49.34
* **21.3** Isa 13.8; 15.5; 16.11
* **21.4** Deut 28.67
* **21.5** Jer 51.39, 57; Dan 5.1–4
* **21.7** v 9
t **21.8** Q ms Syr Vg: MT *a lion*
* **21.8** Hab 2.1
* **21.9** Isa 46.1; Jer 50.2; 51.8, 44; Rev 14.8; 18.2
* **21.10** Jer 51.33
* **21.11** Gen 25.14; 32.3
* **21.13** 1 Chr 1.9, 32; Isa 13.1; Jer 49.28
* **21.14** Gen 25.15; Job 6.19
* **21.15** Isa 13.14, 15; 17.13
* **21.16** Ps 120.5; Isa 16.14; 17.4; 60.7
* **21.17** Num 23.19; Isa 10.19; Zech 1.6

Isaiah 22

* **22.1** Isa 13.1; 15.3; Joel 3.12, 14
* **22.2** Isa 32.13; Jer 14.18; Lam 2.20
u **22.3** Or *without their bows*
v **22.3** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *fled from far away*
* **22.3** Isa 21.15
* **22.4** Isa 15.3; Jer 4.19; 9.1
* **22.5** v 1; Isa 37.3; 63.3; Lam 1.5; 2.2
w **22.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **22.6** 2 Kings 16.9; Jer 49.35
* **22.7** 2 Chr 32.1
* **22.8** 1 Kings 7.2; 10.17; 2 Chr 32.3–5, 30
* **22.9** Neh 3.16
* **22.11** 2 Kings 20.20; 25.4; 2 Chr 32.3, 4; Isa 37.26
* **22.12** Isa 15.2; Joel 1.13; Mic 1.16
* **22.13** Isa 5.11, 22; 56.12; 1 Cor 15.32
* **22.14** Isa 5.9; 65.7, 20
* **22.15** 2 Kings 18.37; Isa 36.3
x **22.16** Gk Vg: Heb *his tomb*
y **22.16** Gk Vg: Heb *himself*

* **22.16** 2 Sam 18.18; 2 Chr 16.14; Mt 27.60
* **22.18** Job 18.18; Isa 17.13
* **22.20** 2 Kings 18.18; Isa 36.3
* **22.22** Job 12.14; Isa 7.2, 13; Rev 3.7
* **22.23** Ezra 9.8; Job 36.7
* **22.25** v 23; Isa 46.11; Mic 4.4

Isaiah 23

z **23.1** Cn: Heb *for it is destroyed, without houses*
* **23.1** v 12; Jer 25.22; 47.4; Ezek 26; 27; 28
a **23.2** Q ms: MT *crossing over the sea, they replenished you*
* **23.2** Isa 47.5
b **23.3** Heb *its*
* **23.3** Jer 2.18; Ezek 27.3–23
* **23.4** Ezek 28.21, 22
* **23.7** Isa 22.2; 32.13
* **23.9** Job 40.11, 12; Isa 2.11; 5.13; 9.15; 13.11
c **23.10** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *like the Nile, daughter*
d **23.10** Cn: Heb *restraint*
* **23.11** Isa 14.26; 25.2; 50.2
* **23.12** v 1; Isa 47.1; Rev 18.22
e **23.13** Or *This is the people that was not. Assyria founded it for its fleet.*
* **23.13** Isa 10.5, 7
* **23.14** v 1
* **23.15** Jer 25.11, 22
* **23.17** Rev 17.2
f **23.18** Heb *it*
* **23.18** Isa 60.5–9; Zech 14.20

Isaiah 24

* **24.1** vv 19, 20; Isa 13.13, 14
* **24.2** Lev 25.36, 37; Deut 23.19, 20; Hos 4.9
* **24.3** Isa 6.11, 12
* **24.5** Gen 3.17; Num 35.33; Isa 59.12
* **24.6** Isa 5.24; 9.19; 34.5; Mal 4.6
* **24.7** Isa 16.8–10; Joel 1.10–12
* **24.8** Jer 7.34; 16.9; 25.10; Ezek 26.13; Hos 2.11; Rev 18.22
* **24.10** Isa 23.1
* **24.11** Isa 16.10; 32.13; Jer 14.2; 46.12
* **24.13** Isa 17.5, 6

* **24.14** Isa 12.6; 42.10
* **24.15** Isa 25.3; 66.19; Mal 1.11
* **24.16** Isa 11.12; Jer 5.11
* **24.17** 1 Kings 19.17
* **24.18** Gen 7.11; Ps 18.7; Jer 48.43, 44
* **24.19** Jer 4.23
* **24.20** Isa 19.14; 66.24; Dan 11.19; Am 8.14
* **24.21** Ps 76.12
* **24.22** Isa 10.4; 42.22; Ezek 38.8; Zech 9.11, 12
* **24.23** Isa 13.10; 60.19; Mic 4.7; Zech 14.6, 7; Heb 12.22

Isaiah 25

* **25.1** Num 23.19; Ps 98.1; 118.28
* **25.2** Isa 13.22; 17.1; 32.14
* **25.4** Isa 11.4; 14.32; 32.2; 49.25
* **25.5** Jer 51.54–56
* **25.6** Prov 9.2; Isa 2.2–4; Dan 7.14; Mt 8.11; 22.4
* **25.8** Isa 54.4; Hos 13.14; 1 Cor 15.54; Rev 7.17; 21.4
* **25.9** Ps 20.5; Isa 30.18; 33.22; 40.9; 66.10
* **25.10** Isa 16.14

g **25.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain

Isaiah 26

* **26.1** Isa 4.2; 12.1; 14.31; 60.18
* **26.2** Isa 60.11, 18; 61.3; 62.1, 2

h **26.4** Heb *in Yah, the* LORD

* **26.4** Isa 12.2; 17.10
* **26.5** Job 40.11–13; Isa 25.12
* **26.6** Isa 3.14, 15; 28.3
* **26.7** Isa 42.16; 57.2
* **26.8** v 13; Ex 3.15; Isa 51.4; 56.1
* **26.9** Ps 63.6; Isa 55.6; Hos 5.15
* **26.10** Isa 22.12, 13; Hos 11.7; Jn 5.37, 38; Rom 2.4
* **26.11** Isa 5.12; 9.7; 10.17; 66.15, 24
* **26.12** v 3; Isa 64.8
* **26.13** Isa 2.8; 10.11; 63.7
* **26.14** Isa 8.19; 10.3; Hab 2.19
* **26.15** Isa 9.3; 33.17

i **26.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **26.16** Hos 5.15

* **26.17** Isa 13.8; Jn 16.21
* **26.18** Ps 17.14; Isa 33.11
j **26.19** Cn Compare Syr Tg: Heb *my corpse*
k **26.19** Q ms Compare Gk Syr: MT *dust, awake and shout for joy!*
l **26.19** Heb *to the shades*
* **26.19** Ezek 37.1–14; Dan 12.2
* **26.20** Ex 12.22, 23; Ps 30.5; Isa 54.7, 8; 2 Cor 4.17
* **26.21** Job 16.18; Isa 13.11; Mic 1.3; Jude 14

Isaiah 27

* **27.1** Job 3.8; Ps 74.14; Isa 34.5, 6; 51.9
* **27.2** Ps 5.7; 80.8; Jer 2.21
* **27.3** 1 Sam 2.9; Isa 31.5; 58.11
* **27.4** 2 Sam 23.6; Isa 33.12
* **27.5** Job 22.21; Isa 25.4
m **27.6** Heb *Those to come*
* **27.6** Isa 37.31; Hos 14.5, 6
n **27.7** Q ms: MT *his slain ones*
* **27.7** Isa 10.12, 17
o **27.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **27.8** Job 23.6; Ps 78.38; Jer 10.24
p **27.9** Heb *Asherahs*
* **27.9** Isa 1.25; 17.8; Rom 11.27
* **27.10** Isa 32.13, 14; Jer 26.6, 18
* **27.11** Deut 32.18, 28; Isa 1.3; 43.1, 7; 44.2, 21, 24; Jer 8.7
* **27.12** Gen 15.18; Deut 30.3, 4; Isa 11.11
* **27.13** Lev 25.9; Isa 19.23–25; Mt 24.31; Rev 11.15

Isaiah 28

* **28.1** vv 3, 4, 7
* **28.2** Isa 29.6; 30.28, 30; 40.10; Ezek 13.11
* **28.3** vv 1, 18
* **28.4** Hos 9.10; Mic 7.1; Nah 3.12
* **28.5** Isa 4.2; 41.16; 62.3
* **28.6** Isa 11.2; 25.4; 32.15
* **28.7** Prov 20.1; Isa 56.10, 12; Hos 4.11
* **28.8** Jer 48.26
* **28.9** v 26; Ps 131.2; Heb 5.12, 13
q **28.10** Meaning of Heb of this verse uncertain
* **28.10** Neh 9.30

* **28.11** 1 Cor 14.21
* **28.12** Jer 6.16; Mt 11.28, 29
r **28.13** Meaning of Heb of this verse uncertain
* **28.13** Mt 21.44
* **28.14** v 22; Isa 29.20
* **28.15** vv 2, 18; Isa 29.15; 49.3, 4
s **28.16** Q mss Compare Syr Tg: MT *he laid*
* **28.16** Ps 118.22; Mt 21.42; Acts 4.11; Rom 9.33; 10.11; Eph 2.20; 1 Pet 2.4–6
* **28.17** v 2; Isa 5.16
* **28.18** v 15
* **28.19** Ps 88.15; Isa 50.4; Jer 15.8
* **28.21** Josh 10.10, 12; 2 Sam 5.20, 25; 1 Chr 14.11, 16; Lam 3.33
* **28.22** v 14; Isa 10.22, 23
t **28.25** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **28.27** Am 1.3
* **28.29** Isa 9.6; 31.2; Rom 11.33

Isaiah 29

* **29.1** vv 9, 13; 2 Sam 5.9
u **29.2** Cn Compare Q ms: MT *she*
v **29.2** That is, *altar hearth*
* **29.2** Isa 3.26; Lam 2.5
w **29.3** Heb mss Gk: MT *like a circle*
* **29.3** Lk 19.43, 44
* **29.4** Lev 20.6; Deut 18.10, 11; 1 Sam 28.8, 15; 2 Chr 33.6; Isa 8.19
x **29.5** Q ms Compare Gk: MT *strangers*
* **29.5** Isa 17.13, 14; 25.3–5; 30.13; 1 Thess 5.3
* **29.6** Isa 28.2; Mt 24.7; Mk 13.8; Lk 21.11; Rev 11.13, 19; 16.18
* **29.7** Job 20.8; Ps 73.20; Mic 4.11, 12; Zech 12.9
* **29.8** Isa 54.17
* **29.9** Isa 51.17, 21, 22
* **29.10** Ps 69.23; Isa 6.9, 10; Mic 3.6; Rom 11.8
* **29.11** Isa 8.16; 28.7; Dan 12.4, 9; Mt 13.11
* **29.13** Ezek 33.31; Mt 15.8, 9; Mk 7.6, 7
* **29.14** Jer 8.9; 49.7; Hab 1.5; 1 Cor 1.19
* **29.15** Ps 94.7; Isa 30.1; 57.12
* **29.16** Isa 45.9; Jer 18.1–6; Rom 9.19–21
* **29.17** Isa 32.15
* **29.18** v 11; Isa 35.5
* **29.19** Isa 61.1; Mt 11.5; Jas 2.5
* **29.20** v 5; Isa 28.14, 22; 59.4

* **29.21** Prov 28.21; Am 5.10, 12
* **29.22** Isa 41.8; 45.17; 54.4
* **29.23** Isa 5.16; 8.13; 45.11; 49.20–26
* **29.24** Isa 28.7

Isaiah 30

* **30.1** v 9; Isa 8.11, 12; 29.15
* **30.2** Num 27.21; Josh 9.14; 1 Kings 22.7; Isa 31.1; Jer 21.2
* **30.3** Isa 20.5; Jer 37.3, 5
* **30.4** Isa 19.11
* **30.5** v 7; Jer 2.36

y **30.6** Cn: Heb *from them*

* **30.6** Isa 8.22; 14.29; 15.7; 46.1, 2

z **30.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **30.7** v 15; Jer 37.7
* **30.8** Isa 8.1; Hab 2.2
* **30.9** v 1; Isa 24.5; 28.15
* **30.10** 1 Kings 22.8, 13; Isa 5.20; 29.10
* **30.11** Job 21.14
* **30.12** Isa 5.24; 59.13
* **30.13** Ps 62.3; Isa 26.21; 29.5
* **30.14** Ps 2.9; Jer 19.10, 11
* **30.15** Isa 7.4; 28.12; 32.17
* **30.16** Isa 31.1, 3
* **30.17** Lev 26.8; Deut 28.25; 32.30; Josh 23.10
* **30.18** Isa 5.16; 33.5; 42.14
* **30.19** Isa 60.20; 61.1–3; 65.9; Mt 7.7–11
* **30.20** 1 Kings 22.27; Ps 74.9; 80.5; Am 8.11
* **30.21** Prov 3.6; Isa 29.24; 35.8, 9
* **30.22** Isa 2.20; 31.7; 46.6; Mt 4.10
* **30.23** Ps 65.9–13; Isa 32.20; 65.21, 22
* **30.26** Isa 1.6; 60.19, 20; 61.1; Jer 33.6; Rev 21.23; 22.5

a **30.27** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **30.27** Isa 10.5, 13, 17; 59.19; 66.15
* **30.28** Isa 8.8; 11.4; 37.29; 2 Thess 2.8
* **30.29** Ps 42.4; Isa 2.3; 17.10
* **30.30** Isa 28.2; 32.19
* **30.31** Isa 31.8

b **30.32** Heb mss Syr: MT *foundation*

c **30.32** Cn: Heb *and with battles*

* **30.32** Isa 10.24; Jer 31.4; Ezek 32.10

d **30.33** Or *Topheth*
e **30.33** Or *Molech*
* **30.33** vv 27, 28; Isa 34.9; Jer 7.31; 19.6

Isaiah 31

* **31.1** Ps 20.7; Isa 2.7; 10.17; 30.2; Ezek 17.15; Dan 9.13
* **31.2** Num 23.19; Isa 14.20; 22.14; 28.29; 45.7; Rom 16.27
* **31.3** Isa 9.17; 30.5, 7; 36.9; Ezek 28.9
* **31.4** Isa 42.13; Hos 11.10; Am 3.8
* **31.5** Ps 91.4; Isa 17.13
f **31.6** Heb *they*
* **31.6** Isa 1.2, 5; 44.22
* **31.7** Isa 2.20
* **31.8** Isa 10.12; 14.2; 21.15; 66.16
* **31.9** Deut 32.31, 37; Isa 5.26; 10.16

Isaiah 32

g **32.1** Gk: Heb *and for princes*
* **32.1** Isa 9.6, 7; Jer 23.5; Zech 9.9
* **32.2** Isa 4.6; 35.6; 41.18; 43.19, 20
* **32.3** Isa 29.18
* **32.4** Isa 29.24
* **32.5** 1 Sam 25.25
* **32.6** Isa 3.15; 9.15, 16; 10.6; 59.7, 13
* **32.7** Isa 5.23; 11.4; Jer 5.26–28
* **32.8** 2 Cor 9.6–11
* **32.9** Isa 28.23; 47.8
* **32.10** Isa 5.5, 6
* **32.11** Isa 22.12; 47.2
h **32.12** Gk: Heb *on the lamenting breasts*
* **32.12** Nah 2.7
* **32.13** Isa 22.2; 34.13
* **32.14** Isa 6.11; 13.21, 22
* **32.15** Isa 11.2; 29.17; 35.2; Ezek 39.29; Joel 2.28
* **32.16** Isa 33.5
* **32.17** Isa 30.15; Rom 14.17; Jas 3.18
i **32.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **32.19** Isa 30.30; Zech 11.2
* **32.20** Isa 30.24

Isaiah 33

* **33.1** Isa 21.2; 24.16; Jer 25.12–14; Hab 2.8; Mt 7.2
* **33.2** Isa 25.9
* **33.3** Isa 17.13; Jer 25.30, 31
j **33.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **33.5** Ps 97.9
k **33.6** Heb *his treasure*
* **33.6** v 20; Isa 11.9; 45.17; Mt 6.33
l **33.7** Heb mss: Meaning of MT uncertain
* **33.7** 2 Kings 18.18, 37
m **33.8** Q ms: MT *cities*
n **33.11** Cn: Heb *your breath*
* **33.18** Isa 17.14; 1 Cor 1.20
* **33.19** Deut 28.49, 50; 2 Kings 19.32; Jer 5.15
* **33.20** Ps 46.5; 48.12; 125.1, 2; Isa 37.33; 54.2
* **33.21** Isa 41.18
* **33.22** v 17; Isa 2.4; 35.4; Zech 9.9; Jas 4.12
o **33.23** Cn: Heb *Then prey and spoil in abundance will be divided*
* **33.23** 2 Kings 7.8, 16
* **33.24** Jer 30.17; 50.20

Isaiah 34

* **34.1** Deut 32.1; Ps 49.1
* **34.2** Isa 13.5; 26.20, 21; 30.25
* **34.3** Ezek 14.19; Joel 2.20
* **34.4** Ezek 32.7, 8; Joel 2.31; Mt 24.29; 2 Pet 3.10; Rev 6.13, 14
* **34.5** Jer 46.10; 49.7; Mal 1.4
* **34.6** Isa 63.1; Jer 49.13
* **34.7** Ps 22.21; 68.30; Isa 29.9; 49.26
p **34.8** Or *of recompense by Zion's defender*
* **34.8** Isa 63.4
q **34.9** Heb *her streams*
* **34.9** Deut 29.23
* **34.10** Isa 66.24; Ezek 29.11; Mal 1.4; Rev 14.11; 19.3
r **34.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
s **34.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **34.11** 2 Kings 21.13; Isa 14.23; Lam 2.8; Zeph 2.14; Rev 18.2
* **34.13** Isa 13.22; 32.13; Jer 9.11; 10.22
* **34.14** Isa 13.21
* **34.15** Deut 14.13

* **34.16** Isa 30.8; 40.5
* **34.17** vv 10, 11; Jer 13.25

Isaiah 35

* **35.1** Isa 51.3; 55.12
t **34.17–35.2** Q ms lacks 34.17–35.2
* **35.2** v 10; Isa 25.9; 32.15; 60.13
* **35.3** Job 4.3, 4; Heb 12.12
* **35.4** Ps 145.19; Isa 1.24; 34.8
* **35.5** Isa 29.18; Mt 11.5; Jn 9.6, 7
* **35.6** Isa 41.18; 43.19; Mt 9.32; 15.30; Jn 5.8, 9; 7.38; Acts 3.8
u **35.7** Cn: Heb *in the haunt of jackals is her resting place*
* **35.7** Isa 34.13; 49.10
v **35.8** Q ms Gk Syr: MT *A highway and a way shall be there*
w **35.8** Or *pass it by*
x **35.8** Cn: Heb *for them*
* **35.8** Isa 62.10; Jer 14.8; Mt 7.13, 14
* **35.9** Isa 30.6; 34.14; 62.12
* **35.10** Isa 25.8; 51.11; 65.19; Rev 7.17; 21.4

Isaiah 36

* **36.1** 2 Kings 18.13; Isa 1.1
* **36.2** 2 Kings 18.17–20; Isa 7.3
* **36.3** Isa 22.15, 20
* **36.4** 2 Kings 18.19
* **36.5** 2 Kings 18.7
* **36.6** Isa 30.3, 5, 7; Ezek 29.6, 7
y **36.7** Gk lacks: Heb adds *is it not he . . . this altar'?*
* **36.7** 2 Kings 18.4, 5
* **36.9** Isa 20.5; 37.29
* **36.11** v 13; Ezra 4.7
* **36.13** 2 Chr 32.18
* **36.14** Isa 37.10
* **36.15** v 18
* **36.16** Prov 5.15; Zech 3.10
* **36.18** v 15
* **36.19** 2 Kings 17.6; Isa 37.11–13
* **36.20** v 15; 1 Kings 20.23, 28
* **36.22** v 3; Isa 22.15, 20

Isaiah 37

* **37.1** 2 Kings 19.1–37
* **37.2** Isa 22.15, 20
* **37.3** Isa 26.16–18
* **37.4** Isa 36.15, 18, 20
* **37.6** Isa 7.4; 35.4
z **37.5–7** Q ms lacks 37.5–7
* **37.7** vv 9, 37, 38
a **37.9** Heb *he*
* **37.9** v 7; Isa 18.1; 20.5
* **37.10** Isa 36.15
* **37.11** Isa 10.9–11; 36.18–20
* **37.12** Gen 11.31; 12.1–4; 2 Kings 17.6; 18.11; Acts 7.2
* **37.16** Ex 25.22; Deut 10.17; Isa 42.5; 45.12
* **37.17** v 4; Ps 74.22; Dan 9.18
* **37.18** 2 Kings 15.29; 1 Chr 5.26; Nah 2.11, 12
* **37.19** Isa 2.8; 26.14
* **37.20** Ps 46.10; Isa 25.9; Ezek 36.23
* **37.21** v 2
* **37.22** Job 16.4; Jer 14.17; Lam 2.13; Zech 2.10
* **37.23** v 4; Isa 2.11; 5.15, 21; Ezek 39.7; Hab 1.12
* **37.24** Isa 8.7, 8; 10.18, 33, 34; 14.8
* **37.26** Isa 10.6; 17.1; 40.21, 28; 46.11; Acts 2.23; 4.27, 28
b **37.27** Q ms: MT *and a field before standing grain*
* **37.27** Ps 129.6; Isa 40.7
c **37.28** Q ms Gk: MT lacks *your rising up*
* **37.28** Ps 139.1
* **37.29** v 34; Isa 10.12; 30.28; Ezek 38.4
* **37.31** v 4; Isa 4.2; 10.20; 27.6
* **37.32** v 4; 2 Kings 19.31; Isa 9.7; Zech 1.14
* **37.35** 2 Kings 20.6; Isa 38.6; 48.9, 11
* **37.36** 2 Kings 19.35; Isa 10.12, 33, 34
* **37.38** Ezra 4.2; Jer 51.27

Isaiah 38

* **38.1** 2 Sam 17.23; 2 Kings 20.1–6, 9–11; 2 Chr 32.24
* **38.3** Deut 6.18; 2 Kings 18.5, 6; 1 Chr 28.9; 29.19; Neh 13.14
* **38.5** 2 Kings 18.2, 13
* **38.6** Isa 37.35
* **38.7** Isa 7.11

d **38.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **38.8** Josh 10.12–14; 2 Kings 20.9–11
* **38.10** Job 17.11, 15; Ps 102.24; 107.18; 2 Cor 1.9
* **38.11** Ps 27.13; 116.9
* **38.12** Job 6.9; 7.6; Ps 73.14; 2 Cor 5.1, 4; Heb 1.12
e **38.13** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **38.13** Job 10.16; 16.12; Ps 32.4; 51.8
f **38.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **38.14** Ps 119.122, 123; Isa 59.11
g **38.15** Cn Compare Syr: Heb *I will walk slowly all my years*
* **38.15** 1 Kings 21.27; Job 7.11; 10.1; Ps 39.9
h **38.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
i **38.17** Cn Compare Gk Vg: Heb *loved*
* **38.17** Ps 30.3; Isa 43.25; Jer 31.34; Mic 7.19
* **38.18** Ps 6.5; 28.1; 88.11; 115.17; Eccl 9.10
* **38.19** Deut 6.7; Ps 78.5–7; 118.17
j **38.20** Heb *my stringed instruments*
* **38.20** Ps 33.1–3; 104.33; 116.17–19
* **38.21** 2 Kings 20.7, 8
k **38.21–22** Q ms lacks 38.21–22

Isaiah 39

* **39.1** 2 Kings 20.12–19; 2 Chr 32.31
* **39.2** 2 Kings 18.15, 16; 2 Chr 32.25, 31
* **39.3** 2 Sam 12.1; 2 Chr 16.7; Jer 5.15
* **39.5** 1 Sam 13.13, 14; 15.16
* **39.6** Jer 20.5
* **39.7** Dan 1.2–7
* **39.8** 1 Sam 3.18; 2 Chr 32.26; 34.28

Isaiah 40

* **40.1** Isa 12.1
* **40.2** Isa 33.24; 35.4; 41.11–13; Jer 16.18
* **40.3** Mal 3.1; Mt 3.3; Jn 1.23
* **40.4** Isa 45.2
l **40.6** Q ms Gk Vg: MT *and he said*
* **40.6** Job 14.2; Ps 102.11; 103.15; 1 Pet 1.24, 25
* **40.7** v 24; Ps 90.5, 6
m **40.7–8** Q ms Gk lack *when the breath . . . flower fades*
* **40.8** Isa 55.11; Mt 5.18; 1 Pet 1.24, 25
n **40.9** Or *O herald of good news to Zion*
o **40.9** Or *O herald of good news to Jerusalem*
* **40.9** Isa 52.7; 61.1; Acts 10.36; Rom 10.15
* **40.10** Isa 59.16, 18; 62.11; Rev 22.12
* **40.11** Ezek 34.23; Mic 5.4; Jn 10.11; Heb 13.20
p **40.12** Q ms: MT lacks *of the sea*
* **40.12** Job 38.8–11; Isa 48.13; Heb 1.10–12
* **40.13** Rom 11.34; 1 Cor 2.16
* **40.15** Isa 17.13; 29.5; Jer 10.10
q **40.14–16** Q ms lacks *Who taught him . . . burnt offering*
* **40.17** Isa 29.7; 30.28
* **40.18** v 25; Isa 46.5; Mic 7.18; Acts 17.29
* **40.19** Isa 41.6, 7; 44.12; Jer 10.3
r **40.20** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **40.20** Isa 41.7; Jer 10.3–5
* **40.21** Ps 19.1; Acts 14.17; Rom 1.19
* **40.22** Num 13.33; Job 22.14; Ps 104.2; Isa 42.5; 44.24
* **40.23** Job 12.21; Ps 107.40; Isa 5.21
* **40.24** v 7; Isa 17.10, 11, 13; 41.16
* **40.25** v 18
* **40.26** Ps 89.11–13; 147.4; Isa 34.16; 42.5; 51.6
* **40.27** Isa 25.1; 49.4, 14; 54.8; Lk 18.7, 8
* **40.28** Ps 90.2; 147.5; Rom 11.33
* **40.29** Isa 41.10; 50.4; Jer 31.25
* **40.31** Deut 32.11; Ps 103.5; 2 Cor 4.1, 8–10, 16; Heb 12.3

Isaiah 41

* **41.1** Isa 34.1; 40.31; 43.26; Zech 2.13
* **41.2** 2 Chr 36.23; Isa 29.5; 40.24; 42.6; 45.1–3; 46.11

* **41.4** Isa 43.10; 44.6, 7; 46.10; Rev 1.17; 22.13
* **41.5** Ps 67.7
* **41.6** Isa 40.19
* **41.7** Isa 40.19, 20
* **41.8** 2 Chr 20.7; Isa 44.1; Jas 2.23
* **41.9** Ps 135.4; Isa 11.11; 42.1; 43.5–7
* **41.10** Isa 43.5; 44.2; Rom 8.31
* **41.11** Isa 17.13; 45.24
* **41.12** Isa 17.14; 29.20
* **41.13** v 10; Isa 42.6

s **41.14** Cn: Heb *men of*

* **41.14** Job 25.6; Isa 43.14
* **41.15** Mic 4.13
* **41.16** Isa 45.25; Jer 51.2
* **41.17** Isa 30.19; 42.16; 43.20
* **41.18** Isa 35.6, 7; 43.19
* **41.20** Job 12.9; Isa 40.5
* **41.21** v 1; Isa 43.15
* **41.22** Isa 43.9; 45.21
* **41.23** Isa 42.9; 44.7, 8; 45.3; Jer 10.5; Jn 13.19
* **41.24** v 29; Ps 115.8; Isa 44.9; 1 Cor 8.4

t **41.25** Compare Q ms Gk: MT *he shall call on my name*

u **41.25** Cn: Heb *come*

* **41.25** v 2; Isa 10.6
* **41.26** Isa 44.7; 45.21; Hab 2.18, 19

v **41.27** Cn Compare Q ms: Heb *First to Zion—Behold, behold them*

* **41.27** v 4; Isa 40.9
* **41.28** Isa 40.13, 14; 46.7; 63.5
* **41.29** v 24; Isa 44.9; Jer 5.13

Isaiah 42

* **42.1** Isa 2.4; 43.10; 53.11; Mt 3.16, 17; 12.18–20; 17.5
* **42.3** Ps 72.2; Isa 57.15
* **42.4** vv 10, 12; Isa 40.28
* **42.5** Isa 44.24; Zech 12.1; Acts 17.25

w **42.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **42.6** Isa 43.1; 49.6, 8; Lk 2.32; Acts 13.47
* **42.7** Isa 35.5; 61.1; Lk 4.18; 2 Tim 2.26; Heb 2.14
* **42.8** Isa 48.11
* **42.9** Isa 48.3, 6

x **42.10** Cn: Heb *Those who go down to the sea*

* **42.10** Isa 33.3; 40.3
* **42.12** v 4; Isa 24.15
* **42.13** Ex 15.3; Isa 9.7; 66.14–16; Hos 11.10
* **42.14** Isa 57.11
* **42.15** Isa 2.12–16; 44.27
* **42.16** Isa 29.18; 41.17; Lk 1.78, 79; 3.5
* **42.17** Ps 97.7; Isa 1.29; 44.11; 45.16
* **42.19** Isa 43.8; Ezek 12.2
y **42.20** Heb mss: MT *You see many things but do*
* **42.20** Jer 6.10
* **42.21** Isa 58.13
* **42.22** Isa 10.6; 24.18, 22
z **42.24** Gk Tg: Heb *we sinned*
* **42.24** Isa 30.15; 48.18
* **42.25** 2 Kings 25.9; Isa 5.25; Hos 7.9

Isaiah 43

* **43.1** Isa 44.2, 6, 21
* **43.2** Deut 31.6, 8; Ps 66.12; Dan 3.25, 27
* **43.3** Ex 20.2; Prov 11.8; 21.18
* **43.4** Isa 63.9
* **43.5** Isa 41.10, 14; 44.2; Jer 30.10, 11; 46.27, 28
* **43.6** Ps 107.3; Isa 14.2
* **43.7** v 1; Ps 100.3; Isa 29.23; Eph 2.10
* **43.8** Isa 6.9; 42.19; Ezek 12.2
* **43.9** Isa 41.21, 22
* **43.10** Isa 41.4; 42.1; 44.6, 8
* **43.11** Isa 45.21
* **43.12** Deut 32.16; Ps 81.9; Isa 44.8
* **43.13** Job 9.12; Ps 90.2; Isa 14.27
a **43.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **43.14** Isa 13.14, 15; 41.14
* **43.16** Ex 14.16; Josh 3.13; Ps 77.19; Isa 51.10
* **43.17** Ex 14.4–9, 25
* **43.18** Jer 16.14
* **43.19** Ex 17.6; Num 20.11; Isa 35.6; 2 Cor 5.17; Rev 21.5
* **43.20** Isa 48.21
* **43.21** v 1; Ps 102.18; Lk 1.74, 75
* **43.22** Isa 30.9–11; Mal 1.13
* **43.23** Am 5.25; Mal 1.6–8
* **43.24** Ex 30.23; Isa 1.14; Mal 2.17

* **43.25** Isa 44.23; Jer 31.34; Ezek 36.22
* **43.26** v 9; Isa 1.18
* **43.28** Isa 47.6; Lam 2.2, 6; Zech 8.13

Isaiah 44

* **44.1** Isa 41.8; Jer 30.10; 46.27, 28
* **44.2** Deut 32.15; Isa 43.1, 7
* **44.3** Isa 35.7; Joel 2.28; Jn 7.38; Acts 2.18

b **44.4** Q ms: MT *in the midst of grass*

* **44.5** Isa 19.21; Zech 8.20–22
* **44.6** Isa 41.4; 43.1, 14; 48.12; Rev 1.8, 17; 22.13

c **44.7** Cn: Heb *from my placing an eternal people and things to come*

d **44.7** Tg: Heb *them*

* **44.7** Isa 41.4, 22
* **44.8** Deut 4.35; 1 Sam 2.2; Isa 26.4; 41.22; 43.10
* **44.9** Isa 41.24; 42.17; 43.9; 66.3
* **44.10** Jer 10.5; Hab 2.18
* **44.11** Isa 1.29; 42.17
* **44.12** Isa 40.19; 41.6; Jer 10.3–5
* **44.13** Ps 115.5–7; Isa 41.7
* **44.15** vv 17, 19; 2 Chr 25.14

e **44.16** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *he eats, he roasts a roast*

f **44.16** Q ms: MT *I see*

* **44.17** v 15; 1 Kings 18.26, 28; Isa 45.20
* **44.18** Isa 1.3; 6.9, 10
* **44.19** Deut 27.15; Isa 5.13; 27.11; 45.20
* **44.20** Job 15.31; Ps 102.9; Isa 57.11

g **44.21** Q ms Compare Gk Syr Tg: MT *you will not be forgotten by me*

* **44.21** vv 1, 2; Isa 46.8; 49.15
* **44.22** Isa 43.1, 25; 55.7; 1 Pet 1.18, 19
* **44.23** Isa 42.10; 43.1; 55.12; 61.3
* **44.24** v 2; Isa 40.14, 22; 43.14
* **44.25** Isa 29.14; 40.14; 1 Cor 1.20, 27
* **44.26** Isa 49.7–20; 55.11; Jer 32.15, 44
* **44.27** Isa 42.15; 43.16
* **44.28** Isa 14.32; 45.1, 13

Isaiah 45

* **45.1** v 5; Isa 44.28; Jer 50.3, 35

h **45.2** Q ms Gk: MT *the swellings*

* **45.2** Ps 107.16; Isa 40.4; Jer 51.30
* **45.3** Isa 43.1; Jer 41.8
* **45.4** Isa 41.8; 43.1; Acts 17.23
* **45.5** v 6; Ps 18.39; Isa 44.6, 8
* **45.6** v 5; Isa 43.5; Mal 1.11
* **45.7** Ps 104.20; Isa 42.16; Am 3.6
i **45.8** Q ms: MT *that they may bring forth salvation*
* **45.8** Ps 72.6; 85.11; Isa 12.3; 60.21
j **45.9** Cn: Heb *with the potsherds* or *with the potters*
* **45.9** Isa 29.16; Rom 9.20, 21
k **45.11** Cn: Heb *Ask me of things to come*
* **45.11** Isa 8.19; 43.15; 54.5; Jer 31.9
* **45.12** v 18; Neh 9.6; Isa 42.5
l **45.13** Heb *him*
* **45.13** v 2; Isa 41.2; 44.28; 52.3
* **45.14** Ps 149.8; Isa 14.1, 2; 49.23; Jer 16.19; 1 Cor 14.25
* **45.15** Isa 8.17; 43.3
* **45.16** Isa 44.9, 11
* **45.17** Isa 26.4; 49.23; Rom 11.26
* **45.18** vv 5, 12; Gen 1.2, 26; Isa 42.5
* **45.19** Isa 41.8; 44.8; 48.16; 63.1; Jer 29.13, 14
* **45.20** Isa 43.9; 44.18, 19; 46.6, 7; Jer 10.5
m **45.21** Syr Vg: Heb *let them take counsel*
* **45.21** v 5; Isa 41.23, 26; 43.3, 11
* **45.22** Num 21.8, 9; Isa 30.15; 49.6, 12
* **45.23** Isa 55.11; 62.8; 65.16; Rom 14.11
* **45.24** Isa 41.11; 54.17
* **45.25** Isa 53.11; 60.19

Isaiah 46

* **46.1** Isa 45.20; Jer 50.2–4
* **46.2** Jer 43.12, 13
* **46.3** v 12; Isa 10.21, 22; 45.19; 63.9
* **46.4** Ps 71.18; Isa 43.13
* **46.5** Isa 40.18, 25
* **46.6** Isa 40.19; 44.15, 17
* **46.7** v 1; Isa 40.20; 41.26, 28; 44.17; 45.20
n **46.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **46.8** Isa 44.19, 21; 48.8
* **46.9** Isa 41.26, 27; 45.5, 21
* **46.10** Isa 14.24; 45.21; Acts 5.39

* **46.11** Isa 18.6; 37.26; 41.2, 25
* **46.12** v 3; Isa 48.4; Jer 2.5
* **46.13** Isa 43.7; 44.23; 61.11

Isaiah 47

* **47.1** Jer 46.11; 48.18; 51.33
o **47.3** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **47.3** Isa 34.8; 63.4; Ezek 16.37
* **47.4** Isa 41.14
* **47.5** v 7; Isa 13.10, 19; 23.2; Dan 2.37
* **47.6** Deut 28.50; Isa 10.13; 43.28; Zech 1.15
* **47.7** v 5; Isa 42.25; 45.21
* **47.8** Isa 32.9, 11; Zeph 2.15; Rev 18.7
* **47.9** Isa 13.16, 18; Nah 3.4; 1 Thess 5.3
* **47.10** v 8; Ps 52.7; Isa 29.15; 44.20
* **47.11** v 9; Isa 57.1; 1 Thess 5.3
* **47.12** v 9
p **47.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
q **47.13** Gk Syr Compare Vg: Heb *from what*
* **47.13** Isa 57.10; Dan 2.2
* **47.14** Nah 1.10; Mal 4.1
* **47.15** Isa 43.13; 46.7; Rev 18.11

Isaiah 48

r **48.1** Cn: Heb *waters*
* **48.1** Num 24.7; Ps 68.26; Isa 45.23; 46.12
* **48.2** Isa 52.1; Mic 3.11; Rom 2.17
* **48.3** Josh 21.45; Isa 41.22; 42.9; 43.9; 44.7, 8; 45.21
* **48.4** Ex 32.9; Deut 31.27; Ezek 2.4; 3.7–9
* **48.5** Ezek 2.4; 3.7
* **48.6** Isa 42.9; 43.19
* **48.8** Ps 58.3; Isa 42.25; 46.8
* **48.9** v 11; Ps 78.38; Isa 30.18
s **48.10** Cn: Heb *with*
* **48.10** Jer 9.7; 11.4; Ezek 22.18–22
t **48.11** Gk OL: Heb *for why should it*
* **48.11** v 9; Deut 32.26; Isa 42.8; Ezek 20.9
* **48.12** Deut 32.39; Isa 41.4; Rev 1.17; 22.13
* **48.13** Ps 102.25; Isa 40.26
* **48.14** Isa 43.9; 45.21; 46.10, 11; Jer 50.21–29

* **48.15** Isa 41.2; 45.1, 2
* **48.16** Isa 41.1; 43.13; 45.19; Zech 2.9, 11
* **48.17** Ps 32.8; Isa 43.14
* **48.18** Deut 32.29; Ps 119.165; Isa 61.10, 11
* **48.19** Gen 22.17; Isa 56.5; 66.22; Jer 32.22
* **48.20** Isa 42.10; 43.1; 62.11; Jer 50.8
* **48.21** Ex 17.6; Ps 105.41; Isa 41.17
* **48.22** Isa 57.21

Isaiah 49

* **49.1** Isa 7.14; 9.6; 42.4; 44.2, 24; 66.19; Mt 1.20; Gal 1.15
* **49.2** Isa 11.4; 51.16; Hab 3.11; Heb 4.12
* **49.3** Isa 42.1; 44.23
* **49.4** Isa 65.23
* **49.5** Isa 12.2; 27.12; 43.4; 44.2, 23
* **49.6** Isa 42.6; Lk 2.32; Acts 13.47; 26.23
* **49.7** Ps 22.6–8; Isa 48.17; 52.15; 53.3; 66.23
u **49.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **49.8** Ps 69.13; Isa 42.6; 44.26; 2 Cor 6.2
v **49.9** Or *the trails*
* **49.9** Isa 41.18; 42.7; Lk 4.18
* **49.10** Ps 121.6; Isa 14.1; 40.11; 41.17; Rev 7.16
* **49.11** Isa 40.4; 62.10
w **49.12** Q ms: MT *Sinim*
* **49.12** Isa 43.5, 6
* **49.13** Isa 40.1; 44.23; 54.7, 8, 10; Rev 12.12; 18.20
* **49.14** Isa 40.27
* **49.15** Isa 44.21
* **49.16** Song 8.6; Isa 62.6, 7
x **49.17** Or *Your children come swiftly; your destroyers*
* **49.17** v 19
* **49.18** Isa 43.5; 45.23; 52.1; 60.4
* **49.19** Ps 56.1, 2; Isa 51.3; 54.1, 2; Zech 10.10
* **49.20** Isa 54.1–3
* **49.21** Isa 1.8; 5.13; 27.10; 54.6, 7
* **49.22** Isa 60.4; 62.10; 66.20
* **49.23** Ps 25.3; 72.9; Isa 25.9; 43.10; 45.14; 60.16; Mic 7.17
y **49.24** Q ms Syr Vg: MT *of a righteous person*
* **49.25** Isa 14.1, 2; 25.9
* **49.26** v 7; Isa 9.4, 20; 43.3; 45.6

Isaiah 50

* **50.1** Deut 24.1, 3; 32.30; Isa 48.8; 52.3; 54.6, 7; Jer 3.8
z **50.2** Or *die on the thirsty ground*
* **50.2** Ex 14.21; Num 11.23; Josh 3.16; Isa 59.1; 65.12; 66.4
* **50.3** Isa 13.10; Rev 6.12
a **50.4** Cn: Heb *of those who are taught*
* **50.4** Ps 143.8; Isa 54.13; Jer 31.25
* **50.5** Ps 40.6; Mt 26.39; Jn 8.29; 14.31; Phil 2.8
* **50.6** Isa 53.5; Mt 26.67; Lk 22.63
* **50.7** Isa 49.8; 54.4; Ezek 3.8, 9
* **50.8** Rom 8.32–34
* **50.9** Isa 41.10; 51.8; 54.17
* **50.10** Isa 9.2; 12.2; 49.2, 3; Eph 5.8
b **50.11** Syr: Heb *you gird yourselves with firebrands*
* **50.11** Ps 35.8; Isa 65.13–15

Isaiah 51

* **51.1** v 7; Ps 94.15
* **51.2** Gen 12.1; 24.35; Rom 4.16; Heb 11.11, 12
* **51.3** Gen 13.10; Isa 40.1; 52.9; 66.10; Joel 2.3
* **51.4** Ps 50.7; Isa 2.3; 42.4, 6
* **51.5** Isa 40.10; 42.4; 46.13; 63.5
c **51.6** Or *in like manner*
* **51.6** Ps 102.26; Isa 40.26; 45.17; Mt 24.35; 2 Pet 3.10
* **51.7** v 1; Ps 37.31; Mt 5.11; Acts 5.41
* **51.8** v 6; Isa 50.9
* **51.9** Deut 4.34; Ps 74.13; 89.10; Isa 52.1; Ezek 29.3
* **51.10** Ex 14.21; Isa 43.16; 63.9, 16
* **51.11** Isa 35.10; 60.19; Rev 7.17; 22.3
* **51.12** v 3; Ps 118.6; Isa 40.6, 7; 2 Cor 1.3; 1 Pet 1.24
* **51.13** Job 9.8; Ps 104.2; Isa 7.4; 17.10; 40.22; 49.26
* **51.14** Isa 38.18; 49.10; 52.2
* **51.15** Jer 31.35
d **51.16** Syr: Heb *planting*
* **51.16** Deut 18.18; Isa 49.2; 59.21; 65.17
* **51.17** Job 21.20; Isa 52.1; Jer 25.15
* **51.18** Isa 59.21
e **51.19** Q ms Gk Syr Vg: MT *how may I comfort you?*
* **51.19** Isa 9.20
* **51.20** Isa 5.25; 42.25; 66.15

f **51.21** Or *humbled*
* **51.21** Isa 29.9; 54.11
* **51.22** v 17; Jer 50.34
* **51.23** Josh 10.24; Jer 25.15–17, 26, 28; Zech 12.2

Isaiah 52

* **52.1** Neh 11.1; Isa 51.9, 17; Mt 4.5; Rev 21.2, 27
g **52.2** Cn: Heb *rise up, sit*
* **52.2** Isa 9.4; 29.4; 51.14
* **52.3** Ps 44.12; Isa 45.13; 63.4
* **52.4** Gen 46.6
* **52.5** Ezek 36.20; Rom 2.24
h **52.6** Q ms Syr Vg Tg: MT *therefore on*
* **52.6** Isa 49.23
* **52.7** Ps 93.1; Nah 1.15; Rom 10.15
* **52.8** Isa 62.6
* **52.9** Isa 44.23, 26; 48.20
* **52.10** Ps 98.2, 3; Isa 45.22; 48.20; Lk 3.6
* **52.11** Isa 1.16; Jer 50.8; 2 Cor 6.17; 2 Tim 2.19
* **52.12** Ex 12.33; Isa 42.16; 58.8
* **52.13** Isa 42.1; Phil 2.9
i **52.14** Syr Tg: Heb *you*
* **52.14** Ps 22.6, 7; Isa 53.2, 3
j **52.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **52.15** Ezek 36.25; Rom 15.21

Isaiah 53

* **53.1** Jn 12.38; Rom 10.16
* **53.2** Isa 11.1; 52.14
k **53.3** Or *a man of sorrows*
l **53.3** Or *as one who hides his face from us*
* **53.3** v 10; Ps 22.6; Jn 1.10, 11
* **53.4** Mt 8.17; Heb 9.28; 1 Pet 2.24
* **53.5** Rom 4.25; 1 Cor 15.3; 1 Pet 2.24
* **53.6** v 11
* **53.7** Mt 26.63; Acts 8.32
* **53.8** vv 5, 12
m **53.9** Q ms: MT *and in his death*
n **53.9** Cn: Heb *with a rich person*
* **53.9** Mt 27.57; 1 Pet 2.22

o **53.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **53.10** vv 3–6; Isa 46.10; 54.3
p **53.11** Or *and he shall find satisfaction. Through his knowledge, the righteous one*
* **53.11** vv 5, 6; Jn 10.14–18; Rom 5.18, 19
* **53.12** Isa 52.13; Mt 26.38, 39, 42; Lk 22.37; 2 Cor 5.21

Isaiah 54

* **54.1** 1 Sam 2.5; Isa 62.4; Gal 4.27
* **54.2** Isa 49.19, 20
* **54.3** Isa 43.5, 6; 49.19, 23
* **54.4** Isa 4.1; 25.8; 45.17; Jer 31.19
* **54.5** Isa 6.3; 43.14; 48.17; Jer 3.14
* **54.6** Isa 62.4
* **54.7** Isa 26.20; 43.5
* **54.8** vv 5, 10; Isa 49.10, 13; 60.10
* **54.9** Gen 9.11; Isa 12.1
* **54.10** v 8; Ps 89.33, 34; Isa 51.6
q **54.11** Or *lapis lazuli*
* **54.11** 1 Chr 29.2; Rev 21.18
* **54.13** Ps 119.165; Jer 31.34; Jn 6.45
* **54.14** v 4; Isa 9.4; 14.4; 62.1
* **54.15** Isa 41.11–16
* **54.17** Isa 29.8; 45.24; 50.8, 9

Isaiah 55

* **55.1** Isa 41.17; Mt 13.44; Jn 4.14; 7.37; Rev 3.18
* **55.2** Isa 25.6; 62.8, 9; Hos 8.7
* **55.3** Isa 51.4; 61.8; Acts 13.34; Rom 10.5
* **55.4** Jer 30.9; Ezek 34.23, 24; Dan 9.25
* **55.5** Isa 49.6, 12, 23; 60.9; Zech 8.22
* **55.6** Ps 32.6; Isa 49.8; 2 Cor 6.1, 2
* **55.7** Isa 1.16; 31.6; 44.22; 54.8, 10; 59.7
* **55.9** Ps 103.11
* **55.10** Isa 30.23; 2 Cor 9.10
* **55.11** Isa 45.23; 46.10; 59.21
* **55.12** 1 Chr 16.33; Isa 44.23; 51.11; 54.10, 13
* **55.13** Isa 19.20; 32.13; 41.19; 63.12, 14

Isaiah 56

* **56.1** Isa 46.13; 61.8

* **56.2** Isa 58.13
* **56.3** v 6; Acts 8.27
* **56.4** vv 2, 6
* **56.5** v 7; Isa 26.1; 48.19; 62.2; 66.20
* **56.6** vv 2, 4; Isa 60.10; 61.5
* **56.7** Isa 11.9; 65.25; Mt 21.13; Mk 11.17; Lk 19.46; Rom 12.1; Heb 13.15

r **56.8** Heb *besides his gathered ones*

* **56.8** Isa 11.12; 60.3–11; Jn 10.16
* **56.9** Jer 12.9

s **56.10** Heb *His*

* **56.10** Isa 29.9–14; Nah 3.18

t **56.12** Q ms Syr Vg Tg: MT *me*

Isaiah 57

* **57.1** Ps 12.1; Isa 42.25; 47.7, 11
* **57.2** Isa 26.7

u **57.3** Heb *an adulterer and she prostitutes herself*

* **57.3** Isa 1.21; Mt 16.4
* **57.4** Isa 48.8
* **57.5** Lev 18.21; 2 Kings 16.3, 4; Jer 7.31
* **57.6** Jer 3.9; 5.9, 29; 7.18
* **57.7** Ezek 16.16; 23.14

v **57.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain

w **57.8** Or *phallus*; Heb *hand*

* **57.8** Ezek 16.26, 28; 23.7, 18

x **57.9** Or *the king*

* **57.9** Ezek 23.16, 40
* **57.10** Isa 47.13; Jer 2.25

y **57.11** Gk Vg: Heb *silent even for a long time*

* **57.11** v 1; Ps 50.21; Isa 51.12; Jer 2.32
* **57.13** Isa 25.4; 60.21; 65.9; Jer 22.20
* **57.14** Isa 62.10; Jer 18.15
* **57.15** Ps 14.2, 3; 34.18; 51.17; Isa 40.28; 52.13; 61.1; 66.1
* **57.16** Gen 6.3; Job 34.14; Ps 85.5; 103.9; Isa 42.5; Mic 7.18
* **57.17** Isa 1.4; Jer 6.13

z **57.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **57.19** Isa 52.12; 53.5; 61.1–3; Acts 2.39; Eph 2.17; Heb 13.15
* **57.20** Job 18.5–14
* **57.21** Isa 48.22

Isaiah 58

* **58.1** Isa 48.8; 50.1; 59.12
a **58.2** Or *they delight to draw near to God*
* **58.2** Isa 1.11; 29.13; 48.1; 59.13
* **58.3** Isa 22.12, 13; Mal 3.14
* **58.4** 1 Kings 21.9, 12, 13; Isa 59.2
* **58.5** Esth 4.3; Job 2.8; Zech 7.5
* **58.6** Neh 5.10–12; Jer 34.9
* **58.7** Gen 29.14; Neh 5.5; Job 31.19; Ezek 18.7, 16; Mt 25.35
b **58.8** Or *vindication*
* **58.8** v 10; Ex 14.19; Isa 30.26; 52.12; 62.1
* **58.9** v 6; Ps 12.2; Isa 55.6
* **58.10** v 7; Ps 37.6
* **58.11** Isa 41.17; 49.10; 66.14; Jn 4.14; 7.38
* **58.12** Isa 30.13; 44.28; 49.8; Am 9.11
* **58.13** Ps 84.2, 10; Isa 55.8; 56.2; 59.13
* **58.14** Deut 32.13; Isa 1.19, 20; 61.10

Isaiah 59

* **59.1** Num 11.23; Isa 50.2; 58.9
* **59.2** Isa 1.15; 58.4
* **59.3** v 13; Isa 1.15; 28.15; Jer 2.30
* **59.4** vv 14, 15; Job 15.35; Ps 7.14; Isa 30.12
* **59.5** Job 8.14; Isa 14.29
* **59.6** Isa 28.20; 57.12; 58.4
* **59.7** Isa 65.2; Rom 3.15–17
* **59.8** vv 9, 11, 14; Ps 125.5
* **59.9** v 14; Isa 5.30; 8.21, 22
c **59.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **59.10** Deut 28.29; Job 5.14; Isa 8.4, 15; Am 8.9
* **59.11** vv 9, 14; Isa 38.14; Ezek 7.16
* **59.12** Isa 58.1; Jer 14.7
* **59.13** vv 3, 4; Josh 24.27; Isa 30.12; Titus 1.16
* **59.14** Isa 1.21; 48.1
* **59.15** Isa 1.21–23; 5.23
* **59.16** Ps 98.1; Isa 63.5; Ezek 22.30
* **59.17** Isa 63.2, 3; Eph 6.14; 1 Thess 5.8
* **59.18** Isa 65.6, 7; 66.6
* **59.19** Ps 113.3; Isa 66.12
* **59.20** Ezek 18.30, 31; Acts 2.38, 39; Rom 11.26, 27

* **59.21** Isa 44.3, 26; 54.10; Jer 31.31–34; 32.40

Isaiah 60

* **60.1** Mal 4.2; Eph 5.14
* **60.2** Isa 4.5; Col 1.13
* **60.3** v 11; Isa 49.6, 23
* **60.4** Isa 49.18, 20–22
d **60.5** Heb *be enlarged*
* **60.5** Ps 34.5; Isa 23.18; 24.14; 61.6
* **60.6** Gen 25.4; Ps 72.10; Isa 42.10; 43.23
e **60.7** Q ms Heb mss Gk Syr Tg: MT *will ascend on the favor of my altar*
* **60.7** Gen 25.13; Isa 56.7; Hag 2.7, 9
* **60.9** Isa 2.16; 49.22; 55.5; 66.19
* **60.10** Isa 49.23; 54.8; Zech 6.15
* **60.11** vv 5, 18; Ps 149.8
* **60.12** Zech 14.17
* **60.13** 1 Chr 28.2; Ps 132.7; Isa 35.2; 41.19
* **60.14** Isa 49.23; Heb 12.22; Rev 3.9
* **60.15** Isa 33.8, 9; 65.18; 66.5; Jer 30.17
* **60.16** Isa 49.23; 63.8, 16; 66.11
* **60.18** v 11; Isa 26.1; 51.19; 54.14
f **60.19** Q ms Gk OL Tg: MT lacks *by night*
* **60.19** Isa 9.2; Zech 2.5; Rev 21.23; 22.5
* **60.20** Isa 30.26; 65.19
* **60.21** Ps 37.11, 22; Isa 29.23; 45.11; 52.1
* **60.22** Isa 51.2

Isaiah 61

* **61.1** Ps 45.7; Isa 11.2; 42.7; 57.15; Lk 4.18
* **61.2** Isa 34.8; 49.8; 57.18; Mt 5.4
* **61.3** Ps 45.7; Isa 60.20, 21
* **61.4** Isa 49.8; Ezek 36.33
* **61.5** Isa 60.10
* **61.6** Isa 60.5, 11; 66.21
g **61.7** Heb *your*
* **61.7** Ps 16.11; Isa 40.2; 54.4; 60.15; Zech 9.12
h **61.8** Or *robbery with a burnt offering*
* **61.8** Isa 30.18; 55.3
* **61.9** Isa 44.3; 54.3
* **61.10** Isa 12.1, 2; 49.4, 18; Rev 21.2

* **61.11** Ps 72.3; 85.11; Isa 45.23, 24; 55.10; 60.18

Isaiah 62

* **62.1** Isa 52.10; 61.11
* **62.2** vv 4, 12; Isa 60.3; 65.15
* **62.3** Zech 9.16
* **62.4** Isa 54.6, 7; Jer 3.14; 32.41; Hos 1.10
i **62.5** Cn: Heb *your sons*
* **62.5** Isa 65.19
* **62.6** Ps 74.2; Isa 52.8; Jer 6.17; Ezek 3.17
* **62.7** Jer 33.9; Mt 15.21–28; Lk 18.1–8
* **62.8** Deut 28.31, 33; Isa 45.23; Jer 5.17
* **62.9** Isa 65.13, 21–23
* **62.10** Isa 11.10, 12; 49.11; 57.14
* **62.11** Isa 40.10; 49.6; 51.5; Zech 9.9; Mt 21.5
* **62.12** v 4; Isa 4.3; 51.10

Isaiah 63

* **63.1** Isa 34.5, 6; Am 1.12; Zeph 3.17
* **63.2** Rev 19.13, 15
* **63.3** Isa 22.5; 28.3; Mic 7.10; Rev 19.15
* **63.4** Isa 34.8; 61.2
* **63.5** Ps 98.1; Isa 52.10; 59.16
j **63.6** Heb mss: MT *I made them drunk*
* **63.6** Isa 34.3; 51.17, 21, 22; 65.12
* **63.7** 1 Kings 8.66; Ps 51.1; Isa 54.8, 10
* **63.9** Ex 19.4; 23.20–23; Deut 1.31; 7.7, 8; Judg 10.16
* **63.10** Ps 78.40; 106.40; Acts 7.51; Eph 4.30
k **63.11** Heb *he*
l **63.11** Cn: Heb *his people*
* **63.11** Ex 14.30; Num 11.17; Ps 106.44, 45; Isa 51.9, 10
* **63.12** Ex 14.21; 15.6; Isa 50.10, 11
* **63.13** Ps 106.9
* **63.14** Deut 32.12
* **63.15** Deut 26.15; Ps 80.14; Jer 31.20; Hos 11.8
* **63.16** Isa 44.6; 51.2; 60.16; 64.8
* **63.17** Num 10.36; Isa 29.13, 14; Ezek 14.7–9
* **63.18** Deut 7.6; Ps 74.3–7
* **63.19** Lam 3.43–45

Isaiah 64

* **64.1** Judg 5.5; Ps 144.5
m **64.2** 64.1 in Heb
* **64.2** Jer 5.22
* **64.3** Ps 65.5; 66.3, 5; 106.22
* **64.4** Isa 40.31; 1 Cor 2.9
n **64.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **64.5** Ex 20.24; Isa 56.1; 63.7, 10
* **64.6** Ps 90.5, 6; Isa 6.5; 46.12; 50.1
o **64.7** Gk Syr OL Tg: Heb *melted*
* **64.7** Isa 9.18; 27.5; 54.8; 59.4
* **64.8** Isa 29.16; 60.21; 63.16
* **64.9** Isa 43.25; 60.10; 63.8
* **64.10** Isa 6.11
* **64.11** Ps 74.5–7; Isa 7.23; 63.18
* **64.12** Ps 83.1; Isa 42.14

Isaiah 65

* **65.1** Hos 1.10; Rom 10.20
* **65.2** Isa 30.1, 9; 59.7; Rom 10.21
* **65.3** Isa 3.8; 66.3, 17
* **65.4** Lev 11.7; Isa 66.3, 17
* **65.5** Mt 9.11; Lk 18.9–12
* **65.6** Ps 50.3; 79.12; Jer 16.18
p **65.7** Gk Syr: Heb *your*
q **65.7** Gk Syr: Heb *your*
* **65.7** Isa 30.13, 14; 57.7; Jer 5.29; Ezek 20.27, 28
* **65.9** Isa 32.18; 45.19, 25; 49.8; 57.13
* **65.10** Josh 7.24; Isa 33.9; Hos 2.15
* **65.11** Deut 29.24, 25; Isa 56.7
* **65.12** 2 Chr 36.15, 16; Prov 1.24; Isa 34.5, 6; 63.6; Jer 7.13
* **65.13** Isa 1.19; 5.13; 8.21; 41.17, 18; 66.5, 14
* **65.14** Mt 8.12; Lk 13.28
* **65.15** Isa 62.2; Zech 8.13
* **65.16** Ps 31.5; 72.17; Isa 45.23; Jer 31.12
* **65.17** Isa 43.18; 2 Pet 3.13
* **65.18** Isa 61.10
* **65.19** Isa 35.10; 62.5; Rev 7.17
* **65.20** Deut 4.40; Eccl 8.12, 13
* **65.21** Isa 37.30; Am 9.14

* **65.22** Deut 32.46, 47; Ps 92.12–14; Isa 62.8, 9
r **65.23** Or *sudden terror*
* **65.23** Isa 55.2; 61.9
* **65.24** Dan 9.27
* **65.25** Gen 3.14; Isa 11.6, 7, 9

Isaiah 66

* **66.1** 1 Kings 8.27; 2 Chr 6.18; Jer 7.4; Mt 5.34, 35; Acts 7.49, 50
s **66.2** Gk Syr: Heb *these things came to be*
* **66.2** v 5; Isa 40.26; 57.15; Mt 5.3, 4
* **66.3** Isa 1.11, 13; 65.2, 4
* **66.4** Prov 1.24; Isa 65.12; Jer 7.13
* **66.5** v 2; Isa 60.15; Mt 5.10–12; Lk 13.17
* **66.6** Isa 6.1, 8; 65.6
* **66.7** Isa 37.3
* **66.8** Isa 64.4
* **66.10** Ps 26.8; 137.6; Isa 65.18
* **66.11** Isa 60.16
* **66.12** Isa 48.18; 60.4, 5
* **66.13** 2 Cor 1.3, 4
t **66.14** Heb *bones*
* **66.14** Ezra 7.9; Isa 33.20; 34.2; 58.11; Zech 10.7
u **66.15** Q ms: MT *like a whirlwind*
* **66.15** Ps 68.17; Isa 31.9; 2 Thess 1.8
* **66.16** Isa 30.30; 34.3; 65.12
* **66.17** Ps 37.20; Isa 65.3, 4
v **66.18** Gk Syr: Heb lacks *know*
w **66.18** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *it is*
* **66.18** Isa 45.22–25; 59.7
x **66.19** Gk: Heb *Pul*
y **66.19** Gk: Heb *those drawing the bow*
* **66.19** Isa 42.12; 62.10
* **66.20** Isa 52.11; 60.4; 65.11, 25
* **66.21** Isa 61.6; 1 Pet 2.5, 9
* **66.22** Isa 56.5; 65.17, 22, 23; 2 Pet 3.13; Rev 21.1
* **66.23** Isa 1.13, 14; 49.7
* **66.24** Isa 1.31; 5.25; 24.20; Dan 12.2; Mk 9.48

Jeremiah

Jeremiah 1

1 The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in
Anathoth in the land of Benjamin,* 2to whom the word of the LORD came in
the days of King Josiah son of Amon of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his
reign.* 3It came also in the days of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah
until the end of the eleventh year of King Zedekiah son of Josiah of Judah,
until the captivity of Jerusalem in the fifth month.*

JEREMIAH'S CALL AND COMMISSION

4 Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

5"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."*

6Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am
only a boy."* 7But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy,'
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.
8Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD."*

9Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said
to me,

"Now I have put my words in your mouth.*
10See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,

to build and to plant."*

11 The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Jeremiah, what do you see?" And I said, "I see a branch of an almond tree."* [12]Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching[a] over my word to perform it." [13]The word of the LORD came to me a second time, saying, "What do you see?" And I said, "I see a boiling pot, tilted away from the north."*

14 Then the LORD said to me: "Out of the north disaster shall break out on all the inhabitants of the land.* [15]For now I am calling all the tribes of the kingdoms of the north, says the LORD, and they shall come, and all of them shall set their thrones at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, against all its surrounding walls and against all the cities of Judah.* [16]And I will utter my judgments against them for all their wickedness in forsaking me; they have made offerings to other gods and worshiped the works of their own hands.* [17]But you, gird up your loins; stand up and tell them everything that I command you. Do not break down before them, or I will break you before them.* [18]And I for my part have made you today a fortified city, an iron pillar, and a bronze wall against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land.* [19]They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, says the LORD, to deliver you."*

Jeremiah 2

GOD PLEADS WITH ISRAEL TO REPENT

1 The word of the LORD came to me, saying: [2]Go and proclaim in the
hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the LORD:

I remember the devotion of your youth,
your love as a bride,
how you followed me in the wilderness,
in a land not sown.*
[3]Israel was holy to the LORD,
the first fruits of his harvest.
All who ate of it were held guilty;
disaster came upon them,
says the LORD.*

4 Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the
house of Israel. [5]Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me
and went after worthless things and became worthless
themselves?*
[6]They did not say, "Where is the LORD,
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?"*
[7]I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land
and made my heritage an abomination.*
8The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?"
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers[b] transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal
and went after things that do not profit.*

9Therefore once more I accuse you,
says the LORD,
and I accuse your children's children.*
10Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look;
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.
11Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.*
12Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked; be utterly desolate,
says the LORD,
13for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.*

14Is Israel a slave? Is he a homeborn servant?
Why then has he become plunder?*

15 The lions have roared against him;
they have roared loudly.
They have made his land a waste;
his cities are in ruins, without inhabitant.*
16 Moreover, the people of Memphis and Tahpanhes
have broken the crown of your head.*
17 Have you not brought this upon yourself
by forsaking the LORD your God,
while he led you in the way?*
18 What then do you gain by going to Egypt,
to drink the waters of the Nile?
Or what do you gain by going to Assyria,
to drink the waters of the Euphrates?*
19 Your wickedness will punish you,
and your faithlessness will convict you.
Know and see that it is evil and bitter
for you to forsake the LORD your God;
the fear of me is not in you,
says the Lord GOD of hosts.*

20 For long ago you broke your yoke
and burst your bonds,
and you said, "I will not serve!"
On every high hill
and under every green tree
you sprawled and prostituted yourself.*
21 Yet I planted you as a choice vine
from the purest stock.
How then did you turn degenerate
and become a wild vine?*

22 Though you wash yourself with lye
and use much soap,
the stain of your guilt is still before me,
says the Lord GOD.*
23 How can you say, “I am not defiled;
I have not gone after the Baals”?
Look at your way in the valley;
know what you have done:
a restive young camel interlacing her tracks,*
24 a wild ass at home in the wilderness
in her heat sniffing the wind!
Who can restrain her lust?
None who seek her need weary themselves;
in her month they will find her.*
25 Keep your feet from going bare
and your throat from thirst.
But you said, “It is no use,
for I have loved strangers,
and after them I will go.”*

26 As a thief is shamed when caught,
so the house of Israel shall be shamed:
they, their kings, their officials,
their priests, and their prophets,*
27 who say to a tree, “You are my father,”
and to a stone, “You gave me birth.”
For they have turned their backs to me
and not their faces.
But in the time of their trouble they say,
“Come and save us!”*

[28]But where are your gods
that you made for yourself?
Let them come, if they can save you,
in your time of trouble,
for you have as many gods
as you have towns, O Judah.*

[29]Why do you complain against me?
You have all rebelled against me,
says the LORD.*
[30]In vain I have struck down your children;
they accepted no correction.
Your own sword devoured your prophets
like a ravening lion.*
[31]And you, O generation, behold the word of the LORD![c]
Have I been a wilderness to Israel
or a land of thick darkness?
Why then do my people say, "We are free;
we will come to you no more"?*
[32]Can a young woman forget her ornaments
or a bride her attire?
Yet my people have forgotten me,
days without number.*

[33]How well you direct your course
to seek lovers!
So that even to wicked women
you have taught your ways.
[34]Also on your skirts is found
the lifeblood of the innocent poor,
though you did not catch them breaking in.

Yet in spite of all these things[d,*]
35you say, “I am innocent;
surely his anger has turned from me.”
Now I am bringing you to judgment
for saying, “I have not sinned.”[*]
36Why do you go about so much
to change your way?
You shall be put to shame by Egypt
as you were put to shame by Assyria.[*]
37From there also you will come away
with your hands on your head,
for the LORD has rejected those in whom you trust,
and you will not prosper through them.[*]

Jeremiah 3

UNFAITHFUL ISRAEL

[1]If[e] a man divorces his wife
and she goes from him
and becomes another man's wife,
will he return to her?
Would not such a land be greatly polluted?
You have prostituted yourself with many lovers,
and would you return to me?
says the LORD.*

[2]Look up to the bare heights[f] and see!
Where have you not been lain with?
By the waysides you sat waiting for lovers,
like a nomad in the wilderness.
You have polluted the land
with your prostitutions and wickedness.*
[3]Therefore the showers have been withheld,
and the spring rain has not come,
yet you have the forehead of a prostitute;
you refuse to be ashamed.*
[4]Have you not just now called to me,
"My Father, you are the friend of my youth—*
[5]will he be angry forever,
will he be indignant to the end?"
This is how you have spoken,
but you have done all the evil that you could.*

A CALL TO REPENTANCE

6 The LORD said to me in the days of King Josiah: Have you seen what
she did, that faithless one, Israel, how she went up on every high hill and
under every green tree and prostituted herself there?* [7]And I thought, "After
she has done all this she will return to me," but she did not return, and her
false sister Judah saw it.* [8]She[g] saw that for all the adulteries of that
faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce, yet her
false sister Judah did not fear, but she also went and prostituted herself.*
[9]Because she took her prostitution so lightly, she polluted the land,
committing adultery with stone and tree.* [10]Yet for all this her false sister
Judah did not return to me with her whole heart but only in pretense, says
the LORD.*

11 Then the LORD said to me: Faithless Israel has shown herself less
guilty than false Judah.* [12]Go and proclaim these words toward the north,
and say:

Return, faithless Israel,
says the LORD.
I will not look on you in anger,
for I am merciful,
says the LORD;
I will not be angry forever.*
[13]Only acknowledge your guilt,
that you have rebelled against the LORD your God
and scattered your favors among strangers under every green tree
and have not obeyed my voice,
says the LORD.*
[14]Return, O faithless children,
says the LORD,
for I am your husband;
I will take you, one from a city and two from a family,
and I will bring you to Zion.*

15 I will give you shepherds after my own heart who will feed you with
knowledge and understanding.* 16And when you have multiplied and
increased in the land, in those days, says the LORD, they shall no longer say,
"The ark of the covenant of the LORD." It shall not come to mind or be
remembered or missed, nor shall another one be made.* 17At that time
Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the LORD, and all nations shall gather
to it, to the presence of the LORD in Jerusalem, and they shall no longer
stubbornly follow their own evil will.* 18In those days the house of Judah
shall join the house of Israel, and together they shall come from the land of
the north to the land that I gave your ancestors for a heritage.*

19I thought
how I would set you among my children
and give you a pleasant land,
the most beautiful heritage of all the nations.
And I thought you would call to me, "My Father,"
and would not turn from following me.*
20Instead, as a faithless wife leaves her husband,
so you have been faithless to me, O house of Israel,
says the LORD.*

21A voice on the bare heights[h] is heard,
the plaintive weeping of Israel's children,
because they have perverted their way;
they have forgotten the LORD their God:*
22Return, O faithless children,
I will heal your faithlessness.

"Here we come to you,
for you are the LORD our God.*
23Truly the hills are[i] a delusion,
a tumult on the mountains.
Truly in the LORD our God

is the salvation of Israel.*

24 "But from our youth the shameful thing has devoured all for which
our ancestors had labored, their flocks and their herds, their sons and their
daughters. [25]Let us lie down in our shame, and let our dishonor cover us,
for we have sinned against the LORD our God, we and our ancestors, from
our youth even to this day, and we have not obeyed the voice of the LORD
our God."*

Jeremiah 4

[1]If you return, O Israel,
says the LORD,
if you return to me,
if you remove your abominations from my presence
and do not waver,*
[2]and if you swear, "As the LORD lives!"
in truth, in justice, and in uprightness,
then nations shall be blessed[j] by you,[k]
and by you[l] they shall boast.*

3 For thus says the LORD to the people of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem:

Break up your fallow ground,
and do not sow among thorns.*
[4]Circumcise yourselves to the LORD;
remove the foreskin of your hearts,
O people of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem,
or else my wrath will go forth like fire
and burn with no one to quench it,
because of the evil of your doings.*

INVASION AND DESOLATION OF JUDAH THREATENED

5 Declare in Judah, and proclaim in Jerusalem, and say:
Blow the trumpet through the land;
shout aloud[m] and say,
"Gather together, and let us go
into the fortified cities!"*
[6]Raise a standard toward Zion;

flee for safety; do not delay,
for I am bringing evil from the north
and a great destruction.*
7A lion has gone up from its thicket;
a destroyer of nations has set out;
he has gone out from his place
to make your land a waste;
your cities will be ruins
without inhabitant.*
8Because of this put on sackcloth,
lament and wail:
"The fierce anger of the LORD
has not turned away from us."*

9On that day, says the LORD, courage shall fail the king and the officials; the priests shall be appalled and the prophets astounded.* 10Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD, how utterly you have deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, 'It shall be well with you,' even while the sword is at the throat!"*

11 At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights[n] in the desert toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow or cleanse,* 12a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.*

13Look! He comes up like clouds,
his chariots like the whirlwind;
his horses are swifter than eagles—
woe to us, for we are ruined!*
14O Jerusalem, wash your heart clean of wickedness
so that you may be saved.
How long shall your evil schemes
lodge within you?*

15 For a voice declares from Dan
and proclaims disaster from Mount Ephraim.
16 Tell the nations, "Here they are!"
Proclaim against Jerusalem,
"Besiegers come from a distant land;
they shout against the cities of Judah.*
17 They have closed in around her like watchers of a field
because she has rebelled against me,
says the LORD.*
18 Your ways and your doings
have brought this upon you.
This is your doom; how bitter it is!
It has reached your very heart."*

SORROW FOR A DOOMED NATION

19 My anguish, my anguish! I writhe in pain!
Oh, the walls of my heart!
My heart is beating wildly;
I cannot keep silent,
for I[o] hear the sound of the trumpet,
the alarm of war.*
20 Disaster overtakes disaster;
the whole land is laid waste.
Suddenly my tents are destroyed,
my curtains in a moment.*
21 How long must I see the standard
and hear the sound of the trumpet?
22 "For my people are foolish;
they do not know me;

they are stupid children;
    they have no understanding.
They are skilled in doing evil
    but do not know how to do good."*

[23]I looked on the earth, and it was complete chaos,
    and to the heavens, and they had no light.*
[24]I looked on the mountains, and they were quaking,
    and all the hills moved to and fro.*
[25]I looked, and there was no one at all,
    and all the birds of the air had fled.*
[26]I looked, and the fruitful land was a desert,
    and all its cities were laid in ruins
    before the LORD, before his fierce anger.*

27 For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation, yet I will not make a full end.*

[28]Because of this the earth shall mourn
    and the heavens above grow black,
for I have spoken; I have purposed;
    I have not relented, nor will I turn back.*

[29]At the noise of horseman and archer
    every town takes to flight;
they enter thickets; they climb among rocks;
    all the towns are forsaken,
    and no one lives in them.*
[30]And you, O desolate one,
what do you mean that you dress in crimson,
    that you deck yourself with ornaments of gold,
    that you enlarge your eyes with paint?
In vain you beautify yourself.

Your lovers despise you;
they seek your life.*
31For I heard a cry as of a woman in labor,
anguish as of one bringing forth her first child,
the cry of daughter Zion gasping for breath,
stretching out her hands,
“Woe is me! I am fainting before killers!”*

Jeremiah 5

THE UTTER CORRUPTION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

[1]Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem,
look around and take note!
Search its squares and see
if you can find one person
who acts justly
and seeks truth—
so that I may pardon Jerusalem.[p,*]
[2]Although they say, "As the LORD lives,"
yet they swear falsely.[*]
[3]O LORD, do your eyes not look for truth?
You have struck them,
but they felt no anguish;
you have consumed them,
but they refused to take correction.
They have made their faces harder than rock;
they have refused to turn back.[*]

[4]Then I said, "These are only the poor;
they have no sense,
for they do not know the way of the LORD,
the law of their God.[*]
[5]Let me go to the rich[q]
and speak to them;
surely they know the way of the LORD,
the law of their God."
But they all alike had broken the yoke;

they had burst the bonds.*

6Therefore a lion from the forest shall kill them;
a wolf from the desert shall destroy them.
A leopard is watching against their cities;
everyone who goes out of them shall be torn in pieces,
because their transgressions are many;
their faithlessness is great.*

7How can I pardon you?
Your children have forsaken me
and have sworn by those who are no gods.
When I fed them to the full,
they committed adultery
and trooped to the houses of prostitutes.*
8They were well-fed lusty stallions,
each neighing for his neighbor's wife.*
9Shall I not punish them for these things?
says the LORD,
and shall I not bring retribution
on a nation such as this?*

10Go up through her vine rows and destroy,
but do not make a full end;
strip away her branches,
for they are not the LORD's.*
11For the house of Israel and the house of Judah
have been utterly faithless to me,
says the LORD.*

12They have spoken falsely of the LORD
and have said, "He will do nothing.

No evil will come upon us,
and we shall not see sword or famine.”*
13The prophets are nothing but wind,
for the word is not in them.
Thus shall it be done to them!*

14Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of hosts:
Because you have spoken this word,
I am now making my words in your mouth a fire
and this people wood, and the fire shall devour them.*
15I am going to bring upon you
a nation from far away, O house of Israel,
says the LORD.
It is an enduring nation;
it is an ancient nation,
a nation whose language you do not know,
nor can you understand what they say.*
16Their quiver is like an open tomb;
all of them are mighty warriors.*
17They shall eat up your harvest and your food;
they shall eat up your sons and your daughters;
they shall eat up your flocks and your herds;
they shall eat up your vines and your fig trees;
they shall destroy with the sword
your fortified cities in which you trust.*

18 But even in those days, says the LORD, I will not make a full end of you.* 19And when your people say, “Why has the LORD our God done all these things to us?” you shall say to them, “As you have forsaken me and served foreign gods in your land, so you shall serve strangers in a land that is not yours.”*

[20]Declare this in the house of Jacob;
proclaim it in Judah:
[21]Hear this, O foolish and senseless people,
who have eyes but do not see,
who have ears but do not hear.*
[22]Do you not fear me? says the LORD;
Do you not tremble before me?
I placed the sand as a boundary for the sea,
a perpetual barrier that it cannot pass;
though the waves toss, they cannot prevail;
though they roar, they cannot pass over it.*
[23]But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart;
they have turned aside and gone away.*
[24]They do not say in their hearts,
"Let us fear the LORD our God,
who gives the rain in its season,
the autumn rain and the spring rain,
and keeps for us
the weeks appointed for the harvest."*
[25]Your iniquities have turned these away,
and your sins have deprived you of good.*
[26]For the wicked are found among my people.
They lie in wait like hunters;
destroyers,[r] they catch humans.*
[27]Like a cage full of birds,
their houses are full of treachery;
therefore they have become great and rich;*
[28]they have grown fat and sleek.
They know no limits in deeds of wickedness;

they do not judge with justice
the cause of the orphan, to make it prosper,
and they do not defend the rights of the needy.*
29 Shall I not punish them for these things?
says the LORD,
and shall I not bring retribution
on a nation such as this?*

30 An appalling and horrible thing
has happened in the land:*
31 the prophets prophesy falsely,
and the priests rule as the prophets direct;s
my people love to have it so,
but what will you do when the end comes?*

Jeremiah 6

THE IMMINENCE AND HORROR OF THE INVASION

[1]Flee for safety, O children of Benjamin,
from the midst of Jerusalem!
Blow the trumpet in Tekoa,
and raise a signal on Beth-haccherem,
for evil looms out of the north
and great destruction.*
[2]I have likened daughter Zion
to the loveliest pasture.t,*
[3]Shepherds with their flocks shall come against her.
They shall pitch their tents around her;
they shall pasture, all in their places.*
[4]"Prepare war against her;
up, and let us attack at noon!"
"Woe to us, for the day declines;
the shadows of evening lengthen!"*
[5]"Up, and let us attack by night,
and destroy her palaces!"*
[6]For thus says the LORD of hosts:
Cut down her trees;
cast up a siege ramp against Jerusalem.
This is the city that must be punished;u
there is nothing but oppression within her.*
[7]As a well keeps its water fresh,
so she keeps fresh her wickedness;
violence and destruction are heard within her;

sickness and wounds are ever before me.*
8Take warning, O Jerusalem,
or I shall turn from you in disgust
and make you a desolation,
an uninhabited land.*

9Thus says the LORD of hosts:
Glean[v] thoroughly as a vine
the remnant of Israel;
like a grape gatherer, pass your hand again
over its branches.*

10To whom shall I speak and give warning,
that they may hear?
See, their ears are closed;[w]
they cannot listen.
The word of the LORD is to them an object of scorn;
they take no pleasure in it.*
11But I am full of the wrath of the LORD;
I am weary of holding it in.

Pour it out on the children in the street
and on the gatherings of young men as well;
both husband and wife shall be taken,
the elderly and those full of days.*
12Their houses shall be turned over to others,
their fields and wives together;
for I will stretch out my hand
against the inhabitants of the land,
says the LORD.*

13For from the least to the greatest of them,
everyone is greedy for unjust gain;
and from prophet to priest,
everyone deals falsely.*
14They have treated the wound of my people carelessly,
saying, “Peace, peace,”
when there is no peace.*
15They acted shamefully; they committed abomination,
yet they were not ashamed;
they did not know how to blush.
Therefore they shall fall among those who fall;
at the time that I punish them, they shall be overthrown,
says the LORD.
16Thus says the LORD:
Stand at the crossroads and look,
and ask for the ancient paths,
where the good way lies; and walk in it,
and find rest for your souls.
But they said, “We will not walk in it.”*
17Also I raised up sentinels for you:
“Give heed to the sound of the trumpet!”
But they said, “We will not give heed.”*
18Therefore hear, O nations,
and know, O congregation, what will happen to them.
19Hear, O earth; I am going to bring disaster on this people,
the fruit of their schemes,
because they have not given heed to my words,
and as for my teaching, they have rejected it.*
20Of what use to me is frankincense that comes from Sheba
or sweet cane from a distant land?

Your burnt offerings are not acceptable,
nor are your sacrifices pleasing to me.*
21Therefore thus says the LORD:
See, I am laying before this people
stumbling blocks against which they shall stumble;
parents and children together,
neighbor and friend shall perish.*

22Thus says the LORD:
See, a people is coming from the land of the north;
a great nation is stirring from the farthest parts of the earth.*
23They grasp the bow and the javelin;
they are cruel and have no mercy;
their sound is like the roaring sea;
they ride on horses,
equipped like a warrior for battle,
against you, O daughter Zion!*

24"We have heard news of them;
our hands fall helpless;
anguish has taken hold of us,
pain as of a woman in labor.*
25Do not go out into the field
or walk on the road,
for the enemy has a sword;
terror is on every side."*

26O daughter of my people, put on sackcloth
and roll in ashes;
make mourning as for an only child,
most bitter lamentation,

for suddenly the destroyer
will come upon us.*

27 I have made you a tester and a refiner[x] among my people
so that you may know and test their ways.
28 They are all stubbornly rebellious,
going about with slanders;
they are bronze and iron;
all of them act corruptly.*
29 The bellows blow fiercely;
the lead is consumed by the fire;[y]
in vain the refining goes on,
for the wicked are not removed.
30 They are called “rejected silver,”
for the LORD has rejected them.

Jeremiah 7

JEREMIAH PROCLAIMS GOD'S JUDGMENT ON THE NATION

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: [2]Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD, all you people of Judah, you who enter these gates to worship the LORD. [3]Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and let me dwell with you[z] in this place. [4]Do not trust in these deceptive words: "This is[a] the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD."

5 For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another,* [6]if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt,* [7]then I will dwell with you[b] in this place, in the land that I gave to your ancestors forever and ever.

8 Here you are, trusting in deceptive words to no avail.* [9]Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known* [10]and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, "We are safe!"—only to go on doing all these abominations?* [11]Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your sight? I, too, am watching, says the LORD.* [12]Go now to my place that was in Shiloh, where I made my name dwell at first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of my people Israel.* [13]And now, because you have done all these things, says the LORD, and when I spoke to you persistently, you did not listen, and when I called you, you did not answer,* [14]therefore I will do to the house that is called by my name, in which you trust, and to the place that I gave to you and to your ancestors just what I did to Shiloh.* [15]And I will cast you out of my sight, just as I cast out all your kinsfolk, all the offspring of Ephraim.*

THE PEOPLE'S DISOBEDIENCE

16 As for you, do not pray for this people, do not raise a cry or prayer on
their behalf, and do not intercede with me, for I will not hear you.* 17Do
you not see what they are doing in the towns of Judah and in the streets of
Jerusalem? 18The children gather wood, the fathers kindle fire, and the
women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven, and they pour
out drink offerings to other gods, to provoke me to anger.* 19Is it I whom
they provoke? says the LORD. Is it not themselves, to their own hurt?*
20Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: My anger and my wrath shall be
poured out on this place, on humans and animals, on the trees of the field
and the fruit of the ground; it will burn and not be quenched.

21 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Add your burnt
offerings to your sacrifices, and eat the flesh.* 22For in the day that I
brought your ancestors out of the land of Egypt, I did not speak to them or
command them concerning burnt offerings and sacrifices.* 23But this
command I gave them, "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you
shall be my people; walk only in the way that I command you, so that it
may be well with you."* 24Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but, in
the stubbornness of their evil will, they walked in their own counsels and
looked backward rather than forward.* 25From the day that your ancestors
came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have persistently sent all my
servants the prophets to them, day after day,* 26yet they did not listen to me
or pay attention, but they stiffened their necks. They did worse than their
ancestors did.*

27 So you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not listen to
you. You shall call to them, but they will not answer you.* 28You shall say
to them: This is the nation that did not obey the voice of the LORD their God
and did not accept discipline; truth has perished; it is cut off from their
lips.*

29Cut off your hair and throw it away;
raise a lamentation on the bare heights,[c]
for the LORD has rejected and forsaken
the generation that provoked his wrath.*

30 For the people of Judah have done evil in my sight, says the LORD;
they have set their abominations in the house that is called by my name,

defiling it.* 31And they go on building the high place[d] of Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire—which I did not command, nor did it come into my mind.* 32Therefore the days are surely coming, says the LORD, when it will no more be called Topheth or the valley of the son of Hinnom but the valley of Slaughter, for they will bury in Topheth until there is no more room.* 33The corpses of this people will be food for the birds of the air and for the animals of the earth, and no one will frighten them away. 34And I will bring to an end the sound of mirth and gladness, the voice of the bride and bridegroom in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, for the land shall become a waste.*

Jeremiah 8

1 At that time, says the LORD, the bones of the kings of Judah, the bones of
its officials, the bones of the priests, the bones of the prophets, and the
bones of the inhabitants of Jerusalem shall be brought out of their tombs,*
2and they shall be spread before the sun and the moon and all the host of
heaven, which they have loved and served, which they have followed, and
which they have inquired of and worshiped, and they shall not be gathered
or buried; they shall be like dung on the surface of the ground.* 3Death shall
be preferred to life by all the remnant that remains of this evil family in all
the places where I have driven them, says the LORD of hosts.*

THE BLIND PERVERSITY OF THE WHOLE NATION

4You shall say to them, Thus says the LORD:
When people fall, do they not get up again?
If they go astray, do they not turn back?*
5Why then has this people[e] turned away
in perpetual faithlessness?
They have held fast to deceit;
they have refused to return.*
6I have given heed and listened,
but they do not speak honestly;
no one repents of wickedness,
saying, "What have I done!"
All of them turn to their own course
like a horse plunging headlong into battle.*
7Even the stork in the heavens
knows its times,
and the turtledove, swallow, and crane[f]
observe the time of their coming,

but my people do not know
the ordinance of the LORD.*

8How can you say, “We are wise,
and the law of the LORD is with us,”
when, in fact, the false pen of the scribes
has made it into a lie?*
9The wise shall be put to shame;
they shall be dismayed and taken;
since they have rejected the word of the LORD,
what wisdom is in them?*
10Therefore I will give their wives to others
and their fields to conquerors,
because from the least to the greatest
everyone is greedy for unjust gain;
from prophet to priest,
everyone deals falsely.*
11They have treated the wound of the daughter of my people carelessly,
saying, “Peace, peace,”
when there is no peace.*
12They acted shamefully; they committed abomination,
yet they were not at all ashamed;
they did not know how to blush.
Therefore they shall fall among those who fall;
at the time when I punish them, they shall be overthrown,
says the LORD.*
13I will surely gather them,[g] says the LORD;
there are no grapes on the vine
nor figs on the fig tree;

even the leaves are withered,
and what I gave them has passed away from them.[h,*]

14 Why do we sit still?
Gather together; let us go into the fortified cities
and perish there,
for the LORD our God has doomed us to perish
and has given us poisoned water to drink
because we have sinned against the LORD.*
15 We look for peace but find no good,
for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.*

16 The snorting of their horses is heard from Dan;
at the sound of the neighing of their stallions
the whole land quakes.
They come and devour the land and all that fills it,
the city and those who live in it.*
17 See, I am letting snakes loose among you,
adders that cannot be charmed,
and they shall bite you,
says the LORD.*

THE PROPHET MOURNS FOR THE PEOPLE

18 My joy is gone; grief is upon me;
my heart is sick.
19 Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from far and wide in the land:
"Is the LORD not in Zion?
Is her King not in her?"
("Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?")*

20 “The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved.”
21 For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken,
I mourn, and horror has seized me.*

22 Is there no balm in Gilead?
Is there no physician there?
Why then has the health of the daughter of my people
not been restored?*

Jeremiah 9

1[i]O that my head were a spring of water
and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of the daughter of my people![*]
2[j]O that I had in the desert
a traveler's lodging place,
that I might leave my people
and go away from them!
For they are all adulterers,
a band of traitors.[*]
3They bend their tongues like bows;
they have grown strong in the land for falsehood and not for truth,
for they proceed from evil to evil,
and they do not know me, says the LORD.[*]

4Beware of your neighbors,
and put no trust in any of your kin,
for all your kin are supplanters,
and every neighbor goes around like a slanderer.[*]
5They all deceive their neighbors,
and no one speaks the truth;
they have taught their tongues to speak lies;
they commit iniquity and are too weary to repent.[k,*]
6Oppression upon oppression, deceit[l] upon deceit!
They refuse to know me, says the LORD.[*]

7Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts:

I will now refine and test them,
for what else can I do with the daughter of my people?*
8 Their tongue is a deadly arrow;
it speaks deceit through the mouth.
They all speak friendly words to their neighbors
but inwardly are planning to lay an ambush.*
9 Shall I not punish them for these things? says the LORD,
and shall I not bring retribution
on a nation such as this?*

10 Take up[m] weeping and wailing for the mountains
and a lamentation for the pastures of the wilderness,
because they are laid waste so that no one passes through,
and the lowing of cattle is not heard;
both the birds of the air and the animals
have fled and are gone.*
11 I will make Jerusalem a heap of ruins,
a lair of jackals,
and I will make the towns of Judah a desolation,
without inhabitant.*

12 Who is wise enough to understand this? To whom has the mouth of the LORD spoken, so that they may declare it? Why is the land ruined and laid waste like a wilderness, so that no one passes through?* 13 And the LORD says: Because they have forsaken my law that I set before them and have not obeyed my voice or walked in accordance with it* 14 but have stubbornly followed their own hearts and have gone after the Baals, as their ancestors taught them.* 15 Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am feeding this people with wormwood and giving them poisonous water to drink.* 16 I will scatter them among nations that neither they nor their ancestors have known, and I will send the sword after them until I have consumed them.*

THE PEOPLE MOURN IN JUDGMENT

17 Thus says the LORD of hosts:
Consider and call for the mourning women to come;
send for the skilled women to come;*
18 let them quickly raise a dirge over us,
so that our eyes may run down with tears
and our eyelids flow with water.*
19 For a sound of wailing is heard from Zion:
"How we are ruined!
We are utterly shamed
because we have left the land,
because they have cast down our dwellings."*

20 Hear, O women, the word of the LORD,
and let your ears receive the word of his mouth;
teach to your daughters a dirge
and each to her neighbor a lament.*
21 "Death has come up into our windows;
it has entered our palaces
to cut off the children from the streets
and the young men from the squares."*
22 Speak! Thus says the LORD:
"Human corpses shall fall
like dung upon the open field,
like sheaves behind the reaper,
and no one shall gather them."*

23 Thus says the LORD: Do not let the wise boast in their wisdom; do not let the mighty boast in their might; do not let the wealthy boast in their wealth;* 24 but let those who boast boast in this, that they understand and

know me, that I am the LORD; I act with steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I delight, says the LORD.*

25 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will attend to all those who are circumcised only in the foreskin:* 26Egypt, Judah, Edom, the Ammonites, Moab, and all those with shaved temples who live in the desert. For all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel is uncircumcised in heart.*

Jeremiah 10

IDOLATRY HAS BROUGHT RUIN ON ISRAEL

1 Hear the word that the LORD speaks to you, O house of Israel. [2]Thus says the LORD:

Do not learn the way of the nations
or be dismayed at the signs of the heavens,
for the nations are dismayed at them.*
[3]For the customs of the peoples are false:
a tree from the forest is cut down
and worked with an ax by the hands of an artisan;*
[4]they deck it with silver and gold;
they fasten it with hammers and nails
so that it cannot move.*
[5]Their idols[n] are like scarecrows in a cucumber field,
and they cannot speak;
they have to be carried,
for they cannot walk.
Do not be afraid of them,
for they cannot do evil,
nor is it in them to do good.*

[6]There is none like you, O LORD;
you are great, and your name is great in might.*
[7]Who would not fear you, O King of the nations?
For that is your due;
among all the wise ones of the nations
and in all their kingdoms
there is no one like you.*

[8]They are both stupid and foolish;
the instruction given by idols
is no better than wood![o,*]
[9]Beaten silver is brought from Tarshish
and gold from Uphaz.
They are the work of the artisan and of the hands of the goldsmith;
their clothing is blue and purple;
they are all the product of skilled workers.[*]
[10]But the LORD is the true God;
he is the living God and the everlasting King.
At his wrath the earth quakes,
and the nations cannot endure his indignation.[p,*]

11 Thus shall you say to them: The gods who did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens.[q,*]

[12]It is he who made the earth by his power,
who established the world by his wisdom
and by his understanding stretched out the heavens.[*]
[13]When he utters his voice, there is a tumult of waters in the heavens,
and he makes the mist rise from the ends of the earth.
He makes lightning for the rain
and brings out the wind from his storehouses.[*]
[14]Everyone is stupid and without knowledge;
goldsmiths are all put to shame by their idols,
for their images are false,
and there is no breath in them.[*]
[15]They are worthless, a work of delusion;
at the time of their punishment they shall perish.

16 The portion of Jacob is not like these,
for he is the one who formed all things,
and Israel is the tribe of his inheritance;
the LORD of hosts is his name.*

THE COMING EXILE

17 Gather up your bundle from the ground,
O you who live under siege!
18 For thus says the LORD:
I am going to sling out the inhabitants of the land
at this time,
and I will bring distress on them,
so that they shall feel it.

19 Woe is me because of my hurt!
My wound is severe.
But I said, "Truly this is my punishment,
and I must bear it."*
20 My tent is destroyed,
and all my cords are broken;
my children have gone from me,
and they are no more;
there is no one to spread my tent again
and to set up my curtains.*
21 For the shepherds are stupid
and do not inquire of the LORD;
therefore they have not prospered,
and all their flock is scattered.*

22 Hear, a noise! Listen, it is coming—
a great commotion from the land of the north

to make the cities of Judah a desolation,
a lair of jackals.*

23 I know, O LORD, that the way of humans is not in their control,
that mortals as they walk cannot direct their steps.*
24 Correct me, O LORD, but in just measure;
not in your anger, or you will bring me to nothing.*

25 Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not know you
and on the peoples that do not call on your name,
for they have devoured Jacob;
they have devoured him and consumed him
and have laid waste his habitation.*

Jeremiah 11

ISRAEL AND JUDAH HAVE BROKEN THE COVENANT

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: [2]"Hear the words of this
covenant, and speak to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of
Jerusalem. [3]You shall say to them, Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:
Cursed be anyone who does not heed the words of this covenant,* [4]which I
commanded your ancestors when I brought them out of the land of Egypt,
from the iron smelter, saying, 'Listen to my voice, and do all that I
command you. So shall you be my people, and I will be your God,* [5]that I
may perform the oath that I swore to your ancestors, to give them a land
flowing with milk and honey, as at this day.' " Then I answered, "So be it,
LORD."*

6 And the LORD said to me: Proclaim all these words in the cities of
Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem: Hear the words of this covenant and
do them. [7]For I solemnly warned your ancestors when I brought them up
out of the land of Egypt, warning them persistently, even to this day, saying,
"Obey my voice."* [8]Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but everyone
walked in the stubbornness of an evil will. So I brought upon them all the
words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do, but they did not.*

9 And the LORD said to me: Conspiracy exists among the people of Judah
and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.* [10]They have turned back to the iniquities
of their ancestors of old, who refused to heed my words; they have gone
after other gods to serve them; the house of Israel and the house of Judah
have broken the covenant that I made with their ancestors.* [11]Therefore,
thus says the LORD, assuredly I am going to bring disaster upon them that
they cannot escape; though they cry out to me, I will not listen to them.*
[12]Then the cities of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem will go and cry
out to the gods to whom they make offerings, but they will never save them
in the time of their trouble.* [13]For your gods have become as many as your
towns, O Judah, and as many as the streets of Jerusalem are the altars to
shame you have set up, altars to make offerings to Baal.

14 As for you, do not pray for this people or lift up a cry or prayer on
their behalf, for I will not listen when they call to me in the time of their
trouble.* 15What right has my beloved in my house, when she has done vile
deeds? Can vows[r] and sacrificial flesh avert your doom? Can you then
exult?* 16The LORD once called you, "A green olive tree, fair with goodly
fruit," but with the roar of a great tempest he will set fire to it, and its
branches will be consumed.* 17The LORD of hosts, who planted you, has
pronounced evil against you because of the evil that the house of Israel and
the house of Judah have done, provoking me to anger by making offerings
to Baal.*

JEREMIAH'S LIFE THREATENED

18It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their deeds.
19But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.
And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit;
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!"*
20But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.*

21 Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the people of Anathoth who
seek your life and say, "You shall not prophesy in the name of the LORD, or
you will die by our hand"*—22therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: I am
going to punish them; the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and
their daughters shall die by famine, 23and not even a remnant shall be left of
them. For I will bring disaster upon the people of Anathoth, the year of their
punishment.*

Jeremiah 12

JEREMIAH COMPLAINS TO GOD

[1]You will be in the right, O LORD,
when I lay charges against you,
but let me put my case to you.
Why does the way of the guilty prosper?
Why do all who are treacherous thrive?*
[2]You plant them, and they take root;
they grow and bring forth fruit;
you are near in their mouths
yet far from their hearts.*
[3]But you, O LORD, know me;
you see me and test me; my heart is with you.
Pull them out like sheep for the slaughter,
and set them apart for the day of slaughter.*
[4]How long will the land mourn
and the grass of every field wither?
For the wickedness of those who live in it,
the animals and the birds are swept away,
and because people said, "He is blind to our ways."[s,*]

GOD REPLIES TO JEREMIAH

[5]If you have raced with runners and they have wearied you,
how will you compete with horses?
And if you trust in a safe land,
how will you fare in the thickets of the Jordan?*
[6]For even your kinsfolk and your own family,

even they have dealt treacherously with you;
they are in full cry after you;
do not believe them,
though they speak friendly words to you.*

7I have forsaken my house;
I have abandoned my heritage;
I have given the beloved of my heart
into the hands of her enemies.*
8My heritage has become to me
like a lion in the forest;
she has lifted up her voice against me—
therefore I hate her.*
9Is the hawk hungry for my heritage?
Are the vultures all around her?
Go, assemble all the wild animals;
bring them to devour her.*
10Many shepherds have destroyed my vineyard;
they have trampled down my portion;
they have made my pleasant portion
a desolate wilderness.*
11They have made it a desolation;
desolate, it mourns to me.
The whole land is made desolate,
but no one lays it to heart.*
12Upon all the bare heights[t] in the desert,
spoilers have come,
for the sword of the LORD devours
from one end of the land to the other;
no one shall be safe.*

[13]They have sown wheat and have reaped thorns;
they have tired themselves out but profit nothing.
They shall be ashamed of their[u] harvests
because of the fierce anger of the LORD.*

14 Thus says the LORD concerning all my evil neighbors who touch the heritage that I have given my people Israel to inherit: I am about to pluck them up from their land, and I will pluck up the house of Judah from among them.* [15]And after I have plucked them up, I will again have compassion on them, and I will bring them again to their heritage and to their land, every one of them.* [16]And then, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, "As the LORD lives," as they taught my people to swear by Baal, then they shall be built up in the midst of my people.* [17]But if any nation will not listen, then I will completely uproot it and destroy it, says the LORD.*

Jeremiah 13

THE LINEN LOINCLOTH

1 Thus said the LORD to me, "Go and buy yourself a linen loincloth and put
it on your loins, but do not dip it in water."* [2]So I bought a loincloth
according to the word of the LORD and put it on my loins.* [3]And the word of
the LORD came to me a second time, saying, [4]"Take the loincloth that you
bought and are wearing, and go now to the Euphrates,[v] and hide it there in a
cleft of the rock."* [5]So I went and hid it by the Euphrates,[w] as the LORD
commanded me.* [6]And after many days the LORD said to me, "Go now to
the Euphrates,[x] and take from there the loincloth that I commanded you to
hide there." [7]Then I went to the Euphrates[y] and dug, and I took the loincloth
from the place where I had hidden it. But now the loincloth was ruined; it
was good for nothing.

8 Then the word of the LORD came to me: [9]Thus says the LORD: Just so I
will ruin the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem.* [10]This evil
people, who refuse to hear my words, who stubbornly follow their own will
and have gone after other gods to serve them and worship them, shall be
like this loincloth, which is good for nothing.* [11]For as the loincloth clings
to one's loins, so I made the whole house of Israel and the whole house of
Judah cling to me, says the LORD, in order that they might be for me a
people, a name, a praise, and a glory. But they would not listen.*

SYMBOL OF THE WINE JARS

12 You shall speak to them this word: Thus says the LORD, the God of
Israel: Every wine jar should be filled with wine. And they will say to you,
"Do you think we do not know that every wine jar should be filled with
wine?" [13]Then you shall say to them: Thus says the LORD: I am about to fill
all the inhabitants of this land—the kings who sit on David's throne, the
priests, the prophets, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem—with
drunkenness.* [14]And I will dash them one against another, parents and

children together, says the LORD. I will not pity or spare or have compassion when I destroy them.*

EXILE THREATENED

15 Hear and give ear; do not be haughty,
for the LORD has spoken.*
16 Give glory to the LORD your God
before he brings darkness
and before your feet stumble
on the mountains at twilight;
while you look for light,
he turns it into gloom
and makes it deep darkness.*
17 But if you will not listen,
my soul will weep in secret for your pride;
my eyes will weep bitterly and run down with tears
because the LORD's flock has been taken captive.*

18 Say to the king and the queen mother:
"Take a lowly seat,
for your beautiful crown
has come down from your head."z,*
19 The towns of the Negeb are shut up,
with no one to open them;
all Judah is taken into exile,
wholly taken into exile.*

20 Lift up your eyes and see
those who come from the north.
Where is the flock that was given you,
your beautiful flock?*

[21]What will you say when they set as head over you
those whom you have trained
to be your allies?
Will not pangs seize you
like those of a woman in labor?*
[22]And if you say in your heart,
"Why have these things come upon me?"
it is for the greatness of your iniquity
that your skirts are lifted up
and you are violated.*
[23]Can Cushites change their skin
or leopards their spots?
Then also you can do good,
who are accustomed to do evil.*
[24]I will scatter you[a] like chaff
driven by the wind from the desert.*
[25]This is your lot,
the portion I have measured out to you, says the LORD,
because you have forgotten me
and trusted in lies.*
[26]I myself will lift up your skirts over your face,
and your shame will be seen.*
[27]I have seen your abominations,
your adulteries and neighings, your shameless prostitutions
on the hills of the countryside.
Woe to you, O Jerusalem!
How long will it be
before you are made clean?*

Jeremiah 14

THE GREAT DROUGHT

1 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the drought:*

[2]Judah mourns,
and her gates languish;
they lie in gloom on the ground,
and the cry of Jerusalem goes up.*
[3]Her[b] nobles send their servants for water;
they come to the cisterns;
they find no water;
they return with their vessels empty.
They are ashamed and dismayed
and cover their heads,*
[4]because the ground is cracked.
Because there has been no rain on the land,
the farmers are dismayed;
they cover their heads.*
[5]Even the doe in the field forsakes her newborn fawn
because there is no grass.
[6]The wild asses stand on the bare heights;[c]
they pant for air like jackals;
their eyes fail
because there is no herbage.*

[7]Although our iniquities testify against us,
act, O LORD, for your name's sake;
our rebellions indeed are many,
and we have sinned against you.*

[8]O hope of Israel,
its savior in time of trouble,
why should you be like a stranger in the land,
like a traveler turning aside for the night?*
[9]Why should you be like someone confused,
like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?
Yet you, O LORD, are in the midst of us,
and we are called by your name;
do not forsake us!*

[10]Thus says the LORD concerning this people:
Truly they have loved to wander;
they have not restrained their feet;
therefore the LORD does not accept them;
now he will remember their iniquity
and punish their sins.*

11 The LORD said to me: Do not pray for the welfare of this people.* [12]Although they fast, I do not hear their cry, and although they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I do not accept them, but by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence I consume them.*

DENUNCIATION OF LYING PROPHETS

13 Then I said: "Ah, Lord GOD! Here are the prophets saying to them, 'You shall not see the sword, nor shall you have famine, but I will give you true peace in this place.' "* [14]And the LORD said to me: "The prophets are prophesying lies in my name; I did not send them, nor did I command them or speak to them. They are prophesying to you a lying vision, worthless divination, and the deceit of their own minds.* [15]Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who prophesy in my name though I did not send them and who say, 'Sword and famine shall not come on this land': By sword and famine those prophets shall be consumed.* [16]And the people to whom they prophesy shall be thrown out into the streets of Jerusalem,

victims of famine and sword. There shall be no one to bury them—themselves, their wives, their sons, and their daughters—for I will pour out their wickedness upon them."*

17 You shall say to them this word:
Let my eyes run down with tears night and day,
and let them not cease,
for the virgin daughter of my people is struck down with a crushing blow,
with a very grievous wound.*
18 If I go out into the field,
look—those killed by the sword!
And if I enter the city,
look—those sick with[d] famine!
For both prophet and priest ply their trade throughout the land
and have no knowledge.*

THE PEOPLE PLEAD FOR MERCY

19 Have you completely rejected Judah?
Does your heart loathe Zion?
Why have you struck us down
so that there is no healing for us?
We look for peace but find no good,
for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.*
20 We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD,
the iniquity of our ancestors,
for we have sinned against you.*
21 Do not spurn us, for your name's sake;
do not dishonor your glorious throne;
remember and do not break your covenant with us.*
22 Can any idols of the nations bring rain,

or can the heavens give showers?
Is it not you, O LORD our God?
We set our hope on you,
for it is you who do all this.*

Jeremiah 15

PUNISHMENT IS INEVITABLE

1 Then the LORD said to me: Though Moses and Samuel stood before me,
yet my heart would not turn toward this people. Send them out of my sight,
and let them go![*] 2And when they say to you, "Where shall we go?" you
shall say to them: Thus says the LORD:

Those destined for pestilence, to pestilence,
and those destined for the sword, to the sword;
those destined for famine, to famine,
and those destined for captivity, to captivity.[*]

3And I will appoint over them four kinds of destroyers, says the LORD: the
sword to kill, the dogs to drag away, and the birds of the air and the wild
animals of the earth to devour and destroy.[*] 4I will make them a horror to
all the kingdoms of the earth because of what King Manasseh son of
Hezekiah of Judah did in Jerusalem.[*]

5Who will have pity on you, O Jerusalem,
or who will bemoan you?
Who will turn aside
to ask about your welfare?
6You have rejected me, says the LORD;
you are going backward,
so I have stretched out my hand against you and destroyed you—
I am weary of relenting.[*]
7I have winnowed them with a winnowing fork
in the gates of the land;
I have bereaved them; I have destroyed my people;
they did not turn from their ways.[*]
8Their widows became more numerous

than the sand of the seas;
I have brought against the mothers of youths
a destroyer at noonday;
I have made anguish and terror
fall upon her suddenly.
9She who bore seven has languished;
she has swooned away;
her sun went down while it was yet day;
she has been shamed and disgraced.
And the rest of them I will give to the sword
before their enemies,
says the LORD.*

JEREMIAH COMPLAINS AGAIN AND IS REASSURED

10 Woe is me, my mother, that you ever bore me, a man of strife and contention to the whole land! I have not lent, nor have I borrowed, yet all of them curse me.* 11The LORD said: Surely I have intervened in your life[e] for good; surely I have brought enemies upon you[f] in a time of trouble and in a time of distress.* 12Can one break iron, iron from the north, and bronze?

13 Your wealth and your treasures I will give as plunder, without price, for all your sins, throughout all your territory.* 14I will make you serve your enemies in a land that you do not know, for in my anger a fire is kindled that shall burn against you.*

15O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.*
16Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,

for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.*
17I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.*
18Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.*

19Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.*
20And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.*
21I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.*

Jeremiah 16

JEREMIAH'S CELIBACY AND MESSAGE

1 The word of the LORD came to me:* [2]You shall not take a wife, nor shall you have sons or daughters in this place.* [3]For thus says the LORD concerning the sons and daughters who are born in this place and concerning the mothers who bear them and the fathers who father them in this land:* [4]They shall die of deadly diseases. They shall not be lamented, nor shall they be buried; they shall become like dung on the surface of the ground. They shall perish by the sword and by famine, and their dead bodies shall become food for the birds of the air and for the wild animals of the earth.*

5 For thus says the LORD: Do not enter the house of mourning or go to lament or bemoan them, for I have taken away my peace from this people, says the LORD, my steadfast love and mercy.* [6]Both great and small shall die in this land; they shall not be buried, and no one shall lament for them; there shall be no gashing, no shaving of the head for them.* [7]No one shall break bread[g] for the mourner, to offer comfort for the dead, nor shall anyone give them the cup of consolation to drink for their fathers or their mothers.* [8]You shall not go into the house of feasting to sit with them, to eat and drink.* [9]For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am going to banish from this place, in your days and before your eyes, the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.*

10 And when you tell this people all these words, and they say to you, "Why has the LORD pronounced all this great evil against us? What is our iniquity? What is the sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?"* [11]then you shall say to them: It is because your ancestors have forsaken me, says the LORD, and have gone after other gods and have served and worshiped them and have forsaken me and have not kept my law,* [12]and because you have behaved worse than your ancestors, for here you are, every one of you, following your stubborn evil will, refusing to listen to me.* [13]Therefore I will hurl you out of this land into a land that neither you

nor your ancestors have known, and there you shall serve other gods day and night, for I will show you no favor.*

GOD WILL RESTORE ISRAEL

14 Therefore, the days are surely coming, says the LORD, when it shall no longer be said, "As the LORD lives who brought the people of Israel up out of the land of Egypt,"* 15but "As the LORD lives who brought the people of Israel up out of the land of the north and out of all the lands where he had driven them." For I will bring them back to their own land that I gave to their ancestors.*

16 I am now sending for many fishermen, says the LORD, and they shall catch them, and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill and out of the clefts of the rocks.* 17For my eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from my presence, nor is their iniquity concealed from my sight.* 18And[h] I will doubly repay their iniquity and their sin because they have polluted my land with the carcasses of their detestable idols and have filled my inheritance with their abominations.*

19O LORD, my strength and my stronghold,
my refuge in the day of trouble,
to you shall the nations come
from the ends of the earth and say:
"Our ancestors have inherited nothing but lies,
worthless things in which there is no profit.*
20Can mortals make for themselves gods?
Such are no gods!"*

21 "Therefore I am surely going to teach them, this time I am going to teach them my power and my might, and they shall know that my name is the LORD."*

Jeremiah 17

JUDAH'S SIN AND PUNISHMENT

1 The sin of Judah is written with an iron pen; with a diamond point it is
engraved on the tablet of their hearts and on the horns of their altars,*
2while their children remember their altars and their sacred poles[i] beside
every green tree and on the high hills, 3on the mountains in the open
country. Your wealth and all your treasures I will give for spoil as the price
of your sin[j] throughout all your territory. 4By your own act you shall lose
the heritage that I gave you, and I will make you serve your enemies in a
land that you do not know, for in my anger a fire is kindled that shall burn
forever.*

5Thus says the LORD:
Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.*
6They shall be like a shrub in the desert
and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.*

7Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.*
8They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.*

9The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?*
10I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.*

11Like the partridge hatching what it did not lay,
so are all who amass wealth unjustly;
in midlife it will leave them,
and at their end they will prove to be fools.

12O glorious throne, exalted from the beginning,
shrine of our sanctuary!
13O hope of Israel! O LORD!
All who forsake you shall be put to shame;
those who turn away from you[k] shall be recorded in the underworld,[l]
for they have forsaken the fountain of living water, the LORD.*

JEREMIAH PRAYS FOR VINDICATION

14Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed;
save me, and I shall be saved,
for you are my praise.*
15See how they say to me,
"Where is the word of the LORD?
Let it come!"*
16But I have not run away from being a shepherd[m] in your service,
nor have I desired the fatal day.

You know what came from my lips;
it was before your face.
17 Do not become a terror to me;
you are my refuge in the day of disaster;*
18 Let my persecutors be shamed,
but do not let me be shamed;
let them be dismayed,
but do not let me be dismayed;
bring on them the day of disaster;
destroy them with double destruction!*

HALLOW THE SABBATH DAY

19 Thus said the LORD to me: Go and stand in the People's Gate, by which the kings of Judah enter and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem, 20 and say to them: Hear the word of the LORD, you kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem who enter by these gates.* 21 Thus says the LORD: For the sake of your lives, take care that you do not bear a burden on the Sabbath day or bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem.* 22 And do not carry a burden out of your houses on the Sabbath or do any work, but keep the Sabbath day holy, as I commanded your ancestors.* 23 Yet they did not listen or incline their ear; they stiffened their necks and would not hear or receive instruction.*

24 But if you listen to me, says the LORD, and bring in no burden by the gates of this city on the Sabbath day but keep the Sabbath day holy and do no work on it,* 25 then there shall enter by the gates of this city kings[n] who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they and their officials, the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and this city shall be inhabited forever.* 26 And people shall come from the towns of Judah and the places around Jerusalem, from the land of Benjamin, from the Shephelah, from the hill country, and from the Negeb, bringing burnt offerings and sacrifices, grain offerings and frankincense, and bringing thank offerings to the house of the LORD.* 27 But if you do not listen to me, to keep the Sabbath day holy and to carry in no burden through the gates of

Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates; it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem and shall not be quenched.*

Jeremiah 18

THE POTTER AND THE CLAY

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: [2]"Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words."* [3]So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. [4]The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

5 Then the word of the LORD came to me: [6]Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.* [7]At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, [8]but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it.* [9]And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it,* [10]but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it.* [11]Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.*

ISRAEL'S STUBBORN IDOLATRY

12 But they say, "It is no use! We will follow our own plans, and each of us will act according to the stubbornness of our evil will."*

[13]Therefore thus says the LORD:
Ask among the nations:
  Who has heard the like of this?
The virgin Israel has done
  a most horrible thing.*

14 Does the snow of Lebanon leave
the crags of Sirion?[o]
Do the mountain[p] waters run dry,[q]
the cold flowing streams?
15 But my people have forgotten me;
they burn offerings to a delusion;
they have stumbled[r] in their ways,
in the ancient roads,
and have gone into bypaths,
not the highway,[*]
16 making their land a horror,
a thing to be hissed at forever.
All who pass by it are horrified
and shake their heads.[*]
17 Like the wind from the east,
I will scatter them before the enemy.
I will show them my back, not my face,
in the day of their calamity.[*]

A PLOT AGAINST JEREMIAH

18 Then they said, "Come, let us make plots against Jeremiah, for instruction shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come, let us bring charges against him,[s] and let us not heed any of his words."[*]

19 Give heed to me, O LORD,
and listen to what my adversaries say!
20 Is evil a recompense for good?
Yet they have dug a pit for my life.
Remember how I stood before you

to speak good for them,
to turn away your wrath from them.*
21 Therefore give their children over to famine;
hurl them out to the power of the sword;
let their wives become childless and widowed.
May their men meet death by pestilence,
their youths be slain by the sword in battle.*
22 May a cry be heard from their houses
when you bring the marauder suddenly upon them!
For they have dug a pit to catch me
and laid snares for my feet.*
23 Yet you, O LORD, know
all their plotting to kill me.
Do not forgive their iniquity;
do not blot out their sin from your sight.
Let them be tripped up before you;
deal with them while you are angry.*

Jeremiah 19

THE BROKEN EARTHENWARE JUG

1 Thus said the LORD: Go and buy a potter's earthenware jug. Take with you[t] some of the elders of the people and some of the senior priests, [2]and go
out to the valley of the son of Hinnom at the entry of the Potsherd Gate, and
proclaim there the words that I tell you.* [3]You shall say: Hear the word of
the LORD, O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem. Thus says the
LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am going to bring such disaster upon this
place that the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle.* [4]Because the
people have forsaken me and have profaned this place by making offerings
in it to other gods whom neither they nor their ancestors nor the kings of
Judah have known, and because they have filled this place with the blood of
the innocent* [5]and gone on building the high places of Baal to burn their
children in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or
decree, nor did it enter my mind,* [6]therefore the days are surely coming,
says the LORD, when this place shall no more be called Topheth or the
valley of the son of Hinnom but the valley of Slaughter.* [7]And in this place
I will make void the plans of Judah and Jerusalem and will make them fall
by the sword before their enemies and by the hand of those who seek their
life. I will give their dead bodies for food to the birds of the air and to the
wild animals of the earth.* [8]And I will make this city a horror, a thing to be
hissed at; everyone who passes by it will be horrified and will hiss because
of all its disasters.* [9]And I will make them eat the flesh of their sons and the
flesh of their daughters, and all shall eat the flesh of their neighbors in the
siege and in the distress with which their enemies and those who seek their
life afflict them.*

10 Then you shall break the jug in the sight of those who go with you
[11]and shall say to them: Thus says the LORD of hosts: So will I break this
people and this city as one breaks a potter's vessel, so that it can never be
mended. In Topheth they shall bury until there is no more room to bury.*
[12]Thus will I do to this place, says the LORD, and to its inhabitants, making
this city like Topheth. [13]And the houses of Jerusalem and the houses of the

kings of Judah shall be defiled like the place of Topheth—all the houses upon whose roofs offerings have been made to the whole host of heaven and libations have been poured out to other gods.*

14 When Jeremiah came from Topheth, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy, he stood in the court of the LORD's house and said to all the people:* 15Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am now bringing upon this city and upon all its towns all the disaster that I have pronounced against it, because they have stiffened their necks, refusing to hear my words.*

Jeremiah 20

JEREMIAH PERSECUTED BY PASHHUR

1 Now the priest Pashhur son of Immer, who was chief officer in the house
of the LORD, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things.* 2Then Pashhur
struck the prophet Jeremiah and put him in the stocks that were in the upper
Benjamin Gate of the house of the LORD.* 3The next morning when Pashhur
released Jeremiah from the stocks, Jeremiah said to him, "The LORD has
named you not Pashhur but 'Terror-all-around.' 4For thus says the LORD: I
am making you a terror to yourself and to all your friends, and they shall
fall by the sword of their enemies while you look on. And I will give all
Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon; he shall carry them captive to
Babylon and shall kill them with the sword.* 5I will give all the wealth of
this city, all its gains, all its prized belongings, and all the treasures of the
kings of Judah into the hand of their enemies, who shall plunder them and
seize them and carry them to Babylon.* 6And you, Pashhur, and all who live
in your house, shall go into captivity, and to Babylon you shall go; there
you shall die, and there you shall be buried, you and all your friends, to
whom you have prophesied falsely."*

JEREMIAH DENOUNCES HIS PERSECUTORS

7O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.*
8For whenever I speak, I must cry out;
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.*

9 If I say, "I will not mention him
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.*
10 For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him
and take our revenge on him."*
11 But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.*
12 O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous;
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.*

13 Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.*

14 Cursed be the day
on which I was born!
The day when my mother bore me,
let it not be blessed!*
15 Cursed be the man
who brought the news to my father, saying,
"A child is born to you, a son,"
making him very glad.*
16 Let that man be like the cities
that the LORD overthrew without pity;
let him hear a cry in the morning
and an alarm at noon,*
17 because he did not kill me in the womb;
so my mother would have been my grave
and her womb forever pregnant.*
18 Why did I come forth from the womb
to see toil and sorrow
and spend my days in shame?*

Jeremiah 21

JERUSALEM WILL FALL TO NEBUCHADREZZAR

1 This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, when King
Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur son of Malchiah and the priest Zephaniah son
of Maaseiah, saying,* 2"Please inquire of the LORD on our behalf, for King
Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon is making war against us; perhaps the LORD
will perform a wonderful deed for us, as he has often done, and
Nebuchadrezzar[u] will withdraw."*

3 Then Jeremiah said to them: 4Thus you shall say to Zedekiah: Thus
says the LORD, the God of Israel: I am going to turn back the weapons of
war that are in your hands and with which you are fighting against the king
of Babylon and against the Chaldeans who are besieging you outside the
walls, and I will bring them together into the center of this city.* 5I myself
will fight against you with outstretched hand and mighty arm, in anger, in
fury, and in great wrath.* 6And I will strike down the inhabitants of this city,
both humans and animals; they shall die of a great pestilence. 7Afterward,
says the LORD, I will give King Zedekiah of Judah and his servants and the
people in this city—those who survive the pestilence, sword, and famine—
into the hands of King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, into the hands of their
enemies, into the hands of those who seek their lives. He shall strike them
down with the edge of the sword; he shall not pity them or spare them or
have compassion.*

8 And to this people you shall say: Thus says the LORD: See, I am setting
before you the way of life and the way of death.* 9Those who stay in this
city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence, but those who go
out and surrender to the Chaldeans who are besieging you shall live and
shall have their lives as a prize of war.* 10For I have set my face against this
city for evil and not for good, says the LORD; it shall be given into the hands
of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire.*

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE OF DAVID

11 To the house of the king of Judah say: Hear the word of the LORD,*
12 O house of David! Thus says the LORD:
Execute justice in the morning,
and deliver from the hand of the oppressor
anyone who has been robbed,
or else my wrath will go forth like fire
and burn, with no one to quench it,
because of their evil doings.*

13 See, I am against you, O inhabitant of the valley,
O rock of the plain,
says the LORD;
you who say, "Who can come down against us,
or who can enter our places of refuge?"*
14 I will punish you according to the fruit of your doings,
says the LORD;
I will kindle a fire in its forest,
and it shall devour all that is around it.*

Jeremiah 22

EXHORTATION TO REPENT

1 Thus says the LORD: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and
speak there this word,* 2and say: Hear the word of the LORD, O king of
Judah sitting on the throne of David—you, and your servants, and your
people who enter these gates.* 3Thus says the LORD: Act with justice and
righteousness and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has
been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the alien, the orphan, and the
widow, or shed innocent blood in this place.* 4For if you will indeed obey
this word, then through the gates of this house shall enter kings who sit on
the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses—they, their servants,
and their people. 5But if you will not heed these words, I swear by myself,
says the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation.* 6For thus says the
LORD concerning the house of the king of Judah:

You are like Gilead to me,
  like the summit of Lebanon,
but I swear that I will make you a desert,
  uninhabited cities.*
7I will prepare destroyers against you,
  all with their weapons;
they shall cut down your choicest cedars
  and cast them into the fire.*

8 And many nations will pass by this city, and all of them will say one to
another, "Why has the LORD dealt in this way with that great city?"* 9And
they will answer, "Because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD their
God and worshiped other gods and served them."*

10Do not weep for him who is dead,
  nor bemoan him;
weep rather for him who goes away,

for he shall return no more
to see his native land.*

MESSAGE TO THE SONS OF JOSIAH

11 For thus says the LORD concerning Shallum son of King Josiah of Judah, who succeeded his father Josiah and who went away from this place:
He shall return here no more, [12]but in the place where they have carried him captive he shall die, and he shall never see this land again.

[13]Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness
and his upper rooms by injustice,
who makes his neighbors work for nothing
and does not give them their wages,*
[14]who says, "I will build myself a spacious house
with large upper rooms,"
and who cuts out windows[v] for it,
paneling it with cedar
and painting it with vermilion.*
[15]Are you a king
because you compete in cedar?
Did not your father eat and drink
and do justice and righteousness?
Then it was well with him.*
[16]He judged the cause of the poor and needy;
then it was well.
Is not this to know me?
says the LORD.*
[17]But your eyes and heart
are only on your dishonest gain,
for shedding innocent blood,
and for practicing oppression and violence.*

18 Therefore thus says the LORD concerning King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah:

They shall not lament for him, saying,
"Alas, my brother!" or "Alas, sister!"
They shall not lament for him, saying,
"Alas, lord!" or "Alas, his majesty!"*
19 With the burial of a donkey he shall be buried:
dragged off and thrown out beyond the gates of Jerusalem.*

20 Go up to Lebanon and cry out,
and lift up your voice in Bashan;
cry out from Abarim,
for all your lovers are crushed.*
21 I spoke to you in your prosperity,
but you said, "I will not listen."
This has been your way from your youth,
for you have not obeyed my voice.*
22 The wind shall shepherd all your shepherds,
and your lovers shall go into captivity;
then you will be ashamed and dismayed
because of all your wickedness.*
23 O inhabitant of Lebanon,
nested among the cedars,
how you will groan[w] when pangs come upon you,
pain as of a woman in labor!

JUDGMENT ON CONIAH (JEHOIACHIN)

24 As I live, says the LORD, even if King Coniah son of Jehoiakim of Judah were the signet ring on my right hand, even from there I would tear you off* 25 and give you into the hands of those who seek your life, into the hands of those whom you fear, even into the hands of King Nebuchadrezzar

of Babylon and into the hands of the Chaldeans.* 26I will hurl you and the mother who bore you into another country, where you were not born, and there you shall die.* 27But they shall not return to the land to which they long to return.

28Is this man Coniah a despised broken pot,
a vessel no one wants?
Why are he and his offspring hurled out
and cast away in a land that they do not know?
29O land, land, land,
hear the word of the LORD!*
30Thus says the LORD:
Record this man as childless,
a man who shall not succeed in his days,
for none of his offspring shall succeed
in sitting on the throne of David
and ruling again in Judah.*

Jeremiah 23

RESTORATION AFTER EXILE

1 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!
says the LORD.* 2Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel,
concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have
scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended
to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. 3Then I
myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have
driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be
fruitful and multiply.* 4I will raise up shepherds over them who will
shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear longer or be dismayed, nor
shall any be missing, says the LORD.*

THE RIGHTEOUS BRANCH OF DAVID

5 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for
David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and
shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.* 6In his days Judah will
be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he
will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."*

7 Therefore the days are surely coming, says the LORD, when it shall no
longer be said, "As the LORD lives who brought the people of Israel up out
of the land of Egypt,"* 8but "As the LORD lives who brought out and led the
offspring of the house of Israel out of the land of the north and out of all the
lands where he[x] had driven them." Then they shall live in their own land.

FALSE PROPHETS OF HOPE DENOUNCED

9 Concerning the prophets:

My heart is crushed within me;
all my bones shake;
I have become like a drunkard,

like one overcome by wine,
because of the LORD
and because of his holy words.*
10For the land is full of adulterers;
because of the curse the land mourns,
and the pastures of the wilderness are dried up.
Their course has been evil,
and their might is not right.*
11Both prophet and priest are ungodly;
even in my house I have found their wickedness,
says the LORD.*
12Therefore their way shall be to them
like slippery paths in the darkness,
into which they shall be driven and fall,
for I will bring disaster upon them
in the year of their punishment,
says the LORD.*
13In the prophets of Samaria
I saw a disgusting thing:
they prophesied by Baal
and led my people Israel astray.*
14But in the prophets of Jerusalem
I have seen a more shocking thing:
they commit adultery and walk in lies;
they strengthen the hands of evildoers,
so that no one turns from wickedness;
all of them have become like Sodom to me
and its inhabitants like Gomorrah.*
15Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets:
I am going to make them eat wormwood

and give them poisoned water to drink,
for from the prophets of Jerusalem
ungodliness has spread throughout the land.*

16 Thus says the LORD of hosts: Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you; they are deluding you. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD.* 17They keep saying to those who despise the word of the LORD,[y] "It shall be well with you," and to all who stubbornly follow their own stubborn hearts, they say, "No calamity shall come upon you."*

18For who has stood in the council of the LORD
so as to see and to hear his word?
Who has given heed to his word so as to proclaim it?*
19Look, the storm of the LORD!
Wrath has gone forth,
a whirling tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.*
20The anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished
the intents of his mind.
In the latter days you will understand it clearly.*

21I did not send the prophets,
yet they ran;
I did not speak to them,
yet they prophesied.*
22But if they had stood in my council,
then they would have proclaimed my words to my people,
and they would have turned them from their evil way
and from the evil of their doings.*

23 Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off?* [24]Who can
hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill
heaven and earth? says the LORD.* [25]I have heard what the prophets have
said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have
dreamed!"* [26]How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—
those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart?
[27]They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they
tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal.* [28]Let the
prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word
speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the
LORD.* [29]Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that
breaks a rock in pieces?* [30]See, therefore, I am against the prophets, says
the LORD, who steal my words from one another.* [31]See, I am against the
prophets, says the LORD, who use their own tongues and say, "Says the
LORD." [32]See, I am against those who prophesy lying dreams, says the
LORD, and who tell them and who lead my people astray by their lies and
their recklessness, when I did not send them or command them, so they do
not profit this people at all, says the LORD.

33 When this people or a prophet or a priest asks you, "What is the
burden of the LORD?" you shall say to them, "You are the burden.[z] I will
cast you off, says the LORD."* [34]And as for the prophet, priest, or the people
who say, "The burden of the LORD," I will punish them and their
households.* [35]Thus shall you say to one another, among yourselves, "What
has the LORD answered?" or "What has the LORD spoken?"* [36]But "the
burden of the LORD" you shall mention no more, for the burden is
everyone's own word, and so you pervert the words of the living God, the
LORD of hosts, our God.* [37]Thus you shall ask the prophet, "What has the
LORD answered you?" or "What has the LORD spoken?" [38]But if you say,
"the burden of the LORD," thus says the LORD: Because you have said these
words, "the burden of the LORD," when I sent to you, saying, "You shall not
say, 'the burden of the LORD,' " [39]therefore, I will surely lift you up[a] and
cast you away from my presence, you and the city that I gave to you and
your ancestors.* [40]And I will bring upon you everlasting disgrace and
perpetual shame that shall not be forgotten.*

Jeremiah 24

THE GOOD AND THE BAD FIGS

1 The LORD showed me two baskets of figs placed before the temple of the
LORD. This was after King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon had taken into exile
from Jerusalem King Jeconiah son of Jehoiakim of Judah, together with the
officials of Judah, the artisans, and the smiths, and had brought them to
Babylon.* 2One basket had very good figs, like first-ripe figs, but the other
basket had very bad figs, so bad that they could not be eaten.* 3And the
LORD said to me, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" I said, "Figs—the good figs
very good and the bad figs very bad, so bad that they cannot be eaten."*

4 Then the word of the LORD came to me: 5Thus says the LORD, the God
of Israel: Like these good figs, so I will regard as good the exiles from
Judah whom I have sent away from this place to the land of the Chaldeans.
6I will set my eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them back to this
land. I will build them up and not tear them down; I will plant them and not
pluck them up.* 7I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and
they will be my people, and I will be their God, for they will return to me
with their whole heart.*

8 But thus says the LORD: Like the bad figs that are so bad they cannot be
eaten, so will I treat King Zedekiah of Judah, his officials, the remnant of
Jerusalem who remain in this land, and those who live in the land of
Egypt.* 9I will make them a horror, an evil thing, to all the kingdoms of the
earth—a disgrace, a byword, a taunt, and a curse in all the places where I
shall drive them.* 10And I will send sword, famine, and pestilence upon
them until they are utterly destroyed from the land that I gave to them and
their ancestors.*

Jeremiah 25

THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY FORETOLD

1 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah, in the
fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah (that was the first year
of King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon),* 2which the prophet Jeremiah spoke
to all the people of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem: 3For twenty-
three years, from the thirteenth year of King Josiah son of Amon of Judah
to this day, the word of the LORD has come to me, and I have spoken
persistently to you, but you have not listened.* 4And though the LORD
persistently sent you all his servants the prophets, you have neither listened
nor inclined your ears to hear* 5when they said, "Turn now, every one of
you, from your evil way and wicked doings, and you will remain on the
land that the LORD has given to you and your ancestors from of old and
forever;* 6do not go after other gods to serve and worship them, and do not
provoke me to anger with the work of your hands. Then I will do you no
harm." 7Yet you did not listen to me, says the LORD, and so you have
provoked me to anger with the work of your hands to your own harm.*

8 Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: Because you have not obeyed
my words, 9I am going to send for all the tribes of the north, says the LORD,
even for King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, my servant, and I will bring
them against this land and its inhabitants and against all these nations
around; I will utterly destroy them and make them an object of horror and
of hissing and an everlasting disgrace.[b],* 10And I will banish from them the
sound of mirth and the sound of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and
the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp.*
11This whole land shall become a ruin and a waste, and these nations shall
serve the king of Babylon seventy years. 12Then after seventy years are
completed, I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the
Chaldeans, for their iniquity, says the LORD, making the land an everlasting
waste.* 13I will bring upon that land all the words that I have uttered against
it, everything written in this book that Jeremiah prophesied against all the

nations. [14]For many nations and great kings shall make slaves of them also,
and I will repay them according to their deeds and the work of their hands.*

THE CUP OF GOD'S WRATH

15 For thus the LORD, the God of Israel, said to me: Take from my hand
this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you
drink it.* [16]They shall drink and stagger and go out of their minds because
of the sword that I am sending among them.*

17 So I took the cup from the LORD's hand and made all the nations to
whom the LORD sent me drink it: [18]Jerusalem and the towns of Judah, its
kings and officials, to make them a desolation and a waste, an object of
hissing and of cursing, as they are today;* [19]Pharaoh king of Egypt, his
servants, his officials, and all his people; [20]all the mixed people;[c] all the
kings of the land of Uz; all the kings of the land of the Philistines—
Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod;* [21]Edom, Moab, and
the Ammonites;* [22]all the kings of Tyre, all the kings of Sidon, and the
kings of the coastland across the sea;* [23]Dedan, Tema, Buz, and all who
have shaved temples;* [24]all the kings of Arabia and all the kings of the
mixed peoples[d] that live in the desert;* [25]all the kings of Zimri, all the kings
of Elam, and all the kings of Media; [26]all the kings of the north, far and
near, one after another, and all the kingdoms of the world that are on the
face of the earth. And after them the king of Sheshach[e] shall drink.*

27 Then you shall say to them, Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of
Israel: Drink; get drunk and vomit; fall and rise no more because of the
sword that I am sending among you.*

28 And if they refuse to accept the cup from your hand to drink, then you
shall say to them: Thus says the LORD of hosts: You must drink! [29]See, I am
beginning to bring disaster on the city that is called by my name, and how
can you possibly avoid punishment? You shall not go unpunished, for I am
summoning a sword against all the inhabitants of the earth, says the LORD of
hosts.*

30 You, therefore, shall prophesy to them all these words and say to
them:

The LORD will roar from on high

and from his holy habitation utter his voice;
he will roar mightily against his fold
and shout like those who tread grapes
against all the inhabitants of the earth.*
31 The clamor will resound to the ends of the earth,
for the LORD has an indictment against the nations;
he is entering into judgment with all flesh,
and the guilty he will put to the sword,
says the LORD.*

32 Thus says the LORD of hosts:
See, disaster is spreading
from nation to nation,
and a great tempest is stirring
from the farthest parts of the earth!
33 Those slain by the LORD on that day shall extend from one end of the earth to the other. They shall not be lamented or gathered or buried; they shall become dung on the surface of the ground.*

34 Wail, you shepherds, and cry out;
roll in ashes, you lords of the flock,
for the days of your slaughter have come—and your dispersions,[f]
and you shall fall like a choice vessel.*
35 Flight shall fail the shepherds,
and there shall be no escape for the lords of the flock.
36 Listen! The cry of the shepherds
and the wail of the lords of the flock!
For the LORD is despoiling their pasture,
37 and the peaceful folds are devastated
because of the fierce anger of the LORD.
38 Like a lion he has left his den,
for their land has become a waste

because of the cruel anger
and because of his fierce anger.

Jeremiah 26

JEREMIAH'S PROPHECIES IN THE TEMPLE

1 At the beginning of the reign of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah,
this word came from the LORD:* [2]Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of
the LORD's house and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in
the house of the LORD; speak to them all the words that I command you; do
not hold back a word.* [3]It may be that they will listen and will turn from
their evil way, that I may change my mind about the disaster that I intend to
bring on them because of their evil doings.* [4]You shall say to them: Thus
says the LORD: If you will not listen to me, to walk in my law that I have set
before you* [5]and to heed the words of my servants the prophets whom I
send to you urgently—though you have not heeded*—[6]then I will make this
house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the
earth.*

7 The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking
these words in the house of the LORD. [8]And when Jeremiah had finished
speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people,
then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying,
"You shall die!* [9]Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD,
saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate,
without inhabitant'?" And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the
house of the LORD.*

10 When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the
king's house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the
New Gate of the LORD.* [11]Then the priests and the prophets said to the
officials and to all the people, "This man deserves the sentence of death
because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your
own ears."*

12 Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, "It
is the LORD who sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the
words you have heard.* [13]Now therefore amend your ways and your doings,
and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will change his

mind about the disaster that he has pronounced against you.* 14But as for
me, here I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you.
15Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will be bringing
innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in
truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears."*

16 Then the officials and all the people said to the priests and the
prophets, "This man does not deserve the sentence of death, for he has
spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God." 17And some of the elders of
the land arose and said to all the assembled people, 18"Micah of Moresheth,
who prophesied during the days of King Hezekiah of Judah, said to all the
people of Judah: 'Thus says the LORD of hosts,

Zion shall be plowed as a field;
Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins
and the mountain of the house a wooded height.'*

19"Did King Hezekiah of Judah and all Judah actually put him to death?
Did he not fear the LORD and entreat the favor of the LORD, and did not the
LORD change his mind about the disaster that he had pronounced against
them? But we are about to bring great disaster on ourselves!"*

20 There was another man prophesying in the name of the LORD, Uriah
son of Shemaiah from Kiriath-jearim. He prophesied against this city and
against this land in words exactly like those of Jeremiah.* 21And when King
Jehoiakim, with all his warriors and all the officials, heard his words, the
king sought to put him to death, but when Uriah heard of it, he was afraid
and fled and escaped to Egypt.* 22Then King Jehoiakim sent[g] Elnathan son
of Achbor and men with him to Egypt,* 23and they took Uriah from Egypt
and brought him to King Jehoiakim, who struck him down with the sword
and threw his dead body into the burial place of the common people.

24 But the hand of Ahikam son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah so that he
was not given over into the hands of the people to be put to death.*

Jeremiah 27

THE SIGN OF THE YOKE

1 In the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah[h] son of Josiah of Judah,
this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD.* [2]Thus the LORD said to me:
Make for yourself yoke straps and bars and put them on your neck.* [3]Send
them to the king of Edom, the king of Moab, the king of the Ammonites,
the king of Tyre, and the king of Sidon by the hand of the envoys who have
come to Jerusalem to King Zedekiah of Judah.* [4]Give them this charge for
their masters: Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: This is what
you shall say to your masters: [5]It is I who by my great power and my
outstretched arm have made the earth, with the people and animals that are
on the earth, and I give it to whomever I please.* [6]Now I have given all
these lands into the hand of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, my servant,
and I have given him even the wild animals of the field to serve him.* [7]All
the nations shall serve him and his son and his grandson, until the time of
his own land comes; then many nations and great kings shall make him
their slave.*

8 But if any nation or kingdom will not serve this king, Nebuchadnezzar
of Babylon, and put its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, then I
will punish that nation with the sword, with famine, and with pestilence,
says the LORD, until I have completed its destruction by his hand.* [9]You,
therefore, must not listen to your prophets, your diviners, your dreamers,[i]
your soothsayers, or your sorcerers, who are saying to you, "You shall not
serve the king of Babylon."* [10]For they are prophesying a lie to you, with
the result that you will be removed far from your land; I will drive you out,
and you will perish.* [11]But any nation that will bring its neck under the
yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him, I will leave on its own land,
says the LORD, to till it and to live there.*

12 I spoke to King Zedekiah of Judah in the same way: Bring your necks
under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and
live.* [13]Why should you and your people die by the sword, by famine, and
by pestilence, as the LORD has spoken concerning any nation that will not

serve the king of Babylon?* 14Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are saying to you, “You shall not serve the king of Babylon,” for they are prophesying a lie to you.* 15I have not sent them, says the LORD, but they are prophesying falsely in my name, with the result that I will drive you out, and you will perish, you and the prophets who are prophesying to you.*

16 Then I spoke to the priests and to all this people, saying, Thus says the LORD: Do not listen to the words of your prophets who are prophesying to you, saying, “The vessels of the LORD’s house will soon be brought back from Babylon,” for they are prophesying a lie to you.* 17Do not listen to them; serve the king of Babylon and live. Why should this city become a desolation? 18If indeed they are prophets and the word of the LORD is with them, then let them intercede with the LORD of hosts, that the vessels left in the house of the LORD, in the house of the king of Judah, and in Jerusalem may not go to Babylon.* 19For thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, the sea, the stands, and the rest of the vessels that are left in this city,* 20which King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon did not take away when he took into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon King Jeconiah son of Jehoiakim of Judah and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem*—21thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels left in the house of the LORD, in the house of the king of Judah, and in Jerusalem: 22They shall be carried to Babylon, and there they shall stay, until the day when I give attention to them, says the LORD. Then I will bring them up and restore them to this place.*

Jeremiah 28

HANANIAH OPPOSES JEREMIAH AND DIES

1 In that same year, at the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah of
Judah, in the fifth month of the fourth year, the prophet Hananiah son of
Azzur, from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the LORD, in the presence
of the priests and all the people, saying,* 2"Thus says the LORD of hosts, the
God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.* 3Within two
years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the LORD's house,
which King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon took away from this place and
carried to Babylon.* 4I will also bring back to this place King Jeconiah son
of Jehoiakim of Judah and all the exiles from Judah who went to Babylon,
says the LORD, for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon."*

5 Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the
presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of
the LORD, 6and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so;
may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to
this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the
exiles.* 7But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the
hearing of all the people.* 8The prophets who preceded you and me from
ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many
countries and great kingdoms.* 9As for the prophet who prophesies peace,
when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the
LORD has truly sent the prophet."*

10 Then the prophet Hananiah took the yoke from the neck of the prophet
Jeremiah and broke it.* 11And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the
people, saying, "Thus says the LORD: This is how I will break the yoke of
King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon from the neck of all the nations within
two years." At this, the prophet Jeremiah went his way.*

12 Sometime after the prophet Hananiah had broken the yoke from the
neck of the prophet Jeremiah, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:*
13Go, tell Hananiah, Thus says the LORD: You have broken wooden bars
only to forge iron bars in place of them!* 14For thus says the LORD of hosts,

the God of Israel: I have put an iron yoke on the neck of all these nations so that they may serve King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and they shall indeed serve him; I have even given him the wild animals.* 15And the prophet Jeremiah said to the prophet Hananiah, "Listen, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, and you made this people trust in a lie.* 16Therefore thus says the LORD: I am going to send you off the face of the earth. Within this year you will be dead, for you have spoken rebellion against the LORD."*

17 In that same year, in the seventh month, the prophet Hananiah died.

Jeremiah 29

JEREMIAH'S LETTER TO THE EXILES IN BABYLON

1 These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from
Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles and to the priests, the
prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile
from Jerusalem to Babylon. 2This was after King Jeconiah and the queen
mother, the court officials, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the artisans,
and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem.* 3The letter was sent by the
hand of Elasah son of Shaphan and Gemariah son of Hilkiah, whom King
Zedekiah of Judah sent to Babylon to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. It
said: 4Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom
I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:* 5Build houses and live in
them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6Take wives and have sons
and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in
marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not
decrease.* 7But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile,
and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your
welfare.* 8For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the
prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen
to your dreams that you dream,* 9for it is a lie that they are prophesying to
you in my name; I did not send them, says the LORD.*

10 For thus says the LORD: Only when Babylon's seventy years are
completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring
you back to this place.* 11For surely I know the plans I have for you, says
the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with
hope.* 12Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear
you.* 13When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all
your heart,* 14I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your
fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have
driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from
which I sent you into exile.*

15 Because you have said, “The LORD has raised up prophets for us in
Babylon,” [16]thus says the LORD concerning the king who sits on the throne
of David and concerning all the people who live in this city, your kinsfolk
who did not go out with you into exile:* [17]Thus says the LORD of hosts: I am
going to let loose on them sword, famine, and pestilence, and I will make
them like rotten figs that are so bad they cannot be eaten.* [18]I will pursue
them with the sword, with famine, and with pestilence and will make them
a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be an object of cursing and
horror and hissing and a derision among all the nations where I have driven
them,* [19]because they did not heed my words, says the LORD, when I
persistently sent to them my servants the prophets, but you would not listen,
says the LORD.* [20]But now, all you exiles whom I sent away from Jerusalem
to Babylon, hear the word of the LORD:* [21]Thus says the LORD of hosts, the
God of Israel, concerning Ahab son of Kolaiah and Zedekiah son of
Maaseiah, who are prophesying a lie to you in my name: I am going to
deliver them into the hand of King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, and he
shall kill them before your eyes. [22]And on account of them this curse shall
be used by all the exiles from Judah in Babylon: “The LORD make you like
Zedekiah and Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire,”*
[23]because they have perpetrated outrage in Israel and have committed
adultery with their neighbors’ wives and have spoken in my name lying
words that I did not command them; I am the one who knows and bears
witness, says the LORD.*

THE LETTER OF SHEMAIAH

24 To Shemaiah of Nehelam you shall say: [25]Thus says the LORD of
hosts, the God of Israel: In your own name you sent letters to all the people
who are in Jerusalem and to the priest Zephaniah son of Maaseiah and to all
the priests, saying,* [26]The LORD himself has made you priest instead of the
priest Jehoiada, so that there may be officers in the house of the LORD to
control any madman who plays the prophet, to put him in the stocks and the
collar.* [27]So now why have you not rebuked Jeremiah of Anathoth, who
plays the prophet for you? [28]For he has actually sent to us in Babylon,
saying, “It will be a long time; build houses and live in them, and plant
gardens and eat what they produce.”

29 The priest Zephaniah read this letter in the hearing of the prophet Jeremiah. [30]Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: [31]Send to all the exiles, saying, Thus says the LORD concerning Shemaiah of Nehelam: Because Shemaiah has prophesied to you, though I did not send him, and has led you to trust in a lie,* [32]therefore thus says the LORD: I am going to punish Shemaiah of Nehelam and his descendants; he shall not have anyone living among this people to see[j] the good that I am going to do to my people, says the LORD, for he has spoken rebellion against the LORD.*

Jeremiah 30

RESTORATION PROMISED FOR ISRAEL AND JUDAH

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: [2]Thus says the LORD, the
God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you.* [3]For
the days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will restore the fortunes
of my people, Israel and Judah, says the LORD, and I will bring them back to
the land that I gave to their ancestors, and they shall take possession of it.*

4 These are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah:

[5]Thus says the LORD:
We have heard a cry of panic,
of terror, and no peace.*
[6]Ask now and see:
Can a man bear a child?
Why then do I see every man
with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor?
Why has every face turned pale?*
[7]Alas! that day is so great
there is none like it;
it is a time of distress for Jacob,
yet he shall be rescued from it.*

8 On that day, says the LORD of hosts, I will break his yoke from off your
neck, and I will burst your bonds, and strangers shall no more make a
servant of him.* [9]But they shall serve the LORD their God and David their
king, whom I will raise up for them.*

[10]But as for you, have no fear, my servant Jacob, says the LORD,
and do not be dismayed, O Israel,
for I am going to save you from far away
and your offspring from the land of their captivity.

Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease,
and no one shall make him afraid.*
11For I am with you, says the LORD, to save you;
I will make an end of all the nations
among which I scattered you,
but of you I will not make an end.
I will chastise you in just measure,
and I will by no means leave you unpunished.*

12For thus says the LORD:
Your hurt is incurable;
your wound is grievous.*
13There is no one to uphold your cause,
no medicine for your wound,
no healing for you.*
14All your lovers have forgotten you;
they care nothing for you,
for I have dealt you the blow of an enemy,
the punishment of a merciless foe,
because your guilt is great,
because your sins are so numerous.*
15Why do you cry out over your hurt?
Your pain is incurable.
Because your guilt is great,
because your sins are so numerous,
I have done these things to you.
16Therefore all who devour you shall be devoured,
and all your foes, every one of them, shall go into captivity;
those who plunder you shall be plundered,
and all who prey on you I will make a prey.*

17For I will restore health to you,
and your wounds I will heal,
says the LORD,
because they have called you an outcast:
"It is Zion; no one cares for her!"*

18Thus says the LORD:
I am going to restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob
and have compassion on his dwellings;
the city shall be rebuilt upon its mound
and the citadel set on its rightful site.*
19Out of them shall come thanksgiving
and the sound of merrymakers.
I will make them many, and they shall not be few;
I will make them honored, and they shall not be disdained.*
20Their children shall be as of old;
their congregation shall be established before me,
and I will punish all who oppress them.
21Their prince shall be one of their own;
their ruler shall come from their midst;
I will bring him near, and he shall approach me,
for who would otherwise dare to approach me?
says the LORD.*
22And you shall be my people,
and I will be your God.*

23Look, the storm of the LORD!
Wrath has gone forth,
a whirling[k] tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.*

[24]The fierce anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished
the intents of his mind.
In the latter days you will understand this.*

Jeremiah 31

THE JOYFUL RETURN OF THE EXILES

1 At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel,
and they shall be my people.*

[2]Thus says the LORD:
The people who survived the sword
found grace in the wilderness;
when Israel sought for rest,*
[3]the LORD appeared to him[l] from far away.[m]
I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.*
[4]Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
O virgin Israel!
Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines
and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.*
[5]Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria;
the planters shall plant
and shall enjoy the fruit.*
[6]For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim:
"Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the LORD our God."*

[7]For thus says the LORD:
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,

"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."*
8 See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor together;
a great company, they shall return here.*
9 With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations[n] I will lead them back;
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.*

10 Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him
and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock."*
11 For the LORD has ransomed Jacob
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.*
12 They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.*
13 Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.[o]
I will turn their mourning into joy;
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.*

[14]I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.*

[15]Thus says the LORD:
A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.*
[16]Thus says the LORD:
Keep your voice from weeping
and your eyes from tears,
for there is a reward for your work,
says the LORD:
they shall come back from the land of the enemy;*
[17]there is hope for your future,
says the LORD:
your children shall come back to their own country.*

[18]Indeed, I heard Ephraim pleading:
"You disciplined me, and I took the discipline;
I was like an untrained calf.
Bring me back; let me come back,
for you are the LORD my God.*
[19]For after I had turned away I repented,
and after I was discovered, I struck my thigh;
I was ashamed, and I was dismayed
because I bore the disgrace of my youth."*
[20]Is Ephraim my dear son?
Is he the child in whom I delight?

As often as I speak against him,
I still remember him.
Therefore I am deeply moved for him;
I will surely have mercy on him,
says the LORD.*

21 Set up road markers for yourself;
make yourself signposts;
consider well the highway,
the road by which you went.
Return, O virgin Israel,
return to these your cities.*
22 How long will you waver,
O faithless daughter?
For the LORD has created a new thing on the earth:
a woman encompasses[p] a man.

23 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Once more they shall use these words in the land of Judah and in its towns when I restore their fortunes:

"The LORD bless you, O abode of righteousness,
O holy hill!"*

24 And Judah and all its towns shall live there together, and the farmers and those who wander with their flocks.*

25 I will satisfy the weary,
and all who are faint I will replenish.*

26 Thereupon I awoke and looked, and my sleep was pleasant to me.

INDIVIDUAL RETRIBUTION

27 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals.* 28 And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break

down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD.* 29In those days they shall no longer say:

"The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on edge."*

30But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of the one who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.*

A NEW COVENANT

31 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.* 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.* 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.* 34No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.*

35Thus says the LORD,
who gives the sun for light by day
and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night,
who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—
the LORD of hosts is his name:*
36If this fixed order were ever to cease
from my presence, says the LORD,
then also the offspring of Israel would cease
to be a nation before me forever.*

37Thus says the LORD:
If the heavens above can be measured
and the foundations of the earth below can be explored,

then I will reject all the offspring of Israel
because of all they have done,
says the LORD.*

JERUSALEM TO BE ENLARGED

38 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when the city shall be rebuilt for the LORD from the tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate.* 39And the measuring line shall go out farther, straight to the hill Gareb, and shall then turn to Goah. 40The whole valley of the dead bodies and the ashes and all the fields as far as the Wadi Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be sacred to the LORD. It shall never again be uprooted or overthrown.*

Jeremiah 32

JEREMIAH BUYS A FIELD DURING THE SIEGE

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of King
Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. [2]At
that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the
prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the
palace of the king of Judah,* [3]where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined
him. Zedekiah had said, "Why do you prophesy and say: Thus says the
LORD: I am going to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and
he shall take it;* [4]King Zedekiah of Judah shall not escape out of the hands
of the Chaldeans but shall surely be given into the hands of the king of
Babylon and shall speak with him face to face and see him eye to eye,* [5]and
he shall take Zedekiah to Babylon, and there he shall remain until I attend
to him, says the LORD; though you fight against the Chaldeans, you shall not
succeed?"*

6 Jeremiah said, "The word of the LORD came to me: [7]Hanamel son of
your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at
Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' "* [8]Then my
cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with
the word of the LORD, and said to me, "Buy my field that is at Anathoth in
the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours;
buy it for yourself." Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

9 And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel and
weighed out the silver to him, seventeen shekels of silver.* [10]I signed the
deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the silver on scales.* [11]Then I
took the sealed deed of purchase containing the terms and conditions and
the open copy,* [12]and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah
son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin[q] Hanamel, in the presence of
the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all
the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard.* [13]In their presence I
charged Baruch, saying, [14]"Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:
Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and

put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. 15For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land."*

JEREMIAH PRAYS FOR UNDERSTANDING

16 After I had given the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah, I prayed to the LORD, saying: 17"Ah Lord GOD! It is you who made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.* 18You show steadfast love to the thousandth generation[r] but repay the guilt of parents into the laps of their children after them, O great and mighty God whose name is the LORD of hosts,* 19great in counsel and mighty in deed, whose eyes are open to all the ways of mortals, rewarding all according to their ways and according to the fruit of their doings.* 20You showed signs and wonders in the land of Egypt and to this day in Israel and among all humankind and have made yourself a name that continues to this very day.* 21You brought your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and wonders, with a strong hand and outstretched arm, and with great terror,* 22and you gave them this land, which you swore to their ancestors to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey,* 23and they entered and took possession of it. But they did not obey your voice or follow your laws; of all you commanded them to do, they did nothing. Therefore you have made all these disasters come upon them.* 24See, the siege ramps have been cast up against the city to take it, and the city, faced with sword, famine, and pestilence, has been given into the hands of the Chaldeans who are fighting against it. What you spoke has happened, as you yourself can see.* 25Yet you, O Lord GOD, have said to me, 'Buy the field for silver and get witnesses,' though the city has been given into the hands of the Chaldeans."

GOD'S ASSURANCE OF THE PEOPLE'S RETURN

26 The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: 27See, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is anything too hard for me?* 28Therefore, thus says the LORD: I am going to give this city into the hands of the Chaldeans and into the hand of King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, and he shall take it.* 29The

Chaldeans who are fighting against this city shall come, set this city on fire, and burn it, with the houses on whose roofs offerings have been made to Baal and libations have been poured out to other gods, to provoke me to anger.* 30For the people of Israel and the people of Judah have done nothing but evil in my sight from their youth; the people of Israel have done nothing but provoke me to anger by the work of their hands, says the LORD.* 31This city has aroused my anger and wrath, from the day it was built until this day, so that I will remove it from my sight* 32because of all the evil of the people of Israel and the people of Judah that they did to provoke me to anger—they, their kings and their officials, their priests and their prophets, the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.* 33They have turned their backs to me, not their faces; though I have taught them persistently, they would not listen and accept correction.* 34They set up their abominations in the house that bears my name and defiled it.* 35They built the high places of Baal in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to offer up their sons and daughters to Molech, though I did not command them, nor did it enter my mind that they should do this abomination, causing Judah to sin.*

36 Now therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city of which you say, "It is being given into the hand of the king of Babylon by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence": 37See, I am going to gather them from all the lands to which I drove them in my anger and my wrath and in great indignation; I will bring them back to this place, and I will settle them in safety.* 38They shall be my people, and I will be their God. 39I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me for all time, for their own good and the good of their children after them.* 40I will make an everlasting covenant with them, never to draw back from doing good to them, and I will put the fear of me in their hearts, so that they may not turn from me. 41I will rejoice in doing good to them, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.*

42 For thus says the LORD: Just as I have brought all this great disaster upon this people, so I will bring upon them all the good fortune that I now promise them.* 43Fields shall be bought in this land of which you are saying, "It is a desolation, without humans or animals; it has been given into the hands of the Chaldeans." 44Fields shall be bought for silver, and deeds shall be signed and sealed and witnessed in the land of Benjamin, in

the places around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, of the hill country, of the Shephelah, and of the Negeb, for I will restore their fortunes, says the LORD.*

Jeremiah 33

HEALING AFTER PUNISHMENT

1 The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah a second time while he was still confined in the court of the guard:* 2Thus says the LORD who makes it, the LORD who forms it to establish it—the LORD is his name:* 3Call to me, and I will answer you and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.* 4For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the houses of this city and the houses of the kings of Judah that were torn down to make a defense against the siege ramps and before the sword:s,* 5They are coming to fight the Chaldeans and to fill them with the dead bodies of those whom I shall strike down in my anger and my wrath, for I have hidden my face from this city because of all their wickedness.* 6I am going to bring it recovery and healing; I will heal them and reveal to them abundancet of prosperity and security.* 7I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel and rebuild them as they were at first.* 8I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.* 9And this cityu shall be to me a name of joy, a praise, and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them; they shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the prosperity I provide for it.*

10 Thus says the LORD: In this place of which you say, "It is a waste without humans or animals," in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without inhabitants, human or animal, there shall once more be heard 11the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voices of those who sing as they bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD:

"Give thanks to the LORD of hosts,
for the LORD is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!"

For I will restore the fortunes of the land as at first, says the LORD.*

12 Thus says the LORD of hosts: In this place that is waste, without humans or animals, and in all its towns there shall again be pasture for shepherds resting their flocks.* 13In the towns of the hill country, of the Shephelah, and of the Negeb, in the land of Benjamin, the places around Jerusalem, and in the towns of Judah, flocks shall again pass under the hands of the one who counts them, says the LORD.*

THE RIGHTEOUS BRANCH AND THE COVENANT WITH DAVID

14 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.* 15In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.* 16In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."*

17 For thus says the LORD: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel,* 18and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to make grain offerings, and to make sacrifices for all time.*

19 The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: 20Thus says the LORD: If any of you could break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night would not come at their appointed time,* 21only then could my covenant with my servant David be broken, so that he would not have a son to reign on his throne, and my covenant with my ministers the Levites.* 22Just as the host of heaven cannot be numbered and the sands of the sea cannot be measured, so I will increase the offspring of my servant David and the Levites who minister to me.*

23 The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: 24Have you not observed how these people say, "The two families that the LORD chose have been rejected by him," and how they hold my people in such contempt that they no longer regard them as a nation?* 25Thus says the LORD: Only if I had not established my covenant with day and night and the ordinances of heaven and earth* 26would I reject the offspring of Jacob and of my servant David and not choose any of his descendants as rulers over the offspring of

Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and will have mercy upon them.*

Jeremiah 34

DEATH IN CAPTIVITY PREDICTED FOR ZEDEKIAH

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, when King
Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon and all his army and all the kingdoms of the
earth and all the peoples under his dominion were fighting against
Jerusalem and all its cities:* [2]Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Go and
speak to King Zedekiah of Judah and say to him: Thus says the LORD: I am
going to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall
burn it with fire.* [3]And you yourself shall not escape from his hand but
shall surely be captured and handed over to him; you shall see the king of
Babylon eye to eye and speak with him face to face, and you shall go to
Babylon. [4]Yet hear the word of the LORD, O King Zedekiah of Judah! Thus
says the LORD concerning you: You shall not die by the sword; [5]you shall
die in peace. And as spices were burned[v] for your ancestors, the earlier
kings who preceded you, so they shall burn spices[w] for you and lament for
you, saying, "Alas, lord!" For I have spoken the word, says the LORD.*

6 Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke all these words to Zedekiah king of
Judah, in Jerusalem, [7]when the army of the king of Babylon was fighting
against Jerusalem and against all the cities of Judah that were left, Lachish
and Azekah, for these were the only fortified cities of Judah that remained.*

TREACHEROUS TREATMENT OF SLAVES

8 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after King Zedekiah
had made a covenant with all the people in Jerusalem to make a
proclamation of liberty to them,* [9]that all should set free their Hebrew
slaves, male and female, so that no one should hold another Judean in
slavery.* [10]And they obeyed, all the officials and all the people who had
entered into the covenant that all would set free their slaves, male or female,
so that they would not be enslaved again; they obeyed and set them free.
[11]But afterward they turned around and took back the male and female
slaves they had set free and brought them again into subjection as slaves.
[12]The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah from the LORD: [13]Thus says the

LORD, the God of Israel: I myself made a covenant with your ancestors when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, saying,* 14"Every seventh year each of you must set free any Hebrews who have been sold to you and have served you six years; you must set them free from your service." But your ancestors did not listen to me or incline their ears to me.* 15You yourselves recently repented and did what was right in my sight by proclaiming liberty to one another, and you made a covenant before me in the house that is called by my name,* 16but then you turned around and profaned my name when each of you took back your male and female slaves, whom you had set free according to their desire, and you brought them again into subjection to be your slaves.* 17Therefore, thus says the LORD: You have not obeyed me by granting a release to your neighbors and friends; I am going to grant a release to you, says the LORD—a release to the sword, to pestilence, and to famine. I will make you a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.* 18And those who transgressed my covenant and did not keep the terms of the covenant that they made before me, I will make like[x] the calf when they cut it in two and passed between its parts:* 19the officials of Judah, the officials of Jerusalem, the eunuchs, the priests, and all the people of the land who passed between the parts of the calf 20shall be handed over to their enemies and to those who seek their lives. Their corpses shall become food for the birds of the air and the wild animals of the earth.* 21And as for King Zedekiah of Judah and his officials, I will hand them over to their enemies and to those who seek their lives, to the army of the king of Babylon, which has withdrawn from you.* 22I am going to command, says the LORD, and will bring them back to this city, and they will fight against it and take it and burn it with fire. The towns of Judah I will make a desolation without inhabitant.*

Jeremiah 35

THE RECHABITES COMMENDED

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of King
Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah:* 2Go to the house of the Rechabites, and
speak with them, and bring them to the house of the LORD, into one of the
chambers; then offer them wine to drink.* 3So I took Jaazaniah son of
Jeremiah son of Habazziniah and his brothers and all his sons and the whole
house of the Rechabites. 4I brought them to the house of the LORD into the
chamber of the sons of Hanan son of Igdaliah, the man of God, which was
near the chamber of the officials, above the chamber of Maaseiah son of
Shallum, keeper of the threshold.* 5Then I set before the Rechabites
pitchers full of wine and cups, and I said to them, "Have some wine."* 6But
they answered, "We will drink no wine, for our ancestor Jonadab son of
Rechab commanded us, 'You shall never drink wine, neither you nor your
children,* 7nor shall you ever build a house or sow seed, nor shall you plant
a vineyard or even own one, but you shall live in tents all your days, that
you may live many days in the land where you reside.'* 8We have obeyed
the charge of our ancestor Jonadab son of Rechab in all that he commanded
us, to drink no wine all our days, ourselves, our wives, our sons, or our
daughters,* 9and not to build houses to live in. We have no vineyard or field
or seed, 10but we have lived in tents and have obeyed and done all that our
ancestor Jonadab commanded us. 11But when King Nebuchadrezzar of
Babylon came up against the land, we said, 'Come, and let us go to
Jerusalem for fear of the army of the Chaldeans and the army of the
Arameans.' That is why we are living in Jerusalem."*

12 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: 13Thus says the LORD of
hosts, the God of Israel: Go and say to the people of Judah and the
inhabitants of Jerusalem, Can you not learn a lesson and obey my words?
says the LORD.* 14The command has been carried out that Jonadab son of
Rechab gave to his descendants to drink no wine, and they drink none to
this day, for they have obeyed their ancestor's command. But I myself have
spoken to you persistently, and you have not obeyed me.* 15I have sent to

you all my servants the prophets, sending them persistently, saying, “Turn now every one of you from your evil way, and amend your doings, and do not go after other gods to serve them, and then you shall live in the land that I gave to you and your ancestors.” But you did not incline your ear or obey me.* 16The descendants of Jonadab son of Rechab have carried out the command that their ancestor gave them, but this people has not obeyed me.* 17Therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: I am going to bring on Judah and on all the inhabitants of Jerusalem every disaster that I have pronounced against them, because I have spoken to them and they have not listened, I have called to them and they have not answered.*

18 But to the house of the Rechabites Jeremiah said: Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Because you have obeyed the command of your ancestor Jonadab and kept all his precepts and done all that he commanded you, 19therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Jonadab son of Rechab shall not lack a descendant to stand before me for all time.*

Jeremiah 36

THE SCROLL READ IN THE TEMPLE

1 In the fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, this word
came to Jeremiah from the LORD:* [2]Take a scroll and write on it all the
words that I have spoken to you against Israel and Judah and all the nations,
from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah until today.* [3]It may be
that, when the house of Judah hears of all the disasters that I intend to do to
them, all of them may turn from their evil ways, so that I may forgive their
iniquity and their sin.*

4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch son of Neriah, and Baruch wrote on a
scroll at Jeremiah's dictation all the words that the LORD had spoken to
him.* [5]And Jeremiah ordered Baruch, saying, "I am prevented from
entering the house of the LORD,* [6]so you go, and on a fast day in the hearing
of the people in the LORD's house you shall read the words of the LORD from
the scroll that you have written at my dictation. You shall read them also in
the hearing of all the people of Judah who come up from their towns. [7]It
may be that their plea will come before the LORD and that all of them will
turn from their evil ways, for great is the anger and wrath that the LORD has
pronounced against this people."* [8]And Baruch son of Neriah did all that
the prophet Jeremiah ordered him about reading from the scroll the words
of the LORD in the LORD's house.

9 In the fifth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, in the ninth
month, all the people in Jerusalem and all the people who came from the
towns of Judah to Jerusalem proclaimed a fast before the LORD.* [10]Then, in
the hearing of all the people, Baruch read the words of Jeremiah from the
scroll, in the house of the LORD, in the chamber of Gemariah son of
Shaphan the secretary, which was in the upper court, at the entry of the New
Gate of the LORD's house.*

THE SCROLL READ IN THE PALACE

11 When Micaiah son of Gemariah son of Shaphan heard all the words of
the LORD from the scroll,* [12]he went down to the king's house, into the

secretary's chamber, and all the officials were sitting there: Elishama the secretary, Delaiah son of Shemaiah, Elnathan son of Achbor, Gemariah son of Shaphan, Zedekiah son of Hananiah, and all the officials.* 13And Micaiah told them all the words that he had heard when Baruch read the scroll in the hearing of the people.* 14Then all the officials sent Jehudi son of Nethaniah son of Shelemiah son of Cushi to say to Baruch, "Bring the scroll that you read in the hearing of the people, and come." So Baruch son of Neriah took the scroll in his hand and came to them.* 15And they said to him, "Sit down and read it to us." So Baruch read it to them.* 16When they heard all the words, they turned to one another in alarm and said to Baruch, "We certainly must report all these words to the king."* 17Then they questioned Baruch, "Tell us now, how did you write all these words? Was it at his dictation?" 18Baruch answered them, "He dictated all these words to me, and I wrote them with ink on the scroll." 19Then the officials said to Baruch, "Go and hide, you and Jeremiah, and let no one know where you are."*

JEHOIAKIM BURNS THE SCROLL

20 Leaving the scroll in the chamber of Elishama the secretary, they went to the court of the king, and they reported all the words in the hearing of the king. 21Then the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and he took it from the chamber of Elishama the secretary, and Jehudi read it in the hearing of the king and all the officials who stood beside the king.* 22Now the king was sitting in his winter apartment (it was the ninth month), and there was a fire burning in the brazier before him.* 23As Jehudi read three or four columns, he would cut them off with a penknife and throw them into the fire in the brazier, until the entire scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier. 24Yet neither the king nor any of his servants who heard all these words was alarmed, nor did they tear their garments.* 25Even when Elnathan and Delaiah and Gemariah urged the king not to burn the scroll, he would not listen to them.* 26And the king commanded Jerahmeel the king's son and Seraiah son of Azriel and Shelemiah son of Abdeel to arrest the secretary Baruch and the prophet Jeremiah. But the LORD hid them.*

JEREMIAH DICTATES ANOTHER

27 Now after the king had burned the scroll with the words that Baruch
wrote at Jeremiah's dictation, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah:*
28Take another scroll and write on it all the former words that were in the
first scroll, which King Jehoiakim of Judah has burned.* 29And concerning
King Jehoiakim of Judah you shall say: Thus says the LORD, You have
burned this scroll, saying, "Why have you written in it that the king of
Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land and will cut off from it
human beings and animals?"* 30Therefore thus says the LORD concerning
King Jehoiakim of Judah: He shall have no one to sit upon the throne of
David, and his dead body shall be cast out to the heat by day and the frost
by night.* 31And I will punish him and his offspring and his servants for
their iniquity; I will bring on them and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem and
on the people of Judah all the disasters with which I have threatened them,
but they would not listen.*

32 Then Jeremiah took another scroll and gave it to the secretary Baruch
son of Neriah, who wrote on it at Jeremiah's dictation all the words of the
scroll that King Jehoiakim of Judah had burned in the fire, and many similar
words were added to them.

Jeremiah 37

ZEDEKIAH'S VAIN HOPE

1 Zedekiah son of Josiah, whom King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon made
king in the land of Judah, succeeded Coniah son of Jehoiakim.* [2]But neither
he nor his servants nor the people of the land listened to the words of the
LORD that he spoke through the prophet Jeremiah.*

3 King Zedekiah sent Jehucal son of Shelemiah and the priest Zephaniah
son of Maaseiah to the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "Please pray for us to the
LORD our God."* [4]Now Jeremiah was still going in and out among the
people, for he had not yet been put in prison. [5]Meanwhile, the army of
Pharaoh had come out of Egypt, and when the Chaldeans who were
besieging Jerusalem heard news of them, they withdrew from Jerusalem.*

6 Then the word of the LORD came to the prophet Jeremiah: [7]Thus says
the LORD, God of Israel: This is what you shall say to the king of Judah,
who sent you to me to inquire of me: Pharaoh's army, which set out to help
you, is going to return to its own land, to Egypt.* [8]And the Chaldeans shall
return and fight against this city; they shall take it and burn it with fire.*
[9]Thus says the LORD: Do not deceive yourselves, saying, "The Chaldeans
will surely go away from us," for they will not go away.* [10]Even if you
defeated the whole army of Chaldeans who are fighting against you and
there remained of them only wounded men in their tents, they would rise up
and burn this city with fire.*

JEREMIAH IS IMPRISONED

11 Now when the Chaldean army had withdrawn from Jerusalem at the
approach of Pharaoh's army, [12]Jeremiah set out from Jerusalem to go to the
land of Benjamin to receive his share of property[y] among the people there.
[13]When he reached the Benjamin Gate, a sentinel there named Irijah son of
Shelemiah son of Hananiah arrested the prophet Jeremiah saying, "You are
deserting to the Chaldeans."* [14]And Jeremiah said, "That is a lie; I am not
deserting to the Chaldeans." But Irijah would not listen to him and arrested

Jeremiah and brought him to the officials. 15The officials were enraged at Jeremiah, and they beat him and imprisoned him in the house of the secretary Jonathan, for it had been made a prison.* 16Thus Jeremiah was put in the cistern house, in the cells, and remained there many days.*

17 Then King Zedekiah sent for him and received him. The king questioned him secretly in his house and said, "Is there any word from the LORD?" Jeremiah said, "There is!" Then he said, "You shall be handed over to the king of Babylon."* 18Jeremiah also said to King Zedekiah, "What wrong have I done to you or your servants or this people, that you have put me in prison?* 19Where are your prophets who prophesied to you, saying, 'The king of Babylon will not come against you and against this land'?* 20Now please hear me, my lord king: be good enough to listen to my plea, and do not send me back to the house of the secretary Jonathan to die there." 21So King Zedekiah gave orders, and they committed Jeremiah to the court of the guard, and a loaf of bread was given him daily from the bakers' street, until all the bread of the city was gone. So Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.*

Jeremiah 38

JEREMIAH IN THE CISTERN

1 Now Shephatiah son of Mattan, Gedaliah son of Pashhur, Jucal son of
Shelemiah, and Pashhur son of Malchiah heard the words that Jeremiah was
saying to all the people:* 2"Thus says the LORD: Those who stay in this city
shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence, but those who go out
to the Chaldeans shall live; they shall have their lives as a prize of war and
live.* 3Thus says the LORD: This city shall surely be handed over to the
army of the king of Babylon, and he will take it."* 4Then the officials said
to the king, "This man ought to be put to death because he is discouraging
the soldiers who are left in this city and all the people by speaking such
words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but
their harm."* 5King Zedekiah said, "Here he is; he is in your hands, for the
king is powerless against you."* 6So they took Jeremiah and threw him into
the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard,
letting Jeremiah down by ropes. Now there was no water in the cistern but
only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud.*

JEREMIAH IS RESCUED BY EBED-MELECH

7 Ebed-melech the Cushite, a eunuch in the king's house, heard that they
had put Jeremiah into the cistern. The king happened to be sitting at the
Benjamin Gate,* 8So Ebed-melech left the king's house and spoke to the
king, 9"My lord king, these men have acted wickedly in all they did to the
prophet Jeremiah by throwing him into the cistern to die there of hunger, for
there is no bread left in the city."* 10Then the king commanded Ebed-
melech the Cushite, "Take three[z] men with you from here, and pull the
prophet Jeremiah up from the cistern before he dies." 11So Ebed-melech
took the men with him and went to the house of the king, to a wardrobe of[a]
the storehouse, and took from there old rags and worn-out clothes, which he
let down to Jeremiah in the cistern by ropes. 12Then Ebed-melech the
Cushite said to Jeremiah, "Just put the rags and clothes between your
armpits and the ropes." Jeremiah did so. 13Then they drew Jeremiah up by

the ropes and pulled him out of the cistern. And Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.*

ZEDEKIAH CONSULTS JEREMIAH AGAIN

14 King Zedekiah sent for the prophet Jeremiah and received him at the third entrance of the temple of the LORD. The king said to Jeremiah, "I have something to ask you; do not hide anything from me."* 15Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "If I tell you, you will put me to death, will you not? And if I give you advice, you will not listen to me."* 16So King Zedekiah swore an oath in secret to Jeremiah, "As the LORD lives, who gave us our lives, I will not put you to death or hand you over to these men who seek your life."*

17 Then Jeremiah said to Zedekiah, "Thus says the LORD, the God of hosts, the God of Israel: If you will only surrender to the officials of the king of Babylon, then your life shall be spared, and this city shall not be burned with fire, and you and your house shall live.* 18But if you do not surrender to the officials of the king of Babylon, then this city shall be handed over to the Chaldeans, and they shall burn it with fire, and you yourself shall not escape from their hand."* 19King Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, "I am afraid of the Judeans who have deserted to the Chaldeans, for I might be handed over to them, and they would abuse me."* 20Jeremiah said, "That will not happen. Just obey the voice of the LORD in what I say to you, and it shall go well with you, and your life shall be spared.* 21But if you are determined not to surrender, this is what the LORD has shown me: 22a vision of all the women remaining in the house of the king of Judah being led out to the officials of the king of Babylon and saying,

'Your trusted friends have seduced you
and have overcome you.
Now that your feet are stuck in the mud,
they desert you.'*

23"All your wives and your children shall be led out to the Chaldeans, and you yourself shall not escape from their hand but shall be seized by the king of Babylon, and this city shall be burned with fire."*

24 Then Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, "Do not let anyone else know of this conversation, or you will die. 25If the officials should hear that I have

spoken with you and come and say to you, ‘Just tell us what you said to the king; do not conceal it from us, or we will put you to death. What did the king say to you?’* 26then you shall say to them, ‘I was presenting my plea to the king not to send me back to the house of Jonathan to die there.’ ”* 27All the officials did come to Jeremiah and questioned him, and he answered them in the very words the king had commanded. So they stopped questioning him, for the conversation had not been overheard.* 28And Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard until the day that Jerusalem was taken.*

Jeremiah 39

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

1 This is how Jerusalem was captured:[b] in the ninth year of King Zedekiah
of Judah, in the tenth month, King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon and all his
army came against Jerusalem and besieged it;* [2]in the eleventh year of
Zedekiah, in the fourth month, on the ninth day of the month, a breach was
made in the city.* [3]Then all the officials of the king of Babylon came and
sat in the middle gate: Nergal-sharezer, Samgar-nebo, Sarsechim the
Rabsaris, Nergal-sharezer the Rabmag, with all the rest of the officials of
the king of Babylon.* [4]When King Zedekiah of Judah and all the soldiers
saw them, they fled, going out of the city at night by way of the King's
Garden through the gate between the two walls, and they went toward the
Arabah.* [5]But the army of the Chaldeans pursued them and overtook
Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho, and when they had taken him, they
brought him up to King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, at Riblah, in the land
of Hamath, and he passed sentence on him.* [6]The king of Babylon
slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah at Riblah before his eyes; also the king of
Babylon slaughtered all the nobles of Judah.* [7]He put out the eyes of
Zedekiah and bound him in fetters to take him to Babylon.* [8]The Chaldeans
burned with fire the king's house and the houses of the people and broke
down the walls of Jerusalem.* [9]Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard
exiled to Babylon the rest of the people who were left in the city, those who
had deserted to him, and the rest of the people who remained.*
[10]Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left in the land of Judah some of the
poor people who owned nothing and gave them vineyards and fields at the
same time.*

JEREMIAH, SET FREE, REMEMBERS EBED-MELECH

11 King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon gave command concerning
Jeremiah through Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, saying,* [12]"Take
him, look after him well, and do him no harm, but deal with him as he may
ask you." [13]So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, Nebushazban the

Rabsaris, Nergal-sharezer the Rabmag, and all the chief officers of the king of Babylon sent [14]and took Jeremiah from the court of the guard. They entrusted him to Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan to be brought home. So he stayed with his own people.*

15 The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah while he was confined in the court of the guard: [16]Go and say to Ebed-melech the Cushite: Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am going to fulfill my words against this city for evil and not for good, and they shall be accomplished in your presence on that day.* [17]But I will save you on that day, says the LORD, and you shall not be handed over to those whom you dread.* [18]For I will surely save you, and you shall not fall by the sword, but you shall have your life as a prize of war, because you have trusted in me, says the LORD.*

Jeremiah 40

JEREMIAH WITH GEDALIAH THE GOVERNOR

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD after Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he took him bound in fetters along with all the captives of Jerusalem and Judah who were being exiled to Babylon.* [2]The captain of the guard took Jeremiah and said to him, "The LORD your God threatened this place with this disaster,* [3]and now the LORD has brought it about and has done as he said, because all of you sinned against the LORD and did not obey his voice. Therefore this thing has come upon you.* [4]Now look, I have just released you today from the fetters on your hands. If you wish to come with me to Babylon, come, and I will take good care of you, but if you do not wish to come with me to Babylon, you need not come. See, the whole land is before you; go wherever you think it good and right to go.* [5]If you remain,[c] then return to Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon appointed governor of the towns of Judah, and stay with him among the people, or go wherever you think it right to go." So the captain of the guard gave him an allowance of food and a present and let him go.* [6]Then Jeremiah went to Gedaliah son of Ahikam at Mizpah and stayed with him among the people who were left in the land.*

7 When all the leaders of the forces in the open country and their troops heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah son of Ahikam governor in the land and had committed to him men, women, and children, those of the poorest of the land who had not been taken into exile to Babylon,* [8]they went to Gedaliah at Mizpah—Ishmael son of Nethaniah, Johanan[d] son of Kareah, Seraiah son of Tanhumeth, the sons of Ophai the Netophathite, Jezaniah son of the Maacathite, they and their troops.* [9]Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan swore to them and their troops, saying, "Do not be afraid to serve the Chaldeans. Stay in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall go well with you. [10]As for me, I am staying at Mizpah to represent you before the Chaldeans who come to us, but as for you, gather wine and summer fruits and oil, and store them in

your vessels, and live in the towns that you have taken over."* 11Likewise, when all the Judeans who were in Moab and among the Ammonites and in Edom and in other lands heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant in Judah and had appointed Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan as governor over them,* 12then all the Judeans returned from all the places to which they had been scattered and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah at Mizpah, and they gathered wine and summer fruits in great abundance.*

13 Now Johanan son of Kareah and all the leaders of the forces in the open country came to Gedaliah at Mizpah* 14and said to him, "Are you at all aware that Baalis king of the Ammonites has sent Ishmael son of Nethaniah to take your life?" But Gedaliah son of Ahikam would not believe them.* 15Then Johanan son of Kareah spoke secretly to Gedaliah at Mizpah, "Please let me go and kill Ishmael son of Nethaniah, and no one else will know. Why should he take your life, so that all the Judeans who are gathered around you would be scattered and the remnant of Judah would perish?"* 16But Gedaliah son of Ahikam said to Johanan son of Kareah, "Do not do such a thing, for you are telling a lie about Ishmael."*

Jeremiah 41

INSURRECTION AGAINST GEDALIAH

1 In the seventh month, Ishmael son of Nethaniah son of Elishama, of the
royal family, one of the chief officers of the king, came with ten men to
Gedaliah son of Ahikam, at Mizpah. As they ate bread together there at
Mizpah,* 2Ishmael son of Nethaniah and the ten men with him got up and
struck down Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan with the sword and
killed him, whom the king of Babylon had appointed governor in the land.*
3Ishmael also killed all the Judeans who were with Gedaliah at Mizpah and
the Chaldean soldiers who happened to be there.

4 On the day after the murder of Gedaliah, before anyone knew of it,
5eighty men arrived from Shechem and Shiloh and Samaria with their
beards shaved and their clothes torn and their bodies gashed, bringing grain
offerings and incense to present at the temple of the LORD.* 6And Ishmael
son of Nethaniah came out from Mizpah to meet them, weeping as he came.
As he met them, he said to them, "Come to Gedaliah son of Ahikam."*
7When they reached the middle of the city, Ishmael son of Nethaniah and
the men with him slaughtered them and threw them[e] into a cistern.* 8But
there were ten men among them who said to Ishmael, "Do not kill us, for
we have stores of wheat, barley, oil, and honey hidden in the fields." So he
refrained and did not kill them along with their companions.

9 Now the cistern into which Ishmael had thrown all the bodies of the
men whom he had struck down alongside Gedaliah was the one that King
Asa had made for defense against King Baasha of Israel; Ishmael son of
Nethaniah filled that cistern with those whom he had killed.* 10Then
Ishmael took captive all the rest of the people who were in Mizpah, the
king's daughters and all the people who were left at Mizpah, whom
Nebuzaradan, the captain of the guard, had committed to Gedaliah son of
Ahikam. Ishmael son of Nethaniah took them captive and set out to cross
over to the Ammonites.*

11 But when Johanan son of Kareah and all the leaders of the forces with
him heard of all the crimes that Ishmael son of Nethaniah had done,* 12they

took all their men and went to fight against Ishmael son of Nethaniah. They came upon him at the great pool that is in Gibeon.* 13And when all the people who were with Ishmael saw Johanan son of Kareah and all the leaders of the forces with him, they were glad.* 14So all the people whom Ishmael had carried away captive from Mizpah turned around and came back and went to Johanan son of Kareah. 15But Ishmael son of Nethaniah escaped from Johanan with eight men and went to the Ammonites.* 16Then Johanan son of Kareah and all the leaders of the forces with him took all the rest of the people whom he had recovered from Ishmael son of Nethaniah from Mizpah after he had slain Gedaliah son of Ahikam—soldiers, women, children, and eunuchs, whom Johanan[f] brought back from Gibeon.[g,*] 17And they set out and stopped at Geruth Chimham near Bethlehem, intending to go to Egypt* 18because of the Chaldeans, for they were afraid of them, because Ishmael son of Nethaniah had killed Gedaliah son of Ahikam, whom the king of Babylon had made governor over the land.*

Jeremiah 42

JEREMIAH ADVISES SURVIVORS NOT TO MIGRATE

1 Then all the commanders of the forces, and Johanan son of Kareah and
Jezaniah son of Hoshaiah, and all the people from the least to the greatest
approached* [2]the prophet Jeremiah and said, "Be good enough to listen to
our plea, and pray to the LORD your God for us—for all this remnant. For
there are only a few of us left out of many, as your eyes can see.* [3]Let the
LORD your God show us where we should go and what we should do."*
[4]The prophet Jeremiah said to them, "Very well: I am going to pray to the
LORD your God as you request, and whatever the LORD answers you I will
tell you; I will keep nothing back from you."* [5]They in their turn said to
Jeremiah, "May the LORD be a true and faithful witness against us if we do
not act according to everything that the LORD your God sends us through
you. [6]Whether it is good or bad, we will obey the voice of the LORD our
God to whom we are sending you, in order that it may go well with us when
we obey the voice of the LORD our God."*

7 At the end of ten days the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah. [8]Then
he summoned Johanan son of Kareah and all the commanders of the forces
who were with him and all the people from the least to the greatest [9]and
said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me
to present your plea before him: [10]If you will only remain in this land, then
I will build you up and not pull you down; I will plant you and not pluck
you up, for I am sorry for the disaster that I have brought upon you.* [11]Do
not be afraid of the king of Babylon, as you have been; do not be afraid of
him, says the LORD, for I am with you, to save you and to rescue you from
his hand.* [12]I will grant you mercy, and he will have mercy on you and
restore you to your native soil. [13]But if you continue to say, 'We will not
stay in this land,' thus disobeying the voice of the LORD your God* [14]and
saying, 'No, we will go to the land of Egypt, where we shall not see war or
hear the sound of the trumpet or be hungry for bread, and there we will
stay,'* [15]then hear the word of the LORD, O remnant of Judah. Thus says the
LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: If you are determined to enter Egypt and

go to settle there,* 16then the sword that you fear shall overtake you there, in the land of Egypt, and the famine that you dread shall follow close after you into Egypt, and there you shall die. 17All the people who have determined to go to Egypt to settle there shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; they shall have no remnant or survivor from the disaster that I am bringing upon them.*

18 "For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Just as my anger and my wrath were poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so my wrath will be poured out on you when you go to Egypt. You shall become an object of execration and horror, of cursing and ridicule. You shall see this place no more.* 19The LORD has said to you, 'O remnant of Judah, Do not go to Egypt.' Be well aware that I have warned you today* 20that you have made a fatal mistake. For you yourselves sent me to the LORD your God, saying, 'Pray for us to the LORD our God, and whatever the LORD our God says, tell us, and we will do it.' 21So I have told you today, but you have not obeyed the voice of the LORD your God in anything that he sent me to tell you.* 22Be well aware, then, that you shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence in the place where you desire to go and settle."*

Jeremiah 43

TAKEN TO EGYPT, JEREMIAH WARNS OF JUDGMENT

1 When Jeremiah finished speaking to all the people all the words of the LORD their God, with which the LORD their God had sent him to them, all these words,* 2Azariah son of Hoshaiah and Johanan son of Kareah and all the other insolent men said to Jeremiah, "You are telling a lie. The LORD our God did not send you to say, 'Do not go to Egypt to settle there,'* 3but Baruch son of Neriah is inciting you against us, to hand us over to the Chaldeans, in order that they may kill us or take us into exile in Babylon."* 4So Johanan son of Kareah and all the commanders of the forces and all the people did not obey the voice of the LORD to stay in the land of Judah.* 5But Johanan son of Kareah and all the commanders of the forces took all the remnant of Judah who had returned to settle in the land of Judah from all the nations to which they had been driven—6the men, the women, the children, the princesses, and everyone whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan, also the prophet Jeremiah and Baruch son of Neriah.* 7And they came into the land of Egypt, for they did not obey the voice of the LORD. And they arrived at Tahpanhes.

8 Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes:* 9Take some large stones in your hands, and bury them in the clay pavement[h] that is at the entrance to Pharaoh's palace in Tahpanhes. Let the Judeans see you do it, 10and say to them, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am going to send and take my servant King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, and I will set his throne above these stones that I have buried, and he will spread his royal canopy over them.* 11He shall come and ravage the land of Egypt, giving

those who are destined for pestilence, to pestilence,
and those who are destined for captivity, to captivity,
and those who are destined for the sword, to the sword.*

12"I shall kindle a fire in the temples of the gods of Egypt, and he shall burn them and carry them away captive, and he shall pick clean the land of Egypt

as a shepherd picks his cloak clean of vermin, and he shall depart from there safely.* 13He shall break the obelisks of Heliopolis, which is in the land of Egypt, and the temples of the gods of Egypt he shall burn with fire."

Jeremiah 44

DENUNCIATION OF PERSISTENT IDOLATRY

1 The word that came to Jeremiah for all the Judeans living in the land of
Egypt, at Migdol, at Tahpanhes, at Memphis, and in the land of Pathros:*
2Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: You yourselves have seen
all the disaster that I have brought on Jerusalem and on all the towns of
Judah. Look at them; today they are a desolation, without an inhabitant in
them,* 3because of the wickedness that they committed, provoking me to
anger, in that they went to make offerings to and serve other gods that they
had not known, neither they, nor you, nor your ancestors.* 4Yet I
persistently sent to you all my servants the prophets, saying, "I beg you not
to do this abominable thing that I hate!"* 5But they did not listen or incline
their ear, to turn from their wickedness and make no offerings to other gods.
6So my wrath and my anger were poured out and kindled in the towns of
Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, and they became a waste and a
desolation, as they still are today.* 7And now thus says the LORD God of
hosts, the God of Israel: Why are you doing such great harm to yourselves,
to cut off man and woman, child and infant, from the midst of Judah,
leaving yourselves without a remnant?* 8Why do you provoke me to anger
with the works of your hands, making offerings to other gods in the land of
Egypt, where you have come to settle? Will you be cut off and become an
object of cursing and ridicule among all the nations of the earth?* 9Have
you forgotten the crimes of your ancestors, of the kings of Judah, of their[i]
wives, your own crimes and those of your wives, which they committed in
the land of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?* 10They have shown no
contrition or fear to this day, nor have they walked in my law and my
statutes that I set before you and before your ancestors.*

11 Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am
determined to bring disaster on you, to bring all Judah to an end.* 12I will
take the remnant of Judah who are determined to come to the land of Egypt
to settle, and they shall perish, everyone; in the land of Egypt they shall fall;
by the sword and by famine they shall perish; from the least to the greatest,

they shall die by the sword and by famine; and they shall become an object of execration and horror, of cursing and ridicule.* 13I will punish those who live in the land of Egypt as I have punished Jerusalem, with the sword, with famine, and with pestilence, 14so that none of the remnant of Judah who have come to settle in the land of Egypt shall escape or survive or return to the land of Judah. Although they long to go back to live there, they shall not go back, except some fugitives.*

15 Then all the men who were aware that their wives had been making offerings to other gods and all the women who stood by, a great assembly, all the people who lived in Pathros in the land of Egypt, answered Jeremiah:* 16"As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD, we are not going to listen to you.* 17Instead, we will do everything that we have vowed, make offerings to the queen of heaven and pour out libations to her, just as we and our ancestors, our kings and our officials, used to do in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. We used to have plenty of food and prospered and saw no misfortune.* 18But from the time we stopped making offerings to the queen of heaven and pouring out libations to her, we have lacked everything and have perished by the sword and by famine."* 19And the women said,[j] "Indeed we will go on making offerings to the queen of heaven and pouring out libations to her; do you think that we made cakes for her, marked with her image, and poured out libations to her without our husbands' being involved?"*

20 Then Jeremiah said to all the people, men and women, all the people who were giving him this answer: 21"As for the offerings that you made in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your ancestors, your kings and your officials, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them? Did it not come into his mind?* 22The LORD could no longer bear the sight of your evil doings, the abominations that you committed; therefore your land became a desolation and a waste and a curse, without inhabitant, as it is to this day.* 23It is because you burned offerings and because you sinned against the LORD and did not obey the voice of the LORD or walk in his law and in his statutes and in his decrees that this disaster has befallen you, as is still evident today."*

24 Jeremiah said to all the people and all the women, "Hear the word of the LORD, all you Judeans who are in the land of Egypt,* 25Thus says the

LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: You and your wives have accomplished in deeds what you declared in words, saying, 'We are determined to perform the vows that we have made, to make offerings to the queen of heaven and to pour out libations to her.' By all means, keep your vows and make your libations!* 26Therefore hear the word of the LORD, all you Judeans who live in the land of Egypt: I swear by my great name, says the LORD, that my name shall no longer be pronounced on the lips of any of the people of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying, 'As the Lord GOD lives.'* 27I am going to watch over them for harm and not for good; all the people of Judah who are in the land of Egypt shall perish by the sword and by famine until not one is left.* 28And those who escape the sword shall return from the land of Egypt to the land of Judah, few in number, and all the remnant of Judah who have come to the land of Egypt to settle shall know whose words will stand, mine or theirs!* 29This shall be the sign to you, says the LORD, that I am going to punish you in this place, in order that you may know that my words of disaster against you will surely be carried out:* 30Thus says the LORD, I am going to give Pharaoh Hophra, king of Egypt, into the hands of his enemies, those who seek his life, just as I gave King Zedekiah of Judah into the hand of King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, his enemy who sought his life."*

Jeremiah 45

A WORD OF COMFORT TO BARUCH

1 The word that the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Baruch son of Neriah, when
he wrote these words in a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah, in the fourth
year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah:* 2Thus says the LORD, the
God of Israel, to you, O Baruch: 3You said, "Woe is me! The LORD has
added sorrow to my pain; I am weary with my groaning, and I find no
rest."* 4Thus you shall say to him, "Thus says the LORD: I am going to break
down what I have built and pluck up what I have planted—that is, the
whole land.* 5And you, do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek
them, for I am going to bring disaster upon all flesh, says the LORD, but I
will give you your life as a prize of war in every place to which you may
go."*

Jeremiah 46

JUDGMENT ON EGYPT

1 The word of the LORD that came to the prophet Jeremiah concerning the nations.

2 Concerning Egypt, about the army of Pharaoh Neco, king of Egypt,
which was by the River Euphrates at Carchemish and which King
Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of King Jehoiakim
son of Josiah of Judah:*

[3]Prepare buckler and shield,
and advance for battle!*
[4]Harness the horses;
mount the steeds!
Take your stations with helmets on,
whet the lances,
put on coats of mail!
[5]Why do I see them terrified?
They have fallen back;
their warriors are beaten down
and have fled in haste.
They do not look back—
terror is all around!
says the LORD.*

[6]The swift cannot flee away,
nor can the warrior escape;
in the north by the River Euphrates
they have stumbled and fallen.*

[7]Who is this, rising like the Nile,
like rivers whose waters surge?*

[8]Egypt rises like the Nile,
like rivers whose waters surge.
It said, "Let me rise; let me cover the earth;
let me destroy cities and their inhabitants."*
[9]Advance, O horses,
and dash madly, O chariots!
Let the warriors go forth:
Cush and Put, who carry the shield,
the Ludim, who draw[k] the bow.*
[10]That day is the day of the Lord GOD of hosts,
a day of retribution,
to gain vindication from his foes.
The sword shall devour and be sated
and drink its fill of their blood.
For the Lord GOD of hosts holds a sacrifice
in the land of the north by the River Euphrates.*
[11]Go up to Gilead, and take balm,
O virgin daughter Egypt!
In vain you have used many medicines;
there is no healing for you.*
[12]The nations have heard of your shame,
and the earth is full of your cry,
for warrior has stumbled against warrior;
both have fallen together.*

BABYLONIA WILL STRIKE EGYPT

13 The word that the LORD spoke to the prophet Jeremiah about the coming of King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon to attack the land of Egypt:*

[14]Declare in Egypt and proclaim in Migdol;
proclaim in Memphis and Tahpanhes;

Say, “Take your stations and be ready,
for the sword shall devour those around you.”*
15 Why has Apis[l] fled?
Why did your bull not stand?
Because the Lord thrust him down.
16 Your multitude stumbled[m] and fell,
and one said to another,
“Come, let us go back to our own people
and to the land of our birth,
because of the destroying sword.”*
17 Give Pharaoh, king of Egypt, the name
“Braggart who missed his chance.”*

18 As I live, says the King,
whose name is the Lord of hosts,
one is coming
like Tabor among the mountains
and like Carmel by the sea.*
19 Pack your bags for exile,
sheltered daughter Egypt!
For Memphis shall become a waste,
a ruin, without inhabitant.*

20 A beautiful heifer is Egypt—
a gadfly from the north lights upon her.*
21 Even her mercenaries in her midst
are like fatted calves;
they, too, have turned and fled together;
they did not stand,
for the day of their calamity has come upon them,

the time of their punishment.*

22She makes a sound like a snake gliding away,
for her enemies march in force
and come against her with axes,
like those who fell trees.*
23They shall cut down her forest,
says the LORD,
though it is impenetrable,
because they are more numerous
than locusts;
they are without number.*
24Daughter Egypt shall be put to shame;
she shall be handed over to a people from the north.*

25 The LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, said: See, I am bringing punishment upon Amon of Thebes and Pharaoh and Egypt and her gods and her kings, upon Pharaoh and those who trust in him.* 26I will hand them over to those who seek their life, to King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon and his servants. Afterward Egypt shall be inhabited as in the days of old, says the LORD.*

GOD WILL SAVE ISRAEL

27But as for you, have no fear, my servant Jacob,
and do not be dismayed, O Israel,
for I am going to save you from far away
and your offspring from the land of their captivity.
Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease,
and no one shall make him afraid.*
28As for you, have no fear, my servant Jacob,
says the LORD,

for I am with you.
I will make an end of all the nations
among which I have banished you,
but I will not make an end of you!
I will chastise you in just measure,
and I will by no means leave you unpunished.*

Jeremiah 47

JUDGMENT ON THE PHILISTINES

1 The word of the LORD that came to the prophet Jeremiah concerning the Philistines, before Pharaoh attacked Gaza:*

[2]Thus says the LORD:
See, waters are rising out of the north
and shall become an overflowing torrent;
they shall overflow the land and all that fills it,
the city and those who live in it.
People shall cry out,
and all the inhabitants of the land shall wail.*
[3]At the noise of the stamping of the hoofs of his stallions,
at the clatter of his chariots, at the rumbling of their wheels,
parents do not turn back for children,
so feeble are their hands,*
[4]because of the day that is coming
to destroy all the Philistines,
to cut off from Tyre and Sidon
every helper that remains.
For the LORD is destroying the Philistines,
the remnant of the coastland of Caphtor.*
[5]Baldness has come upon Gaza;
Ashkelon is silenced.
O remnant of Anakim![n]
How long will you gash yourselves?*
[6]Ah, sword of the LORD!
How long until you are quiet?
Put yourself into your scabbard;

rest and be still![*]
7How can it[o] be quiet,
when the LORD has given it an order?
Against Ashkelon and against the seashore—
there he has appointed it.[*]

Jeremiah 48

JUDGMENT ON MOAB

1 Concerning Moab.

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:

Alas for Nebo, it is laid waste!
Kiriathaim is put to shame; it is taken;
the fortress is put to shame and broken down;*
2the renown of Moab is no more.
In Heshbon they planned evil against her:
"Come, let us cut her off from being a nation!"
You also, O Madmen, shall be brought to silence;[p]
the sword shall pursue you.*

3Listen! A cry goes up from Horonaim:
"Desolation and great destruction!"*
4"Moab is destroyed!"
her little ones cry out.
5For at the ascent of Luhith
they go[q] up weeping bitterly;
for at the descent of Horonaim
they have heard the distressing cry of anguish.*
6Flee! Save yourselves!
Be like a wild ass[r] in the desert!*

7Surely, because you trusted in your strongholds[s] and your treasures,
you also shall be taken;
Chemosh shall go out into exile,

with his priests and his attendants.*
8The destroyer shall come upon every town,
and no town shall escape;
the valley shall perish,
and the plain shall be destroyed,
as the LORD has spoken.*

9Set aside salt for Moab,
for she will surely fall;
her towns shall become a desolation,
with no inhabitant in them.*

10 Accursed is the one who is slack in doing the work of the LORD, and accursed is the one who keeps back the sword from bloodshed.*

11Moab has been at ease from his youth,
settled like wine[t] on its dregs;
he has not been emptied from vessel to vessel,
nor has he gone into exile;
therefore his flavor has remained,
and his aroma is unspoiled.*

12 Therefore, the time is surely coming, says the LORD, when I shall send to him decanters to decant him and empty his vessels and break his jars in pieces. 13Then Moab shall be ashamed of Chemosh, as the house of Israel was ashamed of Bethel, their confidence.*

14How can you say, "We are heroes
and mighty warriors"?*
15Moab is destroyed, and his towns have gone up,
and the choicest of his young men have gone down to slaughter,
says the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.*

[16]The calamity of Moab is near at hand,
and his doom approaches swiftly.*
[17]Mourn over him, all you his neighbors,
and all who know his name;
say, "How the mighty scepter is broken,
the glorious staff!"*

[18]Come down from glory
and sit on the parched ground,
enthroned daughter Dibon!
For the destroyer of Moab has come up against you;
he has destroyed your strongholds.*
[19]Stand by the road and watch,
you inhabitant of Aroer!
Ask the man fleeing and the woman escaping;
say, "What has happened?"*
[20]Moab is put to shame, for it is broken down;
wail and cry!
Tell it by the Arnon
that Moab is laid waste.*

21 Judgment has come upon the tableland, upon Holon, and Jahzah, and Mephaath, [22]and Dibon, and Nebo, and Beth-diblathaim, [23]and Kiriathaim, and Beth-gamul, and Beth-meon, [24]and Kerioth, and Bozrah, and all the towns of the land of Moab, far and near.* [25]The horn of Moab is cut off, and his arm is broken, says the LORD.*

26 Make him drunk because he magnified himself against the LORD; let Moab wallow in his vomit; he, too, shall become a laughingstock.* [27]Israel was a laughingstock for you, though he was not caught among thieves, but whenever you spoke of him you shook your head!*

[28]Leave the towns, and live on the rock,

O inhabitants of Moab!
Be like the dove that nests
on the sides of the mouth of a gorge.*
29 We have heard of the pride of Moab—
he is very proud—
of his loftiness, his pride, and his arrogance,
and the haughtiness of his heart.*
30 I myself know his insolence, says the LORD;
his boasts are false;
his deeds are false.*
31 Therefore I wail for Moab;
I cry out for all Moab;
for the people of Kir-heres I mourn.*
32 More than for Jazer I weep for you,
O vine of Sibmah!
Your branches crossed over the sea,
reached as far as Jazer;[u]
upon your summer fruits and your vintage
the destroyer has fallen.*
33 Gladness and joy have been taken away
from the fruitful land of Moab;
I have stopped the wine from the winepresses;
no one treads them with shouts of joy;
the shouting is not the shout of joy.*

34 From the cry of Heshbon to Elealeh as far as Jahaz they utter their voice, from Zoar to Horonaim and Eglath-shelishiyah. For even the waters of Nimrim have become desolate.* 35 And I will bring to an end in Moab, says the LORD, those who offer sacrifice at a high place and make offerings to their gods.* 36 Therefore my heart moans for Moab like a flute, and my

heart moans like a flute for the people of Kir-heres, for the riches they gained have perished.*

37 For every head is shaved and every beard cut off; on all the hands there are gashes and on the loins sackcloth.* [38]On all the housetops of Moab and in the squares there is nothing but lamentation, for I have broken Moab like a vessel that no one wants, says the LORD.* [39]How it is broken! How they wail! How Moab has turned his back in shame! So Moab has become a derision and a horror to all his neighbors.*

[40]For thus says the LORD:

Look, he shall swoop down like an eagle
and spread his wings against Moab;*
[41]the towns[v] shall be taken
and the strongholds seized.
The hearts of the warriors of Moab, on that day,
shall be like the heart of a woman in labor.*
[42]Moab shall be destroyed as a people,
because he magnified himself against the LORD.*
[43]Terror, pit, and trap
are before you, O inhabitants of Moab!
says the LORD.*
[44]Everyone who flees from the terror
shall fall into the pit,
and everyone who climbs out of the pit
shall be caught in the trap.
For I will bring these things[w] upon Moab
in the year of their punishment,
says the LORD.*

[45]In the shadow of Heshbon
fugitives stop exhausted,
for a fire has gone out from Heshbon,

a flame from the house of Sihon;
it has destroyed the forehead[x] of Moab,
the scalp of the people of tumult.[y,*]
46 Woe to you, O Moab!
The people of Chemosh have perished,
for your sons have been taken captive
and your daughters into captivity.[*]
47 Yet I will restore the fortunes of Moab
in the latter days, says the LORD.
Thus far is the judgment on Moab.[*]

Jeremiah 49

JUDGMENT ON THE AMMONITES

1 Concerning the Ammonites.

Thus says the LORD:

Has Israel no sons?
Has he no heir?
Why then has Milcom[z] dispossessed Gad
and his people settled in its towns?[*]
[2]Therefore, the time is surely coming,
says the LORD,
when I will sound the battle alarm
against Rabbah of the Ammonites;
it shall become a desolate mound,
and its villages shall be burned with fire;
then Israel shall dispossess those who dispossessed him,
says the LORD.[*]

[3]Wail, O Heshbon, for Ai is laid waste!
Cry out, O daughters[a] of Rabbah!
Put on sackcloth,
lament, and slash yourselves with whips![b]
For Milcom[c] shall go into exile,
with his priests and his attendants.[*]
[4]Why do you boast in your strength?
Your strength is ebbing,
O faithless daughter.
Who trusted in her treasures, saying,[d]

"Who will attack me?"*
5I am going to bring terror upon you,
says the Lord GOD of hosts,
from all your neighbors,
and you will be scattered, each headlong,
with no one to gather the fugitives.*
6 But afterward I will restore the fortunes of the Ammonites, says the LORD.*

JUDGMENT ON EDOM

7 Concerning Edom.

Thus says the LORD of hosts:
Is there no longer wisdom in Teman?
Has counsel perished from the prudent?
Has their wisdom vanished?*
8Flee; turn back; get down low,
inhabitants of Dedan!
For I will bring the calamity of Esau upon him,
the time when I punish him.*
9If grape gatherers came to you,
would they not leave gleanings?
If thieves came by night,
even they would pillage only what they wanted.*
10But as for me, I have stripped Esau bare;
I have uncovered his hiding places,
and he is not able to conceal himself.
His offspring are destroyed, his kinsfolk
and his neighbors, and he is no more.*
11Leave your orphans; I will keep them alive,

and let your widows trust in me.*

12 For thus says the LORD: If those who do not deserve to drink the cup
still have to drink it, shall you be the one to go unpunished? You shall not
go unpunished; you must drink it.* [13]For by myself I have sworn, says the
LORD, that Bozrah shall become an object of horror and ridicule, a waste,
and an object of cursing, and all her towns shall be perpetual wastes.*

[14]I have heard tidings from the LORD,
and a messenger has been sent among the nations:
"Gather yourselves together and come against her,
and rise up for battle!"*
[15]For I will make you least among the nations,
despised by humankind.
[16]The terror you inspire
and the pride of your heart have deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the rock,[e]
who hold the height of the hill.
Although you make your nest as high as the eagle's,
from there I will bring you down,
says the LORD.*

17 Edom shall become an object of horror; everyone who passes by it
will be horrified and will hiss because of all its disasters.* [18]As when
Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbors were overthrown, says the LORD,
no one shall live there, nor shall anyone settle in it.* [19]Like a lion coming
up from the thickets of the Jordan to a perennial pasture, I will suddenly
chase Edom[f] away from it, and I will appoint over it whomever I choose.[g]
For who is like me? Who can summon me? Who is the shepherd who can
stand before me?* [20]Therefore hear the plan that the LORD has made against
Edom and the purposes that he has formed against the inhabitants of Teman:
Surely the little ones of the flock shall be dragged away; surely their fold
shall be appalled at their fate.* [21]At the sound of their fall the earth shall
tremble; the sound of their cry shall be heard at the Red Sea.[h,]* [22]Look, he
shall mount up and swoop down like an eagle and spread his wings against

Bozrah, and the heart of the warriors of Edom on that day shall be like the heart of a woman in labor.*

JUDGMENT ON DAMASCUS

23 Concerning Damascus.

Hamath and Arpad are confounded,
for they have heard bad news;
they melt in fear; they are troubled like the sea[i]
that cannot be quiet.*
[24]Damascus has become feeble; she turned to flee,
and panic seized her;
anguish and pangs seize her,
as of a woman in labor.
[25]How is the famous city not forsaken,[j]
the town of my joy?[k,*]
[26]Therefore her young men shall fall in her squares,
and all her soldiers shall be destroyed on that day,
says the LORD of hosts.*
[27]And I will kindle a fire at the wall of Damascus,
and it shall devour the strongholds of Ben-hadad.*

JUDGMENT ON KEDAR AND HAZOR

28 Concerning Kedar and the kingdoms of Hazor that King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon defeated.

Thus says the LORD:
Rise up; advance against Kedar!
Destroy the people of the east!*
[29]They take their tents and their flocks,
their curtains and all their goods;

they carry off their camels for themselves,
and a cry shall go up: “Terror is all around!”*
30Flee; wander far away; hide in deep places,
O inhabitants of Hazor!
says the LORD.
For King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon
has made a plan against you
and formed a purpose against you.*

31Rise up; advance against a nation at ease,
that lives secure,
says the LORD,
that has no gates or bars,
that lives alone.*
32Their camels shall become plunder;
their herds of cattle a spoil.
I will scatter to every wind
those who have shaved temples,
and I will bring calamity
against them from every side,
says the LORD.*

33Hazor shall become a lair of jackals,
an everlasting waste;
no one shall live there,
nor shall anyone settle in it.*

JUDGMENT ON ELAM

34 The word of the LORD that came to the prophet Jeremiah concerning Elam, at the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah of Judah.*

35 Thus says the LORD of hosts: I am going to break the bow of Elam, the mainstay of their might,* 36and I will bring upon Elam the four winds from

the four quarters of heaven, and I will scatter them to all these winds, and there shall be no nation to which the exiles from Elam shall not come.* 37I will terrify Elam before their enemies and before those who seek their life; I will bring disaster upon them, my fierce anger, says the LORD. I will send the sword after them until I have consumed them,* 38and I will set my throne in Elam and destroy their king and officials, says the LORD.

39 But in the latter days I will restore the fortunes of Elam, says the LORD.

Jeremiah 50

JUDGMENT ON BABYLON

1 The word that the LORD spoke concerning Babylon, concerning the land of the Chaldeans, by the prophet Jeremiah:*

[2]Declare among the nations and proclaim;
set up a banner and proclaim;
do not conceal it, say:
"Babylon is taken;
Bel is put to shame;
Merodach is dismayed.
Her images are put to shame;
her idols are dismayed."*

3 For out of the north a nation has come up against her; it shall make her land a desolation, and no one shall live in it; both humans and animals shall flee away.*

4 In those days and in that time, says the LORD, the people of Israel shall come, they and the people of Judah together; they shall come weeping as they seek the LORD their God.* [5]They shall ask the way to Zion, with faces turned toward it, and they shall come and join themselves to the LORD by an everlasting covenant that will never be forgotten.

6 My people have been lost sheep; their shepherds have led them astray, turning them away on the mountains; from mountain to hill they have gone, they have forgotten their fold.* [7]All who found them have devoured them, and their enemies have said, "We are not guilty, because they have sinned against the LORD, the true pasture, the LORD, the hope of their ancestors."*

8 Flee from Babylon, and go out of the land of the Chaldeans, and be like male goats leading the flock.* [9]For I am going to stir up and bring against Babylon a company of great nations from the land of the north, and they

shall array themselves against her; from there she shall be taken. Their arrows are like the arrows of a skilled warrior who does not return empty-handed.* 10Chaldea shall be plundered; all who plunder her shall be sated, says the LORD.

11Though you rejoice, though you exult,
O plunderers of my heritage,
though you frisk about like a heifer on the grass
and neigh like stallions,*
12your mother shall be utterly shamed,
and she who bore you shall be disgraced.
She shall be the last of the nations,
a wilderness, dry land, and a desert.*
13Because of the wrath of the LORD, she shall not be inhabited
but shall be an utter desolation;
everyone who passes by Babylon shall be appalled
and hiss because of all her wounds.*
14Take up your positions around Babylon,
all you who bend the bow;
shoot at her; spare no arrows,
for she has sinned against the LORD.*
15Raise a shout against her from all sides,
"She has surrendered;
her bulwarks have fallen;
her walls are thrown down."
For this is the vengeance of the LORD:
take vengeance on her;
do to her as she has done.*
16Cut off from Babylon the sower
and the wielder of the sickle in time of harvest;
because of the destroying sword,

all of them shall return to their own people,
and all of them shall flee to their own land.*

17 Israel is a hunted sheep driven away by lions. First the king of Assyria devoured it, and now at the end King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon has gnawed its bones.* 18Therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am going to punish the king of Babylon and his land as I punished the king of Assyria. 19I will restore Israel to its pasture, and it shall feed on Carmel and in Bashan, and on the hills of Ephraim and in Gilead its hunger shall be satisfied.* 20In those days and at that time, says the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought, and there shall be none, and the sins of Judah, and none shall be found, for I will pardon the remnant that I have spared.*

21Go up to the land of Merathaim;[l]
go up against her,
and attack the inhabitants of Pekod[m]
and utterly destroy the last of them,[n]
says the LORD;
do all that I have commanded you.*
22The noise of battle is in the land
and great destruction!*
23How the hammer of the whole earth
is cut down and broken!
How Babylon has become
a horror among the nations!*
24I set a snare for you, and you were caught, O Babylon,
but you did not know it;
you were discovered and seized
because you challenged the LORD.*
25The LORD has opened his armory
and brought out the weapons of his wrath,

for the Lord God of hosts has a task
in the land of the Chaldeans.*
26 Come against her from every quarter;
open her granaries;
pile her up like heaps of grain, and destroy her utterly;
let nothing be left of her.*
27 Kill all her bulls;
let them go down to the slaughter.
Alas for them, their day has come,
the time of their punishment!*

28 Listen! Fugitives and refugees from the land of Babylon are coming to declare in Zion the vengeance of the Lord our God, vengeance for his temple.*

29 Summon archers against Babylon, all who bend the bow. Encamp all around her; let no one escape. Repay her according to her deeds; just as she has done, do to her—for she has arrogantly defied the Lord, the Holy One of Israel.* 30 Therefore her young men shall fall in her squares, and all her soldiers shall be destroyed on that day, says the Lord.*

31 I am against you, O arrogant one,
says the Lord God of hosts,
for your day has come,
the time when I will punish you.*
32 The arrogant one shall stumble and fall,
with no one to raise him up,
and I will kindle a fire in his cities,
and it will devour everything around him.*

33 Thus says the Lord of hosts: The people of Israel are oppressed, and so also are the people of Judah; all their captors have held them fast and refuse to let them go.* 34 Their Redeemer is strong; the Lord of hosts is his

name. He will surely plead their cause, that he may give rest to the earth but unrest to the inhabitants of Babylon.*

35 A sword against the Chaldeans, says the LORD,
and against the inhabitants of Babylon
and against her officials and her sages!*
36 A sword against the diviners,
so that they may become fools!
A sword against her warriors,
so that they may be dismayed!*
37 A sword against her[o] horses and against her[p] chariots
and against all the foreign troops in her midst,
so that they may become women!
A sword against her treasures,
that they may be plundered!*
38 A drought against her waters,
that they may be dried up!
For it is a land of images,
and they go mad over idols.*

39 Therefore wild animals shall live with hyenas in Babylon,[q] and ostriches shall inhabit her; she shall never again be peopled or inhabited for all generations.* 40 As when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbors, says the LORD, so no one shall live there, nor shall anyone settle in her.*

41 Look, a people is coming from the north;
a mighty nation and many kings
are stirring from the farthest parts of the earth.*
42 They wield bow and spear;
they are cruel and have no mercy.
The sound of them is like the roaring sea;

they ride upon horses,
set in array as a warrior for battle,
against you, O daughter Babylon![*]

[43]The king of Babylon heard news of them,
and his hands fell helpless;
anguish seized him,
pain like that of a woman in labor.[*]

44 Like a lion coming up from the thickets of the Jordan to a perennial pasture, I will suddenly chase them away from her, and I will appoint over her whomever I choose.[r] For who is like me? Who can summon me? Who is the shepherd who can stand before me?[*] [45]Therefore hear the plan that the LORD has made against Babylon and the purposes that he has formed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the little ones of the flock shall be dragged away; surely the fold shall be appalled at their fate. [46]At the sound of the capture of Babylon the earth shall tremble, and a cry shall be heard among the nations.[*]

Jeremiah 51

[1]Thus says the LORD:
I am going to stir up a destructive wind[s]
against Babylon
and against the inhabitants of Leb-qamai,[t,*]
[2]and I will send winnowers to Babylon,
and they shall winnow her.
They shall empty her land
when they come against her from every side
on the day of trouble.[*]
[3]Let not the archer bend his bow,
and let him not array himself in his coat of mail.
Do not spare her young men;
utterly destroy her entire army.[*]
[4]They shall fall down slain in the land of the Chaldeans
and wounded in her streets.
[5]Indeed, Israel and Judah have not been forsaken
by their God, the LORD of hosts,
though their land is full of guilt
before the Holy One of Israel.[*]

[6]Flee from the midst of Babylon;
save your lives, each of you!
Do not perish because of her guilt,
for this is the time of the LORD's vengeance;
he is repaying her what is due.[*]
[7]Babylon was a golden cup in the LORD's hand,
making all the earth drunken;

the nations drank of her wine,
and so the nations went mad.*
8Suddenly Babylon has fallen and is shattered;
wail for her!
Bring balm for her wound;
perhaps she may be healed.*
9We tried to heal Babylon,
but she could not be healed.
Forsake her, and let each of us go
to our own country,
for her judgment has reached up to heaven
and has been lifted up even to the skies.*
10The LORD has brought forth our vindication;
come, let us declare in Zion
the work of the LORD our God.*

11Sharpen the arrows!
Fill the quivers!
The LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes because his purpose concerning Babylon is to destroy it, for that is the vengeance of the LORD, vengeance for his temple.*
12Raise a standard against the walls of Babylon;
make the watch strong;
post sentinels;
prepare the ambushes,
for the LORD has both planned and done
what he spoke concerning the inhabitants of Babylon.*
13You who live by mighty waters,
rich in treasures,
your end has come;

the thread of your life is cut.*
14The LORD of hosts has sworn by himself:
Surely I will fill you with troops like a swarm of locusts,
and they shall raise a shout of victory over you.*

15It is he who made the earth by his power,
who established the world by his wisdom
and by his understanding stretched out the heavens.*
16When he utters his voice there is a tumult of waters in the heavens,
and he makes the mist rise from the ends of the earth.
He makes lightnings for the rain,
and he brings out the wind from his storehouses.*
17Everyone is stupid and without knowledge;
goldsmiths are all put to shame by their idols,
for their images are false,
and there is no breath in them.*
18They are worthless, a work of delusion;
at the time of their punishment they shall perish.*
19Not like these is the portion of Jacob,
for he is the one who formed all things,
and Israel is the tribe of his inheritance;
the LORD of hosts is his name.*

ISRAEL THE CREATOR'S INSTRUMENT

20You are my war club, my weapon of battle:
with you I smash nations;
with you I destroy kingdoms;*
21with you I smash the horse and its rider;
with you I smash the chariot and the charioteer;

[22]with you I smash man and woman;
with you I smash the old man and the boy;
with you I smash the young man and the girl;*
[23]with you I smash shepherds and their flocks;
with you I smash farmers and their teams;
with you I smash governors and deputies.

THE DOOM OF BABYLON

24 I will repay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea before your very eyes for all the wrong that they have done in Zion, says the LORD.*

[25]I am against you, O destroying mountain,
says the LORD,
that destroys the whole earth;
I will stretch out my hand against you
and roll you down from the crags
and make you a burned-out mountain.*
[26]No stone shall be taken from you for a corner
and no stone for a foundation,
but you shall be a perpetual waste,
says the LORD.*

[27]Raise a standard in the land;
blow the trumpet among the nations;
prepare the nations for war against her;
summon against her the kingdoms,
Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz;
appoint a marshal against her;
bring up horses like bristling locusts.*
[28]Prepare the nations for war against her,
the kings of the Medes, with their governors and deputies,

and every land under their dominion.
[29]The land trembles and writhes,
for the LORD's purposes against Babylon stand,
to make the land of Babylon a desolation,
without inhabitant.*
[30]The warriors of Babylon have given up fighting;
they remain in their strongholds;
their strength has failed;
they have become women;
her buildings are set on fire;
her bars are broken.*
[31]One runner runs to meet another,
and one messenger to meet another,
to tell the king of Babylon
that his city is taken from end to end:*
[32]the fords have been seized,
the marshes have been burned with fire,
and the soldiers are in panic.*
[33]For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:
Daughter Babylon is like a threshing floor
at the time when it is trodden;
yet a little while
and the time of her harvest will come.*

[34]"King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon has devoured me;
he has crushed me;
he has made me an empty vessel;
he has swallowed me like a monster;
he has filled his belly with my delicacies;
he has spewed me out.*

35 May my torn flesh be avenged on Babylon,”
the inhabitants of Zion shall say.
“May my blood be avenged on the inhabitants of Chaldea,”
Jerusalem shall say.*
36 Therefore thus says the Lord:
I am going to defend your cause
and take vengeance for you.
I will dry up her sea
and make her fountain dry,*
37 and Babylon shall become a heap of ruins,
a den of jackals,
an object of horror and of hissing,
without inhabitant.*

38 Like lions they shall roar together;
they shall growl like lions’ whelps.
39 When they are inflamed, I will set out their drink
and make them drunk, until they become merry
and then sleep a perpetual sleep
and never wake, says the Lord.*
40 I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter,
like rams and goats.*

41 How Sheshach[u] is taken;
the pride of the whole earth seized!
How Babylon has become
an object of horror among the nations!*
42 The sea has risen over Babylon;
she has been covered by its tumultuous waves.*
43 Her cities have become an object of horror,

a land of drought and a desert,
a land in which no one lives
and through which no mortal passes.*
44 I will punish Bel in Babylon
and make him disgorge what he has swallowed.
The nations shall no longer stream to him;
the wall of Babylon has fallen.*

45 Come out of her, my people!
Save your lives, each of you,
from the fierce anger of the LORD!*
46 Do not be fainthearted or fearful
at the rumors heard in the land—
one year one rumor comes,
the next year another,
rumors of violence in the land
and of ruler against ruler.*

47 Assuredly, the days are coming
when I will punish the images of Babylon;
her whole land shall be put to shame,
and all her slain shall fall in her midst.*
48 Then the heavens and the earth
and all that is in them
shall shout for joy over Babylon,
for the destroyers shall come against her out of the north,
says the LORD.*
49 Babylon must fall for the slain of Israel,
as the slain of all the earth have fallen because of Babylon.*

50 You survivors of the sword,

go; do not linger!
Remember the LORD in a distant land,
and let Jerusalem come into your mind:*
51We are put to shame, for we have heard insults;
dishonor has covered our faces,
for aliens have come
into the holy places of the LORD's house.*

52Therefore the time is surely coming, says the LORD,
when I will punish her idols,
and through all her land
the wounded shall groan.*
53Though Babylon should mount up to heaven,
and though she should fortify her strong height,
from me destroyers would come upon her,
says the LORD.*

54Listen!—a cry from Babylon!
A great crashing from the land of the Chaldeans!*
55For the LORD is laying Babylon waste
and stilling her loud clamor.
Their waves roar like mighty waters;
the sound of their clamor resounds,*
56for a destroyer has come against her,
against Babylon;
her warriors are taken;
their bows are broken,
for the LORD is a God of recompense;
he will repay in full.*
57I will make her officials and her sages drunk,

also her governors, her deputies, and her warriors;
they shall sleep a perpetual sleep and never wake,
says the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.*

58Thus says the LORD of hosts:
The broad wall of Babylon
shall be leveled to the ground,
and her high gates
shall be burned with fire.
The peoples exhaust themselves for nothing,
the nations only for fire,
and they have become weary.*

JEREMIAH'S COMMAND TO SERAIAH

59 The word that the prophet Jeremiah commanded Seraiah son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, when he went with King Zedekiah of Judah to Babylon, in the fourth year of his reign. Seraiah was the quartermaster.* 60Jeremiah wrote in a[v] scroll all the disasters that would come on Babylon, all these words that are written concerning Babylon.* 61And Jeremiah said to Seraiah: "When you come to Babylon, see that you read all these words, 62and say, 'O LORD, you yourself threatened to destroy this place so that neither humans nor animals shall live in it, and it shall be desolate forever.'* 63When you finish reading this scroll, tie a stone to it, and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates,* 64and say, 'Thus shall Babylon sink, to rise no more, because of the disasters that I am bringing on her.' "[w]

Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.*

Jeremiah 52

THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM REVIEWED

1 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign; he reigned
eleven years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hamutal daughter of
Jeremiah of Libnah.* 2He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, just as
Jehoiakim had done.* 3Indeed, Jerusalem and Judah so angered the LORD
that he expelled them from his presence.

Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.* 4And in the ninth year of
his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, King
Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem, and
they laid siege to it; they built siegeworks against it all around.* 5So the city
was besieged until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. 6On the ninth day of
the fourth month the famine became so severe in the city that there was no
food for the people of the land.* 7Then a breach was made in the city wall,x
and all the soldiers fled and went out from the city by night by the way of
the gate between the two walls, by the King's Garden, though the
Chaldeans were all around the city. They went in the direction of the
Arabah.* 8But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king and overtook
Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho, and all his army was scattered, deserting
him.* 9Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of
Babylon at Riblah in the land of Hamath, and he passed sentence on him.*
10The king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes and also
killed all the officers of Judah at Riblah.* 11He put out the eyes of Zedekiah
and bound him in fetters, and the king of Babylon took him to Babylon and
put him in prison until the day of his death.*

12 In the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month—which was the
nineteenth year of King Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon—Nebuzaradan,
the captain of the bodyguard who served the king of Babylon, entered
Jerusalem.* 13He burned the house of the LORD, the king's house, and all the
houses of Jerusalem; every great house he burned down.* 14All the army of
the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down all the
walls around Jerusalem.* 15Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried

into exile some of the poorest of the people and the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who had defected to the king of Babylon, together with the rest of the artisans.* 16But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left some of the poorest people of the land to be vinedressers and tillers of the soil.*

17 The pillars of bronze that were in the house of the LORD, and the stands and the bronze sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces and carried all the bronze to Babylon.* 18They took away the pots, the shovels, the snuffers, the basins, the ladles, and all the vessels of bronze used in the temple service.* 19The captain of the guard took away the small bowls also, the firepans, the basins, the pots, the lampstands, the ladles, and the bowls for libation, both those of gold and those of silver.* 20As for the two pillars, the one sea, the twelve bronze bulls that were under the stands, which King Solomon had made for the house of the LORD, the bronze of all these vessels was beyond weighing.* 21As for the pillars, the height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits; its circumference was twelve cubits; it was hollow, and its thickness was four fingers.* 22Upon it was a capital of bronze; the height of the capital was five cubits; latticework and pomegranates, all of bronze, encircled the top of the capital. And the second pillar had the same, with pomegranates.* 23There were ninety-six pomegranates on the sides; all the pomegranates encircling the latticework numbered one hundred.

24 The captain of the guard took the chief priest Seraiah, the second priest Zephaniah, and the three guardians of the threshold.* 25From the city he took an officer who had been in command of the soldiers, seven men of the king's council who were found in the city; the secretary of the commander of the army who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land who were found inside the city. 26Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah.* 27And the king of Babylon struck them down and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah went into exile out of its land.*

28 This is the number of the people whom Nebuchadrezzar took into exile: in the seventh year, three thousand twenty-three Judeans;* 29in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar he took into exile from Jerusalem eight

hundred thirty-two persons; [30]in the twenty-third year of Nebuchadrezzar, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took into exile of the Judeans seven hundred forty-five persons; all the persons were four thousand six hundred.*

JEHOIACHIN FAVORED IN CAPTIVITY

31 In the thirty-seventh year of the exile of King Jehoiachin of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth day of the month, King Evil-merodach of Babylon, in the year he began to reign, showed favor to King Jehoiachin of Judah and brought him out of prison;* [32]he spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat above the seats of the other kings who were with him in Babylon. [33]So Jehoiachin put aside his prison clothes, and every day of his life he dined regularly at the king's table.* [34]For his allowance, a regular daily allowance was given him by the king of Babylon, as long as he lived, up to the day of his death.*

Jeremiah 1

* **1.1** 1 Chr 6.60; 2 Chr 35.25; Jer 32.7–9
* **1.2** 1 Kings 13.2; 2 Kings 21.18, 24
* **1.3** Jer 25.1; 39.2; 52.12
* **1.5** Ps 139.15, 16; Isa 49.1, 5
* **1.6** Ex 4.10; Isa 6.5
* **1.8** Jer 15.20; Ezek 2.6
* **1.9** Ex 4.11–16; Isa 6.7
* **1.10** Jer 18.7; 2 Cor 10.4, 5
* **1.11** Jer 24.3

a **1.12** In Heb the word for *almond* resembles the word for *watching*

* **1.13** Ezek 11.3, 7; 24.3; Zech 4.2
* **1.14** Jer 4.6; 6.1
* **1.15** Isa 22.7; Jer 9.11
* **1.16** Deut 28.20; Jer 7.9; 10.3–5; 17.13
* **1.17** Ex 3.12; 1 Kings 18.46; Ezek 2.6
* **1.18** Isa 50.7; Jer 6.27; 15.20
* **1.19** v 8; Jer 11.19; 15.10, 11

Jeremiah 2

* **2.2** Deut 2.7; Jer 7.2; 11.6; Ezek 16.8
* **2.3** Ex 19.5, 6; Jer 30.16; 50.7
* **2.5** Isa 5.4; Jer 8.19; Mic 6.3
* **2.6** Ex 20.2; Deut 8.15; 32.10; Isa 63.11; Hos 13.4
* **2.7** Lev 18.25; Num 13.27; Ps 78.58

b **2.8** Heb *shepherds*

* **2.8** Jer 10.21; 16.19; 23.13; Mal 2.6, 7; Rom 2.20
* **2.9** Ezek 20.35, 36; Mic 6.2
* **2.11** Ps 106.20; Mic 4.5; Rom 1.23
* **2.13** Ps 36.9; Jer 14.3; 17.13; Jn 4.14
* **2.14** Ex 4.22; Jer 5.19
* **2.15** Jer 4.7; 50.17
* **2.16** Jer 43.7–9; 44.1; 48.45
* **2.17** Deut 32.10; Jer 4.18
* **2.18** Josh 13.3; Isa 30.1, 2; Jer 50.17
* **2.19** Ps 36.1; Isa 3.9; Jer 5.24; Hos 5.5; 11.7
* **2.20** v 25; Lev 26.13; Deut 12.2; Isa 57.5, 7
* **2.21** Ex 15.17; Isa 5.4
* **2.22** Jer 4.14

* **2.23** Prov 30.12; Jer 7.31; 9.14
* **2.24** Jer 14.6
* **2.25** Deut 32.16; Jer 14.10; 18.12
* **2.26** Jer 48.27
* **2.27** Isa 26.16; Jer 3.9; 18.17; 32.33
* **2.28** Deut 32.37; Isa 45.20; Jer 11.13
* **2.29** Jer 5.1; 6.13
* **2.30** Isa 1.5; Jer 26.20–24

c **2.31** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **2.31** Deut 32.15; Isa 45.19
* **2.32** Isa 17.10; Hos 8.14

d **2.34** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **2.34** Ex 22.2; Jer 19.4
* **2.35** v 23; Jer 25.31; 1 Jn 1.8, 10
* **2.36** v 23; 2 Chr 28.16, 20, 21; Isa 30.3; Hos 12.1
* **2.37** 2 Sam 13.19; Jer 37.7–10

Jeremiah 3

e **3.1** Gk Syr: Heb *Saying, If*

* **3.1** Deut 24.4; Jer 2.20; Ezek 16.26, 28, 29; Zech 1.3

f **3.2** Or *the trails*

* **3.2** Deut 12.2; Prov 23.28; Jer 2.7, 20
* **3.3** Lev 26.19; Jer 6.15; Ezek 3.7
* **3.4** v 19; Ps 71.17
* **3.5** v 12; Isa 57.16
* **3.6** Jer 7.24; 17.2
* **3.7** Ezek 16.46, 47

g **3.8** Gk mss Syr: Heb *I*

* **3.8** 2 Kings 17.6; Isa 50.1; Ezek 23.11
* **3.9** Jer 2.7, 27
* **3.10** Hos 7.14
* **3.11** v 7; Ezek 16.51
* **3.12** 2 Kings 17.6; Ps 86.15
* **3.13** Deut 12.2; 30.1–3; Jer 2.20, 25
* **3.14** Jer 50.4, 5; Hos 2.19
* **3.15** Jer 23.4; Acts 20.28
* **3.16** Isa 65.17
* **3.17** v 19; Isa 60.9; Jer 11.8; 17.12
* **3.18** Isa 11.13; Jer 31.8; Hos 1.11; Am 9.15
* **3.19** Ps 16.6; Isa 63.16; Dan 8.9
* **3.20** vv 6, 7; Isa 48.8

h **3.21** Or *the trails*
* **3.21** Isa 15.2; Jer 2.32
* **3.22** v 14; Jer 33.6; Hos 6.1; 14.4
i **3.23** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *Truly from the hills is*
* **3.23** Ps 3.8; 121.1, 2
* **3.25** Ezra 9.7; Jer 22.21

Jeremiah 4

* **4.1** Jer 3.1, 22; 7.3, 7; Joel 2.12
j **4.2** Or *shall bless themselves*
k **4.2** Cn: Heb *him*
l **4.2** Cn: Heb *him*
* **4.2** Gen 22.18; Deut 10.20; Isa 45.25; 1 Cor 1.31; Gal 3.8
* **4.3** Hos 10.12; Mt 13.7, 22
* **4.4** Deut 10.16; 30.6; Jer 9.26; Rom 2.28, 29
m **4.5** Or *shout, take your weapons*: Heb *shout, fill* (your hand)
* **4.5** Jer 6.1; 8.14
* **4.6** Jer 1.13–15; 6.1, 22
* **4.7** 2 Kings 24.1; Jer 5.6; 25.9; Dan 7.4
* **4.8** Isa 22.12; Jer 6.26; 30.24
* **4.9** Isa 22.3–5; 29.9, 10
* **4.10** Jer 5.12; 14.13; Ezek 14.9; 2 Thess 2.11
n **4.11** Or *the trails*
* **4.11** Jer 51.1; Ezek 17.10; Hos 13.15
* **4.12** Jer 1.16
* **4.13** Deut 28.49; Isa 5.28; 19.1; Lam 4.19
* **4.14** Isa 1.16; Jer 6.19; 13.27; Jas 4.8
* **4.16** Isa 39.3; Jer 5.6, 15; Ezek 21.22
* **4.17** 2 Kings 25.1, 4; Jer 5.23
* **4.18** Ps 107.17; Isa 50.1
o **4.19** Or *for you, O my soul,*
* **4.19** Isa 15.5; 16.11; 21.3; 22.4
* **4.20** Ps 42.7; Jer 10.20; Ezek 7.26
* **4.22** Jer 2.8; 10.8; Rom 16.19
* **4.23** Gen 1.2; Isa 24.19
* **4.24** Isa 5.25; Ezek 38.20
* **4.25** Zeph 1.3
* **4.26** Jer 9.10
* **4.27** Jer 5.10, 18; 12.11, 12; 30.11; 46.28
* **4.28** Num 23.19; Isa 5.30; 50.3; Jer 7.16; Hos 4.3
* **4.29** Jer 6.23; 16.16

* **4.30** 2 Kings 9.30; Jer 13.21; 22.20, 22; Ezek 23.40
* **4.31** Isa 1.15; 42.14; Jer 13.21; Lam 1.17

Jeremiah 5

p **5.1** Heb *it*
* **5.1** Gen 18.23, 26, 32; 2 Chr 16.9; Ezek 22.30
* **5.2** Jer 4.2; 7.9; Titus 1.16
* **5.3** Isa 1.5; 9.13; Jer 2.30; 7.26; 19.15; Zeph 3.2
* **5.4** Jer 4.22; 8.7
q **5.5** Or *the great*
* **5.5** Ps 2.3; Mic 3.1
* **5.6** Jer 30.14, 15; Hos 13.7; Hab 1.8; Zeph 3.3
* **5.7** Num 25.1–3; Deut 32.21; Josh 23.7; Jer 7.9; Zeph 1.5; Gal 4.8
* **5.8** Jer 13.27; Ezek 22.11
* **5.9** Jer 9.9; 44.22
* **5.10** v 18; Jer 4.27; 39.8
* **5.11** Jer 3.20
* **5.12** 2 Chr 36.16; Isa 28.15; Jer 14.13; 23.17
* **5.13** Jer 14.13, 15
* **5.14** Jer 1.9; 23.29
* **5.15** Deut 28.49; Isa 5.26; 29.3; Jer 1.15; 4.16; 6.22
* **5.16** Isa 5.28; 13.18
* **5.17** Lev 26.16; Deut 28.31, 33; Jer 8.13; Hos 8.14
* **5.18** Jer 4.27
* **5.19** Deut 28.48; 29.24–26; 1 Kings 9.8, 9; Jer 16.10–13
* **5.21** v 4; Isa 6.9, 10; Ezek 12.2; Mt 13.14
* **5.22** Job 26.10; Ps 104.9; Jer 2.19
* **5.23** Jer 4.17; 6.28
* **5.24** Gen 8.22; Ps 147.8; Joel 2.23; Mt 5.45
* **5.25** Jer 2.17; 4.18
r **5.26** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.26** Ps 10.9; Prov 1.11; Hab 1.15
* **5.27** Jer 9.6; 12.1
* **5.28** Deut 32.15; Isa 1.23; Jer 2.34; Zech 7.10
* **5.29** Mal 3.5
* **5.30** Hos 6.10
s **5.31** Or *rule by their own authority*
* **5.31** Jer 14.14; Ezek 13.6; Mic 2.11

Jeremiah 6

* **6.1** 2 Chr 11.6; Neh 3.14; Jer 1.14; 4.6
t **6.2** Or *I will destroy daughter Zion, the loveliest pasture*
* **6.2** Deut 28.56; Jer 4.31
* **6.3** 2 Kings 25.1; Jer 4.17; 12.10
* **6.4** Jer 15.8; Joel 3.9
* **6.5** Jer 52.13
u **6.6** Or *the city of license*
* **6.6** Deut 20.19, 20; Jer 22.17; 32.24
* **6.7** Ps 55.9–11; Isa 57.20; Jer 20.8; Ezek 7.11, 23
* **6.8** Jer 7.28; Ezek 23.18; Hos 9.12
v **6.9** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *They shall glean*
* **6.9** Jer 8.3; 49.9
w **6.10** Heb *are uncircumcised*
* **6.10** Jer 7.26; 20.8; Acts 7.51
* **6.11** Job 32.18, 19; Jer 9.21; 20.9
* **6.12** Deut 28.30; Jer 8.10; 15.6
* **6.13** Isa 56.11; Jer 8.10; 22.17; Mic 3.5, 11
* **6.14** Jer 4.10; 8.11; 23.17; Ezek 13.10
* **6.16** Isa 8.20; Jer 18.15; Mal 4.4; Mt 11.29; Lk 16.29
* **6.17** Isa 21.11; 58.1; Jer 25.4; Ezek 3.17; Hab 2.1
* **6.19** Prov 1.31; Isa 1.2; Jer 8.9; 19.3, 15
* **6.20** Isa 1.11; 60.6; Jer 7.21; Am 5.21; Mic 6.6
* **6.21** Isa 8.14; Jer 9.21, 22; 13.16
* **6.22** Neh 1.9; Jer 1.15; 5.15; 10.22; 50.41–43
* **6.23** Isa 5.30; Jer 4.29; 50.42
* **6.24** Jer 4.31; 13.21; 49.24; 50.43
* **6.25** Jer 12.12; 14.18; 20.10
* **6.26** Jer 4.8; 25.34; Mic 1.10; Zech 12.10
x **6.27** Or *a fortress*
* **6.28** Jer 5.23; 9.4; Ezek 22.18
y **6.29** Cn: Heb *lead from their fire*

Jeremiah 7

z **7.3** Or *and I will let you dwell*
a **7.4** Heb *They are*
* **7.5** Jer 4.1, 2; 22.3
* **7.6** Deut 6.14, 15; 8.19; Jer 13.10
b **7.7** Or *and I will let you dwell*
* **7.8** Jer 13.25
* **7.9** Ex 20.3; Jer 11.13, 17; 19.4
* **7.10** Jer 2.23, 35; 32.34; Ezek 23.39

* **7.11** Mt 21.13; Mk 11.17; Lk 19.46
* **7.12** 1 Sam 4.10, 11; Jer 26.6
* **7.13** 2 Chr 36.15; Isa 65.12; Jer 35.17
* **7.14** vv 4, 12; 1 Kings 9.7
* **7.15** 2 Kings 17.23; Ps 78.67; Jer 15.1
* **7.16** Ex 32.10; Jer 11.14; 15.1
* **7.18** Jer 11.17; 19.13; 44.17
* **7.19** Deut 32.16, 21
* **7.21** Isa 1.11; Hos 8.13; Am 5.21
* **7.22** 1 Sam 15.22; Ps 51.16; Hos 6.6
* **7.23** Ex 15.26; Lev 26.12; Isa 3.10
* **7.24** Ps 81.11, 12; Jer 15.16
* **7.25** Jer 25.4; Lk 11.49
* **7.26** Jer 16.12; 19.15
* **7.27** Isa 50.2; Ezek 2.7; 3.7
* **7.28** Jer 5.3; 6.17; 9.5

c **7.29** Or *the trails*

* **7.29** Job 1.20; Isa 15.2; Jer 16.6; Mic 1.16
* **7.30** 2 Kings 21.4; 2 Chr 33.4, 5, 7; Jer 23.11; Ezek 7.20

d **7.31** Gk Tg Vg: Heb *high places*

* **7.31** 2 Kings 23.10; Ps 106.38; Jer 19.5
* **7.32** 2 Kings 23.10; Jer 19.6, 7, 11
* **7.34** Isa 24.7, 8; Ezek 26.13; Hos 2.11; Rev 18.23

Jeremiah 8

* **8.1** Ezek 6.5
* **8.2** Jer 22.19; Acts 7.42
* **8.3** Job 3.21; 7.15, 16; Jer 23.3, 8; Rev 9.6
* **8.4** Prov 24.16

e **8.5** Heb ms Gk: MT *this people, Jerusalem,*

* **8.5** Jer 5.6, 27; 7.24; 9.6
* **8.6** Job 39.21–25; Ps 14.2; Ezek 22.30; Rev 9.20

f **8.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **8.7** Song 2.12; Isa 1.3; Jer 5.4, 5
* **8.8** Jer 4.22; Rom 2.17
* **8.9** Jer 6.15, 19
* **8.10** Deut 28.30; Isa 56.11
* **8.11** Jer 6.14; Ezek 13.10
* **8.12** Jer 3.3; 6.21; 10.15

g **8.13** Or *make an end to them*

h **8.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **8.13** Isa 5.2; Jer 14.12; Ezek 22.20, 21; Joel 1.7; Mt 21.19
* **8.14** Jer 3.25; 4.5; 9.15; 14.20; 35.11; Mt 27.34
* **8.15** Jer 14.19
* **8.16** Judg 5.22; Jer 3.24; 4.15; 10.25
* **8.17** Num 21.6; Ps 58.4, 5
* **8.19** Deut 32.21; Ps 31.6; Isa 39.3; Jer 4.16; 14.19
* **8.21** Jer 14.17; Joel 2.6; Nah 2.10
* **8.22** Gen 37.25; Jer 14.19; 30.13

Jeremiah 9

i **9.1** 8.23 in Heb
* **9.1** Isa 22.4; Jer 6.26; 8.21, 22; Lam 2.11
j **9.2** 9.1 in Heb
* **9.2** Ps 55.6, 7; Jer 5.7, 8, 11; 12.1, 6
* **9.3** 1 Sam 2.12; Ps 64.3; Isa 59.4; Jer 4.22; Hos 4.1
* **9.4** v 8; Gen 27.35; Jer 6.28; 12.6
k **9.5** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *they weary themselves with iniquity.* 6*Your dwelling*
* **9.5** Jer 12.13; 51.58, 64; Mic 6.12
l **9.6** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *Your dwelling in the midst of deceit*
* **9.6** Jer 5.27; 11.10; Jn 3.19, 20
* **9.7** Isa 1.25; Hos 11.8; Mal 3.3
* **9.8** Ps 12.2; 28.3; Jer 5.26
* **9.9** Jer 5.9, 29
m **9.10** Gk Syr: Heb *I will take up*
* **9.10** Jer 4.24–26; Ezek 14.15; Hos 4.3
* **9.11** Isa 13.22; 25.2; 34.13; Jer 4.27; 26.9
* **9.12** Ps 107.43; Jer 23.10, 16; Hos 14.9
* **9.13** Ps 89.30; Jer 5.19
* **9.14** Rom 1.21–24; Gal 1.14; 1 Pet 1.18
* **9.15** Jer 8.14; 23.15
* **9.16** Lev 26.33; Deut 28.64; Jer 44.27; Ezek 5.2
* **9.17** 2 Chr 35.25; Eccl 12.5; Am 5.16
* **9.18** Jer 14.17
* **9.19** Jer 4.13; 7.15
* **9.20** Isa 32.9
* **9.21** Jer 6.11; 15.7; 18.21
* **9.22** Jer 8.2; 16.4
* **9.23** Ps 49.6–9; Eccl 9.11; Isa 10.8–12
* **9.24** Ps 36.5, 7; Mic 7.18; 1 Cor 1.31; 2 Cor 10.17; Gal 6.14
* **9.25** Rom 2.8, 9

* **9.26** Lev 26.41; Jer 25.23; Ezek 44.7; Rom 2.28

Jeremiah 10

* **10.2** Lev 18.3; Isa 47.12–14
* **10.3** Isa 40.19; 45.20
* **10.4** v 14; Isa 41.7
n **10.5** Heb *They*
* **10.5** Ps 115.5; Isa 41.23; 46.1, 7; 1 Cor 12.2
* **10.6** Deut 33.26; Isa 12.6; Jer 32.18
* **10.7** Ps 22.28; Dan 2.27, 28; 1 Cor 1.19, 20
o **10.8** Q ms Gk lack 10.6–8
* **10.8** v 14; Jer 2.27; 4.22
* **10.9** Ps 72.10; 115.4; Isa 40.19; Dan 10.5
p **10.10** Q ms Gk lack 10.10
* **10.10** Ps 76.7; Isa 65.16; Jer 4.2; 50.46
q **10.11** This verse is in Aramaic
* **10.11** Ps 96.5; Isa 2.18; Zeph 2.11
* **10.12** Job 9.8; Ps 78.69; Isa 40.22; Jer 51.15–19
* **10.13** Job 36.27–29; Ps 29.3–9; 135.7
* **10.14** Isa 42.17; Jer 51.17; Hab 2.18
* **10.16** Deut 32.9; Ps 73.26; Isa 45.7; Jer 31.35; 51.19
* **10.19** Jer 4.19, 31; 14.17; Mic 7.9
* **10.20** Isa 51.18; Jer 4.20; 31.15
* **10.21** Jer 2.8; 23.2
* **10.22** Jer 1.14; 4.15; 9.11
* **10.23** Prov 20.24; Isa 26.7
* **10.24** Ps 6.1
* **10.25** Job 18.21; Ps 79.6, 7; Jer 8.16; 50.7, 17

Jeremiah 11

* **11.3** Deut 27.26; Gal 3.10
* **11.4** Ex 24.3–8; Deut 4.20; 1 Kings 8.51; Jer 7.23; 24.7
* **11.5** Ex 13.5; Deut 7.12; Jer 28.6; 32.22
* **11.7** 1 Sam 8.9; Jer 7.13, 25
* **11.8** Lev 26.14–43; Jer 7.26; Mic 7.9
* **11.9** Ezek 22.25; Hos 6.9
* **11.10** Judg 2.11–13; 1 Sam 15.11; Jer 3.6–11; 13.10
* **11.11** vv 14, 17; Jer 14.12; 25.35
* **11.12** Deut 32.37; Jer 44.17
* **11.14** v 11; Ex 32.10; Ps 66.18

r **11.15** Gk: Heb *Can many*
* **11.15** Jer 4.22; 12.7; 13.27
* **11.16** Ps 52.8; 83.2; Jer 21.14
* **11.17** Jer 12.2; 16.10, 11; 32.29
* **11.19** Ps 52.5; 83.4; 109.13; Isa 53.7; Jer 18.18
* **11.20** Ps 7.9; Jer 20.12
* **11.21** Jer 12.5, 6; 26.8; 38.4; Am 2.12
* **11.23** Jer 6.9; 23.12; 48.44

Jeremiah 12

* **12.1** Job 13.3; Jer 5.27, 28; 11.20; 20.5, 11
* **12.2** Isa 29.13; Jer 11.17; Ezek 33.31
* **12.3** Ps 139.1–4; Jer 11.20; 17.18
s **12.4** Gk: Heb *to our future*
* **12.4** Jer 4.25; 9.10; Hos 4.3; Joel 1.10–17
* **12.5** Jer 26.8; 38.4–6; 49.19; 50.44
* **12.6** Ps 12.2; Prov 26.25; Jer 9.4
* **12.7** Jer 7.29; 11.15; Lam 2.1
* **12.8** Isa 59.13; Hos 9.15
* **12.9** 2 Kings 24.2; Isa 56.9
* **12.10** Isa 5.1–7; 63.18; Jer 3.19; 23.1
* **12.11** Isa 42.25; Jer 4.20, 27
t **12.12** Or *the trails*
* **12.12** Isa 34.6; Jer 3.2, 21; 16.5; 30.5
u **12.13** Heb *your*
* **12.13** Lev 26.16; Deut 28.38; Jer 9.5; 17.10; Mic 6.15; Hag 1.6
* **12.14** Deut 30.3; Isa 11.11–16; Zech 2.8–10
* **12.15** Jer 48.47; 49.6, 39; Ezek 28.25; Am 9.14
* **12.16** Isa 42.6; Jer 4.2; 5.7; Eph 2.20, 21
* **12.17** Isa 60.12

Jeremiah 13

* **13.1** v 11
* **13.2** Isa 20.2
v **13.4** Or *to Parah*
* **13.4** Jer 51.63
w **13.5** Or *by Parah*
* **13.5** Ex 39.42, 43; 40.16
x **13.6** Or *to Parah*
y **13.7** Or *to Parah*

* **13.9** vv 15–17; Lev 26.19
* **13.10** Jer 9.14; 11.8; 16.12
* **13.11** Ex 19.5, 6; Jer 7.23; 32.20; 33.9
* **13.13** Isa 51.17, 21; 63.6; Jer 25.27; 51.7
* **13.14** Isa 27.11; Jer 6.21; 16.5; 19.9–11
* **13.15** Prov 16.5
* **13.16** Ps 96.8; Isa 59.9; Jer 2.6; 23.12
* **13.17** Jer 9.1; 14.17; 23.1, 2; Mal 2.2
z **13.18** Gk Syr Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **13.18** 2 Chr 33.12, 19; Isa 3.20; Ezek 24.17, 23
* **13.19** Jer 20.4; 32.44; 52.27–30
* **13.20** v 17; Jer 6.22
* **13.21** Jer 2.25; 4.31; 5.31
* **13.22** Deut 7.17; Jer 5.19; 16.10
* **13.23** Prov 27.22; Jer 4.22
a **13.24** Gk mss: Heb *them*
* **13.24** Jer 4.11; 9.16; 18.17
* **13.25** Ps 11.6; Jer 2.32; 3.21
* **13.26** Ezek 16.37; Hos 2.10
* **13.27** Jer 2.20; 4.14; 5.7, 8; 11.15; Hos 8.5

Jeremiah 14

* **14.1** Jer 17.8
* **14.2** Isa 3.26; Jer 8.21; 11.11; 46.12
b **14.3** Gk: Heb *their*
* **14.3** 2 Sam 15.30; 1 Kings 18.5; 2 Kings 18.31
* **14.4** Jer 3.3; Joel 1.11, 19, 20
c **14.6** Or *the trails*
* **14.6** Jer 2.24; Joel 1.18
* **14.7** Isa 59.12; Jer 5.6; 8.5
* **14.8** Ps 50.15; Isa 43.3; 63.8; Jer 17.13
* **14.9** Isa 50.2; 63.19; Jer 8.19; 15.16
* **14.10** Jer 2.25; 6.20; Hos 8.13
* **14.11** Ex 32.10; Jer 7.16
* **14.12** Isa 1.15; Jer 6.20; 7.21; 9.16; 11.11; 21.9
* **14.13** Jer 5.12; 6.14; 23.17
* **14.14** Jer 5.31; 23.16, 26; 27.15; Ezek 12.24
* **14.15** Jer 5.12, 13; Ezek 14.10
* **14.16** Isa 9.16; Jer 7.33; 8.1, 2; 13.22–25
* **14.17** Jer 9.1; 10.19; 30.14, 15; Lam 1.15, 16
d **14.18** Heb *look—the sicknesses of*

* **14.18** Jer 2.8; 5.5; 6.13, 25; Ezek 7.15
* **14.19** Jer 6.30; 8.15; 30.13; 1 Thess 5.3
* **14.20** Jer 3.25; 8.14
* **14.21** v 7; Jer 3.17; 17.12
* **14.22** Isa 41.4, 29; 43.10; Jer 5.24; 10.3; Lam 3.26

Jeremiah 15

* **15.1** Ex 32.11, 12; 1 Sam 7.9; 12.23; 2 Kings 17.20; Jer 7.15; 10.20; Ezek 14.14, 20
* **15.2** Jer 43.11; Ezek 5.2, 12; Zech 11.9
* **15.3** Lev 26.16; Deut 28.26; 1 Kings 21.23, 24; Jer 7.33
* **15.4** Deut 28.25; 2 Kings 21.11ff; 23.26
* **15.6** Jer 6.11, 12, 19; 7.16, 24
* **15.7** Jer 5.3; 18.21; 51.2
* **15.9** 1 Sam 2.5; Isa 47.9; Jer 6.4; 21.7; 50.12; Am 8.9
* **15.10** Deut 23.19; Job 3.1; Jer 20.14
e **15.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
f **15.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **15.11** Isa 41.10; Jer 39.11, 12; 40.4, 5
* **15.13** Ps 44.12; Isa 52.3, 5; Jer 17.3
* **15.14** Deut 32.22; Jer 16.13; 17.4
* **15.15** Ps 69.7–9; Jer 12.3; 20.12
* **15.16** Ps 119.72; Jer 14.9; Ezek 3.1–3
* **15.17** Jer 16.8; Ezek 3.24, 25
* **15.18** Jer 14.3; 30.15; Mic 1.9
* **15.19** Jer 4.1; Ezek 22.26
* **15.20** Isa 41.10; Jer 1.18, 19; 20.11
* **15.21** Jer 20.13; 31.11

Jeremiah 16

* **16.1** Jer 1.2, 4
* **16.2** 1 Cor 7.26
* **16.3** Jer 6.11, 21; 15.8
* **16.4** Ps 83.10; Jer 9.22; 15.3; 34.20
* **16.5** Jer 12.12; 13.14; Ezek 24.16–23
* **16.6** Jer 41.5; 47.5; Ezek 9.6
g **16.7** Gk: Heb *break for them*
* **16.7** Ezek 24.17; Hos 9.4
* **16.8** Jer 15.17
* **16.9** Jer 7.34; 25.10; Hos 2.11; Rev 18.23
* **16.10** Deut 29.24; 1 Kings 9.8, 9; Jer 5.19

* **16.11** Jer 22.9; Ezek 11.21; 1 Pet 4.3
* **16.12** Eccl 9.3; Jer 7.26; 13.10
* **16.13** Deut 4.26–28; 28.36; Jer 5.19; 15.4
* **16.14** Ex 20.2; Isa 43.18; Jer 23.7, 8
* **16.15** Ps 106.47; Isa 11.11–16; Jer 24.6
* **16.16** Isa 2.21; Am 4.2; Mic 7.2; Hab 1.14, 15
* **16.17** Ps 90.8; Jer 2.22; 1 Cor 4.5; Heb 4.13
h **16.18** Gk: Heb *And first*
* **16.18** Ezek 11.18, 21; Rev 18.6
* **16.19** Ps 46.1; Jer 15.11; Hab 2.18, 19
* **16.20** Isa 37.19; Jer 2.11; Gal 4.8
* **16.21** Ps 9.16; Jer 33.2; Am 5.8

Jeremiah 17

* **17.1** Job 19.24; Prov 3.3; Jer 2.22; 2 Cor 3.3
i **17.2** Or *Asherahs*
j **17.3** Cn: Heb *spoil, your high places for sin*
* **17.4** Jer 7.20; 12.7; 15.14
* **17.5** 2 Chr 32.8; Isa 30.1–3
* **17.6** Deut 29.23; Jer 48.6
* **17.7** Ps 34.8; 40.4; 84.12; Prov 16.20
* **17.8** Ps 1.3; Jer 14.1–6
* **17.9** Mk 7.21, 22; Rom 7.11; Eph 4.22
* **17.10** 1 Sam 16.7; Jer 11.20; 20.12; 32.19; Rom 2.6; 8.27
k **17.13** Heb *me*
l **17.13** Or *in the earth*
* **17.13** Ps 73.27; Isa 1.28; Jer 2.13, 17; 14.8
* **17.14** Deut 10.21; Ps 54.1; 109.1; Jer 30.17
* **17.15** Isa 5.19; Am 5.18
m **17.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **17.17** Ps 88.15; Jer 16.19
* **17.18** Ps 35.4, 8, 26; Jer 16.18
* **17.20** Jer 19.3; 22.2; Hos 5.1
* **17.21** Num 15.32–36; Deut 4.9, 15, 23; Neh 13.15–21
* **17.22** Ex 20.8; 23.12; 31.13; Ezek 20.12
* **17.23** Jer 7.24, 26; 11.10; 19.15
* **17.24** Ex 20.8–11; Deut 11.13; Ezek 20.20
n **17.25** Cn: Heb *kings and officials*
* **17.25** Isa 9.7; Jer 22.4; Lk 1.32; Heb 12.22
* **17.26** Ps 107.22; Zech 7.7
* **17.27** Isa 9.18, 19; Jer 11.16; 22.5; Am 2.5

Jeremiah 18

* **18.2** Jer 19.1, 2; 23.22
* **18.6** Isa 45.9; Mt 20.15; Rom 9.20, 21
* **18.8** Jer 26.3; Ezek 18.21; Jon 3.10
* **18.9** Jer 1.10; 31.28
* **18.10** Jer 7.24–28; Ezek 33.18
* **18.11** 2 Kings 17.13; Isa 1.16–19; Jer 4.6; Acts 26.20
* **18.12** Jer 2.25; 7.24; 16.12
* **18.13** Jer 2.10, 11; 5.30; 14.17; 23.14

o **18.14** Cn: Heb *of the field*

p **18.14** Cn: Heb *foreign*

q **18.14** Cn: Heb *Are . . . plucked up?*

r **18.15** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *they made them stumble*

* **18.15** Isa 57.14; 62.10; 65.7; Jer 6.16; 7.9
* **18.16** Jer 25.9; 48.27; 50.13
* **18.17** Job 27.21; Jer 2.27; 13.24; 46.21

s **18.18** Heb *strike him with the tongue*

* **18.18** Jer 5.13; 8.8; 11.19; 20.10; 43.2; Mal 2.7
* **18.20** Ps 35.7; 57.6; 106.23
* **18.21** Ps 109.9, 10; Isa 13.18; Jer 9.21; 11.22; 15.8; Ezek 22.25
* **18.22** Ps 140.5; Jer 6.26
* **18.23** Ps 109.14; Isa 2.9; Jer 6.15, 21; 7.20

Jeremiah 19

t **19.1** Syr Tg Compare Gk: Heb lacks *take with you*

* **19.2** Josh 15.8; Jer 7.31
* **19.3** 1 Sam 3.11; 4.18; Jer 17.20
* **19.4** Deut 28.20; 2 Kings 21.16; Isa 65.11; Jer 2.34
* **19.5** Lev 18.21; 2 Kings 17.17; Jer 32.35
* **19.6** Josh 15.8; Jer 7.32
* **19.7** Ps 79.2; Jer 15.2, 9; 16.4
* **19.8** 1 Kings 9.8; 2 Chr 7.21; Jer 18.16; 49.13
* **19.9** Deut 28.53, 55; Isa 9.20; Lam 4.10
* **19.11** Ps 2.9; Isa 30.14; Jer 7.32; Rev 2.27
* **19.13** Jer 7.18; 52.13; Ezek 20.28; Acts 7.42
* **19.14** Jer 26.2
* **19.15** Ps 58.4; Jer 7.26; 17.23

Jeremiah 20

* **20.1** 2 Kings 25.18; 1 Chr 24.14

* **20.2** Job 13.27; Jer 1.19; 37.13; 38.7
* **20.4** Job 18.11–21; Jer 21.4–10; 29.21; 52.27
* **20.5** 2 Kings 20.17; 2 Chr 36.10; Jer 3.24; 15.13; 17.3
* **20.6** v 1; Jer 14.13–15; 28.15–17; 29.21
* **20.7** Jer 1.6–8; 38.19; Mic 3.8
* **20.8** 2 Chr 36.16; Jer 6.7, 10
* **20.9** 1 Kings 19.3, 4; Job 32.18–20; Ps 39.3; Acts 4.20
* **20.10** Ps 31.13; 41.9; Lk 11.53, 54
* **20.11** Jer 1.8, 19; 15.20; 17.18; 23.40
* **20.12** Ps 54.7; 59.10; Jer 11.20; 17.10
* **20.13** Ps 35.9, 10; Jer 15.21; 31.7
* **20.14** Job 3.3; Jer 15.10
* **20.15** Gen 21.6, 7
* **20.16** Gen 19.25; Jer 18.22
* **20.17** Job 3.10, 11; 10.18, 19
* **20.18** Job 3.20; Ps 90.9; Jer 3.25

Jeremiah 21

* **21.1** 2 Kings 24.17, 18; 25.18; Jer 29.25; 37.3; 38.1
u **21.2** Heb *he*
* **21.2** Jer 37.3, 7
* **21.4** Zech 14.2
* **21.5** Isa 63.10; Jer 32.37
* **21.7** Jer 13.14; 37.17; 39.5; 52.9
* **21.8** Deut 30.15, 19
* **21.9** Jer 14.12; 38.2, 17, 18; 39.18; 45.5
* **21.10** Jer 32.28, 29; 38.18, 23; 39.16; 44.11, 27; 52.13
* **21.11** Jer 13.18; 17.20
* **21.12** Isa 7.2, 13; Jer 7.20; 22.3; Zech 7.9
* **21.13** Jer 49.4; Ezek 13.8
* **21.14** 2 Chr 36.19; Isa 3.10, 11; Jer 52.13; Ezek 20.46, 48

Jeremiah 22

* **22.1** 2 Chr 25.15, 16; Jer 21.11
* **22.2** Jer 19.3; 29.20
* **22.3** Ex 22.21–24; Ps 72.4; Jer 21.12
* **22.5** Jer 7.14; 17.27; 26.4, 6, 9; Heb 6.13
* **22.6** Jer 7.34
* **22.7** Isa 10.3–6, 33, 34; Jer 4.6, 7
* **22.8** Deut 29.24, 25; 1 Kings 9.8, 9; Jer 16.10

* **22.9** 2 Kings 22.17; 2 Chr 34.25
* **22.10** v 18; 2 Kings 22.20; Jer 16.7; 44.14
* **22.13** Mic 3.10; Hab 2.9; Jas 5.4
v **22.14** Gk Vg Syr Tg: MT *my windows*
* **22.14** 2 Sam 7.2; Isa 5.8, 9
* **22.15** 2 Kings 23.25; Jer 7.5; 42.6
* **22.16** 1 Chr 28.9; Ps 72.1–4, 12, 13; Jer 9.24
* **22.17** Jer 6.6, 13; 8.10
* **22.18** 1 Kings 13.30; Jer 34.5
* **22.19** Jer 36.30
* **22.20** Deut 32.49; Jer 2.25; 3.1
* **22.21** Jer 3.24, 25; 13.10; 19.15; 32.30
* **22.22** Isa 65.13; Jer 4.13; 20.11; 30.14
w **22.23** Gk Vg Syr: Heb *will be pitied*
* **22.24** Song 8.6; Jer 37.1; Hag 2.23
* **22.25** 2 Kings 24.15, 16; Jer 34.20
* **22.26** 2 Kings 24.8, 15; 2 Chr 36.10
* **22.29** Deut 32.1; Jer 6.19; Mic 1.2
* **22.30** 1 Chr 3.16, 17; Mt 1.12

Jeremiah 23

* **23.1** Jer 10.21; 50.6; Ezek 13.3; 34.31
* **23.3** Isa 11.11–16; Jer 32.37; Ezek 34.13–16
* **23.4** Jer 3.15; 30.10; Ezek 34.23; Jn 6.39; 10.28
* **23.5** Isa 4.2; 9.7; 11.1; 53.2; Jer 33.14–16; Zech 3.8; 6.12; Lk 1.32, 33
* **23.6** Deut 33.28; Isa 7.14; 9.6; Jer 33.16; Zech 14.11; Mt 1.21–23; Rom 3.22; 1 Cor 1.30
* **23.7** Isa 43.18, 19; Jer 16.14, 15
x **23.8** Gk: Heb *I*
* **23.9** Jer 20.8, 9; Hab 3.16
* **23.10** Jer 5.7, 8; 9.10; 12.4; Hos 4.2, 3
* **23.11** Jer 6.13; 7.10, 11; 8.10; 32.34
* **23.12** Ps 35.6; Jer 11.23; Jn 12.35
* **23.13** Jer 2.8; Hos 9.7, 8
* **23.14** Isa 1.9, 10; Jer 5.30; 20.16; 29.23; Ezek 13.22
* **23.15** Jer 8.14; 9.15
* **23.16** Jer 9.20; 14.14; 27.9, 10, 14; Mt 7.15
y **23.17** Gk Syr: Heb *despise me, the* LORD *has spoken*
* **23.17** Jer 5.12; 8.11; 13.10; 18.12; Mic 3.11
* **23.18** Job 15.8; 33.31
* **23.19** Jer 25.32; 30.23
* **23.20** Gen 49.1; Jer 30.24

* **23.21** Jer 14.14; 27.15; 29.9
* **23.22** Jer 9.12; 35.15; 1 Thess 1.9, 10
* **23.23** Ps 139.1–10
* **23.24** 1 Kings 8.27; Ps 139.7–12; Isa 29.15; Am 9.2
* **23.25** Jer 8.6; 14.14; 29.8
* **23.27** Judg 3.7; 8.33, 34
* **23.28** Jer 9.12, 20
* **23.29** Jer 5.14; 20.9; 2 Cor 10.4, 5
* **23.30** Ezek 13.8

z **23.33** Heb ms Gk Syr: MT *What burden?*

* **23.33** v 39; Isa 13.1; Hab 1.1; Mal 1.1
* **23.34** Lam 2.14; Zech 13.3
* **23.35** Jer 33.3; 42.4
* **23.36** Jer 10.10

a **23.39** Heb mss Gk Vg: MT *forget you*

* **23.39** Jer 7.14, 15; Ezek 8.18
* **23.40** Jer 20.11

Jeremiah 24

* **24.1** 2 Kings 24.10–16; 2 Chr 36.10; Jer 22.24; 29.2; Am 8.1
* **24.2** Jer 27.17; Nah 3.12
* **24.3** Jer 1.11, 13
* **24.6** Jer 29.10; 33.7; 42.10; Ezek 11.17
* **24.7** Jer 29.13; 31.33; 32.40; Zech 8.8; Heb 8.10
* **24.8** Jer 29.17; 39.5, 9; 44.26–30
* **24.9** 1 Kings 9.7; Ps 44.13, 14; Isa 65.15; Jer 15.4; 29.18; 34.17
* **24.10** Isa 51.19; Jer 21.9; 27.8

Jeremiah 25

* **25.1** 2 Kings 24.1, 2; Jer 36.1
* **25.3** 2 Chr 34.1–3, 8; Jer 1.2; 7.13; 22.21; 36.2
* **25.4** Jer 7.13, 25; 26.5
* **25.5** Isa 55.6, 7; Jer 4.1; 7.7
* **25.7** Deut 32.21; 2 Kings 17.17; 21.15; Jer 7.19

b **25.9** Gk Compare Syr: Heb *and everlasting desolations*

* **25.9** Jer 1.15; 18.16; 27.6
* **25.10** Eccl 12.4; Isa 24.7; 47.2; Ezek 26.13
* **25.12** Ezra 1.1; Isa 13.14, 19; 14.23; Jer 29.10
* **25.14** Jer 50.9, 41; 51.6, 24, 27, 28
* **25.15** Ps 75.8; Isa 51.17
* **25.16** Jer 51.7; Nah 3.11
* **25.18** Isa 51.17; Jer 24.9; 44.22

c **25.20** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **25.20** Job 1.1; Isa 20.1; Jer 47.1–7
* **25.21** Jer 48.1–47; 49.1–22
* **25.22** Jer 47.4; 49.23
* **25.23** Jer 9.26; 49.7, 8, 32

d **25.24** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **25.24** 2 Chr 9.14

e **25.26** That is, Babylon

* **25.26** Jer 50.9
* **25.27** Ezek 21.4, 5; Hab 2.16
* **25.29** v 31; 1 Kings 8.43; Ezek 9.6; 1 Pet 4.17
* **25.30** Isa 16.9; 42.13; Joel 3.16; Am 1.2
* **25.31** Hos 4.1; Joel 3.2; Mic 6.2
* **25.33** Ps 79.3; Isa 5.25; 66.16; Jer 16.4

f **25.34** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **25.34** Isa 34.7; Jer 6.26; 50.27; Ezek 27.30

Jeremiah 26

* **26.1** 2 Kings 23.36; 2 Chr 36.4, 5; Jer 7.1, 2
* **26.2** Deut 4.2; Jer 1.17; 19.14; Lk 19.47, 48; Acts 20.20, 27
* **26.3** Jer 18.8; 36.3–7
* **26.4** Lev 26.14; Deut 28.15; Jer 17.27; 32.23; 44.10, 23
* **26.5** 2 Kings 9.7; Jer 25.3, 4
* **26.6** 1 Sam 4.10, 11; Isa 65.15; Jer 24.9
* **26.8** Jer 11.19; 18.23; 20.1, 2

* **26.9** Jer 9.11; 33.10
* **26.10** Jer 36.10
* **26.11** Deut 18.20; Jer 18.23; 38.4; Mt 26.66; Acts 6.11–14
* **26.12** Jer 1.17, 18
* **26.13** Jer 7.3, 5; 18.11; Joel 2.14; Jon 3.9; 4.2
* **26.15** Prov 6.16, 17; Jer 7.6
* **26.18** Ps 79.1; Mic 1.1; 3.12; Zech 8.3
* **26.19** 2 Sam 24.16; 2 Chr 29.6–11; 32.26; Acts 5.39
* **26.20** Josh 9.17; 1 Sam 6.21; 7.2
* **26.21** 1 Kings 19.2–4; Mt 10.23, 28
g **26.22** Heb adds *men to Egypt*
* **26.22** Jer 36.12
* **26.24** 2 Kings 22.12–14; Jer 39.14

Jeremiah 27

h **27.1** Heb mss Syr: MT *Jehoiakim*
* **27.1** Jer 26.1
* **27.2** Jer 28.10, 13
* **27.3** Jer 25.21, 22
* **27.5** Ps 115.15, 16; Jer 10.12; 51.15; Acts 17.26
* **27.6** Jer 25.9; 28.14; Ezek 29.18–20
* **27.7** Isa 14.4–6; Jer 25.12; 44.30; 46.13
* **27.8** Jer 29.17, 18; 38.17–19; Ezek 14.21; 17.19–21
i **27.9** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *dreams*
* **27.9** Ex 22.18; Deut 18.10; Isa 8.19; Mal 3.5
* **27.10** Jer 8.19; 23.25; 32.31
* **27.11** Jer 21.9
* **27.12** Jer 28.1
* **27.13** Ezek 18.31
* **27.14** Jer 14.14; Ezek 13.22
* **27.15** Jer 6.13–15; 14.15, 16; 23.21, 25
* **27.16** v 10; 2 Chr 36.7, 10; Jer 28.3; Dan 1.2
* **27.18** 1 Sam 7.8; 12.19, 23
* **27.19** 2 Kings 25.13, 17; Jer 52.17–23
* **27.20** 2 Kings 24.14–16; Jer 24.1
* **27.22** 2 Kings 25.13; 2 Chr 36.18; Ezra 1.7; 7.19; Jer 29.10; 32.5

Jeremiah 28

* **28.1** Josh 9.3; Jer 27.1, 3, 12
* **28.2** Jer 27.12

* **28.3** 2 Kings 24.13; 2 Chr 36.10
* **28.4** Jer 22.24, 26, 27; 27.8
* **28.6** 1 Kings 1.36; Jer 11.5
* **28.7** 1 Kings 22.28
* **28.8** 1 Kings 14.15; Isa 5.5–7; Joel 1.20; Am 1.2; Nah 1.2
* **28.9** Deut 18.22
* **28.10** Jer 27.2
* **28.11** Jer 14.14; 27.10
* **28.12** Jer 1.2
* **28.13** Ps 107.16; Isa 45.2
* **28.14** Deut 28.48; Jer 25.11; 27.6–8
* **28.15** Jer 29.31; Ezek 13.22
* **28.16** Deut 6.15; 13.5; Jer 29.32

Jeremiah 29

* **29.2** 2 Kings 24.12–16; Jer 22.24–28; 24.1; 28.4
* **29.4** Isa 10.5, 6; Jer 24.5
* **29.6** Jer 16.2–4
* **29.7** Ezra 6.10; Dan 4.19; 1 Tim 2.2
* **29.8** Jer 14.14; 23.21, 25, 27; 27.9
* **29.9** v 31; Jer 27.15
* **29.10** 2 Chr 36.21, 22; Jer 25.12; 27.22; Dan 9.2
* **29.11** Isa 40.9–11; Jer 30.18–22; 31.17
* **29.12** Ps 50.15; 145.19; Jer 33.3
* **29.13** 1 Chr 22.19; 2 Chr 22.9; Jer 24.7
* **29.14** Deut 30.1–10; Isa 43.5, 6; Jer 3.14; 30.3
* **29.16** Jer 38.2, 3, 17–23
* **29.17** Jer 24.3, 8–10; 27.8; 32.24
* **29.18** Isa 65.15; Jer 25.9; 42.18
* **29.19** Jer 6.19; 25.4; 26.5
* **29.20** Jer 24.5
* **29.22** Isa 65.15; Dan 3.6
* **29.23** 2 Sam 13.12; Prov 5.21; Jer 16.17
* **29.25** vv 1, 29; 2 Kings 25.18; Jer 21.1
* **29.26** 2 Kings 9.11; Jer 20.1, 2; Acts 26.24
* **29.31** vv 20, 24; Jer 14.14, 15; 28.15

j **29.32** Gk: Heb *and he shall not see*

* **29.32** Jer 17.6; 22.30; 28.16; 36.31

Jeremiah 30

* **30.2** Jer 25.13; Hab 2.2
* **30.3** Ps 53.6; Jer 16.15; 29.10; Ezek 20.42; Zeph 3.20
* **30.5** Isa 5.30; Am 5.16–18
* **30.6** Jer 4.31; 6.24
* **30.7** v 10; Isa 2.12; Jer 2.27, 28; Lam 1.12; Joel 2.11
* **30.8** Isa 9.4; Jer 27.2; Ezek 34.27
* **30.9** Isa 55.3, 4; Ezek 34.23; 37.24; Hos 3.5; Lk 1.69; Acts 2.30; 13.23
* **30.10** Isa 43.5; 44.2; 60.4; Jer 33.16; 46.27, 28; Mic 4.4
* **30.11** Jer 4.27; 10.24; 46.28
* **30.12** v 15; Jer 15.18
* **30.13** Jer 14.19; 46.11
* **30.14** Jer 5.6; 32.30–35; Lam 1.2; 2.4, 5
* **30.16** Isa 33.1; 41.11; Jer 10.25; 50.10
* **30.17** Jer 8.22; 33.24
* **30.18** Ps 102.13; Jer 31.4, 23, 38–40
* **30.19** Isa 35.10; Jer 31.4, 12, 13; 33.10, 11, 22
* **30.21** Num 16.5; Jer 50.44
* **30.22** Jer 32.38; Ezek 11.20; 36.28; Zech 13.9
k **30.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **30.23** Jer 23.19, 20; 25.32
* **30.24** Jer 4.8; 23.20

Jeremiah 31

* **31.1** Isa 41.10; Jer 30.22, 24; Rom 11.26–28
* **31.2** Num 14.20; Josh 1.13; Isa 63.14
l **31.3** Gk: Heb *me*
m **31.3** Or *to him long ago*
* **31.3** Deut 7.8; Ps 25.6; Hos 11.4
* **31.4** Jer 30.19
* **31.5** Isa 65.21; Jer 50.19
* **31.6** Isa 2.3; Mic 4.2
* **31.7** Deut 28.13; Ps 14.7; 28.9; Isa 37.31; 61.9
* **31.8** Isa 40.11; 42.16; 43.6; Jer 3.18; 23.8; Ezek 20.34, 41
n **31.9** Gk: Heb *supplications*
* **31.9** Isa 43.19; 49.10, 11; 64.8; Jer 3.4, 19
* **31.10** Isa 40.11; 66.19; Jer 50.19
* **31.11** Isa 44.23; 48.20; 49.24, 25; Jer 50.34
* **31.12** Isa 35.10; 58.11; 65.19; Ezek 17.23; Hos 3.5; Rev 21.4
o **31.13** Cn: Heb *old together*
* **31.13** Ps 30.11; Isa 51.11; 61.3; Zech 8.4, 5
* **31.14** v 25; Jer 50.19

* **31.15** Gen 37.35; Ps 77.2; Jer 10.20; Mt 2.17, 18
* **31.16** vv 4, 5; Isa 25.8; 30.19; Jer 30.3; Ezek 11.17; Heb 6.10
* **31.17** Jer 29.11
* **31.18** Job 5.17; Ps 80.3, 7, 19; 94.12; Jer 17.14; Hos 4.16; Acts 3.26
* **31.19** Ps 25.7; Jer 3.25; 22.21; Ezek 21.12; 36.31; Zech 12.10
* **31.20** Gen 43.30; Isa 55.7; 63.15; Hos 11.8; 14.4
* **31.21** v 4; Isa 48.20; Jer 6.16; 50.5
p **31.22** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **31.23** Isa 1.26; Jer 30.18; 32.44; 50.7; Zech 8.3
* **31.24** Jer 33.12, 13
* **31.25** Mt 5.6
* **31.27** Ezek 36.9–11; Hos 2.23
* **31.28** Jer 1.10; 44.27
* **31.29** Ezek 18.2
* **31.30** Deut 24.16; Ezek 18.4, 20; Gal 6.5, 7
* **31.31** Jer 32.40; Ezek 37.26; Heb 8.8–12
* **31.32** Ex 19.5; 24.6–8; Deut 1.31; Jer 3.14; 11.7, 8
* **31.33** Jer 24.7; 32.38, 40
* **31.34** Isa 54.13; Mic 7.18; Jn 6.45; Rom 11.27; 1 Thess 4.9
* **31.35** Gen 1.16; Ps 19.1–6; Jer 10.16
* **31.36** Isa 54.9, 10; Jer 33.20; Am 9.8, 9
* **31.37** Jer 33.22–26
* **31.38** 2 Kings 14.13; Neh 3.1; Zech 14.10
* **31.40** 2 Sam 15.23; 2 Kings 23.6; Jer 7.32; Joel 3.17

Jeremiah 32

* **32.2** Neh 3.25; Jer 37.21; 39.14
* **32.3** 2 Kings 6.31, 32; Jer 26.8, 9; 34.2, 3
* **32.4** Jer 38.18, 23; 39.5
* **32.5** Jer 21.4; 27.22; 34.4, 5; 39.7
* **32.7** Lev 25.25; Ruth 4.4; Jer 1.1
* **32.9** Gen 23.16; 24.22; Ex 21.32
* **32.10** Ruth 4.1, 9
* **32.11** Lk 2.27
q **32.12** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *my uncle*
* **32.12** Jer 36.4; 51.59
* **32.15** Jer 33.12, 13; Zech 3.10
* **32.17** 2 Kings 19.15; Isa 40.26–28; Jer 1.6; 4.10
r **32.18** Or *to thousands*
* **32.18** Ex 34.7; Jer 10.16; 20.11
* **32.19** Isa 28.29; Jer 16.17; 17.10

* **32.20** Ex 9.16; Dan 9.15
* **32.21** Ex 6.6; 1 Chr 17.21
* **32.22** Ex 3.8, 17; Jer 11.5
* **32.23** Neh 9.26; Jer 2.7; 11.8; 26.4; 44.10; Dan 9.10–14
* **32.24** Deut 4.26; Jer 33.4; Ezek 14.21; Zech 1.6
* **32.27** Num 16.22
* **32.28** Jer 34.2, 3
* **32.29** Jer 19.13; 21.10; 37.8, 10; 52.13
* **32.30** Jer 2.7; 22.21; 25.7
* **32.31** 2 Kings 23.27; 24.3
* **32.32** Isa 1.4–6; Dan 9.8
* **32.33** Jer 2.27; 35.15; Ezek 8.16
* **32.34** Jer 7.30, 31; Ezek 8.5, 6
* **32.35** Lev 18.21; 1 Kings 11.33; Jer 7.31; 19.5
* **32.37** Deut 30.3; Jer 23.3, 6; Zech 14.11
* **32.39** Jer 24.7; Ezek 11.19, 20; 37.25
* **32.41** Deut 30.9; Am 9.15; Zeph 3.17
* **32.42** Jer 31.28; 33.14; Zech 8.14, 15
* **32.44** Jer 17.26; 33.7, 11, 26

Jeremiah 33

* **33.1** Jer 32.2, 3
* **33.2** Ex 15.3; Jer 10.16; 51.19
* **33.3** Ps 50.15; Isa 48.6; Jer 29.12; 32.17, 27
s **33.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **33.4** Jer 32.13, 14, 24
* **33.5** Isa 8.17; Jer 21.10
t **33.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **33.6** Isa 66.12; Gal 5.22, 23
* **33.7** Jer 32.44; Am 9.14, 15
* **33.8** Mic 7.18; Zech 13.1; Heb 9.13, 14
u **33.9** Heb *And it*
* **33.9** Isa 60.5; 62.7; Jer 13.11
* **33.11** Lev 7.12; 1 Chr 16.8, 34; 2 Chr 5.13; Isa 35.10; 51.3, 11
* **33.12** Isa 65.10; Ezek 34.12–14
* **33.13** Lev 27.32; Jer 17.26; Lk 15.4
* **33.14** Jer 23.5; Ezek 34.23–25
* **33.15** Ps 72.1–5; Isa 4.2; 11.1; Zech 3.8
* **33.16** Isa 45.24, 25; Jer 23.6; Phil 3.9
* **33.17** 2 Sam 7.16; 1 Kings 2.4; Lk 1.32, 33
* **33.18** Deut 18.1; 24.8; Heb 13.15

* **33.20** Ps 89.37; Isa 54.9; Jer 31.36
* **33.21** Ps 89.34
* **33.22** Gen 15.5; 22.17; Jer 30.19
* **33.24** Neh 4.2–4; Ezek 36.2
* **33.25** Ps 74.16, 17; Jer 31.35, 36
* **33.26** Isa 14.1; Jer 31.37; Hos 1.7; 2.23

Jeremiah 34

* **34.1** 2 Kings 25.1ff; Jer 1.15; 39.1; Dan 2.37, 38
* **34.2** Jer 22.1, 2; 32.29; 37.1–4
v **34.5** Heb *as there was burning*
w **34.5** Heb *shall burn*
* **34.5** 2 Chr 16.14; 21.19; Jer 22.18
* **34.7** 2 Kings 18.13; 19.8; 2 Chr 11.9
* **34.8** Ex 21.2; Lev 25.10; Neh 5.11
* **34.9** Lev 25.39–46
* **34.13** Ex 24.3, 7, 8; Deut 15.22
* **34.14** Ex 21.2; 23.10; Deut 15.12; 1 Sam 8.7, 8; 2 Kings 17.13, 14
* **34.15** 2 Kings 23.3; Neh 10.29; Jer 7.10, 11; 32.34
* **34.16** Ex 20.7; Lev 19.12
* **34.17** Deut 28.25, 64; Mt 7.2; Gal 6.7
x **34.18** Cn: Heb lacks *like*
* **34.18** Gen 15.10, 17; Deut 17.2; Hos 6.7
* **34.20** Jer 7.33; 11.21; 19.7
* **34.21** Jer 37.5, 11
* **34.22** Jer 4.7; 33.10; 37.8, 10; 44.22

Jeremiah 35

* **35.1** 2 Kings 24.1; Jer 1.3; 27.20
* **35.2** 1 Kings 6.5; 2 Kings 10.15; 1 Chr 2.55
* **35.4** Deut 33.1; 1 Kings 12.22; 2 Kings 12.9; 25.18; 1 Chr 9.18, 19
* **35.5** Am 2.12
* **35.6** Lev 10.9; 2 Kings 10.15; 1 Chr 2.55; Lk 1.15
* **35.7** Gen 25.27; Ex 20.12; Eph 6.2, 3; Heb 11.9
* **35.8** Prov 1.8, 9; Eph 6.1; Col 3.20
* **35.11** 2 Kings 24.1, 2; Jer 4.5–7; 8.14
* **35.13** Isa 28.9–12; Jer 32.33
* **35.14** 2 Chr 36.15; Isa 30.9; 50.2; Jer 7.13; 25.3
* **35.15** Isa 1.16, 17; Jer 4.1; 7.6; 13.10; 18.11; 22.4; 26.5; 32.33; 34.14
* **35.16** v 14

* **35.17** Prov 1.24; Isa 65.12; 66.4; Jer 7.13; 19.3, 15; Mic 3.12
* **35.19** Jer 15.19; 33.17

Jeremiah 36

* **36.1** 2 Kings 24.1; Jer 25.1, 3
* **36.2** vv 6, 23, 28; Jer 1.9, 10; 25.3, 9–29; Zech 5.1
* **36.3** v 7; Isa 55.7; Jer 18.8; 26.3; Jon 3.8; Mk 4.12; Acts 3.19
* **36.4** vv 14, 18; Jer 32.12; Ezek 2.9
* **36.5** Jer 32.2; 33.1
* **36.7** 2 Kings 22.13; Jer 4.4; 21.5
* **36.9** v 6; Esth 4.16; Jon 3.5
* **36.10** Jer 26.10
* **36.11** v 13
* **36.12** vv 20, 25; Jer 26.22
* **36.13** 2 Kings 22.10
* **36.14** v 21
* **36.15** v 21
* **36.16** v 24; Jer 13.18; Am 7.10, 11; Acts 24.25
* **36.19** v 26; Jer 26.20–24
* **36.21** v 14; 2 Chr 34.18
* **36.22** Am 3.15
* **36.24** 2 Kings 19.1, 2; 22.11; Isa 36.22; 37.1
* **36.25** Acts 5.34–39
* **36.26** 1 Kings 19.1ff; Jer 15.20, 21
* **36.27** vv 4, 18, 23
* **36.28** Jer 28.13, 14
* **36.29** Job 15.24, 25; Isa 30.10; 45.9; Jer 25.9–11; 26.9; 32.3
* **36.30** 2 Kings 24.12–15; Jer 22.19, 30
* **36.31** Deut 28.15; Jer 19.15; 23.34

Jeremiah 37

* **37.1** 2 Kings 24.17; 2 Chr 36.10; Jer 22.24; Ezek 17.12–21
* **37.2** 2 Chr 36.12, 14
* **37.3** 1 Kings 13.6; Jer 21.1, 2; 29.25; 52.24; Acts 8.24
* **37.5** 2 Kings 24.7; Jer 34.21; Ezek 17.15
* **37.7** Isa 30.1–3; 31.1–3; Jer 21.1; Ezek 17.17
* **37.8** Jer 34.22
* **37.9** Jer 29.8
* **37.10** Jer 21.4, 5; Joel 2.11

y **37.12** Or *to slip away*

* **37.13** Jer 18.18; 20.10; 38.7; Zech 14.10; Lk 23.2; Acts 24.5–9, 13
* **37.15** 2 Chr 16.10; 18.26; Jer 18.23
* **37.16** Jer 38.6
* **37.17** Jer 38.5, 14–16, 24–27
* **37.18** Dan 6.22; Jn 10.32; Acts 25.8, 11, 25
* **37.19** Jer 2.28; 6.14; 29.31
* **37.21** Isa 33.16; Jer 32.2; 38.9, 13, 28; 39.14, 15; 52.6

Jeremiah 38

* **38.1** Jer 21.1, 8; 37.3
* **38.2** Jer 21.9; 42.17; 45.5
* **38.3** Jer 21.10; 32.3
* **38.4** 1 Kings 18.17, 18; Jer 18.23; 26.11; 29.7; Am 7.10; Acts 16.20
* **38.5** 2 Sam 3.39
* **38.6** Jer 37.21; Zech 9.11; Acts 16.24
* **38.7** Jer 37.13; 39.16; Am 5.10
* **38.9** Jer 37.21; 52.6

z **38.10** Cn: Heb *thirty*

a **38.11** Cn: Heb *to under*

* **38.13** Jer 37.21; 39.14, 15
* **38.14** Jer 15.11; 21.1, 2; 37.17; 42.2–5, 20
* **38.15** Lk 22.67, 68
* **38.16** vv 4–6; Isa 57.16; Jer 37.17; Zech 12.1
* **38.17** 2 Kings 24.12; 1 Chr 17.24; Ps 80.7, 14; Ezek 8.4
* **38.18** Jer 27.8; 32.4; 34.3
* **38.19** 2 Chr 30.10; Neh 4.1; Isa 51.12, 13; Jer 39.9; Jn 12.42; 19.12, 13
* **38.20** Isa 55.3; Jer 7.23; 11.4, 8
* **38.22** Jer 6.12; 8.10; 43.6
* **38.23** Jer 39.6; 41.10
* **38.25** vv 4–6, 27
* **38.26** Jer 37.15, 20
* **38.27** 1 Sam 10.15, 16; 16.2–5
* **38.28** Jer 37.21; 39.14

Jeremiah 39

b **39.1** In Heb, this clause appears at the end of 38.28

* **39.1** 2 Kings 25.1–4; Jer 52.4–7; Ezek 24.1, 2
* **39.2** 2 Kings 25.4; Jer 52.7
* **39.3** Jer 38.17
* **39.4** 2 Kings 25.4; 2 Chr 32.5; Jer 52.7; Am 2.14

* **39.5** Josh 4.13; 2 Kings 23.33; Jer 32.4; 38.18, 23
* **39.6** 2 Kings 25.7; Jer 34.19–21
* **39.7** 2 Kings 25.7; Jer 32.5; 52.11; Ezek 12.13
* **39.8** 2 Kings 25.9, 10; Jer 38.18; 52.13
* **39.9** 2 Kings 25.11, 20; Jer 24.8; 38.19; 52.12–16
* **39.10** 2 Kings 25.12; Jer 52.16
* **39.11** Jer 1.8; 15.20, 21; Acts 24.23
* **39.14** 2 Kings 22.12, 14; Jer 38.28; 40.1–6
* **39.16** Jer 21.10; 38.7, 12; Dan 9.12; Zech 1.6
* **39.17** Ps 41.1, 2; 50.15
* **39.18** Ps 34.22; Jer 17.7, 8; 21.9; 45.5

Jeremiah 40

* **40.1** Jer 31.15; 39.9, 11, 14; Eph 6.20
* **40.2** Jer 22.8, 9; 50.7
* **40.3** Deut 29.24, 25; Dan 9.11
* **40.4** Gen 20.15; Jer 39.11, 12
c **40.5** Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **40.5** v 4; 2 Kings 25.23; Jer 39.14
* **40.6** Judg 20.1; Jer 39.14
* **40.7** 2 Kings 25.23, 24; Jer 39.10; 52.16
d **40.8** Gk: Heb *Johanan, Jonathan*
* **40.8** Jer 41.1
* **40.10** vv 6, 12; Jer 35.19; 48.32
* **40.11** 1 Sam 11.1; 12.12; Isa 11.14; 16.4
* **40.12** v 10; Jer 43.5
* **40.13** v 8
* **40.14** Jer 41.10
* **40.15** 1 Sam 26.8; 2 Sam 21.17; Jer 42.2
* **40.16** Mt 10.16

Jeremiah 41

* **41.1** 2 Kings 25.25; Jer 40.6, 8, 14
* **41.2** 2 Kings 25.25; Jer 40.5
* **41.5** Gen 33.18; Josh 18.1; 1 Kings 16.24, 29; 2 Kings 25.9; Jer 16.6
* **41.6** Jer 50.4
e **41.7** Syr: Heb lacks *and threw them*
* **41.7** Isa 59.7; Ezek 22.27
* **41.9** 1 Kings 15.22; 2 Chr 16.6
* **41.10** Jer 40.7, 11, 12, 14; 43.6

* **41.11** Jer 40.7, 8, 13–16
* **41.12** 2 Sam 2.13
* **41.13** vv 10, 14
* **41.15** v 2
f **41.16** Heb *he*
g **41.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **41.16** Jer 42.8; 43.4–7
* **41.17** 2 Sam 19.37, 38; Jer 42.14
* **41.18** Jer 40.5; 42.11, 16; Lk 12.4, 5

Jeremiah 42

* **42.1** Jer 40.8, 13; 41.11
* **42.2** 1 Kings 13.6; Jer 36.7; 37.20; Acts 8.24
* **42.3** Ps 86.11; Mic 4.2
* **42.4** 1 Sam 3.17, 18; 12.23; 1 Kings 22.14; Ps 40.10; Jer 23.28
* **42.6** Deut 6.3; Jer 7.23
* **42.10** Jer 24.6; 31.28; Ezek 36.36
* **42.11** Isa 43.5; Jer 41.18; Rom 8.31
* **42.13** Jer 44.16
* **42.14** Jer 4.19, 21; 41.17
* **42.15** Jer 44.12–14
* **42.17** Jer 44.13, 14, 28
* **42.18** Isa 65.15; Jer 7.20; 29.18; 33.5
* **42.19** Deut 17.16; Neh 9.26, 29, 30; Isa 30.1–7
* **42.21** Jer 43.1, 4; Ezek 2.7
* **42.22** Jer 43.11; Hos 9.6

Jeremiah 43

* **43.1** Jer 26.8; 42.10–18; 51.63
* **43.2** 2 Chr 36.13; Jer 42.1
* **43.3** Jer 38.4
* **43.4** Jer 42.5, 6, 10–12
* **43.6** Jer 39.10; 40.7; 41.10
* **43.8** Jer 2.16; 44.1; 46.14
h **43.9** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **43.10** Jer 25.9, 11; 27.5, 6; 31.20
* **43.11** Isa 19.1–25; Jer 15.2; 44.13; 46.13; Ezek 29.19, 20
* **43.12** Isa 19.1; Jer 46.25; Ezek 30.13

Jeremiah 44

* **44.1** Isa 19.13; Jer 43.7; 46.14
* **44.2** Jer 9.11; 34.22; Mic 3.12
* **44.3** Deut 13.6; 32.17; Isa 3.8; Jer 19.4; Ezek 8.17, 18; Dan 9.5
* **44.4** 2 Chr 36.15; Jer 7.25; 25.4; 26.5; Ezek 8.10
* **44.6** Jer 42.18
* **44.7** Jer 9.21; 26.19; 51.22; Ezek 33.11
* **44.8** 2 Kings 17.15–17; Jer 25.6, 7; 42.18

i **44.9** Heb *his*

* **44.9** Jer 7.9, 10, 17, 18
* **44.10** Jer 6.15; 8.12; 26.4; 32.23
* **44.11** Lev 26.17; Jer 21.10; Am 9.4
* **44.12** Jer 42.15–18, 22
* **44.14** v 28; Isa 4.2; 10.20; Jer 22.26, 27
* **44.15** Jer 5.1–5
* **44.16** Jer 8.6, 12; 13.10
* **44.17** 2 Kings 17.16; Jer 7.18; Hos 2.5–9
* **44.18** Jer 40.12

j **44.19** Gk: Heb lacks *And the women said*

* **44.19** Num 30.6, 7; Jer 7.18
* **44.21** Isa 64.9; Ezek 8.10, 11; 16.24
* **44.22** Isa 7.13; Jer 4.4; 21.12; 25.11, 18, 38
* **44.23** vv 2, 10; Jer 40.3; Dan 9.11, 12
* **44.24** v 15; Jer 42.15; 43.7
* **44.25** Mt 14.9; Acts 23.12
* **44.26** Gen 22.16; Am 6.8; Heb 6.13, 18
* **44.27** Jer 1.10; 31.28; Ezek 7.6
* **44.28** vv 17, 25, 26; Isa 27.13
* **44.29** Prov 19.21; Isa 7.11, 14; 8.18; 40.8
* **44.30** 2 Kings 25.4–7; Jer 46.25, 26; Ezek 29.3

Jeremiah 45

* **45.1** Jer 36.1, 4, 18, 32
* **45.3** Ps 6.6; 2 Cor 4.1, 16
* **45.4** Isa 5.5; Jer 11.17; 18.7–10
* **45.5** 1 Kings 3.9, 11; Jer 21.9; 25.31; 38.2; 39.18; Mt 6.25, 32, 33; Rom 12.16

Jeremiah 46

* **46.2** 2 Kings 23.29; 2 Chr 35.20; Jer 45.1
* **46.3** Jer 51.11, 12; Nah 2.1; 3.14
* **46.5** Isa 42.17; Jer 6.25; 49.29; Ezek 39.18

* **46.6** Isa 30.16; Dan 11.19
* **46.7** Jer 47.2
* **46.8** Isa 10.13; 37.24
k **46.9** Cn: Heb *who grasp, who draw*
* **46.9** Isa 66.19; Jer 47.3; Nah 2.4; 3.9
* **46.10** Isa 13.6; 34.6; Jer 50.15, 28; Joel 1.15; 2.1; Zeph 1.7
* **46.11** Isa 47.1; Jer 8.22; 30.13; 31.4, 21; 51.8; Ezek 30.21
* **46.12** Jer 2.36; 14.2; Nah 3.8–10
* **46.13** Isa 19.1; Jer 43.10, 11
* **46.14** Jer 43.8; 44.1; Nah 2.13
l **46.15** Gk: Heb *mighty ones*
m **46.16** Gk: Heb *the stumblers multiplied*
* **46.16** Lev 26.36, 37; Jer 50.16; 51.9
* **46.17** Isa 19.11–16
* **46.18** 1 Kings 18.42; Ps 89.12; Jer 48.15
* **46.19** v 4; Isa 20.4; Jer 48.18; Ezek 30.13
* **46.20** v 24; Jer 50.11
* **46.21** v 5; Ps 37.13; Jer 50.27
* **46.22** Isa 29.4
* **46.23** Judg 6.5; Isa 10.34; Jer 21.14; Joel 2.25
* **46.24** v 19; Jer 1.15
* **46.25** Isa 20.5; Jer 43.12; 44.30; Ezek 30.13–16
* **46.26** Jer 44.30; Ezek 29.11–14; 32.11
* **46.27** Isa 41.13; 43.5; Jer 23.3, 4, 6; 30.10, 11; 50.19
* **46.28** Isa 8.9, 10; Jer 1.19; 4.27; 10.24; 30.11; Am 9.8, 9

Jeremiah 47

* **47.1** Ex 25.17, 20; Am 1.6; Zeph 2.4
* **47.2** Isa 8.7; 14.31; 15.2–5; Jer 46.12, 20, 24
* **47.3** Jer 8.16; Nah 3.2
* **47.4** Gen 10.14; Isa 14.31; 23.5, 6, 11; Joel 3.4; Zech 9.2–4
n **47.5** Gk: Heb *their valley*
* **47.5** Jer 16.6; 25.20; 41.5; Mic 1.16
* **47.6** Jer 4.21; 12.12
o **47.7** Gk Vg: Heb *you*
* **47.7** Ezek 14.17; Mic 6.9

Jeremiah 48

* **48.1** vv 22, 23; Num 32.37; Isa 15.2
p **48.2** The place name *Madmen* sounds like the Hebrew verb *to be silent*

* **48.2** Isa 15.4; 16.14; Jer 49.3
* **48.3** vv 5, 34; Isa 15.5
q **48.5** Syr Tg: Heb *he goes*
* **48.5** Isa 15.5
r **48.6** Gk: Heb *like Aroer*
* **48.6** Jer 17.6; 51.6
s **48.7** Gk: Heb *works*
* **48.7** Num 21.29; 1 Kings 11.33; Jer 9.23; 49.3
* **48.8** Jer 6.26
* **48.9** Isa 16.2; Jer 44.22
* **48.10** 1 Sam 15.3, 9; 1 Kings 20.42; Jer 11.3; 47.6, 7
t **48.11** Heb lacks *like wine*
* **48.11** Jer 22.21; Nah 2.2; Zeph 1.12; Zech 1.15
* **48.13** v 39; 1 Kings 12.29; Isa 45.16; Hos 10.6
* **48.14** Isa 10.13–16
* **48.15** Jer 46.18; 50.27
* **48.16** Isa 13.22
* **48.17** Isa 14.5; Jer 9.17–20
* **48.18** v 8; Isa 47.1; Jer 46.19
* **48.19** Deut 2.36; 1 Sam 4.13, 16
* **48.20** Num 21.13; Isa 16.7
* **48.24** Am 2.2
* **48.25** Ps 75.10; Ezek 30.21
* **48.26** Jer 25.15, 27
* **48.27** Jer 2.26; 18.16; Zeph 2.8
* **48.28** Ps 55.6, 7; Song 2.14; Jer 49.16
* **48.29** Ps 138.6; Isa 16.6; Zeph 2.8
* **48.30** Isa 16.6; 37.28
* **48.31** Isa 15.5; 16.7, 11
u **48.32** Heb mss: MT *the sea of Jazer*
* **48.32** Num 21.32; Isa 16.8, 9
* **48.33** Isa 5.10; 16.10; Joel 1.12; Hag 2.16
* **48.34** Isa 15.4–6
* **48.35** Isa 15.2; 16.12; Jer 7.9; 11.13
* **48.36** Isa 15.7; 16.11
* **48.37** Isa 15.2, 3; Jer 47.5
* **48.38** Jer 22.28; 25.34
* **48.39** Ezek 26.16
* **48.40** Isa 8.8; Jer 49.22; Dan 7.4; Hos 8.1
v **48.41** Or *Kerioth*
* **48.41** Isa 21.3; Jer 30.6; 49.22, 24; Mic 4.9

* **48.42** v 26; Ps 83.4; Isa 37.23
* **48.43** Isa 24.17, 18; Lam 3.47
w **48.44** Gk Syr: Heb *bring upon it*
* **48.44** 1 Kings 19.17; Jer 11.23; 46.21
x **48.45** Or *borderland*
y **48.45** Or *of Shaon*
* **48.45** Num 21.21, 26, 28, 29; 24.17
* **48.46** v 7; Num 21.29
* **48.47** Jer 49.6, 39

Jeremiah 49

z **49.1** Gk Vg Syr: Heb *their king*
* **49.1** Ezek 21.28; 25.2; Am 1.13; Zeph 2.8, 9
* **49.2** Isa 14.2; Jer 4.19; Ezek 21.20
a **49.3** Or *villages*
b **49.3** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
c **49.3** Gk Vg Syr: Heb *their king*
* **49.3** Josh 7.2–5; 8.1–29; Isa 32.11; Jer 4.8; 48.2, 7
d **49.4** Gk: Heb lacks *saying*
* **49.4** Ps 62.10; Jer 9.23; 31.22; Ezek 28.4, 5
* **49.5** Jer 16.16; 46.5; 48.43, 44; Lam 4.15
* **49.6** v 39; Jer 48.47
* **49.7** v 20; Isa 34.5, 6; Jer 8.9; Ezek 25.12; Am 1.11, 12
* **49.8** v 30; Jer 25.23; 46.21
* **49.9** Ob 5
* **49.10** Isa 17.14; Jer 13.26; Mal 1.3
* **49.11** Ps 68.5
* **49.12** Jer 25.28, 29; 1 Pet 4.17
* **49.13** Isa 34.6, 9–15; Jer 44.26
* **49.14** Isa 18.2; 30.4; Jer 50.14; Ob 1–4
e **49.16** Or *of Sela*
* **49.16** Isa 14.13–15; 25.5; Am 9.2
* **49.17** 1 Kings 9.8; Jer 50.13; 51.37
* **49.18** Gen 19.25; Deut 29.23; Am 4.11
f **49.19** Heb *him*
g **49.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **49.19** Isa 46.9; Jer 12.5; 50.44
* **49.20** Jer 50.45; Mal 1.3, 4
h **49.21** Or *Sea of Reeds*
* **49.21** Jer 50.46; Ezek 26.15, 18
* **49.22** Jer 4.13; 48.40, 41

i **49.23** Cn: Heb *there is trouble in the sea*
* **49.23** 2 Chr 16.2; Isa 10.9; 57.20; Jer 39.5
j **49.25** Vg: Heb *is not forsaken*
k **49.25** Syr Vg Tg: Heb *the town of my joy*
* **49.25** Jer 33.9; 51.41
* **49.26** Jer 50.30; 51.4; Am 4.10
* **49.27** 1 Kings 15.18–20; Jer 43.12; Am 1.3–5
* **49.28** Isa 11.14; 21.16, 17; Jer 2.10; Ezek 27.21
* **49.29** Jer 6.25; 20.3, 10; 46.5
* **49.30** Jer 25.9
* **49.31** Deut 33.28; Isa 47.8; Ezek 38.11
* **49.32** Jer 9.26; 25.23; Ezek 12.14, 15
* **49.33** Jer 10.22; Zeph 2.9, 13–15
* **49.34** 2 Kings 24.17, 18; Jer 28.1; Ezek 32.24
* **49.35** Isa 22.6; Jer 51.56
* **49.36** Ezek 5.10; Am 9.9; Rev 7.1
* **49.37** Jer 6.19; 8.9; 9.16; 17.18; 30.24

Jeremiah 50

* **50.1** Isa 13.1; Rev 14.8
* **50.2** Isa 46.1; Jer 51.27, 31, 44, 47
* **50.3** Jer 9.10; 51.48; Zeph 1.3
* **50.4** Ezra 3.12, 13; Jer 31.9; Hos 1.11; 3.5; Zech 12.10
* **50.6** Isa 53.6; Jer 2.20; 3.6, 23; 23.11–14; 33.12; Ezek 34.15, 16
* **50.7** Jer 14.8; 17.13; 31.23; 40.2, 3
* **50.8** Jer 51.6, 45; Rev 18.4
* **50.9** Jer 51.1, 2
* **50.11** Jer 12.14; 46.20
* **50.12** Jer 22.6; 51.43
* **50.13** Jer 25.12; 49.17
* **50.14** Jer 49.35; Hab 2.8, 17
* **50.15** 1 Chr 29.24; Jer 46.10; 51.14, 44, 58; Ezek 17.18
* **50.16** Jer 51.9; Joel 1.11
* **50.17** 2 Kings 17.6; 24.10, 14; Jer 2.15
* **50.19** Jer 31.5, 10; 33.12
* **50.20** Isa 1.9; Jer 31.34; 33.8; Mic 7.19
l **50.21** Or *of Double Rebellion*
m **50.21** Or *of Punishment*
n **50.21** Tg: Heb *destroy after them*
* **50.21** Isa 10.6; 44.28; 48.14; Jer 34.22; Ezek 23.23
* **50.22** Jer 51.54–56

* **50.23** Isa 14.6; Jer 51.20–24
* **50.24** Jer 48.43, 44; 51.8, 31, 39, 57; Dan 5.30, 31
* **50.25** Isa 13.5; Jer 51.12, 25, 55
* **50.26** v 41; Isa 14.23
* **50.27** Isa 34.7; Jer 48.44; Ezek 7.7
* **50.28** Isa 48.20; Jer 51.6, 10, 11
* **50.29** Isa 47.10; Jer 51.56; Rev 18.6
* **50.30** Isa 13.17, 18; Jer 49.26; 51.56
* **50.31** Jer 21.13; Nah 2.13
* **50.32** Isa 10.12–15; Jer 21.14; 49.27
* **50.33** Isa 14.17; 58.6
* **50.34** Isa 14.3–7; 43.14; Jer 15.21; 31.11; 32.18; 51.19, 36
* **50.35** Dan 5.1, 2, 7, 8, 30
* **50.36** Isa 44.25; Jer 49.22
o **50.37** Syr: Heb *his*
p **50.37** Syr: Heb *his*
* **50.37** Jer 25.20; 51.21, 22, 30; Ezek 30.5; Nah 3.13
* **50.38** Jer 51.32, 36, 44, 47, 52
q **50.39** Heb lacks *in Babylon*
* **50.39** Isa 13.20, 21, 22; Jer 51.37
* **50.40** Gen 19.25; Jer 49.18; Lk 17.28–30
* **50.41** Jer 6.22; Rev 17.16
* **50.42** Isa 5.30; 13.18; Jer 6.23
* **50.43** Jer 49.24; 51.31
r **50.44** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **50.44** Job 41.10; Isa 46.9; Jer 49.19–21
* **50.46** Ezek 27.28; Rev 18.9

Jeremiah 51

s **51.1** Or *stir up the spirit of a destroyer*
t **51.1** That is, Chaldea
* **51.1** Jer 4.11; Hos 13.15
* **51.2** Isa 41.16; Jer 15.7; Mt 3.12
* **51.3** Jer 46.4; 50.14, 21
* **51.5** Isa 54.7, 8; Jer 33.24–26
* **51.6** Num 16.26; Jer 25.14; 50.8, 15; Rev 18.4
* **51.7** Jer 25.15, 16; Rev 14.8; 17.4; 18.3
* **51.8** Isa 21.9; Jer 48.20; Rev 14.8; 18.2, 9, 11, 19
* **51.9** Isa 13.14; Jer 50.16; Rev 18.5
* **51.10** Ps 37.6; Isa 40.2; Jer 50.28; Mic 7.9
* **51.11** Jer 46.4; 50.3, 9, 28; Joel 3.9, 10

* **51.12** Isa 13.2; Jer 50.2
* **51.13** Rev 17.1, 15
* **51.14** Jer 49.13; 50.15; Am 6.8; Nah 3.15
* **51.15** Gen 1.1, 6; Job 9.8; Ps 104.2; Isa 40.22; Jer 10.12–16; Acts 14.15; Rom 1.20
* **51.16** Ps 18.13; 135.7; Jer 10.13
* **51.17** Jer 10.14; 50.2; Hab 2.18, 19
* **51.18** Jer 10.15
* **51.19** Jer 10.16; 50.34
* **51.20** Isa 10.5, 15; 41.15, 16; Jer 50.23; Mic 4.12, 13
* **51.22** 2 Chr 36.17
* **51.24** Jer 50.10, 15, 29
* **51.25** Jer 50.31; Zech 4.7; Rev 8.8
* **51.26** v 29; Jer 50.13
* **51.27** Isa 13.2; Jer 25.14; 50.2, 41, 42
* **51.29** Isa 13.19, 20; 47.11; Jer 8.16; 10.10; 50.46; Am 8.8
* **51.30** Ps 76.5; Isa 13.7, 8; Jer 50.36, 37; Lam 2.9; Am 1.5; Nah 3.13
* **51.31** 2 Sam 18.19–31; 2 Chr 30.6; Jer 50.24
* **51.32** Jer 50.37, 38
* **51.33** Isa 17.5–7; 21.10; 41.15; Hos 6.11; Joel 3.13; Hab 3.12
* **51.34** Isa 24.1–3; Jer 50.17; Am 8.4
* **51.35** v 24; Ps 137.8
* **51.36** Ps 140.12; Jer 50.34, 38; Rom 12.19
* **51.37** Isa 13.22; Jer 49.33; 50.13, 39; Rev 18.2
* **51.39** Jer 25.27
* **51.40** Jer 50.27
u **51.41** That is, Babylon
* **51.41** Isa 13.19; Jer 25.26; 49.25
* **51.42** Isa 8.7, 8; Dan 9.26
* **51.43** Isa 13.20; Jer 50.12
* **51.44** vv 34, 58; Isa 46.1; Jer 50.2
* **51.45** v 6; Jer 50.8; Acts 2.40; Rev 18.4
* **51.46** 2 Kings 19.7; Isa 13.3–5; 19.2; Jer 46.27, 28
* **51.47** v 52; Isa 46.1, 2; Jer 50.2, 12, 35–37
* **51.48** vv 11, 27; Isa 44.23; 49.13; Rev 12.12; 18.20
* **51.49** Jer 50.29
* **51.50** v 45; Ps 137.6
* **51.51** Ps 79.4
* **51.52** v 47; Jer 50.38
* **51.53** Isa 13.3; 14.12, 13; Jer 49.16
* **51.54** Jer 50.46
* **51.55** v 42

* **51.56** vv 6, 24, 48; Ps 94.1, 2; Hab 2.8
* **51.57** v 39; Ps 76.5, 6; Jer 46.18; 48.15
* **51.58** v 64; Jer 50.15; Hab 2.13
* **51.59** Jer 28.1; 32.12
v **51.60** Or *one*
* **51.60** Jer 30.2, 3; 36.2, 4, 32
* **51.62** v 43; Jer 25.12; 50.3, 39; Ezek 35.9
* **51.63** Rev 18.21
w **51.64** Gk: Heb *on her. And they shall weary themselves*
* **51.64** v 58; Nah 1.8, 9

Jeremiah 52

* **52.1** 2 Kings 24.18; 2 Chr 36.11–13
* **52.2** Jer 36.30, 31
* **52.3** 2 Chr 36.13; Isa 3.1, 4, 5
* **52.4** 2 Kings 25.1–7; Jer 32.24; 39.1; Ezek 24.1, 2
* **52.6** Jer 38.9
x **52.7** Heb lacks *wall*
* **52.7** Jer 39.2, 4–7
* **52.8** Jer 21.7; 32.4; 34.21; 37.17; 38.23
* **52.9** 2 Kings 25.6; Jer 32.4; 39.5
* **52.10** Jer 39.6
* **52.11** Jer 39.7; Ezek 12.13
* **52.12** 2 Kings 25.8–21; Jer 39.9
* **52.13** 2 Chr 36.19; Jer 39.8; Lam 2.7; Mic 3.12
* **52.14** 2 Kings 25.10
* **52.15** 2 Kings 25.11; Jer 39.9
* **52.16** 2 Kings 25.12; Jer 39.10; 40.2–6
* **52.17** 1 Kings 7.15; Jer 27.19–22
* **52.18** 1 Kings 7.40, 45
* **52.19** 1 Kings 7.49, 50
* **52.20** 1 Kings 7.47
* **52.21** 1 Kings 7.15
* **52.22** 1 Kings 7.16, 20, 42
* **52.24** 2 Kings 25.18; Jer 21.1; 29.25; 35.4; 37.3
* **52.26** vv 9, 12, 15, 16; 2 Kings 25.20, 21
* **52.27** Isa 6.11, 12; Jer 13.19; Ezek 33.28; Mic 4.10
* **52.28** 2 Kings 24.2, 3, 12–16; Neh 7.6; Dan 1.1–3
* **52.30** 2 Kings 25.11; Jer 39.9
* **52.31** Gen 40.13; 2 Kings 25.27–30
* **52.33** Gen 41.14, 42; 2 Sam 9.13; 1 Kings 2.7

* **52.34** 2 Sam 9.10

Lamentations

Lamentations 1

THE DESERTED CITY

[1]How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!
She that was a princess among the provinces
has become subject to forced labor.*

[2]She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers,
she has no one to comfort her;
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her;
they have become her enemies.*

[3]Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations;
she finds no resting place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.*

[4]The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate;
her priests groan;

her young girls grieve,[a]
    and her lot is bitter.*

[5]Her foes have become the masters;
    her enemies prosper
because the LORD has made her suffer
    for the multitude of her transgressions;
her children have gone away,
    captives before the foe.*

[6]From daughter Zion has departed
    all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags
    that find no pasture;
they fled without strength
    before the pursuer.*

[7]Jerusalem remembers[b] all the precious things
    that were hers in days of old.
When her people fell into the hand of the enemy
    and there was no one to help her,
the enemy looked on;
    they mocked over her downfall.*

[8]Jerusalem sinned grievously,
    so she has become a filthy thing;
all who honored her despise her,
    for they have seen her nakedness;
she herself groans
    and turns her face away.*

[9]Her uncleanness was in her skirts;

she took no thought of her future;
her downfall was appalling,
with none to comfort her.
Look, O LORD, at my affliction,
for the enemy has triumphed!*

10 Enemies have stretched out their hands
over all her precious things;
she has even seen the nations
invade her sanctuary,
those whom you forbade
to enter your congregation.*

11 All her people groan
as they search for bread;
they trade their treasures for food
to revive their lives.
Look, O LORD, and see
how worthless I have become.*

12 Is it nothing to you,[c] all you who pass by?
Look and see
if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,
which was brought upon me,
which the LORD inflicted
on the day of his fierce anger.*

13 From on high he sent fire;
it went deep into my bones;
he spread a net for my feet;
he turned me back;
he has left me stunned,

faint all day long.*

14My transgressions were bound[d] into a yoke;
by his hand they were fastened together;
they weigh on my neck,
sapping my strength;
the Lord handed me over
to those whom I cannot withstand.*

15The LORD has rejected
all my warriors in the midst of me;
he proclaimed a time against me
to crush my young men;
the Lord has trodden as in a winepress
the virgin daughter Judah.*

16For these things I weep;
my eyes[e] flow with tears;
for a comforter is far from me,
one to revive my courage;
my children are desolate,
for the enemy has prevailed.*

17Zion stretches out her hands,
but there is no one to comfort her;
the LORD has commanded against Jacob
that his neighbors should become his foes;
Jerusalem has become
a filthy thing among them.*

18The LORD is in the right,
for I have rebelled against his word;

but hear, all you peoples,
    and behold my suffering;
my young women and young men
    have gone into captivity.*

19I called to my lovers,
    but they deceived me;
my priests and elders
    perished in the city
while seeking food
    to revive their lives.*

20Look, O LORD, at how distressed I am;
    my stomach churns;
my heart is wrung within me
    because I have been very rebellious.
In the street the sword bereaves;
    in the house it is like death.*

21They heard how I was groaning,
    with no one to comfort me.
All my enemies heard of my trouble;
    they are glad that you have done it.
Bring on the day that you have announced,
    and let them be as I am.*

22Let all their evildoing come before you,
    and deal with them
as you have dealt with me
    because of all my transgressions;
for my groans are many,
    and my heart is faint.*

Lamentations 2

GOD'S WARNINGS FULFILLED

[1]How the Lord in his anger
has humiliated[f] daughter Zion!
He has thrown down from heaven to earth
the splendor of Israel;
he has not remembered his footstool
in the day of his anger.*

[2]The Lord has destroyed without mercy
all the dwellings of Jacob;
in his wrath he has broken down
the strongholds of daughter Judah;
he has brought down to the ground in dishonor
the kingdom and its rulers.*

[3]He has cut down in fierce anger
all the might of Israel;
he has withdrawn his right hand from them
in the face of the enemy;
he has burned like a flaming fire in Jacob,
consuming all around.*

[4]He has bent his bow like an enemy,
with his right hand set like a foe;
he has killed all those
in whom we took pride
in the tent of daughter Zion;
he has poured out his fury like fire.*

[5]The Lord has become like an enemy;
    he has destroyed Israel.
He has destroyed all its palaces,
    laid in ruins its strongholds,
and multiplied in daughter Judah
    mourning and lamentation.*

[6]He has broken down his booth like a garden;
    he has destroyed his tabernacle;
the LORD has abolished in Zion
    festival and Sabbath
and in his fierce indignation has spurned
    king and priest.*

[7]The Lord has scorned his altar,
    disowned his sanctuary;
he has delivered into the hand of the enemy
    the walls of her palaces;
a clamor was raised in the house of the LORD
    as on a day of festival.*

[8]The LORD determined to lay in ruins
    the wall of daughter Zion;
he stretched the line;
    he did not withhold his hand from destroying;
he caused rampart and wall to lament;
    they languish together.*

[9]Her gates have sunk into the ground;
    he has ruined and broken her bars;
her king and princes are among the nations;
    guidance is no more,

and her prophets obtain
    no vision from the LORD.*

10 The elders of daughter Zion
    sit on the ground in silence;
they have thrown dust on their heads;
    they put on sackcloth;
the young women of Jerusalem
    have bowed their heads to the ground.*

11 My eyes are spent with weeping;
    my stomach churns;
my bile is poured out on the ground
    because of the destruction of my people,g
because infants and babes faint
    in the streets of the city.*

12 They cry to their mothers,
    "Where is bread and wine?"
as they faint like the wounded
    in the streets of the city,
as their life is poured out
    on their mothers' bosoms.*

13 What can I say for you, to what compare you,
    O daughter Jerusalem?
To what can I liken you, that I may comfort you,
    O virgin daughter Zion?
For vast as the sea is your ruin;
    who can heal you?*

14 Your prophets have seen for you

false and deceptive visions;
they have not exposed your iniquity
to restore your fortunes
but have seen oracles for you
that are false and misleading.*

15 All who pass along the way
clap their hands at you;
they hiss and wag their heads
at daughter Jerusalem:
"Is this the city that was called
the perfection of beauty,
the joy of all the earth?"*

16 All your enemies
open their mouths against you;
they hiss, they gnash their teeth,
they cry: "We have devoured her!
Ah, this is the day we longed for;
at last we have seen it!"*

17 The LORD has done what he purposed;
he has carried out his threat;
as he ordained long ago,
he has demolished without pity;
he has made the enemy rejoice over you
and exalted the might of your foes.*

18 Cry aloud[h] to the Lord!
O wall of daughter Zion!
Let tears stream down like a torrent
day and night!

Give yourself no rest,
    your eyes no respite!*

19 Arise, cry out in the night,
    at the beginning of the watches!
Pour out your heart like water
    before the presence of the Lord!
Lift your hands to him
    for the lives of your children,
who faint for hunger
    at the head of every street.*

20 Look, O Lord, and consider!
    To whom have you done this?
Should women eat their offspring,
    the children they have borne?
Should priest and prophet be killed
    in the sanctuary of the Lord?*

21 The young and the old are lying
    on the ground in the streets;
my young women and my young men
    have fallen by the sword;
in the day of your anger you have killed them,
    slaughtering without mercy.*

22 You invited my enemies from all around
    as if for a day of festival;
and on the day of the anger of the Lord,
    no one escaped or survived;
those whom I bore and reared,
    my enemy has destroyed.*

Lamentations 3

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE ENDURES

[1]I am one who has seen affliction
under the rod of God's[i] wrath;*
[2]he has driven and brought me
into darkness without any light;
[3]against me alone he turns his hand,
again and again, all day long.*

[4]He has made my flesh and my skin waste away;
he has broken my bones;*
[5]he has besieged and enveloped me
with bitterness and tribulation;
[6]he has made me sit in darkness
like the dead of long ago.*

[7]He has walled me about so that I cannot escape;
he has put heavy chains on me;*
[8]though I call and cry for help,
he shuts out my prayer;*
[9]he has blocked my ways with hewn stones;
he has made my paths crooked.

[10]He is a bear lying in wait for me,
a lion in hiding;*
[11]he led me off my way and tore me to pieces;
he has made me desolate;
[12]he bent his bow and set me

as a mark for his arrow.*

13 He shot into my vitals
the arrows of his quiver;
14 I have become the laughingstock of all my people,
the object of their taunt songs all day long.*
15 He has filled me with bitterness;
he has sated me with wormwood.

16 He has made my teeth grind on gravel;
he has made me cower in ashes;
17 my soul is bereft of peace;
I have forgotten what happiness is;
18 so I say, "Gone is my glory
and all that I had hoped for from the LORD."

19 The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!*
20 My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.*
21 But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

22 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,[j]
his mercies never come to an end;*
23 they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.*
24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."*

25 The LORD is good to those who wait for him,

to the soul that seeks him.*
[26]It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.*
[27]It is good for one to bear
the yoke in youth,*

[28]to sit alone in silence
when the Lord[k] has imposed it,*
[29]to put one's mouth to the dust
(there may yet be hope),
[30]to give one's cheek to the smiter
and be filled with insults.*

[31]For the Lord will not
reject forever.*
[32]Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;*
[33]for he does not willingly afflict
or grieve anyone.*

[34]When all the prisoners of the land
are crushed under foot,
[35]when justice is perverted
in the presence of the Most High,*
[36]when one's case is subverted—
does the Lord not see it?*

[37]Who can command and have it done,
if the Lord has not ordained it?*
[38]Is it not from the mouth of the Most High
that evil and good come?*

39 Why should any who draw breath complain
about the punishment of their sins?*

40 Let us test and examine our ways
and return to the LORD.*
41 Let us lift up our hearts as well as our hands
to God in heaven.*
42 We have transgressed and rebelled,
and you have not forgiven.*

43 You have wrapped yourself with anger and pursued us,
killing without pity;*
44 you have wrapped yourself with a cloud
so that no prayer can pass through.
45 You have made us filth and rubbish
among the peoples.*

46 All our enemies
have opened their mouths against us;*
47 panic and pitfall have come upon us,
devastation and destruction.*
48 My eyes flow with rivers of tears
because of the destruction of my people.[1]

49 My eyes will flow without ceasing,
without respite,*
50 until the LORD from heaven
looks down and sees.*
51 My eyes cause me grief
at the fate of all the young women in my city.

52 Those who were my enemies without cause
have hunted me like a bird;*
53 they flung me alive into a pit
and hurled stones on me;*
54 water closed over my head;
I said, "I am lost."*

55 I called on your name, O LORD,
from the depths of the pit;*
56 you heard my plea, "Do not close your ear
to my cry for help, but give me relief!"*
57 You came near when I called on you;
you said, "Do not fear!"*

58 You have taken up my cause, O Lord;
you have redeemed my life.*
59 You have seen the wrong done to me, O LORD;
judge my cause.
60 You have seen all their malice,
all their plots against me.*

61 You have heard their taunts, O LORD,
all their plots against me.
62 The whispers and murmurs of my assailants
are against me all day long.
63 Whether they sit or rise—see,
I am the object of their taunt songs.

64 Pay them back for their deeds, O LORD,
according to the work of their hands!
65 Give them anguish of heart;

your curse be on them!
66 Pursue them in anger and destroy them
from under the LORD's heavens.*

Lamentations 4

THE PUNISHMENT OF ZION

[1]How the gold has grown dim;
how the pure gold is changed!
The sacred stones lie scattered
at the head of every street.

[2]The precious children of Zion,
worth their weight in fine gold—
how they are reckoned as earthen pots,
the work of a potter's hands![*]

[3]Even the jackals offer the breast
and nurse their young,
but my people has become cruel,
like the ostriches in the wilderness.[*]

[4]The tongue of the infant sticks
to the roof of its mouth for thirst;
the children beg for food,
but there is nothing for them.[*]

[5]Those who feasted on delicacies
perish in the streets;
those who were brought up in purple
cling to ash heaps.

[6]For the chastisement of my people has been greater
than the punishment of Sodom,
which was overthrown in a moment,

though no hand was laid on it.[m,*]

[7]Her princes were purer than snow,
whiter than milk;
their bodies were more ruddy than coral,
their form cut like sapphire.[n,*]

[8]Now their visage is blacker than soot;
they are not recognized in the streets.
Their skin has shriveled on their bones;
it has become as dry as wood.[*]

[9]Happier were those pierced by the sword
than those pierced by hunger,
whose life drains away, deprived
of the produce of the field.[*]

[10]The hands of compassionate women
have boiled their own children;
they became their food
in the destruction of my people.[*]

[11]The LORD gave full vent to his wrath;
he poured out his hot anger
and kindled a fire in Zion
that consumed its foundations.[*]

[12]The kings of the earth did not believe,
nor did any of the inhabitants of the world,
that foe or enemy could enter
the gates of Jerusalem.[*]

[13]It was for the sins of her prophets

and the iniquities of her priests,
who shed the blood of the righteous
in her midst.*

14Blindly they wandered through the streets,
so defiled with blood
that no one was able
to touch their garments.*

15"Away! Unclean!" people shouted at them;
"Away! Away! Do not touch!"
So they became fugitives and wanderers;
it was said among the nations,
"They shall stay here no longer."*

16The LORD himself has scattered them;
he will regard them no more;
no honor was shown to the priests,
no favor to the elders.*

17Our eyes failed, ever watching
vainly for help;
we were watching eagerly
for a nation that could not save.*

18They dogged our steps
so that we could not walk in our streets;
our end drew near; our days were numbered,
for our end had come.*

19Our pursuers were swifter
than the eagles in the heavens;

they chased us on the mountains;
    they lay in wait for us in the wilderness.*

20 The LORD's anointed, the breath of our life,
    was taken in their pits—
the one of whom we said, "Under his shadow
    we shall live among the nations."*

21 Rejoice and be glad, O daughter Edom,
    you that live in the land of Uz;
but to you also the cup shall pass;
    you shall become drunk and strip yourself bare.*

22 The punishment of your iniquity, O daughter Zion, is accomplished;
    he will keep you in exile no longer;
but your iniquity, O daughter Edom, he will punish;
    he will uncover your sins.*

Lamentations 5

A PLEA FOR MERCY

[1]Remember, O LORD, what has befallen us;
look, and see our disgrace!*
[2]Our inheritance has been turned over to strangers,
our homes to aliens.*
[3]We have become orphans, fatherless;
our mothers are like widows.
[4]We must pay for the water we drink;
the wood we get must be bought.
[5]With a yoke[o] on our necks we are hard driven;
we are weary; we are given no rest.*
[6]We have made a pact with[p] Egypt and Assyria
to get enough bread.*
[7]Our ancestors sinned; they are no more,
and we bear their iniquities.*
[8]Slaves rule over us;
there is no one to deliver us from their hand.*
[9]We get our bread at the peril of our lives,
because of the sword in the wilderness.
[10]Our skin is black as an oven
from the scorching heat of famine.*
[11]Women are raped in Zion,
young women in the towns of Judah.*
[12]Princes are hung up by their hands;
no respect is shown to the elders.*
[13]Young men are compelled to grind,

and boys stagger under loads of wood.*
14 The old men have left the city gate,
the young men their music.
15 The joy of our hearts has ceased;
our dancing has been turned to mourning.*
16 The crown has fallen from our head;
woe to us, for we have sinned!
17 Because of this our hearts are sick;
because of these things our eyes have grown dim:*
18 because of Mount Zion, which lies desolate;
jackals prowl over it.

19 But you, O LORD, reign forever;
your throne endures to all generations.*
20 Why have you forgotten us completely?
Why have you forsaken us these many days?*
21 Restore us to yourself, O LORD, that we may be restored;
renew our days as of old—*
22 unless you have utterly rejected us
and are angry with us beyond measure.*

Lamentations 1

* **1.1** Ezra 4.20; Isa 3.26; 54.4; Jer 40.9
* **1.2** Ps 6.6; Jer 2.25; 4.30
* **1.3** Deut 28.64, 65; 2 Kings 25.4, 5; Jer 13.19
a **1.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **1.4** Jer 9.11; 10.22; Joel 1.8–13
* **1.5** Deut 28.43, 44; Jer 30.14, 15; 39.9; 52.28
* **1.6** 2 Kings 25.4, 5; Jer 13.18
b **1.7** Q ms: MT adds *in the days of her affliction and wandering*
* **1.7** Ps 42.4; Isa 5.1–4; Jer 37.7; 48.27; Lam 4.17
* **1.8** vv 4, 5, 11, 17, 20, 21, 22; 1 Kings 8.46; Jer 13.22, 26
* **1.9** Deut 32.29; Isa 47.7; Jer 13.17, 18; 16.7; Ezek 24.13
* **1.10** Deut 23.3; Isa 64.10, 11; Jer 51.51
* **1.11** 1 Sam 30.12; Jer 38.9; 52.6
c **1.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **1.12** v 18; Jer 4.8; 18.16; 30.23, 24; 48.27
* **1.13** Job 19.6; 30.30; Jer 44.6; Hab 3.16
d **1.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **1.14** Deut 28.48; Isa 47.6; Jer 28.13, 14; 32.3, 5; Ezek 25.4, 7
* **1.15** Isa 28.18; 41.2; Jer 13.24; 18.21; Mic 7.10; Rev 14.19
e **1.16** Heb *my eye, my eye*
* **1.16** vv 2, 9; Jer 13.17; 14.17; Lam 2.18
* **1.17** v 8; 2 Kings 24.2–4; Jer 4.31
* **1.18** v 12; Deut 28.32, 41; 1 Sam 12.14; Jer 12.1
* **1.19** Jer 14.15; 30.14; Lam 2.20
* **1.20** Deut 32.25; Isa 16.11; Jer 4.19; Lam 2.11; Ezek 7.15
* **1.21** Isa 14.5, 6; Jer 30.16; Lam 2.15
* **1.22** Neh 4.4, 5; Ps 137.7, 8

Lamentations 2

f **2.1** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **2.1** Ps 99.5; 132.7; Isa 64.11; Lam 3.43, 44; Ezek 28.14–16
* **2.2** Ps 21.9; 89.39; Isa 25.12; Lam 3.43; Mic 5.11, 14
* **2.3** Ps 74.11; 75.5, 10; Jer 21.4, 5, 14
* **2.4** Isa 42.25; Jer 7.20; Lam 3.12, 13; Ezek 24.25
* **2.5** Jer 6.26; 9.17–20; 30.14
* **2.6** Jer 7.14; 52.13; Lam 1.4; 4.16, 20; 5.12; Zeph 3.18
* **2.7** Ps 74.4; Isa 64.11; Jer 33.4, 5; Ezek 7.20–22
* **2.8** 2 Kings 21.13; Isa 3.26; 34.11; Jer 5.5, 10; 14.2

* **2.9** Deut 28.36; 2 Kings 24.15; 2 Chr 15.3; Neh 1.3; Jer 14.14; 51.30; Ezek 7.26
* **2.10** Job 2.12, 13; Isa 3.26; 15.3; Lam 1.4; Ezek 27.30, 31; Am 8.3
g **2.11** Heb *the daughter of my people*
* **2.11** Job 16.13; Ps 6.7; 22.14; Lam 1.20; 3.48; 4.4
* **2.12** Job 30.16; Jer 5.17; Lam 4.4
* **2.13** Isa 8.22; 30.12–15; 37.22; Lam 1.12
* **2.14** Isa 58.1; Jer 2.8; 23.36; 29.8, 9; Ezek 22.25, 28
* **2.15** Ps 48.2; 50.2; Isa 37.22; Jer 19.8; Zeph 2.15
* **2.16** Ps 22.13; 37.12; 56.2; Lam 3.46; Ob 12–15
* **2.17** vv 1, 2; Deut 28.15; Ps 35.24, 26; Jer 18.11; Lam 1.5
h **2.18** Cn: Heb *Their heart cried*
* **2.18** Jer 9.1; Lam 1.2, 16; Hos 7.14
* **2.19** Ps 42.3; 62.8; Isa 26.9; 51.20
* **2.20** Jer 14.15; 19.9; Lam 4.13, 16
* **2.21** 2 Chr 36.17; Ps 78.62, 63; Jer 6.11; 13.14; Zech 11.6
* **2.22** Ps 31.13; Jer 6.25; Hos 9.12, 13

Lamentations 3

i **3.1** Heb *his*
* **3.1** Job 19.21; Jer 15.17, 18
* **3.3** Isa 5.25
* **3.4** Job 16.8; Ps 51.8; Isa 38.13; Jer 50.17
* **3.6** Ps 88.5, 6
* **3.7** Job 3.23; Jer 40.4
* **3.8** Job 30.20; Ps 22.2
* **3.10** Job 10.16; Isa 38.13
* **3.12** Job 7.20; Ps 7.12, 13
* **3.14** Job 30.9; Jer 20.7
* **3.19** Jer 9.15
* **3.20** Ps 42.5, 6, 11
j **3.22** Syr Tg: Heb *LORD, we are not cut off*
* **3.22** Mal 3.6
* **3.23** Zeph 3.5
* **3.24** Ps 16.5; 33.18
* **3.25** Isa 25.9; 26.9; 30.18
* **3.26** Ps 37.7; 40.1; Isa 30.15
* **3.27** Ps 94.12
k **3.28** Heb *he*
* **3.28** Jer 15.17
* **3.30** Isa 50.6; Mt 5.39
* **3.31** Ps 94.14

* **3.32** Ps 78.38; Hos 11.8
* **3.33** Ezek 33.11; Heb 12.10
* **3.35** Ps 140.12
* **3.36** Hab 1.13
* **3.37** Ps 33.9
* **3.38** Job 2.10; Isa 45.7
* **3.39** Mic 7.9; Heb 12.5, 6
* **3.40** Ps 119.59; 2 Cor 13.5
* **3.41** Ps 25.1; 28.2
* **3.42** Jer 5.7, 9; Dan 9.5
* **3.43** Ps 83.15; Lam 2.21
* **3.45** 1 Cor 4.13
* **3.46** Lam 2.16
* **3.47** Isa 24.17; Jer 48.43

l **3.48** Heb *the daughter of my people*

* **3.49** Ps 77.2
* **3.50** Isa 63.15
* **3.52** Ps 35.7
* **3.53** Jer 37.16
* **3.54** Ps 69.2; Isa 38.10
* **3.55** Jon 2.2
* **3.56** Ps 116.1, 2
* **3.57** Ps 145.18; Isa 41.10, 14
* **3.58** Ps 71.23; Jer 51.36
* **3.60** Jer 11.19, 20; 18.18
* **3.66** Ps 8.3

Lamentations 4

* **4.2** Isa 30.14; 51.18; Jer 19.11
* **4.3** Job 39.14, 16; Isa 34.13; 49.15
* **4.4** Jer 14.3; Lam 2.12

m **4.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **4.6** Gen 19.23; Jer 20.16; Ezek 16.48

n **4.7** Or *lapis lazuli*

* **4.7** Ps 51.7
* **4.8** Job 30.30; Ps 102.5; Lam 5.10
* **4.9** Jer 15.2; Ezek 24.23
* **4.10** Deut 28.57; 2 Kings 6.29; Lam 2.20
* **4.11** v 22; Deut 32.22; Jer 7.20; 21.14
* **4.12** 1 Kings 9.8, 9; Jer 21.13
* **4.13** Jer 5.31; 6.13; Ezek 22.26; Mic 3.11, 12; Mt 23.31

* **4.14** Isa 56.10; 59.9, 10; Jer 2.34; 19.4
* **4.15** Lev 13.45; Jer 49.5
* **4.16** Lam 5.12
* **4.17** 2 Kings 24.7; Isa 20.5; Jer 37.7; Ezek 29.16
* **4.18** 2 Kings 25.4; Ezek 7.2, 3; Am 8.2
* **4.19** Deut 28.49; Jer 4.13; Hab 1.8
* **4.20** 2 Sam 1.14; 19.21; Ezek 12.13; 19.4, 8
* **4.21** Isa 34.7; Am 1.11, 12; Ob 1, 16
* **4.22** Isa 40.2; Mal 1.3, 4

Lamentations 5

* **5.1** Ps 44.13–16; 89.50
* **5.2** Ps 79.1; Zeph 1.13
o **5.5** Symmachus: Heb lacks *With a yoke*
* **5.5** Neh 9.36, 37; Jer 28.14
p **5.6** Heb *have given the hand to*
* **5.6** Jer 2.36; Hos 5.13; 7.11; 9.3
* **5.7** Jer 14.20
* **5.8** Neh 5.15; Zech 11.6
* **5.10** Lam 4.8
* **5.11** Isa 13.16; Zech 14.2
* **5.12** Lam 4.16
* **5.13** Jer 7.18
* **5.15** Jer 25.10
* **5.17** Ps 6.7; Isa 1.5
* **5.19** Ps 9.7; 102.12, 25–27
* **5.20** Ps 13.1
* **5.21** Jer 31.18
* **5.22** Isa 64.9; Jer 7.29

Ezekiel

Ezekiel 1

THE VISION OF THE CHARIOT

1 In the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I
was among the exiles by the River Chebar, the heavens were opened, and I
saw visions of God.* [2]On the fifth day of the month (it was the fifth year of
the exile of King Jehoiachin),* [3]the word of the LORD came to the priest
Ezekiel son of Buzi in the land of the Chaldeans by the River Chebar, and
the hand of the LORD was on him there.

4 As I looked, a stormy wind came out of the north: a great cloud with
brightness around it and fire flashing forth continually and in the middle of
the fire something like gleaming amber.* [5]In the middle of it was something
like four living creatures. This was their appearance: they were of human
form.* [6]Each had four faces, and each of them had four wings.* [7]Their legs
were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot,
and they sparkled like burnished bronze.* [8]Under their wings on their four
sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings
thus:* [9]their wings touched one another; each of them moved straight ahead,
without turning as they moved. [10]As for the appearance of their faces: the
four had the face of a human being, the face of a lion on the right side, the
face of an ox on the left side, and the face of an eagle;* [11]such were their
faces. Their wings were spread out above; each creature had two wings,
each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies.*
[12]Each moved straight ahead; wherever the spirit would go, they went,
without turning as they went. [13]In the middle of[a] the living creatures there
was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches moving to
and fro among the living creatures; the fire was bright, and lightning issued
from the fire.* [14]The living creatures darted to and fro, like a flash of
lightning.*

15 As I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the earth beside
the living creatures, one for each of the four of them.[b,]* [16]As for the

appearance of the wheels and their construction: their appearance was like the gleaming of beryl, and the four had the same form, their construction being something like a wheel within a wheel.* 17When they moved, they moved in any of the four directions without veering as they moved.* 18Their rims were tall and awesome, for the rims of all four were full of eyes all around.* 19When the living creatures moved, the wheels moved beside them, and when the living creatures rose from the earth, the wheels rose.* 20Wherever the spirit would go, they went, and the wheels rose along with them, for a living spirit was in the wheels.* 21When they moved, the others moved; when they stopped, the others stopped; and when they rose from the earth, the wheels rose along with them, for a living spirit was in the wheels.*

22 Over the heads of the living creatures there was something like a dome, shining like crystal,[c] spread out above their heads.* 23Under the dome their wings were stretched out straight, one toward another, and each of the creatures had two wings covering its body. 24When they moved, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of mighty waters, like the thunder of the Almighty,[d] a sound of tumult like the sound of an army; when they stopped, they let down their wings.* 25And there came a voice from above the dome over their heads; when they stopped, they let down their wings.

26 And above the dome over their heads there was something like a throne, in appearance like sapphire,[e] and seated above the likeness of the throne was something that seemed like a human form.* 27Upward from what appeared like the loins I saw something like gleaming amber, something that looked like fire enclosed all around, and downward from what looked like the loins I saw something that looked like fire, and there was a splendor all around.* 28Like the bow in a cloud on a rainy day, such was the appearance of the splendor all around. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.

When I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of someone speaking.*

Ezekiel 2

THE VISION OF THE SCROLL

1 He said to me: "O mortal,[f] stand up on your feet, and I will speak with
you."* [2]And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on
my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.* [3]He said to me, "Mortal, I am
sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation[g] of rebels who have rebelled
against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this
very day.* [4]The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you
to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.'* [5]Whether
they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know
that there has been a prophet among them.* [6]And you, O mortal, do not be
afraid of them, and do not be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns
surround you and you live among scorpions; do not be afraid of their words,
and do not be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.* [7]You
shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they
are a rebellious house.*

8 "But you, mortal, hear what I say to you; do not be rebellious like that
rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you."* [9]I looked, and
a hand was stretched out to me, and a written scroll was in it.* [10]He spread
it before me; it had writing on the front and on the back, and written on it
were words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

Ezekiel 3

1 He said to me, “O mortal, eat what is offered to you; eat this scroll, and
go, speak to the house of Israel.”* [2]So I opened my mouth, and he gave me
the scroll to eat. [3]He said to me, “Mortal, eat this scroll that I give you and
fill your stomach with it.” Then I ate it, and in my mouth it was as sweet as
honey.*

4 He said to me, “Mortal, go to the house of Israel and speak my very
words to them. [5]For you are not sent to a people of obscure speech and
difficult language but to the house of Israel, [6]not to many peoples of
obscure speech and difficult language whose words you cannot understand.
Surely, if I sent you to them, they would listen to you.* [7]But the house of
Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to
me, because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn
heart.* [8]See, I have made your face hard against their faces and your
forehead hard against their foreheads. [9]Like the hardest stone, harder than
flint, I have made your forehead; do not fear them or be dismayed at their
looks, for they are a rebellious house.”* [10]He said to me, “Mortal, all my
words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart and hear with your
ears; [11]then go to the exiles, to your people, and speak to them. Say to them,
‘Thus says the Lord God,’ whether they hear or refuse to hear.”*

EZEKIEL AT THE RIVER CHEBAR

12 Then the spirit lifted me up, and as the glory of the Lord rose[h] from
its place, I heard behind me the sound of loud rumbling;* [13]it was the sound
of the wings of the living creatures brushing against one another and the
sound of the wheels beside them that sounded like a loud rumbling. [14]The
spirit lifted me up and bore me away; I went in bitterness in the heat of my
spirit, the hand of the Lord being strong upon me.* [15]I came to the exiles at
Tel-abib, who lived by the River Chebar.[i] And I sat there among them,
stunned, for seven days.*

16 At the end of seven days, the word of the LORD came to me: [17]Mortal,
I have made you a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a
word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.* [18]When I say
to the wicked, "You shall surely die," and you give them no warning and do
not speak to warn the wicked from their wicked way in order to save their
lives, those wicked persons shall die for their iniquity, but their blood I will
require at your hand.* [19]But if you warn the wicked and they do not turn
from their wickedness or from their wicked way, they shall die for their
iniquity, but you will have saved your life.* [20]Again, if the righteous turn
from their righteousness and commit iniquity and I lay a stumbling block
before them, they shall die; because you have not warned them, they shall
die for their sin, and their righteous deeds that they have done shall not be
remembered, but their blood I will require at your hand.* [21]If, however, you
warn the righteous not to sin and they do not sin, they shall surely live
because they took warning, and you will have saved your life.*

EZEKIEL ISOLATED AND SILENCED

22 Then the hand of the LORD was upon me there, and he said to me,
"Rise up, go out into the valley, and there I will speak with you."* [23]So I
rose up and went out into the valley, and the glory of the LORD stood there,
like the glory that I had seen by the River Chebar, and I fell on my face.*
[24]The spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and he spoke with me
and said to me: "Go, shut yourself inside your house.* [25]As for you, mortal,
cords shall be placed on you, and you shall be bound with them so that you
cannot go out among the people,* [26]and I will make your tongue cling to the
roof of your mouth so that you shall be speechless and unable to reprove
them, for they are a rebellious house.* [27]But when I speak with you, I will
open your mouth, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD'; let
those who will hear, hear, and let those who refuse to hear, refuse, for they
are a rebellious house.*

Ezekiel 4

THE SIEGE OF JERUSALEM PORTRAYED

1 "And you, O mortal, take a brick and set it before you. On it portray a
city, Jerusalem,* [2]and put siegeworks against it, and build a siege wall
against it, and cast up a ramp against it; set camps also against it, and plant
battering rams against it all around.* [3]Then take an iron plate and place it as
an iron wall between you and the city; set your face toward it, and let it be
in a state of siege, and press the siege against it. This is a sign for the house
of Israel.*

4 "Then lie on your left side and place the guilt of the house of Israel
upon it; you shall bear their guilt for the number of the days that you lie
there.* [5]For I assign to you a number of days, three hundred ninety days,
equal to the number of the years of their guilt, and so you shall bear the
guilt of the house of Israel.* [6]When you have completed these, you shall lie
down a second time, but on your right side, and bear the guilt of the house
of Judah; forty days I assign you, one day for each year. [7]You shall set your
face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and with your arm bared you shall
prophesy against it.* [8]See, I am putting cords on you so that you cannot turn
from one side to the other until you have completed the days of your siege.*

9 "And you, take wheat and barley, beans and lentils, millet and spelt; put
them into one vessel and make bread for yourself. During the number of
days that you lie on your side, three hundred ninety days, you shall eat it.
[10]The food that you eat shall be twenty shekels a day by weight; at fixed
times you shall eat it. [11]And you shall drink water by measure, one-sixth of
a hin; at fixed times you shall drink. [12]You shall eat it as a barley cake,
baking it in their sight on human dung."* [13]The LORD said, "Thus shall the
people of Israel eat their bread, unclean, among the nations to which I will
drive them."* [14]Then I said, "Ah Lord GOD! I have never defiled myself;
from my youth up until now I have never eaten what died of itself or was
torn by animals, nor has carrion flesh come into my mouth."* [15]Then he
said to me, "See, I will let you have cow's dung instead of human dung, on
which you may prepare your bread."

16 Then he said to me, “Mortal, I am going to cut off the supply of bread[j]
in Jerusalem; they shall eat bread by weight and with fearfulness, and they
shall drink water by measure and in dismay.* 17Lacking bread and water,
they will look at one another in dismay and waste away under their
punishment.*

Ezekiel 5

A SWORD AGAINST JERUSALEM

1 "And you, O mortal, take a sharp sword; use it as a barber's razor and run
it over your head and your beard; then take balances for weighing, and
divide the hair.* [2]One third of the hair you shall burn in the fire inside the
city when the days of the siege are completed; one third you shall take and
strike with the sword all around the city;[k] and one third you shall scatter to
the wind, and I will unsheathe the sword after them.* [3]Then you shall take
from these a small number and bind them in the hem of your robe.* [4]From
these, again, you shall take some, throw them into the fire and burn them
up; from there a fire will come out against all the house of Israel.*

5 "Thus says the Lord GOD: This is Jerusalem; I have set her in the center
of the nations, with countries all around her.* [6]But she has rebelled against
my ordinances and my statutes, becoming more wicked than the nations and
the countries all around her, rejecting my ordinances and not following my
statutes.* [7]Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because you are more
turbulent than the nations that are all around you and have not followed my
statutes or kept my ordinances and have not even acted according to the
ordinances of the nations that are all around you,* [8]therefore thus says the
Lord GOD: I, I myself, am coming against you; I will execute judgments
among you in the sight of the nations.* [9]And because of all your
abominations, I will do to you what I have never yet done and the like of
which I will never do again.* [10]Surely, parents shall eat their children in
your midst, and children shall eat their parents; I will execute judgments on
you, and any of you who survive I will scatter to every wind.* [11]Therefore,
as I live, says the Lord GOD, surely, because you have defiled my sanctuary
with all your detestable things and with all your abominations, therefore I
will withdraw; my eye will not spare, and I will have no pity.* [12]One third
of you shall die of pestilence or be consumed by famine among you; one
third shall fall by the sword around you; and one third I will scatter to every
wind and will unsheathe the sword after them.*

13 “My anger shall spend itself, and I will vent my fury on them and satisfy myself, and they shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken in my jealousy when I spend my fury on them.* 14Moreover, I will make you a desolation and an object of mocking among the nations around you, in the sight of all who pass by.* 15You shall be[l] a mockery and a taunt, a warning and a horror, to the nations around you when I execute judgments on you in anger and fury and with furious punishments—I, the LORD, have spoken*— 16when I loose against you[m] my deadly arrows of famine, arrows for destruction, which I will let loose to destroy you, and when I bring more and more famine upon you and cut off your supply of bread.[n,*] 17I will send famine and wild animals against you, and they will rob you of your children; pestilence and bloodshed shall pass through you, and I will bring the sword upon you. I, the LORD, have spoken.”*

Ezekiel 6

JUDGMENT ON IDOLATROUS ISRAEL

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]O mortal, set your face toward the mountains of Israel and prophesy against them [3]and say: You mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD! Thus says the Lord GOD to the mountains and the hills, to the ravines and the valleys: I, I myself, will bring a sword upon you, and I will destroy your high places.* [4]Your altars shall become desolate, and your incense stands shall be broken, and I will throw down your slain in front of your idols.* [5]I will lay the corpses of the people of Israel in front of their idols, and I will scatter your bones around your altars. [6]Wherever you live, your towns shall be waste and your high places ruined, so that your altars will be waste and ruined,[o] your idols broken and destroyed, your incense stands cut down, and your works wiped out.* [7]The slain shall fall in your midst; then you shall know that I am the LORD.*

8 But I will spare some. Some of you shall escape the sword among the nations and be scattered through the countries.* [9]Your survivors shall remember me among the nations where they are carried captive, how I was crushed by their wanton heart that turned away from me and their wanton eyes that turned after their idols. Then they will be loathsome in their own sight for the evils that they have committed, for all their abominations.* [10]And they shall know that I am the LORD; I did not threaten in vain to bring this disaster upon them.

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: Strike your hands together and stamp your foot and say Alas! for all the vile abominations of the house of Israel. For they shall fall by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence.* [12]Those far off shall die of pestilence, those nearby shall fall by the sword, and any who are left and are spared shall die of famine. Thus I will spend my fury upon them.* [13]And you shall know that I am the LORD when their slain lie among their idols around their altars, on every high hill, on all the mountaintops, under every green tree, and under every leafy oak, wherever they offered pleasing odor to all their idols.* [14]I will stretch out my hand against them

and make the land desolate and waste, throughout all their settlements, from the wilderness to Riblah.[p] Then they shall know that I am the LORD.[*]

Ezekiel 7

IMPENDING DISASTER

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]You, O mortal, thus says the Lord GOD to the land of Israel:

An end! The end has come
upon the four corners of the land.*
[3]Now the end is upon you;
I will let loose my anger upon you;
I will judge you according to your ways;
I will punish you for all your abominations.
[4]My eye will not spare you; I will have no pity.
I will punish you for your ways
while your abominations are among you.
Then you shall know that I am the LORD.*

5 Thus says the Lord GOD:

Disaster after disaster! See, it comes.*
[6]An end has come; the end has come.
It has awakened against you; see, it comes!
[7]Your doom[q] has come to you,
O inhabitant of the land.
The time has come; the day is near—
of tumult, not of reveling on the mountains.*
[8]Soon now I will pour out my wrath upon you;
I will spend my anger against you.
I will judge you according to your ways
and punish you for all your abominations.*
[9]My eye will not spare; I will have no pity.

I will punish you according to your ways
while your abominations are among you.
Then you shall know that it is I the LORD who strike.
10 See, the day! See, it comes!
Your doom[r] has gone out.
The rod has blossomed; pride has budded.
11 Violence has grown into a rod of wickedness.
None of them shall remain,
not their abundance, not their wealth;
no preeminence among them.[s,*]
12 The time has come; the day draws near;
let not the buyer rejoice nor the seller mourn,
for wrath is upon all their multitude.
13 For the sellers shall not return to what has been sold as long as they remain alive. For the vision concerns all their multitude; it shall not be revoked. Because of their iniquity, they cannot maintain their lives.[t]
14 They have blown the horn and made everything ready,
but no one goes to battle,
for my wrath is upon all their multitude.
15 The sword is outside; pestilence and famine are inside;
those in the field die by the sword;
those in the city—famine and pestilence devour them.[*]
16 If any survivors escape,
they shall be found on the mountains
like doves of the valleys,
all of them moaning over their iniquity.[*]
17 All hands shall grow feeble,
all knees turn to water.[*]
18 They shall put on sackcloth;
horror shall cover them.

Shame shall be on all faces,
baldness on all their heads.*
19They shall fling their silver into the streets;
their gold shall be treated as unclean.
Their silver and gold cannot save them on the day of the wrath of the LORD.
They shall not satisfy their hunger or fill their stomachs with it. For it was
the stumbling block of their iniquity.* 20From their[u] beautiful ornament, in
which they took pride, they made their abominable images, their detestable
things; therefore I will make of it an unclean thing to them.*
21I will hand it over to strangers as plunder,
to the wicked of the earth as spoil;
they shall profane it.*
22I will avert my face from them
so that they may profane my treasured[v] place;
the violent shall enter it;
they shall profane it.*
23Make a chain![w]
For the land is full of bloody crimes;
the city is full of violence.*
24I will bring the worst of the nations
to take possession of their houses.
I will put an end to the arrogance of the strong,
and their holy places shall be profaned.*
25When anguish comes, they will seek peace,
but there shall be none.*
26Disaster comes upon disaster;
rumor follows rumor;
they shall keep seeking a vision from the prophet;
instruction shall perish from the priest
and counsel from the elders.*

[27]The king shall mourn,
the prince shall be wrapped in despair,
and the hands of the people of the land shall tremble.
According to their way I will deal with them;
according to their own judgments I will judge them.
And they shall know that I am the LORD.*

Ezekiel 8

ABOMINATIONS IN THE TEMPLE

1 In the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I sat
in my house with the elders of Judah sitting before me, the hand of the Lord
GOD fell upon me there.* [2]I looked, and there was a figure that looked like a
man;[x] below what appeared to be its loins the figure was fire, and above the
loins it was like the appearance of brightness, like gleaming amber.* [3]It
stretched out the form of a hand and took me by a lock of my head, and the
spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and brought me in visions of
God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the gateway of the inner court that
faces north, to the seat of the image of jealousy that provokes to jealousy.*
[4]And the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the vision that I had seen
in the valley.*

5 Then God[y] said to me, "O mortal, lift up your eyes now in the direction
of the north." So I lifted up my eyes toward the north, and there, north of
the altar gate, in the entrance, was this image of jealousy.* [6]He said to me,
"Mortal, do you see what they are doing, the great abominations that the
house of Israel are committing here, to drive me far from my sanctuary? Yet
you will see still greater abominations."*

7 And he brought me to the entrance of the court; I looked, and there was
a hole in the wall. [8]Then he said to me, "Mortal, dig through the wall," and
when I dug through the wall, there was an entrance. [9]He said to me, "Go in
and see the vile abominations that they are committing here." [10]So I went in
and looked; there, portrayed on the wall all around, were all kinds of
creeping things and loathsome animals and all the idols of the house of
Israel.* [11]Before them stood seventy of the elders of the house of Israel,
with Jaazaniah son of Shaphan standing among them. Each had his censer
in his hand, and the fragrant cloud of incense was ascending.* [12]Then he
said to me, "Mortal, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel are
doing in the dark, each in his room of images? For they say, 'The LORD does
not see us; the LORD has forsaken the land.' " [13]He said also to me, "You
will see still greater abominations that they are committing."*

14 Then he brought me to the entrance of the north gate of the house of
the LORD; women were sitting there weeping for Tammuz.* 15Then he said
to me, "Have you seen this, O mortal? You will see still greater
abominations than these."

16 And he brought me into the inner court of the house of the LORD;
there, at the entrance of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the
altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs to the temple of the LORD
and their faces toward the east, prostrating themselves to the sun toward the
east.* 17Then he said to me, "Have you seen this, O mortal? Is it not bad
enough that the house of Judah commits the abominations done here? Must
they fill the land with violence and provoke my anger still further? See, they
are putting the branch to their nose!* 18Therefore I will act in wrath; my eye
will not spare, nor will I have pity, and though they cry in my hearing with
a loud voice, I will not listen to them."*

Ezekiel 9

THE SLAUGHTER OF THE IDOLATERS

1 Then he cried in my hearing with a loud voice, saying, “Draw near, you executioners of the city, each with his destroying weapon in his hand.”
[2]And six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his weapon for slaughter in his hand; among them was a man clothed in linen with a writing case at his side. They went in and stood beside the bronze altar.*

3 Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub on which it rested to the entryway of the temple. The LORD[z] called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing case at his side* [4]and said to him, “Go through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of those who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it.”* [5]To the others he said in my hearing, “Pass through the city after him and kill; your eye shall not spare, and you shall show no pity.* [6]Cut down old men, young men and young women, little children and women, but touch no one who has the mark. And begin at my sanctuary.” So they began with the elders who were in front of the house.* [7]Then he said to them, “Defile the house and fill the courts with the slain. Go!” So they went out and killed in the city.* [8]While they were killing and I was left alone, I fell prostrate on my face and cried out, “Ah Lord GOD! Will you destroy all who remain of Israel as you pour out your wrath upon Jerusalem?”* [9]He said to me, “The guilt of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great; the land is full of bloodshed and the city full of perversity, for they say, ‘The LORD has forsaken the land, and the LORD does not see.’* [10]As for me, my eye will not spare, nor will I have pity, but I will bring down their deeds upon their heads.”*

11 Then the man clothed in linen with the writing case at his side brought back word, saying, “I have done as you commanded me.”

Ezekiel 10

GOD'S GLORY LEAVES JERUSALEM

1 Then I looked, and above the dome that was over the heads of the cherubim there appeared above them something like a sapphire,[a] in form resembling a throne.* [2]He said to the man clothed in linen, "Go within the wheelwork underneath the cherubim; fill your hands with burning coals from among the cherubim, and scatter them over the city." He went in as I looked on.* [3]Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the house when the man went in, and a cloud filled the inner court.* [4]Then the glory of the LORD rose up from the cherub to the entryway of the temple; the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the glory of the LORD.* [5]The sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard as far as the outer court, like the voice of God Almighty[b] when he speaks.*

6 When he commanded the man clothed in linen, "Take fire from within the wheelwork, from among the cherubim," he went in and stood beside a wheel. [7]And a cherub stretched out his hand from among the cherubim to the fire that was among the cherubim, took some of it, and put it into the hands of the man clothed in linen, who took it and went out. [8]The cherubim appeared to have the form of a human hand under their wings.

9 I looked, and there were four wheels beside the cherubim, one beside each cherub, and the appearance of the wheels was like gleaming beryl.* [10]And as for their appearance, the four looked alike, something like a wheel within a wheel. [11]When they moved, they moved in any of the four directions without veering as they moved, but in whatever direction the front wheel faced, the others followed without veering as they moved. [12]Their entire bodies—backs, hands, and wings—were covered with eyes all around, as were the wheels of the four of them.* [13]As for the wheels, they were called in my hearing "the wheelwork." [14]Each one had four faces: the first face was that of the cherub, the second face was that of a human, the third that of a lion, and the fourth that of an eagle.*

15 The cherubim rose up. These were the living creatures that I saw by
the River Chebar. [16]When the cherubim moved, the wheels moved beside
them, and when the cherubim lifted up their wings to rise up from the earth,
the wheels at their side did not veer.* [17]When they stopped, the others
stopped, and when they rose up, the others rose up with them, for a living
spirit was in them.*

18 Then the glory of the LORD went out from the entryway of the temple
and stopped above the cherubim. [19]The cherubim lifted up their wings and
rose up from the earth in my sight as they went out with the wheels beside
them. They stopped at the entrance of the east gate of the house of the
LORD, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.*

20 These were the living creatures that I saw underneath the God of
Israel by the River Chebar, and I knew that they were cherubim.* [21]Each
had four faces, each four wings, and underneath their wings something like
human hands.* [22]As for what their faces were like, they were the same faces
whose appearance I had seen by the River Chebar. Each one moved straight
ahead.*

Ezekiel 11

JUDGMENT ON WICKED COUNSELORS

1 The spirit lifted me up and brought me to the east gate of the house of the LORD, which faces east. There, at the entrance of the gateway, were twenty-five men; among them I saw Jaazaniah son of Azzur and Pelatiah son of Benaiah, officials of the people.* [2]He said to me, "Mortal, these are the men who devise iniquity and who give wicked counsel in this city;* [3]they say, 'The time is not near to build houses; this city is the pot, and we are the meat.'* [4]Therefore prophesy against them; prophesy, O mortal."*

5 Then the spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and he said to me, "Say, Thus says the LORD: This is what you think, O house of Israel; I know the things that come into your mind.* [6]You have killed many in this city and have filled its streets with the slain.* [7]Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: The slain whom you have placed within it are the meat, and this city is the pot, but you shall be taken out of it.* [8]You have feared the sword, and I will bring the sword upon you, says the Lord GOD. [9]I will take you out of it and give you over to the hands of foreigners and execute judgments upon you.* [10]You shall fall by the sword; I will judge you at the border of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD.* [11]This city shall not be your pot, and you shall not be the meat inside it; I will judge you at the border of Israel. [12]Then you shall know that I am the LORD, whose statutes you have not followed and whose ordinances you have not kept, but you have acted according to the ordinances of the nations that are around you."*

13 Now, while I was prophesying, Pelatiah son of Benaiah died. Then I fell down on my face, cried with a loud voice, and said, "Ah Lord GOD! You are finishing off the remnant of Israel!"*

GOD WILL RESTORE ISRAEL

14 Then the word of the LORD came to me: [15]Mortal, your kinsfolk, your own kin, your fellow exiles,[c] the whole house of Israel, all of them, are those of whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, "Stay far from the

LORD; to us this land is given for a possession."* 16Therefore say: Thus says the Lord GOD: Though I removed them far away among the nations and though I scattered them among the countries, yet I have been a sanctuary to them for a little while[d] in the countries where they have gone.* 17Therefore say: Thus says the Lord GOD: I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.* 18When they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations.* 19I will give them one heart and put a new spirit within them;[e] I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh,* 20so that they may follow my statutes and keep my ordinances and obey them. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God.* 21But as for those whose heart goes after their detestable things and their abominations,[f] I will bring their deeds upon their own heads, says the Lord GOD.*

22 Then the cherubim lifted up their wings, with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.* 23And the glory of the LORD ascended from the middle of the city and stopped on the mountain east of the city.* 24The spirit lifted me up and brought me in a vision by the spirit of God into Chaldea, to the exiles. Then the vision that I had seen left me. 25And I told the exiles all the things that the LORD had shown me.

Ezekiel 12

JUDAH'S CAPTIVITY PORTRAYED

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, you are living in the midst of
a rebellious house who have eyes to see but do not see, who have ears to
hear but do not hear,* [3]for they are a rebellious house. Therefore, mortal,
prepare for yourself an exile's baggage, and go into exile by day in their
sight; you shall go like an exile from your place to another place in their
sight. Perhaps they will understand, though they are a rebellious house.*
[4]You shall bring out your baggage by day in their sight, as baggage for
exile, and you shall go out yourself at evening in their sight, as those do
who go into exile.* [5]Dig through the wall in their sight, and carry the
baggage through it. [6]In their sight you shall lift the baggage on your
shoulder and carry it out in the dark; you shall cover your face, so that you
may not see the land, for I have made you a sign for the house of Israel.*

7 I did just as I was commanded. I brought out my baggage by day, as
baggage for exile, and in the evening I dug through the wall with my own
hands; I brought it out in the dark, carrying it on my shoulder in their sight.

8 In the morning the word of the LORD came to me: [9]Mortal, has not the
house of Israel, the rebellious house, said to you, "What are you doing?"*
[10]Say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: This oracle concerns the prince in
Jerusalem[g] and all the house of Israel in it."[h,*] [11]Say, "I am a sign for you:
as I have done, so shall it be done to them; they shall go into exile, into
captivity."* [12]And the prince who is among them shall lift his baggage on
his shoulder in the dark and shall go out; he[i] shall dig through the wall and
carry it through; he shall cover his face so that he may not see the land with
his eyes.* [13]I will spread my net over him, and he shall be caught in my
snare, and I will bring him to Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans, yet he
shall not see it, and he shall die there.* [14]I will scatter to every wind all who
are around him, his helpers and all his troops, and I will unsheathe the
sword behind them.* [15]And they shall know that I am the LORD when I
disperse them among the nations and scatter them through the countries.*
[16]But I will let a few of them escape from the sword, from famine and

pestilence, so that they may tell of all their abominations among the nations where they go; then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

JUDGMENT NOT POSTPONED

17 The word of the LORD came to me: [18]Mortal, eat your bread with quaking and drink your water with trembling and with fearfulness; [19]and say to the people of the land: "Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the inhabitants of Jerusalem in the land of Israel: They shall eat their bread with fearfulness and drink their water in dismay, because their land shall be stripped of all it contains, on account of the violence of all those who live in it.* [20]The inhabited cities shall be laid waste, and the land shall become a desolation, and you shall know that I am the LORD."*

21 The word of the LORD came to me: [22]Mortal, what is this proverb of yours about the land of Israel that says, "The days are prolonged, and every vision comes to nothing"?* [23]Tell them therefore, "Thus says the Lord GOD: I will put an end to this proverb, and they shall use it no more as a proverb in Israel." But say to them: "The days are near, and the fulfillment of every vision.* [24]For there shall no longer be any false vision or flattering divination within the house of Israel.* [25]But I the LORD will speak the word that I speak, and it will be fulfilled. It will no longer be delayed, but in your days, O rebellious house, I will speak the word and fulfill it, says the Lord GOD."*

26 The word of the LORD came to me: [27]Mortal, the house of Israel is saying, "The vision that he sees is for many years ahead; he prophesies for distant times."* [28]Therefore say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: None of my words will be delayed any longer, but the word that I speak will be fulfilled, says the Lord GOD."*

Ezekiel 13

FALSE PROPHETS CONDEMNED

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who are prophesying; say to those who prophesy out of their own imaginations: "Hear the word of the LORD!"* [3]Thus says the Lord GOD: Alas for the senseless prophets who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing!* [4]Your prophets have been like jackals among ruins, O Israel. [5]You have not gone up into the breaches or repaired a wall for the house of Israel, so that it might stand in battle on the day of the LORD.* [6]They have envisioned falsehood and lying divination; they say, "Says the LORD," when the LORD has not sent them, and yet they wait for the fulfillment of their word!* [7]Have you not seen a false vision or uttered a lying divination when you have said, "Says the LORD," even though I did not speak?

8 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because you have uttered falsehood and envisioned lies, I am against you, says the Lord GOD. [9]My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and utter lying divinations; they shall not be in the council of my people nor be enrolled in the register of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter the land of Israel, and you shall know that I am the Lord GOD.* [10]Because, in truth, because they have misled my people, saying, "Peace," when there is no peace, and because, when the people build a flimsy wall, these prophets[j] smear whitewash on it.* [11]Say to those who smear whitewash on it that it shall fall. There will be a deluge of rain,[k] great hailstones will fall, and a stormy wind will break out.* [12]When the wall falls, will it not be said to you, "Where is the whitewash you smeared on it?" [13]Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: In my wrath I will make a stormy wind break out, and in my anger there shall be a deluge of rain and hailstones in wrath to destroy it. [14]I will break down the wall that you have smeared with whitewash and bring it to the ground, so that its foundation will be laid bare; when the city falls, you shall perish within it, and you shall know that I am the LORD.* [15]Thus I will spend my wrath upon the wall and upon those who have smeared it with whitewash, and I will say to you, "The wall is no more, nor those who smeared it—[16]the prophets of

Israel who prophesied concerning Jerusalem and saw visions of peace for it when there was no peace, says the Lord God.”*

17 As for you, mortal, set your face against the daughters of your people who prophesy out of their own imaginations; prophesy against them* 18and say: Thus says the Lord God: Woe to the women who sew bands on all wrists and make veils for the heads of persons of every height, in the hunt for lives! Will you hunt down lives among my people and maintain your own lives?* 19You have profaned me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, putting to death those who should not die and keeping alive those who should not live, by your lies to my people, who listen to lies.*

20 Therefore thus says the Lord God: I am against your bands with which you hunt lives;[1] I will tear them from your arms and let the lives go free, the lives that you hunt down like birds. 21I will tear off your veils and save my people from your hands; they shall no longer be prey in your hands, and you shall know that I am the Lord. 22Because you have disheartened the righteous falsely, although I have not disheartened them, and you have encouraged the wicked not to turn from their wicked way and save their lives,* 23therefore you shall no longer see false visions or practice divination; I will save my people from your hand. Then you will know that I am the Lord.*

Ezekiel 14

GOD'S JUDGMENTS JUSTIFIED

1 Certain elders of Israel came to me and sat down before me.* [2]And the word of the LORD came to me: [3]Mortal, these men have taken their idols into their hearts and placed their iniquity as a stumbling block before them; shall I let myself be consulted by them?* [4]Therefore speak to them, and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: Any of those of the house of Israel who take their idols into their hearts and place their iniquity as a stumbling block before them and yet come to the prophet, I the LORD will answer those who come with the multitude of their idols, [5]in order that I may take hold of the hearts of the house of Israel, all of whom are estranged from me through their idols.*

6 Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD: Repent and turn away from your idols, and turn away your faces from all your abominations.* [7]For any of those of the house of Israel or of the aliens who reside in Israel who separate themselves from me, taking their idols into their hearts and placing their iniquity as a stumbling block before them and yet come to a prophet to inquire of me by him, I the LORD will answer them myself.* [8]I will set my face against them; I will make them a sign and a byword and cut them off from the midst of my people, and you shall know that I am the LORD.*

9 If a prophet is deceived and speaks a word, I, the LORD, have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand against him and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel.* [10]And they shall bear their punishment—the punishment of the inquirer and the punishment of the prophet shall be the same—[11]so that the house of Israel may no longer go astray from me nor defile themselves any more with all their transgressions. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God, says the Lord GOD.*

12 The word of the LORD came to me: [13]Mortal, when a land sins against me by acting faithlessly and I stretch out my hand against it and cut off its supply of bread[m] and send famine upon it and cut off from it humans and animals,* [14]even if Noah, Daniel,[n] and Job, these three, were in it, they

would save only their own lives by their righteousness, says the Lord God.* 15If I send wild animals through the land to ravage it so that it is made desolate and no one may pass through because of the animals,* 16even if these three men were in it, as I live, says the Lord God, they would save neither sons nor daughters; they alone would be saved, but the land would be desolate. 17Or if I bring a sword upon that land and say, "Let a sword pass through the land," and I cut off humans and animals from it,* 18though these three men were in it, as I live, says the Lord God, they would save neither sons nor daughters, but they alone would be saved. 19Or if I send a pestilence into that land and pour out my wrath upon it with blood, to cut off humans and animals from it,* 20even if Noah, Daniel,o and Job were in it, as I live, says the Lord God, they would save neither son nor daughter; they would save only their own lives by their righteousness.

21 Therefore thus says the Lord God: How much more when I send upon Jerusalem my four deadly acts of judgment, sword, famine, wild animals, and pestilence, to cut off humans and animals from it!* 22Yet survivors shall be left in it, sons and daughters who will be brought out; they will come out to you. When you see their ways and their deeds, you will be consoled for the evil that I have brought upon Jerusalem, for all that I have brought upon it.* 23They shall console you when you see their ways and their deeds, and you shall know that it was not without cause that I did all that I have done in it, says the Lord God.*

Ezekiel 15

THE USELESS VINE

1 The word of the LORD came to me:

[2]O mortal, how does the wood of the vine surpass all other wood,
the vine branch that is among the trees of the forest?*
[3]Is wood taken from it to make anything?
Does one take a peg from it on which to hang any object?
[4]It is put in the fire for fuel;
when the fire has consumed both ends of it
and the middle of it is charred,
is it useful for anything?*
[5]When it was whole it was used for nothing;
how much less—when the fire has consumed it,
and it is charred—
can it ever be used for anything!

6 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Like the wood of the vine among the trees of the forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, so I will give up the inhabitants of Jerusalem.* [7]I will set my face against them; although they escape from the fire, the fire shall still consume them, and you shall know that I am the LORD when I set my face against them.* [8]And I will make the land desolate because they have acted faithlessly, says the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 16

GOD'S FAITHLESS BRIDE

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, make known to Jerusalem her
abominations* [3]and say: Thus says the Lord GOD to Jerusalem: Your origin
and your birth were in the land of the Canaanites; your father was an
Amorite and your mother a Hittite.* [4]As for your birth, on the day you were
born your navel cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to
cleanse you, nor rubbed with salt, nor wrapped in cloths.* [5]No eye pitied
you to do any of these things for you out of compassion for you, but you
were thrown out in the open field, for you were abhorred on the day you
were born.*

6 I passed by you and saw you flailing about in your blood. As you lay in
your blood, I said to you, "Live!* [7]and grow up[p] like a plant of the field."
You grew up and became tall and arrived at full womanhood;[q] your breasts
were formed, and your hair had grown, yet you were naked and bare.*

8 I passed by you again and looked on you; you were at the age for love.
I spread the edge of my cloak over you and covered your nakedness: I
pledged myself to you and entered into a covenant with you, says the Lord
GOD, and you became mine.* [9]Then I bathed you with water and washed off
the blood from you and anointed you with oil. [10]I clothed you with
embroidered cloth and with sandals of fine leather; I bound you in fine linen
and covered you with rich fabric.[r] [11]I adorned you with ornaments: I put
bracelets on your arms, a chain on your neck,* [12]a ring on your nose,
earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown upon your head. [13]You were
adorned with gold and silver, while your clothing was of fine linen, rich
fabric,[s] and embroidered cloth. You had choice flour and honey and oil for
food. You grew exceedingly beautiful, fit to be a queen.* [14]Your fame
spread among the nations on account of your beauty, for it was perfect
because of my splendor that I had bestowed on you, says the Lord GOD.

15 But you trusted in your beauty and prostituted yourself because of
your fame and lavished your prostitutions on any passer-by.[t,*] [16]You took
some of your garments and made for yourself colorful high places and on

them prostituted yourself; nothing like this has ever been or ever shall be.[u,*]
17You also took your beautiful jewels of my gold and my silver that I had
given you and made for yourself male images and with them prostituted
yourself,* 18and you took your embroidered garments to cover them and set
my oil and my incense before them. 19Also my bread that I gave you—I fed
you with choice flour and oil and honey—you set it before them as a
pleasing odor, and so it was, says the Lord GOD. 20You took your sons and
your daughters, whom you had borne to me, and these you sacrificed to
them to be devoured. As if your prostitutions were not enough!* 21You
slaughtered my children and delivered them up as an offering to them.*
22And in all your abominations and your prostitutions you did not
remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, flailing
about in your blood.*

23 After all your wickedness (woe, woe to you! says the Lord GOD),
24you built yourself a platform and made yourself a lofty place in every
square;* 25at the head of every street you built your lofty place and
prostituted your beauty, offering yourself[v] to every passer-by and
multiplying your prostitution.* 26You prostituted yourself with the
Egyptians, your lustful neighbors,[w] multiplying your prostitution, to
provoke me to anger.* 27Therefore I stretched out my hand against you,
reduced your rations, and gave you up to the will of your enemies, the
daughters of the Philistines, who were ashamed of your lewd behavior.*
28You prostituted yourself with the Assyrians because you were insatiable;
you prostituted yourself with them, and still you were not satisfied.* 29You
multiplied your prostitution with Chaldea, the land of merchants, and even
with this you were not satisfied.*

30 How sick is your heart,[x] says the Lord GOD, that you did all these
things, the deeds of a brazen prostitute, 31building your platform at the head
of every street and making your lofty place in every square! Yet you were
not like a prostitute because you scorned payment. 32Adulterous wife who
receives strangers instead of her husband! 33Gifts are given to all
prostitutes, but you gave your gifts to all your lovers, bribing them to come
to you from all around for your prostitutions.* 34So you were different from
other women in your prostitutions: no one solicited you to prostitute

yourself, and you gave payment, while no payment was given to you; you were different.

35 Therefore, O prostitute, hear the word of the LORD: [36]Thus says the Lord GOD: Because your lust was poured out and your nakedness uncovered in your prostitution with your lovers, and because of all your abominable idols, and because of the blood of your children that you gave to them,* [37]therefore, I will gather all your lovers with whom you took pleasure, all those you loved and all those you hated; I will gather them against you from all around and will uncover your nakedness to them so that they may see all your nakedness.* [38]I will judge you as women who commit adultery and shed blood are judged and bring blood upon you in wrath and jealousy.* [39]I will deliver you into their hands, and they shall throw down your platform and break down your lofty places; they shall strip you of your clothes and take your beautiful objects and leave you naked and bare.* [40]They shall bring up a mob against you, and they shall stone you and cut you to pieces with their swords.* [41]They shall burn your houses and execute judgments on you in the sight of many women; I will stop you from prostituting yourself, and you shall also make no more payments.* [42]So I will satisfy my fury on you, and my jealousy shall turn away from you; I will be calm and will be angry no longer. [43]Because you have not remembered the days of your youth but have enraged me with all these things, therefore I have returned your deeds upon your head, says the Lord GOD.

Have you not committed lewdness beyond all your abominations?* [44]See, everyone who uses proverbs will use this proverb about you, "Like mother, like daughter."* [45]You are the daughter of your mother, who loathed her husband and her children, and you are the sister of your sisters, who loathed their husbands and their children. Your mother was a Hittite and your father an Amorite. [46]Your big sister is Samaria, who lived with her daughters to the north of you; your little sister, who lived to the south of you, is Sodom with her daughters.* [47]You not only followed their ways and acted according to their abominations; within a very little time you were more corrupt than they in all your ways.* [48]As I live, says the Lord GOD, your sister Sodom and her daughters have not done as you and your daughters have done.* [49]This was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease but did not aid the

poor and needy.* 50They were haughty and did abominable things before me; therefore I removed them when I saw it.* 51Samaria has not committed half your sins; you have committed more abominations than they and have made your sisters appear righteous by all the abominations that you have committed.* 52Bear your disgrace, you also, for you have brought about for your sisters a more favorable judgment; because of your sins in which you acted more abominably than they, they are more in the right than you. So be ashamed, you also, and bear your disgrace, for you have made your sisters appear righteous.

53 I will restore their fortunes, the fortunes of Sodom and her daughters and the fortunes of Samaria and her daughters, and I will restore your own fortunes along with theirs,* 54in order that you may bear your disgrace and be ashamed of all that you have done, becoming a consolation to them.* 55As for your sisters, Sodom and her daughters shall return to their former state; Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former state, and you and your daughters shall return to your former state. 56Was not your sister Sodom a byword in your mouth in the day of your pride, 57before your wickedness was uncovered? Now you are a mockery to the daughters of Edom[y] and all her neighbors and to the daughters of the Philistines, those all around who despise you.* 58You must bear the penalty of your lewdness and your abominations, says the LORD.*

AN EVERLASTING COVENANT

59 Yes, thus says the Lord GOD: I will deal with you as you have done, you who have despised the oath, breaking the covenant,* 60yet I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish with you an everlasting covenant.* 61Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed when you receive your older and younger sisters and I give them to you as daughters, but not on account of my[z] covenant with you.* 62I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall know that I am the LORD,* 63in order that you may remember and be confounded and never open your mouth again because of your shame, when I forgive you all that you have done, says the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 17

THE TWO EAGLES AND THE VINE

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]O mortal, propound a riddle and
speak an allegory to the house of Israel.* [3]Say: Thus says the Lord GOD:

A great eagle with great wings and long pinions,
rich in plumage of many colors,
came to the Lebanon.
He took the top of the cedar,*
[4]broke off its topmost shoot;
he carried it to a land of trade,
set it in a city of merchants.
[5]Then he took a seedling from the land,
placed it in fertile soil;
a plant[a] by abundant waters,
he set it like a willow twig.*
[6]It sprouted and became a vine
spreading out but low;
its branches turned toward him;
its roots remained where it stood.
So it became a vine;
it brought forth branches,
put forth foliage.

[7]There was another great eagle
with great wings and much plumage.
And see! This vine stretched out
its roots toward him;
it shot out its branches toward him

from the bed where it was planted
so that he might water it.*
[8]It had been transplanted
to good soil by abundant waters,
so that it might produce branches
and bear fruit
and become a noble vine.
[9]Say: Thus says the Lord God:
Will it prosper?
Will he not pull up its roots,
cause its fruit to rot[b] and wither,
its fresh sprouting leaves to fade?
No strong arm or mighty army will be needed
to pull it from its roots.
[10]Look, it has been transplanted. Will it thrive?
When the east wind strikes it,
will it not utterly wither,
wither on the bed where it grew?*

11 Then the word of the Lord came to me: [12]Say now to the rebellious house: Do you not know what these things mean? Tell them: The king of Babylon came to Jerusalem, took its king and its officials, and brought them back with him to Babylon.* [13]He took one of the royal offspring and made a covenant with him, putting him under oath (he had taken away the chief men of the land),* [14]so that the kingdom might be humble and not lift itself up and that by keeping his covenant it might stand.* [15]But he rebelled against him by sending ambassadors to Egypt, that they might give him horses and a large army. Will he succeed? Can one escape who does such things? Can he break the covenant and yet escape?* [16]As I live, says the Lord God, surely in the place where the king resides who made him king, whose oath he despised and whose covenant with him he broke—in Babylon he shall die.* [17]Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company will not help him in war, when ramps are cast up and siege walls built to cut

off many lives.* 18Because he despised the oath and broke the covenant, because he gave his hand and yet did all these things, he shall not escape.* 19Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: As I live, I will surely return upon his head my oath that he despised and my covenant that he broke. 20I will spread my net over him, and he shall be caught in my snare; I will bring him to Babylon and enter into judgment with him there for the treason he has committed against me.* 21All the pick[c] of his troops shall fall by the sword, and the survivors shall be scattered to every wind, and you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken.*

ISRAEL EXALTED AT LAST

22 Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of the cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender shoot
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will transplant it
on a high and lofty mountain.*
23On the mountain height of Israel
I will transplant it,
and it will produce boughs and bear fruit
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.*
24All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.
I bring low the high tree;
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree

and make the dry tree flourish.
I the LORD have spoken;
I will accomplish it.*

Ezekiel 18

INDIVIDUAL RETRIBUTION

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]What do you mean by repeating this
proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on edge"?* [3]As I live, says the Lord GOD,
this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. [4]Know that all lives are
mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only
the person who sins who shall die.*

5 If a man is righteous and does what is lawful and right—[6]if he does not
eat upon the mountains or lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel,
does not defile his neighbor's wife or approach a woman during her
menstrual period,* [7]does not oppress anyone but restores to the debtor his
pledge, commits no robbery, gives his bread to the hungry and covers the
naked with a garment,* [8]does not take advance or accrued interest,
withholds his hand from iniquity, executes true justice between contending
parties,* [9]follows my statutes, and is careful to observe my ordinances,
acting faithfully—such a one is righteous; he shall surely live, says the Lord
GOD.*

10 If he has a son who is violent, a shedder of blood,* [11]who does any of
these things (though his father[d] does none of them), who eats upon the
mountains, defiles his neighbor's wife, [12]oppresses the poor and needy,
commits robbery, does not restore the pledge, lifts up his eyes to the idols,
commits abomination,* [13]takes advance or accrued interest, shall he then
live? He shall not. He has done all these abominable things; he shall surely
be put to death; his blood shall be upon himself.*

14 But if this son has a son who sees all the sins that his father has done,
considers, and does not do likewise,* [15]who does not eat upon the
mountains or lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, does not
defile his neighbor's wife, [16]does not wrong anyone, exacts no pledge,
commits no robbery but gives his bread to the hungry and covers the naked
with a garment,* [17]withholds his hand from iniquity,[e] takes no advance or
accrued interest, observes my ordinances, and follows my statutes, he shall

not die for his father's iniquity; he shall surely live. [18]As for his father, because he practiced extortion, robbed his brother, and did what is not good among his people, he died for his iniquity.

19 Yet you say, "Why should not the son suffer for the iniquity of the father?" When the son has done what is lawful and right and has been careful to observe all my statutes, he shall surely live.* [20]The person who sins shall die. A child shall not suffer for the iniquity of a parent nor a parent suffer for the iniquity of a child; the righteousness of the righteous shall be their own, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be their own.*

21 But if the wicked turn away from all their sins that they have committed and keep all my statutes and do what is lawful and right, they shall surely live; they shall not die.* [22]None of the transgressions that they have committed shall be remembered against them, for the righteousness that they have done they shall live.* [23]Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord GOD, and not rather that they should turn from their ways and live?* [24]But when the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity and do the same abominable things that the wicked do, shall they live? None of the righteous deeds that they have done shall be remembered, for the treachery of which they are guilty and the sin they have committed, they shall die.*

25 Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?* [26]When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. [27]Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. [28]Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. [29]Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

30 Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.[f,*] [31]Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of

Israel?* 32For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God.
Turn, then, and live.*

Ezekiel 19

ISRAEL DEGRADED

1 As for you, raise up a lamentation for the princes of Israel,* 2and say:

What a lioness was your mother
among lions!
She lay down among young lions,
rearing her cubs.*
3She raised up one of her cubs;
he became a young lion,
and he learned to catch prey;
he devoured humans.*
4The nations heard about him;
he was caught in their pit,
and they brought him with hooks
to the land of Egypt.*
5When she saw that she was thwarted,
that her hope was lost,
she took another of her cubs
and made him a young lion.*
6He prowled among the lions;
he became a young lion,
and he learned to catch prey;
he devoured people.*
7And he ravaged their strongholds[g]
and laid waste their towns;
the land was appalled, and all in it,
at the sound of his roaring.*

[8]The nations set upon him
from the provinces all around;
they spread their net over him;
he was caught in their pit.*
[9]With hooks they put him in a neck collar
and brought him to the king of Babylon;
they brought him into custody,
so that his voice should be heard no more
on the mountains of Israel.*
[10]Your mother was like a vine in a vineyard[h]
transplanted by the water,
fruitful and full of branches
from abundant water.*
[11]Its strongest stem became
a ruler's scepter;[i]
it towered aloft
among the clouds;
it stood out in its height
with its mass of branches.*
[12]But it was plucked up in fury,
cast down to the ground;
the east wind dried it up;
its fruit was stripped off;
its strong stem was withered;
the fire consumed it.*
[13]Now it is transplanted into the wilderness,
into a dry and thirsty land.*
[14]And fire has gone out from its stem,
has consumed its branches and fruit,
so that there remains in it no strong stem,

no scepter for ruling.

This is a lamentation, and it is used as a lamentation.*

Ezekiel 20

ISRAEL'S CONTINUING REBELLION

1 In the seventh year, in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month,
certain elders of Israel came to consult the LORD and sat down before me.*
2And the word of the LORD came to me: 3Mortal, speak to the elders of
Israel, and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: Why are you coming? To
consult me? As I live, says the Lord GOD, I will not be consulted by you.
4Will you judge them, mortal; will you judge them? Then let them know the
abominations of their ancestors* 5and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD:
On the day when I chose Israel, I swore to the offspring of the house of
Jacob—making myself known to them in the land of Egypt—I swore to
them, saying, "I am the LORD your God."* 6On that day I swore to them that
I would bring them out of the land of Egypt into a land that I had searched
out for them, a land flowing with milk and honey, the most glorious of all
lands.* 7And I said to them, "Cast away the detestable things on which your
eyes feast, every one of you, and do not defile yourselves with the idols of
Egypt; I am the LORD your God."* 8But they rebelled against me and would
not listen to me; not one of them cast away the detestable things on which
their eyes feasted, nor did they forsake the idols of Egypt.

Then I thought I would pour out my wrath upon them and spend my
anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.* 9But I acted for the
sake of my name, that it should not be profaned in the sight of the nations
among whom they lived, in whose sight I made myself known to them in
bringing them out of the land of Egypt.* 10So I led them out of the land of
Egypt and brought them into the wilderness.* 11I gave them my statutes and
showed them my ordinances, by whose observance everyone shall live.*
12Moreover, I gave them my Sabbaths, as a sign between me and them, so
that they might know that I the LORD sanctify them.* 13But the house of
Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness; they did not observe my
statutes but rejected my ordinances, by whose observance everyone shall
live, and my Sabbaths they greatly profaned.

Then I thought I would pour out my wrath upon them in the wilderness,
to make an end of them.* 14But I acted for the sake of my name, so that it
should not be profaned in the sight of the nations, in whose sight I had
brought them out. 15Moreover, I swore to them in the wilderness that I
would not bring them into the land that I had given them, a land flowing
with milk and honey, the most glorious of all lands,* 16because they rejected
my ordinances and did not observe my statutes and profaned my Sabbaths,
for their heart went after their idols.* 17Nevertheless, my eye spared them,
and I did not destroy them or make an end of them in the wilderness.

18 I said to their children in the wilderness, "Do not follow the statutes of
your parents, nor observe their ordinances, nor defile yourselves with their
idols. 19I the LORD am your God; follow my statutes, be careful to observe
my ordinances,* 20and hallow my Sabbaths that they may be a sign between
me and you, so that you may know that I the LORD am your God." 21But the
children rebelled against me; they did not follow my statutes and were not
careful to observe my ordinances, by whose observance everyone shall live;
they profaned my Sabbaths.

Then I thought I would pour out my wrath upon them and spend my
anger against them in the wilderness.* 22But I withheld my hand and acted
for the sake of my name, so that it should not be profaned in the sight of the
nations, in whose sight I had brought them out.* 23Moreover, I swore to
them in the wilderness that I would scatter them among the nations and
disperse them through the countries,* 24because they had not executed my
ordinances but had rejected my statutes and profaned my Sabbaths, and
their eyes were set on their ancestors' idols. 25Moreover, I gave them
statutes that were not good and ordinances by which they could not live.*
26I defiled them through their very gifts, in their offering up all their
firstborn, in order that I might horrify them, so that they might know that I
am the LORD.*

27 Therefore, mortal, speak to the house of Israel and say to them: Thus
says the Lord GOD: In this again your ancestors blasphemed me by dealing
treacherously with me.* 28For when I had brought them into the land that I
swore to give them, then wherever they saw any high hill or any leafy tree,
there they offered their sacrifices and presented the provocation of their
offering; there they sent up their pleasing odors, and there they poured out

their drink offerings.* 29(I said to them, "What is the high place to which you go? So it is called Bamah[j] to this day.") 30Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD: Will you defile yourselves after the manner of your ancestors and go astray after their detestable things? 31When you offer your gifts and make your children pass through the fire, you defile yourselves with all your idols to this day. And shall I be consulted by you, O house of Israel? As I live, says the Lord GOD, I will not be consulted by you.*

32 What is in your mind shall never happen—the thought, "Let us be like the nations, like the tribes of the countries, and worship wood and stone."

GOD WILL RESTORE ISRAEL

33 As I live, says the Lord GOD, surely with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out, I will be king over you.* 34I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out, 35and I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will enter into judgment with you face to face.* 36As I entered into judgment with your ancestors in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgment with you, says the Lord GOD.* 37I will make you pass under the staff and will bring you within the bond of the covenant.* 38I will purge out the rebels among you and those who transgress against me; I will bring them out of the land where they reside as aliens, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.*

39 As for you, O house of Israel, thus says the Lord GOD: Go serve your idols, every one of you now and hereafter, if you will not listen to me, but my holy name you shall no more profane with your gifts and your idols.*

40 For on my holy mountain, the mountain height of Israel, says the Lord GOD, there all the house of Israel, all of them, shall serve me in the land; there I will accept them, and there I will require your contributions and the choicest of your gifts, with all your sacred things.* 41As a pleasing odor I will accept you, when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will manifest my holiness among you in the sight of the nations.* 42You shall know that I am

the LORD when I bring you into the land of Israel, the country that I swore to give to your ancestors.* 43There you shall remember your ways and all the deeds by which you have polluted yourselves, and you shall loathe yourselves for all the evils that you have committed.* 44And you shall know that I am the LORD when I deal with you for my name's sake, not according to your evil ways or corrupt deeds, O house of Israel, says the Lord GOD.*

A PROPHECY AGAINST THE NEGEB

45 [k]The word of the LORD came to me: 46Mortal, set your face toward the south, preach against the south, and prophesy against the forest land in the Negeb;* 47say to the forest of the Negeb: Hear the word of the LORD: Thus says the Lord GOD: I will kindle a fire in you, and it shall devour every green tree in you and every dry tree; the blazing flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from south to north shall be scorched by it.* 48All flesh shall see that I the LORD have kindled it; it shall not be quenched.* 49Then I said, "Ah Lord GOD! They are saying of me, 'Is he not a maker of allegories?' "*

Ezekiel 21

THE DRAWN SWORD OF GOD

1 [l]The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, set your face toward
Jerusalem and preach against the sanctuaries; prophesy against the land of
Israel[*] [3]and say to the land of Israel: Thus says the LORD: I am coming
against you and will draw my sword out of its sheath and will cut off from
you both righteous and wicked.[*] [4]Because I will cut off from you both
righteous and wicked, therefore my sword shall go out of its sheath against
all flesh from south to north, [5]and all flesh shall know that I the LORD have
drawn my sword out of its sheath; it shall not be sheathed again. [6]Moan,
therefore, mortal; moan with body collapsed and bitter grief before their
eyes.[*] [7]And when they say to you, "Why do you moan?" you shall say,
"Because of the news that has come. Every heart will melt, and all hands
will be feeble, every spirit will faint, and all knees will turn to water. See, it
comes and it will be fulfilled," says the Lord GOD.

8 And the word of the LORD came to me: [9]Mortal, prophesy and say:
Thus says the Lord; say:

A sword, a sword is sharpened;
it is also polished;[*]
[10]it is sharpened for slaughter,
honed to flash like lightning!
How can we make merry?
You have despised the rod
and all discipline.[m]
[11]The sword[n] is given to be polished
to be grasped in the hand;
it is sharpened; the sword is polished
to be placed in the slayer's hand.
[12]Cry and wail, O mortal,
for it is against my people;

it is against all Israel's princes;
they are thrown to the sword,
together with my people.
Ah! Strike the thigh![*]
13For consider: What! If you despise the rod, will it not happen?[o] says the Lord God.
14And you, mortal, prophesy;
strike hand to hand.
Let the sword fall twice, thrice;
it is a sword for killing.
A sword for great slaughter—
it surrounds them;[*]
15therefore hearts melt,
and many stumble.
At all their gates I have set
the point[p] of the sword.
Ah! It is made for flashing;
it is drawn for slaughter.
16Attack to the right!
Engage to the left!
—wherever your edge is directed.
17I, too, will strike hand to hand;
I will satisfy my fury;
I the Lord have spoken.[*]

18 The word of the Lord came to me: 19Mortal, mark out two roads for the sword of the king of Babylon to come; both of them shall issue from the same land. And make a signpost; make it for a fork in the road leading to a city;[*] 20mark out the road for the sword to come to Rabbah of the Ammonites or to Judah and to[q] Jerusalem the fortified.[*] 21For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the way, at the fork in the two roads, to use divination; he shakes the arrows; he consults the teraphim;[r] he inspects the

liver.* [22]Into his right hand comes the lot for Jerusalem, to set battering rams, to call out for slaughter, for raising the battle cry, to set battering rams against the gates, to cast up ramps, to build siege towers. [23]But to them it will seem like a false divination; they have sworn solemn oaths, but he brings their guilt to remembrance, bringing about their capture.*

24 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because you have brought your guilt to remembrance, in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your deeds your sins appear—because you have come to remembrance, you shall be taken in hand.[s]

[25]As for you, vile, wicked prince of Israel,
you whose day has come,
the time of final punishment,*
[26]thus says the Lord GOD:
Remove the turban, take off the crown;
things shall not remain as they are.
Exalt that which is low;
humble that which is high.*
[27]A ruin, a ruin, a ruin—
I will make it!
(Such has never occurred.)
Until he comes whose right it is;
to him I will give it.*

28 As for you, mortal, prophesy, and say: Thus says the Lord GOD concerning the Ammonites and concerning their reproach; say:

A sword, a sword! Drawn for slaughter,
polished to consume,[t] to flash like lightning.*
[29]Offering false visions for you,
divining lies for you,
they place you over the necks
of the vile, wicked ones—
those whose day has come,

the time of final punishment.*
30 Return it to its sheath!
In the place where you were created,
in the land of your origin,
I will judge you.*
31 I will pour out my indignation upon you;
with the fire of my wrath
I will blow upon you.
I will deliver you into brutish hands,
those skillful to destroy.*
32 You shall be fuel for the fire,
your blood shall enter the earth;
you shall be remembered no more,
for I the LORD have spoken.*

Ezekiel 22

THE BLOODY CITY

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]You, mortal, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? Then declare to it all its abominable deeds.* [3]You shall say: Thus says the Lord GOD: A city! Shedding blood within itself; its time has come; making its idols, defiling itself. [4]You have become guilty by the blood that you have shed and defiled by the idols that you have made; you have brought your days near; the appointed time of your years has come. Therefore I have made you a disgrace before the nations and a mockery to all the countries. [5]Those who are near and those who are far from you will mock you, you infamous one, full of tumult.

6 The princes of Israel in you, everyone according to his power, have been bent on shedding blood.* [7]Father and mother are treated with contempt in you; the alien residing within you suffers extortion; the orphan and the widow are wronged in you.* [8]You have despised my holy things and profaned my Sabbaths.* [9]In you are those who slander to shed blood, those in you who eat upon the mountains, who commit lewdness in your midst.* [10]In you they uncover their fathers' nakedness; in you they violate women during their menstrual periods.* [11]One commits abomination with his neighbor's wife; another lewdly defiles his daughter-in-law; another in you defiles his sister, his father's daughter.* [12]In you, they take bribes to shed blood; you take both advance interest and accrued interest and make gain of your neighbors by extortion, and you have forgotten me, says the Lord GOD.*

13 See, I strike my hands together at the dishonest gain you have made and at the blood that has been shed within you. [14]Can your courage endure, or can your hands remain strong in the days when I shall deal with you? I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.* [15]I will scatter you among the nations and disperse you through the countries, and I will purge your filthiness out of you.* [16]And you shall be profaned within yourself in the sight of the nations, and you shall know that I am the LORD.

17 The word of the LORD came to me: [18]Mortal, the house of Israel has become dross to me; all of them, silver,[u] bronze, tin, iron, and lead. In the smelter they have become dross.* [19]Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because you have all become dross, I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem. [20]As one gathers silver, bronze, iron, lead, and tin into a smelter, to blow the fire upon them in order to melt them, so I will gather you in my anger and in my wrath, and I will put you in and melt you. [21]I will gather you and blow upon you with the fire of my wrath, and you shall be melted within it. [22]As silver is melted in a smelter, so you shall be melted in it, and you shall know that I the LORD have poured out my wrath upon you.*

23 The word of the LORD came to me: [24]Mortal, say to it: You are a land that is not cleansed, not rained upon in the day of indignation. [25]Its princes[v] within it are like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured human lives; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows within it.* [26]Its priests have done violence to my teaching and have profaned my holy things; they have made no distinction between the holy and the common, neither have they taught the difference between the unclean and the clean, and they have disregarded my Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them.* [27]Its officials within it are like wolves tearing the prey, shedding blood, destroying lives to get dishonest gain.* [28]Its prophets have smeared whitewash on their behalf, seeing false visions and divining lies for them, saying, "Thus says the Lord GOD," when the LORD has not spoken.* [29]The people of the land have practiced extortion and committed robbery; they have oppressed the poor and needy and have extorted from the alien without justice.* [30]And I sought for anyone among them who would repair the wall and stand in the breach before me on behalf of the land, so that I would not destroy it, but I found no one.* [31]Therefore I have poured out my indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath; I have returned their conduct upon their heads, says the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 23

OHOLAH AND OHOLIBAH

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, there were two women, the daughters of one mother; [3]they prostituted themselves in Egypt; they prostituted themselves in their youth; their breasts were caressed there, and their virgin bosoms were fondled.* [4]Oholah was the name of the older and Oholibah the name of her sister. They became mine, and they bore sons and daughters. As for their names, Oholah is Samaria, and Oholibah is Jerusalem.*

5 Oholah prostituted herself while she was mine; she lusted after her lovers the Assyrians, warriors[w],* [6]clothed in blue, governors and commanders, all of them handsome young men, mounted horsemen. [7]She bestowed her sexual favors upon them, the choicest men of Assyria all of them, and she defiled herself with all the idols of everyone for whom she lusted.* [8]She did not give up her prostitutions that she had practiced since Egypt, for in her youth men had lain with her and fondled her virgin bosom and poured out their lust upon her.* [9]Therefore I delivered her into the hands of her lovers, into the hands of the Assyrians, for whom she lusted.* [10]These uncovered her nakedness; they seized her sons and her daughters, and they killed her with the sword. Judgment was executed upon her, and she became a byword among women.*

11 Her sister Oholibah saw this, yet she was more corrupt than she in her lusting and in her prostitutions, which were worse than those of her sister.* [12]She lusted after the Assyrians, governors and commanders, warriors[x] clothed in full armor, mounted horsemen, all of them handsome young men.* [13]And I saw that she was defiled; they both took the same way. [14]But she carried her prostitutions further; she saw male figures carved on the wall, images of the Chaldeans portrayed in vermilion,* [15]with belts around their waists, with flowing turbans on their heads, all of them looking like officers—a picture of Babylonians whose native land was Chaldea. [16]When she saw them she lusted after them and sent messengers to them in Chaldea. [17]And the Babylonians came to her into the bed of love, and they defiled

her with their lust, and after she defiled herself with them, she turned from them in disgust. [18]When she carried on her prostitutions so openly and flaunted her nakedness, I turned in disgust from her, as I had turned from her sister.* [19]Yet she increased her prostitutions, remembering the days of her youth, when she prostituted herself in the land of Egypt [20]and lusted after her paramours there, whose members were like those of donkeys and whose emission was like that of stallions.* [21]Thus you longed for the lewdness of your youth, when the Egyptians[y] fondled your bosom and caressed[z] your young breasts.*

22 Therefore, O Oholibah, thus says the Lord GOD: I will rouse against you your lovers from whom you turned in disgust, and I will bring them against you from every side:* [23]the Babylonians and all the Chaldeans, Pekod and Shoa and Koa, and all the Assyrians with them, handsome young men, governors and commanders all of them, officers and select leaders, all of them riding on horses.* [24]They shall come against you from the north[a] with chariots and wagons and a host of peoples; they shall set themselves against you on every side with buckler, shield, and helmet, and I will commit the judgment to them, and they shall judge you according to their ordinances.* [25]I will direct my indignation against you, in order that they may deal with you in fury. They shall cut off your nose and your ears, and your survivors shall fall by the sword. They shall seize your sons and your daughters, and your survivors shall be devoured by fire. [26]They shall also strip you of your clothes and take away your fine jewels.* [27]So I will put an end to your lewdness and your prostitution brought from the land of Egypt; you shall not long for them or remember Egypt any more.* [28]For thus says the Lord GOD: I will deliver you into the hands of those whom you hate, into the hands of those from whom you turned in disgust, [29]and they shall deal with you in hatred and take away all the fruit of your labor and leave you naked and bare, and the nakedness of your prostitutions shall be exposed. Your lewdness and your prostitutions* [30]have brought this upon you, because you prostituted yourself with the nations and polluted yourself with their idols. [31]You have gone the way of your sister; therefore I will give her cup into your hand. [32]Thus says the Lord GOD:

You shall drink your sister's cup,
deep and wide;

it will bring scorn and derision;
it holds so much.*
[33]You shall be filled with drunkenness and sorrow.
A cup of horror and desolation
is the cup of your sister Samaria;
[34]you shall drink it and drain it out
and gnaw its sherds
and tear out your breasts,
for I have spoken, says the Lord GOD.* [35]Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because you have forgotten me and cast me behind your back, therefore bear the consequences of your lewdness and prostitutions.*

36 The LORD said to me: Mortal, will you judge Oholah and Oholibah? Then declare to them their abominable deeds.* [37]For they have committed adultery, and blood is on their hands; with their idols they have committed adultery, and they have even offered up to them for food the children whom they had borne to me.* [38]Moreover, this they have done to me: they have defiled my sanctuary on the same day and profaned my Sabbaths. [39]For when they had slaughtered their children for their idols, on the same day they came into my sanctuary to profane it. This is what they did in my house.*

40 They even sent for men to come from far away, to whom a messenger was sent, and they came. For them you bathed yourself, painted your eyes, and decked yourself with ornaments;* [41]you sat on a stately couch, with a table spread before it on which you had placed my incense and my oil.* [42]The sound of a raucous multitude was around her, with many of the rabble brought in drunken from the wilderness, and they put bracelets on the arms of the women and beautiful crowns upon their heads.*

43 Then I said, "Ah, she is worn out with adulteries, but they carry on their sexual acts with her." [44]They have[b] gone in to her as one goes in to a prostitute. Thus they went in to Oholah and to Oholibah, wanton women. [45]But righteous judges shall declare them guilty of adultery and of bloodshed, because they are adulteresses, and blood is on their hands.*

46 For thus says the Lord GOD: Bring up an assembly against them, and
make them an object of terror and of plunder. [47]The assembly shall stone
them, and with their swords they shall cut them down; they shall kill their
sons and their daughters and burn up their houses.* [48]Thus will I put an end
to lewdness in the land, so that all women may take warning and not
commit lewdness as you have done.* [49]They shall repay you for your
lewdness, and you shall bear the penalty for your sinful idolatry, and you
shall know that I am the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 24

THE BOILING POT

1 In the ninth year, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, the
word of the LORD came to me:[*] [2]Mortal, write down the name of this day,
this very day. The king of Babylon has laid siege to Jerusalem this very
day.[*] [3]And utter an allegory to the rebellious house and say to them: Thus
says the Lord GOD:

Set on the pot; set it on;
pour in water also;[*]
[4]put in it the pieces,
all the good pieces, the thigh and the shoulder;
fill it with choice cuts.
[5]Take the choicest one of the flock;
pile the logs[c] under it;
boil its pieces;[d]
seethe[e] also its bones in it.

6 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:

Woe to the bloody city,
the pot whose crud is in it,
whose crud has not gone out of it!
Empty it piece by piece,
making no choice at all.[f,*]
[7]For the blood she shed is inside it;
she placed it on a bare rock;
she did not pour it out on the ground,
to cover it with earth.[*]
[8]To rouse my wrath, to take vengeance,

I have placed the blood she shed
on a bare rock,
so that it may not be covered.
9Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
Woe to the bloody city!
I will even make the pile great.*
10Heap up the logs; kindle the fire;
boil the meat well; boil down the broth;[g]
let the bones be burned.
11Stand it empty upon the coals,
so that it may become hot, its copper glow,
its filth melt in it, its crud be consumed.
12In vain I have wearied myself;[h]
its thick crud does not depart.
To the fire with its crud!
13Yet when I cleansed you in your filthy lewdness,
you did not become clean from your filth;
you shall not again be cleansed
until I have satisfied my fury upon you.*
14I the LORD have spoken; the time is coming; I will act. I will not refrain; I will not spare; I will not relent. According to your ways and your doings I will judge you, says the Lord GOD.*

EZEKIEL'S BEREAVEMENT

15 The word of the LORD came to me: 16Mortal, with one blow I am about to take away from you the delight of your eyes, yet you shall not mourn or weep, nor shall your tears run down.* 17Groan quietly; make no mourning for the dead. Bind on your turban, and put your sandals on your feet; do not cover your upper lip or eat the bread of mourners.[i,*] 18So I spoke to the people in the morning, and at evening my wife died. And on the next morning I did as I was commanded.

19 Then the people said to me, "Will you not tell us what these things
mean for us, that you are acting this way?" [20]Then I said to them, "The
word of the LORD came to me: [21]Say to the house of Israel: Thus says the
Lord GOD: I will profane my sanctuary, the pride of your power, the delight
of your eyes, and your heart's desire, and your sons and your daughters
whom you left behind shall fall by the sword.* [22]And you shall do as I have
done; you shall not cover your upper lip or eat the bread of mourners.[j]
[23]Your turbans shall be on your heads and your sandals on your feet; you
shall not mourn or weep, but you shall pine away in your iniquities and
groan to one another.* [24]Thus Ezekiel shall be a sign to you; you shall do
just as he has done. When this comes, then you shall know that I am the
Lord GOD."*

25 And you, mortal, on the day when I take from them their stronghold,
their joy and glory, the delight of their eyes and their heart's affection, and
also[k] their sons and their daughters,* [26]on that day, one who has escaped
will come to you to report to you the news. [27]On that day your mouth shall
be opened to the one who has escaped, and you shall speak and no longer
be silent. So you shall be a sign to them, and they shall know that I am the
LORD.*

Ezekiel 25

PROCLAMATION AGAINST AMMON

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, set your face toward the Ammonites and prophesy against them.* [3]Say to the Ammonites: Hear the word of the Lord GOD: Thus says the Lord GOD: Because you said, "Aha!" over my sanctuary when it was profaned and over the land of Israel when it was made desolate and over the house of Judah when it went into exile,* [4]therefore I am handing you over to the people of the East for a possession. They shall set their encampments among you and pitch their tents in your midst; they shall eat your fruit, and they shall drink your milk. [5]I will make Rabbah a pasture for camels and Ammon a fold for flocks. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.* [6]For thus says the Lord GOD: Because you have clapped your hands and stamped your feet and rejoiced with all the malice within you against the land of Israel,* [7]therefore I have stretched out my hand against you and will hand you over as plunder to the nations. I will cut you off from the peoples and will make you perish out of the countries; I will destroy you. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.*

PROCLAMATION AGAINST MOAB

8 Thus says the Lord GOD: Because Moab[l] said, "The house of Judah is like all the other nations," [9]therefore I will lay open the flank of Moab from the towns[m] on its frontier, the glory of the country, Beth-jeshimoth, Baal-meon, and Kiriathaim. [10]I will give it along with Ammon to the people of the East as a possession. Thus Ammon shall be remembered no more among the nations, [11]and I will execute judgments upon Moab. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.

PROCLAMATION AGAINST EDOM

12 Thus says the Lord GOD: Because Edom acted revengefully against the house of Judah and has grievously offended in taking vengeance upon them,* [13]therefore thus says the Lord GOD: I will stretch out my hand

against Edom and cut off from it humans and animals, and I will make it desolate; from Teman even to Dedan they shall fall by the sword.* 14I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel, and they shall act in Edom according to my anger and according to my wrath, and they shall know my vengeance, says the Lord GOD.*

PROCLAMATION AGAINST PHILISTIA

15 Thus says the Lord GOD: Because with unending hostilities the Philistines acted in vengeance and with malice of heart took revenge in destruction,* 16therefore thus says the Lord GOD: I will stretch out my hand against the Philistines, cut off the Cherethites, and destroy the rest of the seacoast.* 17I will execute great vengeance on them with wrathful punishments. Then they shall know that I am the LORD, when I lay my vengeance on them.*

Ezekiel 26

PROCLAMATION AGAINST TYRE

1 In the twelfth year,[n] in the eleventh[o] month, on the first day of the month,
the word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, because Tyre said concerning
Jerusalem,

"Aha, broken is the gateway of the peoples;
it has swung open to me;
I shall be replenished,
now that it is wasted,"*

[3]therefore, thus says the Lord GOD:

See, I am against you, O Tyre!
I will hurl many nations against you,
as the sea hurls its waves.*

[4]They shall destroy the walls of Tyre
and break down its towers.
I will scrape its soil from it
and make it a bare rock.*

[5]It shall become, in the midst of the sea,
a place for spreading nets.
I have spoken, says the Lord GOD.

It shall become plunder for the nations,*

[6]and its daughter towns inland
shall be killed by the sword.

Then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

7 For thus says the Lord GOD: I will bring against Tyre from the north
King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, king of kings, together with horses,
chariots, cavalry, and a great and powerful army.*

[8]Your daughter towns inland

he shall put to the sword.
He shall set up a siege wall against you,
cast up a ramp against you,
and raise a roof of shields against you.*
9He shall direct the shock of his battering rams against your walls
and break down your towers with his axes.*
10His horses shall be so many
that their dust shall cover you.
At the noise of cavalry, wheels, and chariots
your very walls shall shake
when he enters your gates
like those entering a breached city.*
11With the hoofs of his horses
he shall trample all your streets.
He shall put your people to the sword,
and your strong pillars shall fall to the ground.*
12They will take your riches
and plunder your merchandise;
they shall break down your walls
and destroy your fine houses.
Your stones and timber and soil
they shall cast into the water.
13I will silence the music of your songs;
the sound of your lyres shall be heard no more.*
14I will make you a bare rock;
you shall be a place for spreading nets.
You shall never again be rebuilt,
for I the LORD have spoken,
says the Lord GOD.

15 Thus says the Lord GOD to Tyre: Shall not the coastlands shake at the sound of your fall, when the wounded groan, when slaughter goes on within you?* [16]Then all the princes of the sea shall step down from their thrones; they shall remove their robes and strip off their embroidered garments. They shall clothe themselves with trembling and shall sit on the ground; they shall tremble every moment and be appalled at you.* [17]And they shall raise a lamentation over you and say to you:

"How you have vanished[p] from the seas,
O city renowned,
once mighty on the sea,
you and your inhabitants,[q]
who imposed your[r] terror
on all the mainland![s,*]
[18]Now the coastlands tremble
on the day of your fall;
the coastlands by the sea
are dismayed at your passing."*

19 For thus says the Lord GOD: When I make you a city laid waste, like cities that are not inhabited, when I bring up the deep over you and the great waters cover you, [20]then I will thrust you down with those who descend into the Pit, to the people of long ago, and I will make you live in the world below, among primeval ruins, with those who go down to the Pit, so that you will not be inhabited or have a place[t] in the land of the living.* [21]I will bring you to a dreadful end, and you shall be no more; though sought for, you will never be found again, says the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 27

LAMENTATION OVER TYRE

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Now you, mortal, raise a lamentation
over Tyre,* [3]and say to Tyre, which sits at the entrance to the sea, merchant
of the peoples on many coastlands: Thus says the Lord GOD:

O Tyre, you have said,
"I am perfect in beauty."*
[4]Your borders are in the heart of the seas;
your builders made perfect your beauty.*
[5]They made all your planks
of fir trees from Senir;
they took a cedar from Lebanon
to make a mast for you.*
[6]From oaks of Bashan
they made your oars;
they made your deck of pines[u]
from the coasts of Cyprus,
inlaid with ivory.*
[7]Of fine embroidered linen from Egypt
was your sail,
serving as your ensign;
blue and purple from the coasts of Elishah
was your awning.
[8]The inhabitants of Sidon and Arvad
were your rowers;
skilled men of Zemer[v] were within you;
they were your pilots.*

[9]The elders of Gebal and its artisans were within you,
caulking your seams;
all the ships of the sea with their sailors were within you,
to barter for your wares.*
[10]Paras[w] and Lud and Put
were in your army,
your mighty warriors;
they hung shield and helmet in you;
they gave you splendor.*
[11]Men of Arvad and Helech[x]
were on your walls all around;
men of Gamad were at your towers.
They hung their quivers all around your walls;
they made perfect your beauty.*

12 Tarshish did business with you out of the abundance of your great wealth; silver, iron, tin, and lead they exchanged for your wares.* [13]Javan, Tubal, and Meshech traded with you; they exchanged human beings and vessels of bronze for your merchandise.* [14]Beth-togarmah exchanged for your wares horses, war horses, and mules.* [15]The Rhodians[y] traded with you; many coastlands were your own special markets; they brought you in payment ivory tusks and ebony.* [16]Edom[z] did business with you because of your abundant goods; they exchanged for your wares turquoise, purple, embroidered work, fine linen, coral, and rubies.* [17]Judah and the land of Israel traded with you; they exchanged for your merchandise wheat from Minnith, millet,[a] honey, oil, and balm.* [18]Damascus traded with you for your abundant goods—because of your great wealth of every kind—wine of Helbon and wool of Zahar.* [19]Vedan and Javan from Uzal[b] entered into trade for your wares; wrought iron, cassia, and sweet cane were bartered for your merchandise. [20]Dedan traded with you in saddlecloths for riding. [21]Arabia and all the princes of Kedar were your favored dealers in lambs, rams, and goats; in these they did business with you.* [22]The merchants of Sheba and Raamah traded with you; they exchanged for your wares the best of all kinds of spices and all precious stones and gold.* [23]Haran, Canneh,

Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Asshur, and Chilmad traded with you.* 24These traded with you in choice garments, in clothes of blue and embroidered work, and in carpets of colored material, bound with cords and made secure; in these they traded with you.c 25The ships of Tarshish traveled for you in your trade.

So you were filled and heavily laden
in the heart of the seas.*
26Your rowers have brought you
into the high seas.
The east wind has wrecked you
in the heart of the seas.*
27Your riches, your wares, your merchandise,
your sailors and your pilots,
your caulkers, your dealers in merchandise,
and all your warriors within you,
with all the company
that is with you,
sink into the heart of the seas
on the day of your ruin.*
28At the sound of the cry of your pilots
the pasturelands shake,*
29and down from their ships
come all who handle the oar.
The sailors and all the pilots of the sea
stand on the shore*
30and wail aloud over you
and cry bitterly.
They throw dust on their heads
and wallow in ashes;*
31they make themselves bald for you

and put on sackcloth,
and they weep over you in bitterness of soul,
with bitter mourning.*
32In their wailing they raise a lamentation for you
and lament over you:
"Who was ever destroyed[d] like Tyre
in the midst of the sea?*
33When your wares came from the seas,
you satisfied many peoples;
with your abundant wealth and merchandise
you enriched the kings of the earth.*
34Now you are wrecked by the seas,
in the depths of the waters;
your merchandise and all your crew
have sunk with you.*
35All the inhabitants of the coastlands
are appalled at you,
and their kings are horribly afraid;
their faces are convulsed.*
36The merchants among the peoples hiss at you;
you have come to a dreadful end
and shall be no more forever."*

Ezekiel 28

PROCLAMATION AGAINST THE KING OF TYRE

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, say to the prince of Tyre:
Thus says the Lord GOD:

Because your heart is proud
and you have said, "I am a god;
I sit in the seat of the gods,
in the heart of the seas,"
yet you are but a mortal and no god,
though you compare your mind
with the mind of a god.*
[3]You are indeed wiser than Daniel;[e]
no secret is hidden from you;*
[4]by your wisdom and your understanding
you have amassed wealth for yourself
and have gathered gold and silver
into your treasuries.*
[5]By your great wisdom in trade
you have increased your wealth,
and your heart has become proud in your wealth.*
[6]Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
Because you compare your mind
with the mind of a god,*
[7]therefore, I will bring strangers against you,
the most terrible of the nations;
they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom
and defile your splendor.*

[8]They shall thrust you down to the Pit,
and you shall die a violent death
in the heart of the seas.*
[9]Will you still say, "I am a god,"
in the presence of those who kill you,
though you are but a mortal and no god,
in the hands of those who pierce you?
[10]You shall die the death of the uncircumcised
by the hand of foreigners,
for I have spoken, says the Lord GOD.*

LAMENTATION OVER THE KING OF TYRE

11 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me: [12]Mortal, raise a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him: Thus says the Lord GOD:

You were the signet of perfection,[f]
full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.*
[13]You were in Eden, the garden of God;
every precious stone was your covering,
carnelian, chrysolite, and moonstone,
beryl, onyx, and jasper,
sapphire,[g] turquoise, and emerald;
and worked in gold were your settings
and your engravings.[h]
On the day that you were created
they were prepared.*
[14]You were a cherub;[i]
I placed you on the holy mountain of God;
you walked among the stones of fire.*
[15]You were blameless in your ways
from the day that you were created,

until iniquity was found in you.*
16In the abundance of your trade
you were filled with violence, and you sinned,
so I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God,
and I drove you out, O guardian cherub,
from among the stones of fire.*
17Your heart was proud because of your beauty;
you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor.
I cast you to the ground;
I exposed you before kings,
to feast their eyes on you.*
18By the multitude of your iniquities,
in the unrighteousness of your trade,
you profaned your sanctuaries.
So I brought out fire from within you;
it consumed you,
and I turned you to ashes on the earth
in the sight of all who saw you.*
19All who know you among the peoples
are appalled at you;
you have come to a dreadful end
and shall be no more forever.*

PROCLAMATION AGAINST SIDON

20 The word of the LORD came to me: 21Mortal, set your face toward Sidon, and prophesy against it,* 22and say: Thus says the Lord GOD:

I am against you, O Sidon,
and I will gain glory in your midst.
They shall know that I am the LORD
when I execute judgments in it

and manifest my holiness in it;*
[23]for I will send pestilence into it,
and bloodshed into its streets;
and the dead shall fall in its midst,
by the sword that is against it on every side.
And they shall know that I am the LORD.*

24 The house of Israel shall no longer find a pricking brier or a piercing thorn among all their neighbors who have treated them with contempt. And they shall know that I am the Lord GOD.*

FUTURE BLESSING FOR ISRAEL

25 Thus says the Lord GOD: When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered and manifest my holiness in them in the sight of the nations, then they shall settle on their own soil that I gave to my servant Jacob.* [26]They shall live in safety in it and shall build houses and plant vineyards. They shall live in safety when I execute judgments upon all their neighbors who have treated them with contempt. And they shall know that I am the LORD their God.*

Ezekiel 29

PROCLAMATION AGAINST EGYPT

1 In the tenth year, in the tenth month, on the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him and against all Egypt;* [3]speak and say: Thus says the Lord GOD:

I am against you,
  Pharaoh king of Egypt,
the great dragon sprawling
  in the midst of its channels,
saying, "My Nile is my own;
  I made it for myself."*
[4]I will put hooks in your jaws
  and make the fish of your channels stick to your scales.
I will draw you up from your channels,
  with all the fish of your channels
  sticking to your scales.*
[5]I will fling you into the wilderness,
  you and all the fish of your channels;
you shall fall in the open field
  and not be gathered or picked up.
To the animals of the earth and to the birds of the air
  I have given you as food.*
[6]Then all the inhabitants of Egypt shall know
  that I am the LORD,
because you[j] were a staff of reed
  to the house of Israel;*
[7]when they grasped you with the hand, you broke

and tore all their shoulders,
and when they leaned on you, you broke
and made all their legs give way.[k,*]

8 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD: I will bring a sword upon you and will cut off from you human and animal,[*] [9]and the land of Egypt shall be a desolation and a waste. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.

Because you[l] said, "The Nile is mine, and I made it," [10]therefore, I am against you and against your channels, and I will make the land of Egypt an utter waste and desolation, from Migdol to Syene, as far as the border of Cush.[*] [11]No human foot shall pass through it, and no animal foot shall pass through it; it shall be uninhabited forty years.[*] [12]I will make the land of Egypt a desolation among desolated countries, and her cities shall be a desolation forty years among cities that are laid waste. I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them among the countries.[*]

13 Further, thus says the Lord GOD: At the end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the peoples among whom they were scattered,[*] [14]and I will restore the fortunes of Egypt and bring them back to the land of Pathros, the land of their origin, and there they shall be a lowly kingdom. [15]It shall be the most lowly of the kingdoms and never again exalt itself above the nations, and I will make them so small that they will never again rule over the nations. [16]The Egyptians[m] shall never again be the reliance of the house of Israel; they will recall their iniquity when they turned to them for aid. Then they shall know that I am the Lord GOD.[*]

BABYLONIA WILL PLUNDER EGYPT

17 In the twenty-seventh year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: [18]Mortal, King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon made his army labor hard against Tyre; every head was made bald and every shoulder was rubbed bare, yet neither he nor his army got anything from Tyre to pay for the labor that he had expended against it.[*] [19]Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: I will give the land of Egypt to King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, and he shall carry off its wealth and despoil it and plunder it, and it shall be the wages for his army.[*] [20]I have given him

the land of Egypt as his payment for which he labored, because they worked for me, says the Lord GOD.*

21 On that day I will cause a horn to sprout up for the house of Israel, and I will open your lips among them. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

Ezekiel 30

LAMENTATION FOR EGYPT

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, prophesy, and say: Thus says the Lord GOD:

Wail, "Alas for the day!"*
[3]For a day is near,
the day of the LORD is near;
it will be a day of clouds,
a time of doom[n] for the nations.*
[4]A sword shall come upon Egypt,
and anguish shall be in Cush,
when the slain fall in Egypt,
and its wealth is carried away,
and its foundations are torn down.*
[5]Cush and Put and Lud and all the mixed populations and Libya[o] and the people of the allied land[p] shall fall with them by the sword.*

[6]Thus says the LORD:
Those who support Egypt shall fall,
and its proud might shall come down;
from Migdol to Syene
they shall fall within it by the sword,
says the Lord GOD.*
[7]They shall be desolated among other desolated countries,
and their cities shall lie among cities laid waste.*
[8]Then they shall know that I am the LORD,
when I have set fire to Egypt,
and all who help it are broken.*

9 On that day, messengers shall go out from me in ships to terrify the
secure Cushites, and anguish shall come upon them on the day of Egypt's
doom,[q] for it is coming![*]

10 Thus says the Lord GOD:
I will put an end to the hordes of Egypt,
by the hand of King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon.[*]
[11]He and his people with him, the most terrible of the nations,
shall be brought in to destroy the land,
and they shall draw their swords against Egypt
and fill the land with the slain.[*]
[12]I will dry up the channels of the Nile
and will sell the land into the hand of evildoers;
I will bring desolation upon the land and everything in it
by the hand of foreigners;
I the LORD have spoken.[*]

13 Thus says the Lord GOD:
I will destroy the idols
and put an end to the images in Memphis;
there shall no longer be a prince in the land of Egypt,
so I will put fear in the land of Egypt.[*]
[14]I will make Pathros a desolation
and will set fire to Zoan
and will execute acts of judgment on Thebes.[*]
[15]I will pour my wrath upon Pelusium,
the stronghold of Egypt,
and will cut off the hordes of Thebes.[*]
[16]I will set fire to Egypt;
Pelusium shall be in great agony;
Thebes shall be breached

and Memphis face adversaries by day.
17 The young men of On and of Pi-beseth shall fall by the sword,
and the cities themselves[r] shall go into captivity.
18 At Tehaphnehes the day shall be dark,
when I break there the dominion of Egypt,
and its proud might shall come to an end;
the city[s] shall be covered by a cloud,
and its daughter towns shall go into captivity.*
19 Thus I will execute acts of judgment on Egypt.
Then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

PROCLAMATION AGAINST PHARAOH

20 In the eleventh year, in the first month, on the seventh day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: 21 Mortal, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; it has not been bound up for healing or wrapped with a bandage, so that it may become strong to wield the sword.* 22 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt and will break his arms, both the strong arm and the one that was broken, and I will make the sword fall from his hand.* 23 I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them throughout the lands.* 24 I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon and put my sword in his hand, but I will break the arms of Pharaoh, and he will groan before him with the groans of one mortally wounded.* 25 I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, but the arms of Pharaoh shall fall. And they shall know that I am the LORD when I put my sword into the hand of the king of Babylon. He shall stretch it out against the land of Egypt,* 26 and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

Ezekiel 31

THE LOFTY CEDAR

1 In the eleventh year, in the third month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his hordes:

Whom are you like in your greatness?*
[3]Consider Assyria, a cedar of Lebanon,
with fair branches and forest shade,
and of great height,
its top among the clouds.*
[4]The waters nourished it;
the deep made it grow tall,
flowing with its rivers
around the place it was planted,
sending forth its streams
to all the trees of the field.*
[5]So it towered high
above all the trees of the field;
its boughs grew large
and its branches long,
from abundant water in its shoots.*
[6]All the birds of the air
made their nests in its boughs;
under its branches all the animals of the field
gave birth to their young,
and in its shade
all great nations lived.*
[7]It was beautiful in its greatness,

in the length of its branches,
for its roots went down
to abundant water.
[8]The cedars in the garden of God could not rival it
nor the fir trees equal its boughs;
the plane trees were as nothing
compared with its branches;
no tree in the garden of God
was like it in beauty.*
[9]I made it beautiful
with its mass of branches,
the envy of all the trees of Eden
that were in the garden of God.

10 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: Because it[t] towered high and set its top among the clouds and its heart was proud of its height,* [11]I gave it into the hand of the prince of the nations; he has dealt with it as its wickedness deserves. I have cast it out.* [12]Foreigners from the most terrible of the nations have cut it down and left it. On the mountains and in all the valleys its branches have fallen, and its boughs lie broken in all the watercourses of the land, and all the peoples of the earth went away from its shade and left it.*

[13]On its fallen trunk settle
all the birds of the air,
and among its boughs lodge
all the wild animals.*

[14]All this is in order that no trees by the waters may grow to lofty height or set their tops among the clouds and that no trees that drink water may reach up to them in height.

For all of them are handed over to death,
to the world below;
along with mortals,

with those who go down to the Pit.*

15 Thus says the Lord GOD: On the day it went down to Sheol I closed the deep over it and covered it; I restrained its rivers, and its mighty waters were checked. I clothed Lebanon in gloom for it, and all the trees of the field fainted because of it.* [16]I made the nations quake at the sound of its fall, when I cast it down to Sheol with those who go down to the Pit, and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that were well watered, were consoled in the world below.* [17]They also went down to Sheol with it, to those killed by the sword, along with its allies,[u] those who lived in its shade among the nations.*

18 Which among the trees of Eden was like you in glory and in greatness? Now you shall be brought down with the trees of Eden to the world below; you shall lie among the uncircumcised, with those who are killed by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his horde, says the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 32

LAMENTATION OVER PHARAOH AND EGYPT

1 In the twelfth year, in the twelfth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, raise a lamentation over Pharaoh king of Egypt and say to him:

You consider yourself a lion among the nations,
but you are like a dragon in the seas;
you thrash about in your streams,
trouble the water with your feet,
and foul your[v] streams.*
[3]Thus says the Lord GOD:
In an assembly of many peoples
I will throw my net over you,
and I[w] will haul you up in my dragnet.*
[4]I will throw you on the ground;
on the open field I will fling you
and will cause all the birds of the air to settle on you,
and I will let the wild animals of the whole earth gorge themselves on you.*
[5]I will strew your flesh on the mountains
and fill the valleys with your carcass.[x]
[6]I will drench the land with your flowing blood
up to the mountains,
and the watercourses will be filled with you.*
[7]When I blot you out, I will cover the heavens
and make their stars dark;
I will cover the sun with a cloud,
and the moon shall not give its light.*

[8]All the shining lights of the heavens
I will darken above you
and put darkness on your land,
says the Lord GOD.
[9]I will trouble the hearts of many peoples
as I carry you captive[y] among the nations,
into countries you have not known.*
[10]I will make many peoples appalled at you;
their kings shall shudder because of you.
When I brandish my sword before them,
they shall tremble every moment
for their lives, each one of them,
on the day of your downfall.*
[11]For thus says the Lord GOD:
The sword of the king of Babylon shall come against you.*
[12]I will cause your hordes to fall
by the swords of mighty ones,
all of them most terrible among the nations.
They shall bring to ruin the pride of Egypt,
and all its hordes shall perish.*
[13]I will destroy all its livestock
from beside abundant waters,
and no human foot shall trouble them any more,
nor shall the hoofs of cattle trouble them.*
[14]Then I will make their waters clear
and cause their streams to run like oil, says the Lord GOD.
[15]When I make the land of Egypt desolate
and when the land is stripped of all that fills it,
when I strike down all who live in it,

then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

16This is a lamentation; it shall be chanted.
The women of the nations shall chant it.
Over Egypt and all its hordes they shall chant it,
says the Lord GOD.*

DIRGE OVER EGYPT

17 In the twelfth year, in the first month,[z] on the fifteenth day of the month, the word of the LORD came to me:

18Mortal, wail over the hordes of Egypt
and send them down,
with Egypt[a] and the daughters of majestic nations,
to the world below,
with those who go down to the Pit.*

19"Whom do you surpass in beauty?
Go down! Be laid to rest with the uncircumcised!"*

20They shall fall among those who are killed by the sword. Egypt[b] has been handed over to the sword; both it and its hordes will be carried away.[c] 21The mighty chiefs shall speak of them, with their helpers, out of the midst of Sheol: "They have come down; they lie still, the uncircumcised, killed by the sword."*

22 Assyria is there and all its company, their graves all around it, all of them killed, fallen by the sword.* 23Their graves are set in the uttermost parts of the Pit. Its company is all around its grave, all of them killed, fallen by the sword, who spread terror in the land of the living.*

24 Elam is there and all its hordes around its grave, all of them killed, fallen by the sword, who went down uncircumcised into the world below, who spread terror in the land of the living. They bear their shame with those who go down to the Pit.* 25They have made Elam[d] a bed among the slain with all its hordes, their graves all around it, all of them uncircumcised, killed by the sword, for terror of them was spread in the land of the living,

and they bear their shame with those who go down to the Pit; they are placed among the slain.*

26 Meshech and Tubal are there, and all their multitude, their graves all around them, all of them uncircumcised, pierced by the sword, for they spread terror in the land of the living.* [27]And they do not lie with the fallen warriors of long ago[e] who went down to Sheol with their weapons of war, whose swords were laid under their heads and whose shields[f] are upon their bones; for the terror of the warriors was in the land of the living.* [28]So you shall be broken and lie among the uncircumcised, with those who are killed by the sword.

29 Edom is there, its kings and all its princes, who for all their might are laid with those who are killed by the sword; they lie with the uncircumcised, with those who go down to the Pit.*

30 The princes of the north are there, all of them, and all the Sidonians, who have gone down in shame with the slain, for all the terror that they caused by their might; they lie uncircumcised with those who are killed by the sword and bear their shame with those who go down to the Pit.*

31 When Pharaoh sees them, he will be consoled for all his hordes—Pharaoh and all his army, killed by the sword, says the Lord GOD. [32]For he[g] spread terror in the land of the living; therefore he shall be laid to rest among the uncircumcised, with those who are slain by the sword—Pharaoh and all his multitude, says the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 33

EZEKIEL, ISRAEL'S SENTRY

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]O Mortal, speak to your people and say to them: If I bring the sword upon a land and the people of the land take one of their number as their sentinel,* [3]and if the sentinel sees the sword coming upon the land and blows the trumpet and warns the people,* [4]then if any who hear the sound of the trumpet do not take warning and the sword comes and takes them away, their blood shall be upon their own heads.* [5]They heard the sound of the trumpet and did not take warning; their blood shall be upon themselves. But if they had taken warning, they would have saved their lives.* [6]But if the sentinel sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet so that the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any of them, they are taken away in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at the sentinel's hand.*

7 So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.* [8]If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. [9]But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.*

GOD'S JUSTICE AND MERCY

10 Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?"* [11]Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?* [12]And you, mortal, say to your people: The righteousness of the righteous shall not save them when they transgress, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, it shall not make them stumble when

they turn from their wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by their righteousness[h] when they sin.* 13Though I say to the righteous that they shall surely live, yet if they trust in their righteousness and commit iniquity, none of their righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in the iniquity that they have committed they shall die.* 14Again, though I say to the wicked, "You shall surely die," yet if they turn from their sin and do what is lawful and right*— 15if the wicked restore the pledge, give back what they have taken by robbery, and walk in the statutes of life, committing no iniquity—they shall surely live; they shall not die.* 16None of the sins that they have committed shall be remembered against them; they have done what is lawful and right; they shall surely live.*

17 Yet your people say, "The way of the Lord is not just," when it is their own way that is not just. 18When the righteous turn from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it.[i,*] 19And when the wicked turn from their wickedness and do what is lawful and right, they shall live by it.[j] 20Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is not just." O house of Israel, I will judge all of you according to your ways!*

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

21 In the twelfth year of our exile, in the tenth month, on the fifth day of the month, someone who had escaped from Jerusalem came to me and said, "The city has fallen."* 22Now the hand of the LORD had been upon me the evening before the fugitive came, and he opened my mouth when the fugitive came in the morning, so my mouth was opened, and I was no longer unable to speak.*

THE SURVIVORS IN JUDAH

23 The word of the LORD came to me: 24Mortal, the inhabitants of these waste places in the land of Israel keep saying, "Abraham was only one man, yet he got possession of the land, but we are many; the land is surely given us to possess."* 25Therefore say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: You eat flesh with the blood and lift up your eyes to your idols and shed blood; shall you then possess the land?* 26You depend on your swords, you commit abominations, and each of you defiles his neighbor's wife; shall you then

possess the land?* 27Say this to them: Thus says the Lord God: As I live, surely those who are in the waste places shall fall by the sword, and those who are in the open field I will give to the wild animals to be devoured, and those who are in strongholds and in caves shall die by pestilence.* 28I will make the land a desolation and a waste, and its proud might shall come to an end, and the mountains of Israel shall be so desolate that no one will pass through.* 29Then they shall know that I am the Lord, when I have made the land a desolation and a waste because of all their abominations that they have committed.*

30 As for you, mortal, your people who talk together about you by the walls and at the doors of the houses say to one another, each to a neighbor, "Come and hear what the word is that comes from the Lord." 31They come to you as people come, and they sit before you as my people, and they hear your words, but they will not obey them. For flattery is on their lips, but their heart is set on their gain.[k],* 32To them you are like a singer of love songs,[l] one who has a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument; they hear what you say, but they will not do it. 33When this comes—and come it will!—then they shall know that a prophet has been among them.*

Ezekiel 34

ISRAEL'S FALSE SHEPHERDS

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, prophesy against the
shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: To the shepherds—thus says
the Lord GOD: Woe, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding
yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep?* [3]You eat the fat; you
clothe yourselves with the wool; you slaughter the fatted calves, but you do
not feed the sheep.* [4]You have not strengthened the weak; you have not
healed the sick; you have not bound up the injured; you have not brought
back the strays; you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness
you have ruled them.* [5]So they were scattered because there was no
shepherd, and scattered they became food for all the wild animals.* [6]My
sheep were scattered; they wandered over all the mountains and on every
high hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one
to search or seek for them.

7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: [8]As I live, says
the Lord GOD, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have
become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and
because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds
have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep,* [9]therefore, you shepherds,
hear the word of the LORD: [10]Thus says the Lord GOD: I am against the
shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to
their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I
will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for
them.*

GOD, THE TRUE SHEPHERD

11 For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will
sort them out.* [12]As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among
scattered sheep,[m] so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the
places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick
darkness.* [13]I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from

the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.* 14I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.* 15I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.*

17 As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats:* 18Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? 19And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet and drink what you have fouled with your feet?

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd.* 24And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.*

25 I will make with them a covenant of peace and banish wild animals from the land, so that they may live in the wild and sleep in the woods securely.* 26I will make them and the region around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing.* 27The trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase. They shall be secure on their soil, and they shall know that I am the LORD when I break the bars of their yoke and save them from the hands of those who enslaved them.* 28They shall no more be plunder for the nations, nor shall the animals of the land devour them; they shall live in safety, and no one shall make them afraid.* 29I will provide for them a splendid vegetation so that they shall no more be consumed with hunger in

the land and no longer suffer the insults of the nations.* 30They shall know
that I, the LORD their God, am with them and that they, the house of Israel,
are my people, says the Lord GOD. 31You are my sheep, the sheep of my
pasture,[n] and I am your God, says the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 35

JUDGMENT ON MOUNT SEIR

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, set your face against Mount Seir and prophesy against it,* [3]and say to it: Thus says the Lord GOD:

I am against you, Mount Seir;
I stretch out my hand against you
to make you a desolation and a waste.
[4]I lay your towns in ruins;
you shall become a desolation,
and you shall know that I am the LORD.

[5]Because you cherished an ancient enmity and gave over the people of Israel to the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, at the time of their final punishment,* [6]therefore, as I live, says the Lord GOD, I will make you bloody, and blood shall pursue you; since you did not hate bloodshed, bloodshed will pursue you. [7]I will make Mount Seir a waste and a desolation, and I will cut off from it all who come and go.* [8]I will fill its mountains with the slain; on your hills and in your valleys and in all your watercourses those killed with the sword shall fall.* [9]I will make you a perpetual desolation, and your cities shall never be inhabited. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.*

10 Because you said, "These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will take possession of them"—although the LORD was there* —[11]therefore, as I live, says the Lord GOD, I will deal with you according to the anger and envy that you showed because of your hatred against them, and I will make myself known among you[o] when I judge you.* [12]You shall know that I, the LORD, have heard all the abusive speech that you uttered against the mountains of Israel, saying, "They are laid desolate; they are given us to devour." [13]And you magnified yourselves against me with your mouth and multiplied your words against me; I heard it.* [14]Thus says the Lord GOD: As the whole earth rejoices, I will make you desolate.* [15]As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel because it was desolate,

so I will deal with you; you shall be desolate, Mount Seir and all Edom, all of it. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

Ezekiel 36

BLESSING ON ISRAEL

1 And you, mortal, prophesy to the mountains of Israel and say:
O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD. [2]Thus says the Lord GOD:
Because the enemy said of you, “Aha!” and, “The ancient heights have
become our possession,”* [3]therefore prophesy and say: Thus says the Lord
GOD: Because they made you desolate indeed and crushed you from all
sides, so that you became the possession of the rest of the nations and an
object of gossip and slander among the people,* [4]therefore, O mountains of
Israel, hear the word of the Lord GOD: Thus says the Lord GOD to the
mountains and the hills, the watercourses and the valleys, the desolate
wastes and the deserted towns, which have become a source of plunder and
an object of derision to the rest of the nations all around;* [5]therefore thus
says the Lord GOD: I am speaking in my hot jealousy against the rest of the
nations and against all Edom, who, with wholehearted joy and utter
contempt, took my land as their possession, because of its pasture, to
plunder it.* [6]Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel and say to the
mountains and hills, to the watercourses and valleys: Thus says the Lord
GOD: I am speaking in my jealous wrath because you have suffered the
insults of the nations;* [7]therefore thus says the Lord GOD: I swear that the
nations that are all around you shall themselves suffer insults.

8 But you, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot out your branches and yield
your fruit to my people Israel, for they shall soon come home. [9]See now, I
am for you; I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown, [10]and I will
multiply your population, the whole house of Israel, all of it; the towns shall
be inhabited and the waste places rebuilt,* [11]and I will multiply humans and
animals upon you. They shall increase and be fruitful, and I will cause you
to be inhabited as in your former times and will do more good to you than
ever before. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.* [12]I will lead people
upon you—my people Israel—and they shall possess you, and you shall be
their inheritance. No longer shall you bereave them of children.

13 Thus says the Lord GOD: Because they say to you, "You devour
people, and you bereave your nation of children," [14]therefore you shall no
longer devour people and no longer bereave your nation of children, says
the Lord GOD, [15]and no longer will I let you hear the insults of the nations;
no longer shall you bear the disgrace of the peoples, and no longer shall you
cause your nation to stumble, says the Lord GOD.*

THE RENEWAL OF ISRAEL

16 The word of the LORD came to me: [17]Mortal, when the house of Israel
lived on their own soil, they defiled it with their ways and their deeds; their
conduct in my sight was like the uncleanness of a menstrual period.* [18]So I
poured out my wrath upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the
land and for the idols with which they had defiled it.* [19]I scattered them
among the nations, and they were dispersed through the countries; in
accordance with their conduct and their deeds I judged them.* [20]But when
they came to the nations, wherever they came, they profaned my holy name,
in that it was said of them, "These are the people of the LORD, yet they had
to go out of his land."* [21]But I had concern for my holy name, which the
house of Israel had profaned among the nations to which they came.*

22 Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not
for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act but for the sake of
my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you
came.* [23]I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the
nations and which you have profaned among them, and the nations shall
know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD, when through you I display
my holiness before their eyes.* [24]I will take you from the nations and gather
you from all the countries and bring you into your own land.* [25]I will
sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your
uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.* [26]A new heart I
will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you, and I will remove from
your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.* [27]I will put my
spirit within you and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe
my ordinances.* [28]Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your
ancestors, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.* [29]I will
save you from all your uncleannesses, and I will summon the grain and

make it abundant and lay no famine upon you.* 30I will make the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field abundant, so that you may never again suffer the disgrace of famine among the nations. 31Then you shall remember your evil ways and your dealings that were not good, and you shall loathe yourselves for your iniquities and your abominable deeds.* 32It is not for your sake that I will act, says the Lord GOD; let that be known to you. Be ashamed and dismayed for your ways, O house of Israel.*

33 Thus says the Lord GOD: On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the towns to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be rebuilt. 34The land that was desolate shall be tilled, instead of being the desolation that it was in the sight of all who passed by. 35And they will say, "This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined towns are now inhabited and fortified."* 36Then the nations that are left all around you shall know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places and replanted that which was desolate; I, the LORD, have spoken, and I will do it.*

37 Thus says the Lord GOD: I will also let the house of Israel ask me to do this for them: to multiply their people like sheep. 38Like a consecrated flock, like the flock at Jerusalem during her appointed festivals, so shall the ruined towns be filled with flocks of people. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.*

Ezekiel 37

THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES

1 The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit
of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.*
2He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and
they were very dry. 3He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I
answered, "O Lord GOD, you know."* 4Then he said to me, "Prophesy to
these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5Thus
says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath[p] to enter you, and you
shall live.* 6I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you
and cover you with skin and put breath[q] in you, and you shall live, and you
shall know that I am the LORD."*

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied,
suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to
its bone. 8I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come
upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them.
9Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to
the breath:[r] Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath,[s]
and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."* 10I prophesied as he
commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on
their feet, a vast multitude.*

11 Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of
Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut
off completely.'* 12Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord
GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves,
O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.* 13And you
shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up
from your graves, O my people.* 14I will put my spirit within you, and you
shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I,
the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."*

THE TWO STICKS

15 The word of the LORD came to me: [16]Mortal, take a stick and write on it, "For Judah and the Israelites associated with it"; then take another stick and write on it, "For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with it";* [17]and join them together into one stick, so that they may become one in your hand. [18]And when your people say to you, "Will you not show us what you mean by these?" [19]say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: I am about to take the stick of Joseph (which is in the hand of Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with it, and I will put the stick of Judah upon it[t] and make them one stick, in order that they may be one in my hand."* [20]When the sticks on which you write are in your hand before their eyes, [21]then say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD: I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone and will gather them from every quarter and bring them to their own land.* [22]I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel, and one king shall be king over them all. Never again shall they be two nations, and never again shall they be divided into two kingdoms.* [23]They shall never again defile themselves with their idols and their detestable things or with any of their transgressions. I will save them from all the apostasies into which they have fallen[u] and will cleanse them. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God.*

24 "My servant David shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd. They shall follow my ordinances and be careful to observe my statutes.* [25]They shall live in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, in which your ancestors lived; they and their children and their children's children shall live there forever, and my servant David shall be their prince forever.* [26]I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them, and I will bless[v] them and multiply them and will set my sanctuary among them forevermore.* [27]My dwelling place shall be over them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.* [28]Then the nations shall know that I the LORD sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary is among them forevermore."*

Ezekiel 38

INVASION BY GOG

1 The word of the LORD came to me: [2]Mortal, set your face toward Gog, of
the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. Prophesy
against him* [3]and say: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am against you, O Gog,
chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; [4]I will turn you around and put hooks
into your jaws, and I will lead you out with all your army, horses and
horsemen, all of them clothed in full armor, a great company, all of them
with shield and buckler, wielding swords.* [5]Paras, Cush, and Put are with
them, all of them with buckler and helmet;* [6]Gomer and all its troops; Beth-
togarmah from the remotest parts of the north with all its troops—many
peoples are with you.*

7 Be ready and keep ready, you and all the companies that are assembled
around you, and take command of them.[w] [8]After many days you shall be
mustered; in the latter years you shall go against a land restored from war, a
land where people were gathered from many nations on the mountains of
Israel, which had long lain waste; its people were brought out from the
nations and now are living in safety, all of them.* [9]You shall advance,
coming on like a storm; you shall be like a cloud covering the land, you and
all your troops and many peoples with you.*

10 Thus says the Lord GOD: On that day thoughts will come into your
mind, and you will devise an evil scheme.* [11]You will say, "I will go up
against the land of unwalled villages; I will fall upon the quiet people who
live in safety, all of them living without walls and having no bars or gates,*
[12]to seize spoil and carry off plunder, to assail the waste places that are now
inhabited and the people who were gathered from the nations, who are
acquiring cattle and goods, who live at the center[x] of the earth."* [13]Sheba
and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all its young warriors[y] will
say to you, "Have you come to seize spoil? Have you assembled your horde
to carry off plunder, to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and
goods, to seize a great amount of spoil?"*

14 Therefore, mortal, prophesy and say to Gog: Thus says the Lord GOD:
On that day when my people Israel are living securely, you will rouse
yourself[z,*] [15]and come from your place out of the remotest parts of the
north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great
horde, a mighty army;[*] [16]you will come up against my people Israel like a
cloud covering the earth. In the latter days I will bring you against my land,
so that the nations may know me, when through you, O Gog, I display my
holiness before their eyes.[*]

JUDGMENT ON GOG

17 Thus says the Lord GOD: Are you he of whom I spoke in former days
by my servants the prophets of Israel, who in those days prophesied for
years that I would bring you against them?[*] [18]On that day, when Gog comes
against the land of Israel, says the Lord GOD, my wrath shall be aroused.[*]
[19]For in my jealousy and in my blazing wrath I declare: On that day there
shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;[*] [20]the fish of the sea and the
birds of the air and the animals of the field and all creeping things that creep
on the ground and all humans who are on the face of the earth shall quake at
my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the cliffs shall
fall, and every wall shall tumble to the ground.[*] [21]I will summon the sword
against Gog[a] in[b] all my mountains, says the Lord GOD; the swords of all
will be against their comrades.[*] [22]With pestilence and bloodshed I will enter
into judgment with him, and I will pour down torrential rains and
hailstones, fire and sulfur upon him and his troops and the many peoples
who are with him.[*] [23]So I will display my greatness and my holiness and
make myself known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that
I am the LORD.[*]

Ezekiel 39

GOG'S ARMIES DESTROYED

1 And you, mortal, prophesy against Gog and say: Thus says the Lord GOD:
I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal!* [2]I will turn
you around and drive you forward and bring you up from the remotest parts
of the north and lead you against the mountains of Israel. [3]I will strike your
bow from your left hand and will make your arrows drop out of your right
hand.* [4]You shall fall on the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops
and the peoples who are with you; I will give you to birds of prey of every
kind and to the wild animals to be devoured.* [5]You shall fall in the open
field, for I have spoken, says the Lord GOD. [6]I will send fire on Magog and
on those who live securely in the coastlands, and they shall know that I am
the LORD.*

7 My holy name I will make known among my people Israel, and I will
not let my holy name be profaned any more, and the nations shall know that
I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.* [8]It has come! It has happened, says
the Lord GOD. This is the day of which I have spoken.

9 Then those who live in the towns of Israel will go out and make fires of
the weapons and burn them—bucklers and shields, bows and arrows, clubs
and spears—and they will make fires of them for seven years.* [10]They will
not need to take wood out of the field or cut down any trees in the forests,
for they will make their fires of the weapons; they will despoil those who
despoiled them and plunder those who plundered them, says the Lord GOD.*

THE BURIAL OF GOG

11 On that day I will give to Gog a place for burial in Israel, the Valley of
the Travelers[c] east of the sea; it shall block the path of the travelers, for
there Gog and all his horde will be buried; it shall be called the Valley of
Hamon-gog.[d,*] [12]Seven months the house of Israel shall spend burying
them, in order to cleanse the land. [13]All the people of the land shall bury
them, and it will bring them honor on the day that I show my glory, says the

Lord God.* 14They will set apart men to pass through the land regularly and bury any invaders[e] who remain on the face of the land, so as to cleanse it; for seven months they shall make their search.* 15As the searchers[f] pass through the land, anyone who sees a human bone shall set up a sign by it until the buriers have buried it in the Valley of Hamon-gog.[g] 16(A city Hamonah[h] is there also.) Thus they shall cleanse the land.

17 As for you, mortal, thus says the Lord God: Speak to the birds of every kind and to all the wild animals: Assemble and come, gather from all around to the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you, a great sacrificial feast on the mountains of Israel, and you shall eat flesh and drink blood.* 18You shall eat the flesh of the mighty and drink the blood of the princes of the earth—of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bulls, all of them fatted calves of Bashan.* 19You shall eat fat until you are filled and drink blood until you are drunk, at the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you. 20And you shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with warriors and all kinds of soldiers, says the Lord God.*

ISRAEL RESTORED TO THE LAND

21 I will display my glory among the nations, and all the nations shall see my judgment that I have executed and my hand that I have laid on them.* 22The house of Israel shall know that I am the Lord their God from that day forward. 23And the nations shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity, because they dealt treacherously with me. So I hid my face from them and gave them into the hand of their adversaries, and they all fell by the sword.* 24I dealt with them according to their uncleanness and their transgressions and hid my face from them.*

25 Therefore thus says the Lord God: Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel, and I will be jealous for my holy name.* 26They shall bear their shame, and all the treachery they have practiced against me, when they live securely in their land with no one to make them afraid,* 27when I have brought them back from the peoples and gathered them from their enemies' lands and through them have displayed my holiness in the sight of many nations.* 28Then they shall know that I am the Lord their God because I sent them into exile among the

nations and then gathered them into their own land. I will leave none of them behind,* 29and I will never again hide my face from them, when I pour out my spirit upon the house of Israel, says the Lord GOD.*

Ezekiel 40

THE VISION OF THE NEW TEMPLE

1 In the twenty-fifth year of our exile, at the beginning of the year, on the
tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was struck
down, on that very day, the hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought
me there.* [2]He brought me, in visions of God, to the land of Israel and set
me down upon a very high mountain on which was a structure like a city to
the south.* [3]When he brought me there, a man was there whose appearance
shone like bronze, with a linen cord and a measuring reed in his hand, and
he was standing in the gateway.* [4]The man said to me, "Mortal, look
closely and listen attentively, and set your mind on all that I shall show you,
for you were brought here in order that I might show it to you; declare all
that you see to the house of Israel."*

5 Now there was a wall all around the outside of the temple area. The
length of the measuring reed in the man's hand was six long cubits, each
being a cubit and a handbreadth in length, so he measured the thickness of
the wall, one reed, and the height, one reed. [6]Then he went into the gateway
facing east, going up its steps, and measured the threshold of the gate, one
reed deep.[i] There were* [7]recesses, and each recess was one reed wide and
one reed deep, and the space between the recesses, five cubits, and the
threshold of the gate by the vestibule of the gate at the inner end was one
reed deep.* [8]Then he measured the inner vestibule of the gateway, one reed.
[9]Then he measured the vestibule of the gateway, eight cubits, and its posts,
two cubits, and the vestibule of the gate was at the inner end. [10]There were
three recesses on either side of the east gate; the three were of the same
size, and the posts on either side were of the same size.* [11]Then he
measured the width of the opening of the gateway, ten cubits, and the width
of the gateway, thirteen cubits. [12]There was a barrier before the recesses,
one cubit on either side, and each recess was six cubits square. [13]Then he
measured the gate from the back[j] of the one recess to the back[k] of the other,
a width of twenty-five cubits from wall to wall.[l] [14]He measured[m] the
vestibule (sixty cubits) and the gate next to the post on every side of the

court.[n,*] 15From the front of the gate at the entrance to the end of the inner
vestibule of the gate was fifty cubits. 16The recesses and their posts had
windows, with shutters[o] on the inside of the gateway all around, and the
vestibules also had windows on the inside all around, and on the posts were
palm trees.*

17 Then he brought me into the outer court; there were chambers there
and a pavement all around the court; thirty chambers fronted on the
pavement.* 18The pavement ran along the side of the gates, corresponding
to the length of the gates; this was the lower pavement. 19Then he measured
the distance from the inner front of[p] the lower gate to the outer front of the
inner court, one hundred cubits.[q,*]

20 Then he measured the gate of the outer court that faced north—its
depth and width. 21Its recesses, three on either side, and its posts and its
vestibule were of the same size as those of the first gate; its depth was fifty
cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.* 22Its windows, its vestibule, and its
palm trees were of the same size as those of the gate that faced toward the
east. Seven steps led up to it, and its vestibule was on the inside.[r,*]
23Opposite the gate on the north, as on the east, was a gate to the inner
court; he measured from gate to gate, one hundred cubits.*

24 Then he led me toward the south, and there was a gate on the south,
and he measured its posts and its vestibule; they had the same dimensions
as the others.* 25There were windows all around in it and in its vestibule,
like the windows of the others; its depth was fifty cubits and its width
twenty-five cubits.* 26There were seven steps leading up to it; its vestibule
was on the inside.[s] It had palm trees on its posts, one on either side.*
27There was a gate on the south of the inner court, and he measured from
gate to gate toward the south, one hundred cubits.*

28 Then he brought me to the inner court by the south gate, and he
measured the south gate; it was of the same dimensions as the others.* 29Its
recesses, its posts, and its vestibule were of the same size as the others, and
there were windows all around in it and in its vestibule; its depth was fifty
cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.* 30There were vestibules all around
the inner court,[t] twenty-five cubits deep and five cubits wide.* 31Its

vestibule faced the outer court, and palm trees were on its posts, and its stairway had eight steps.*

32 Then he brought me to the inner court on the east side, and he measured the gate; it was of the same size as the others.* 33Its recesses, its posts, and its vestibule were of the same dimensions as the others, and there were windows all around in it and in its vestibule; its depth was fifty cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.* 34Its vestibule faced the outer court, and it had palm trees on its posts, on either side, and its stairway had eight steps.*

35 Then he brought me to the north gate, and he measured it; it had the same dimensions as the others.* 36Its recesses, its posts, and its vestibule were of the same size as the others,[u] and it had windows all around. Its depth was fifty cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.* 37Its vestibule[v] faced the outer court, and it had palm trees on its posts, on either side, and its stairway had eight steps.*

38 There was a chamber with its door in the vestibule of the gate[w] where the burnt offering was to be washed.* 39And in the vestibule of the gate were two tables on either side on which the burnt offering and the purification offering and the guilt offering were to be slaughtered.* 40On the outside of the vestibule, where one goes up to the entrance of the north gate, were two tables, and on the other side of the vestibule of the gate were two tables. 41Four tables were on one side and four tables on the other side of the gate, eight tables, on which the sacrifices were to be slaughtered. 42There were also four tables of hewn stone for the burnt offering, a cubit and a half long, and one cubit and a half wide, and one cubit high, on which the instruments were to be laid with which the burnt offerings and the sacrifices were slaughtered.* 43There were pegs one handbreadth long fastened all around the inside. And on the tables the flesh of the offering was to be laid.

44 On the outside of the inner gateway there were two chambers[x] in the inner court, one[y] at the side of the north gate facing south, the other at the side of the south[z] gate facing north.* 45He said to me, "This chamber that faces south is for the priests who have charge of the temple,* 46and the chamber that faces north is for the priests who have charge of the altar; these are the descendants of Zadok, who alone among the descendants of Levi may come near to the LORD to minister to him."* 47He measured the

court, one hundred cubits deep and one hundred cubits wide, a square, and the altar was in front of the temple.*

THE TEMPLE

48 Then he brought me to the vestibule of the temple and measured the posts of the vestibule, five cubits deep on either side, and the width of the gate between the posts[a] was fourteen cubits, and the shoulders of the gate were three cubits wide on either side.[b] 49The width of the vestibule was twenty cubits and the depth twelve[c] cubits; ten steps led up[d] to it, and there were pillars beside the posts on either side.*

Ezekiel 41

1 Then he brought me to the nave and measured the posts; on each side six
cubits was the depth of the posts.[e,*] [2]The width of the entrance was ten
cubits, and the sidewalls of the entrance were five cubits on either side. He
measured the length of the nave, forty cubits, and its width, twenty cubits.[*]
[3]Then he went into the inner room and measured the posts of the entrance,
two cubits, and the width of the entrance, six cubits, and the sidewalls[f] of
the entrance, seven cubits.[*] [4]He measured the depth of the room, twenty
cubits, and its width, twenty cubits, beyond the nave. And he said to me,
"This is the most holy place."[*]

5 Then he measured the wall of the temple, six cubits thick, and the
width of the side chambers, four cubits, all around the temple. [6]The side
chambers were in three stories, one over another, thirty in each story. There
were offsets[g] all around the wall of the temple to serve as supports for the
side chambers so that they should not be supported by the wall of the
temple.[*] [7]The passageway[h] of the side chambers widened from story to
story, for the structure was supplied with a stairway all around the temple.
For this reason the structure became wider from story to story. One
ascended from the bottom story to the uppermost story by way of the
middle one.[*] [8]I saw also that the temple was on a raised platform all
around; the foundations of the side chambers measured a full reed of six
long cubits high.[*] [9]The thickness of the outer wall of the side chambers was
five cubits, and the free space between the side chambers of the temple[*]
[10]and the chambers of the court was a width of twenty cubits all around the
temple on every side.[*] [11]The side chambers opened onto the area left free,
one door toward the north and another door toward the south, and the width
of the part that was left free was five cubits all around.[*]

12 The building that was facing the temple yard on the west side was
seventy cubits deep, and the wall of the building was five cubits thick all
around and its width ninety cubits.[*]

13 Then he measured the temple, one hundred cubits deep, and the yard
and the building with its walls, one hundred cubits deep,[*] [14]also the width

of the east front of the temple and the yard, one hundred cubits.*

15 Then he measured the width of the building facing the yard at the west, together with its galleries[i] on either side, one hundred cubits.

The nave of the temple's interior and the outer[j] vestibule* [16]were paneled,[k] and all around all three had windows with recessed[l] frames. Facing the threshold, the temple was paneled with wood all around, from the floor up to the windows (now the windows were covered).* [17]On the space above the door, even to the inner room, and on the outside and on all the walls all around in the inner room and the nave there was a pattern.[m] [18]It was formed of cherubim and palm trees, a palm tree between cherub and cherub. Each cherub had two faces:* [19]a human face turned toward the palm tree on the one side, and the face of a young lion turned toward the palm tree on the other side. They were carved on the whole temple all around;* [20]from the floor to the area above the door, cherubim and palm trees were carved on the wall.[n]

21 The doorposts of the nave were square. In front of the holy place was something resembling* [22]an altar of wood, three cubits high, two cubits long, and two cubits wide;[o] its corners, its base,[p] and its walls were of wood. He said to me, "This is the table that stands before the LORD."* [23]The nave and the holy place had each a double door.* [24]The doors had two leaves apiece, two swinging leaves for each door. [25]On the doors of the nave were carved cherubim and palm trees, such as were carved on the walls, and there was a canopy of wood in front of the vestibule outside. [26]And there were recessed windows and palm trees on either side, on the sidewalls of the vestibule.[q,*]

Ezekiel 42

THE HOLY CHAMBERS AND THE OUTER WALL

1 Then he led me out into the outer court toward the north, and he brought
me to the chambers that were opposite the temple yard and opposite the
building on the north.* [2]The length of the building that was on the north
side[r] was[s] one hundred cubits and the width fifty cubits. [3]Facing the twenty
cubits that belonged to the inner court and facing the pavement that
belonged to the outer court, the chambers rose[t] gallery[u] by gallery[v] in three
stories.* [4]Amid the chambers was an interior passage, ten cubits wide and
one hundred cubits deep,[w] and its[x] entrances were on the north.* [5]Now the
upper chambers were narrower, for the galleries[y] took more away from
them than from the lower and middle chambers in the building. [6]For they
were in three stories, and they had no pillars like the pillars of the outer[z]
court; for this reason the upper chambers were set back from the ground
more than the lower and the middle ones.* [7]There was a wall outside
parallel to the chambers, toward the outer court, opposite the chambers,
fifty cubits long. [8]For the chambers on the outer court were fifty cubits long,
while those opposite the temple were one hundred cubits long.* [9]At the foot
of these chambers ran a passage that one entered from the east in order to
enter them from the terrace space outside.* [10]The entrance was aligned with
the start of the wall[a] toward the court.

On the south[b] also, opposite the vacant area and opposite the building,
there were chambers [11]with a passage in front of them; they were similar to
the chambers on the north, of the same length and width, with the same
exits[c] and arrangements and doors. [12]So the entrances of the chambers to
the south were entered through the entrance at the head of the
corresponding passage, from the east, along the matching wall.[d]

13 Then he said to me, "The north chambers and the south chambers
opposite the vacant area are the holy chambers where the priests who
approach the LORD shall eat the most holy offerings; there they shall deposit
the most holy offerings—the grain offering, the purification offering, and
the guilt offering—for the place is holy.* [14]When the priests enter the holy

place, they shall not go out of it into the outer court without laying there the vestments in which they minister, for these are holy; they shall put on other garments before they go near to the area open to the people."*

15 When he had finished measuring the interior of the temple area, he led me out by the gate that faces east and measured the temple area all around.*
16He measured the east side with the measuring reed, five hundred cubits by the measuring reed. 17Then he turned and measured[e] the north side, five hundred cubits by the measuring reed. 18Then he turned and measured[f] the south side, five hundred cubits by the measuring reed. 19Then he turned to the west side and measured, five hundred cubits by the measuring reed. 20He measured it on the four sides. It had a wall around it, five hundred cubits long and five hundred cubits wide, to make a separation between the holy and the common.*

Ezekiel 43

THE DIVINE GLORY RETURNS TO THE TEMPLE

1 Then he brought me to the gate, the gate facing east.* [2]And there the glory
of the God of Israel was coming from the east; the sound was like the sound
of mighty waters, and the earth shone with his glory.* [3]The[g] vision I saw
was like the vision that I had seen when he came to destroy the city and[h]
like the vision that I had seen by the River Chebar, and I fell upon my face.*
[4]As the glory of the LORD entered the temple by the gate facing east,* [5]the
spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court, and the glory of the
LORD filled the temple.*

6 While the man was standing beside me, I heard someone speaking to
me out of the temple.* [7]He said to me: "Mortal, this is the place of my
throne and the place for the soles of my feet, where I will reside among the
people of Israel forever. The house of Israel shall no more defile my holy
name, neither they nor their kings, by their prostitution and by sacrificing to
their kings[i] at their death.[j,*] [8]When they placed their threshold by my
threshold and their doorposts beside my doorposts, with only a wall
between me and them, they were defiling my holy name by their
abominations that they committed; therefore I have consumed them in my
anger.* [9]Now let them put away their idolatry and sacrifices to their kings[k]
far from me, and I will reside among them forever.*

10 "As for you, mortal, describe the temple to the house of Israel, and let
them measure the pattern, and let them be ashamed of their iniquities.*
[11]When they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them
the plan of the temple, its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, and its
whole form—all its ordinances and its entire plan and all its laws; and write
it down in their sight so that they may observe and follow the entire plan
and all its ordinances.* [12]This is the law of the temple: the whole territory
on the top of the mountain all around shall be most holy. This is the law of
the temple.*

THE ALTAR

13 “These are the dimensions of the altar by long cubits in which each is
a cubit and a handbreadth: its base shall be one cubit high[l] and one cubit
wide, with a rim of one span around its edge. This shall be the height of the
altar:* 14from the base on the ground to the lower ledge, two cubits, with a
width of one cubit, and from the lower ledge to the upper ledge, four cubits,
with a width of one cubit,* 15and the altar hearth, four cubits, and from the
altar hearth projecting upward, four horns.* 16The altar hearth shall be
square, twelve cubits long by twelve wide.* 17The ledge also shall be
square, fourteen cubits long by fourteen wide, with a rim around it half a
cubit high, and its surrounding base, one cubit. Its steps shall face east.”*

18 Then he said to me: “Mortal, thus says the Lord God: These are the
ordinances for the altar: On the day when it is erected for offering burnt
offerings upon it and for dashing blood against it,* 19you shall give to the
Levitical priests of the family of Zadok, who draw near to me to minister to
me, says the Lord God, a bull of the herd for a purification offering.* 20And
you shall take some of its blood and put it on the four horns of the altar and
on the four corners of the ledge and upon the rim all around; thus you shall
purify it and make atonement for it. 21You shall also take the bull of the
purification offering, and it shall be burnt in the appointed place belonging
to the temple, outside the sacred area.*

22 “On the second day you shall offer a male goat without blemish for a
purification offering, and the altar shall be purified, as it was purified with
the bull. 23When you have finished purifying it, you shall offer a bull of the
herd without blemish and a ram from the flock without blemish.* 24You
shall present them before the Lord, and the priests shall throw salt on them
and offer them up as a burnt offering to the Lord.* 25For seven days you
shall provide daily a goat for a purification offering; also a bull of the herd
and a ram from the flock, without blemish, shall be provided.* 26Seven days
shall they make atonement for the altar and cleanse it and so consecrate it.
27When these days are over, then from the eighth day onward the priests
shall offer upon the altar your burnt offerings and your offerings of well-
being, and I will accept you, says the Lord God.”*

Ezekiel 44

THE CLOSED GATE

1 Then he brought me back to the outer gate of the sanctuary that faces east,
and it was shut. [2]The LORD said to me: "This gate shall remain shut; it shall
not be opened, and no one shall enter by it, for the LORD, the God of Israel,
has entered by it; therefore it shall remain shut. [3]Only the prince, because
he is a prince, may sit in it to eat food before the LORD; he shall enter by
way of the vestibule of the gate and shall go out by the same way."*

ADMISSION TO THE TEMPLE

4 Then he brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the temple,
and I looked, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple of the LORD, and I
fell upon my face.* [5]The LORD said to me: "Mortal, mark well, look closely,
and listen attentively to all that I shall tell you concerning all the ordinances
of the temple of the LORD and all its laws, and mark well the entrances[m] to
the temple and all the exits of the sanctuary.* [6]Say to the rebellious house,[n]
to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD: O house of Israel, let there
be an end to all your abominations* [7]in admitting foreigners, uncircumcised
in heart and flesh, to be in my sanctuary, profaning my temple when you
offer to me my food, the fat and the blood. You[o] have broken my covenant
with all your abominations.* [8]And you have not kept charge of my sacred
offerings, but you have appointed foreigners[p] to act for you in keeping my
charge in my sanctuary.

9 "Thus says the Lord GOD: No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart and
flesh, of all the foreigners who are among the people of Israel, shall enter
my sanctuary. [10]But the Levites who went far from me, going astray from
me after their idols when Israel went astray, shall bear their punishment.*
[11]They shall be ministers in my sanctuary, having oversight at the gates of
the temple and serving in the temple; they shall slaughter the burnt offering
and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall attend on them and serve
them.* [12]Because they ministered to them before their idols and made the
house of Israel stumble into iniquity, therefore I have sworn concerning

them, says the Lord GOD, that they shall bear their punishment.* 13They shall not come near to me, to serve me as priest, nor come near any of my sacred offerings, the things that are most sacred, but they shall bear their shame and the consequences of the abominations that they have committed.* 14Yet I will appoint them to keep charge of the temple, to do all its chores, all that is to be done in it.*

THE LEVITICAL PRIESTS

15 "But the Levitical priests, the descendants of Zadok, who kept the charge of my sanctuary when the people of Israel went astray from me, shall come near to me to minister to me, and they shall attend me to offer me the fat and the blood, says the Lord GOD.* 16It is they who shall enter my sanctuary; it is they who shall approach my table to minister to me, and they shall keep my charge. 17When they enter the gates of the inner court, they shall wear linen vestments; they shall have nothing of wool on them while they minister at the gates of the inner court and within the temple.* 18They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen undergarments on their loins; they shall not bind themselves with anything that causes sweat.* 19When they go out into the outer court to the people, they shall remove the vestments in which they have been ministering and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments, so that they may not communicate holiness to the people with their vestments.* 20They shall not shave their heads or let their locks grow long; they shall only trim the hair of their heads. 21No priest shall drink wine when he enters the inner court.* 22They shall not marry a widow or a divorced woman but only a virgin of the stock of the house of Israel or a widow who is the widow of a priest.* 23They shall teach my people the difference between the holy and the common and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.* 24In a dispute they shall act as judges, and they shall decide it according to my judgments. They shall keep my laws and my statutes regarding all my appointed festivals, and they shall keep my Sabbaths holy.* 25They shall not defile themselves by going near a dead person; for father or mother, however, and for son or daughter and for brother or unmarried sister they may defile themselves.* 26After he has become clean, they shall count seven days for him.* 27On the day that he goes into the holy

place, into the inner court, to minister in the holy place, he shall offer his purification offering, says the Lord GOD.

28 "This shall be their inheritance: I am their inheritance, and you shall give them no holding in Israel; I am their holding.* 29They shall eat the grain offering, the purification offering, and the guilt offering, and every devoted thing in Israel shall be theirs.* 30The first of all the first fruits of all kinds and every offering of all kinds from all your offerings shall belong to the priests; you shall also give to the priests the first of your dough, in order that a blessing may rest on your house.* 31The priests shall not eat of anything, whether bird or animal, that died of itself or was torn by animals.*

Ezekiel 45

THE HOLY DISTRICT

1 "When you allot the land as an inheritance, you shall set aside for the LORD a portion of the land as a holy district, twenty-five thousand cubits long and twenty[q] thousand cubits wide; it shall be holy throughout its entire extent. 2Of this, a square plot of five hundred by five hundred cubits shall be for the sanctuary, with fifty cubits for an open space around it. 3In the holy district you shall measure off a section twenty-five thousand cubits long and ten thousand wide, in which shall be the sanctuary, the most holy place. 4It shall be a holy portion of the land; it shall be for the priests who minister in the sanctuary and approach the LORD to minister to him, and it shall be both a place for their houses and a holy place for the sanctuary.[*] 5Another section, twenty-five thousand cubits long and ten thousand cubits wide, shall be for the Levites who minister at the temple, as their holding for cities to live in.[r,*]

6 "Alongside the portion set apart as the holy district you shall assign as a holding for the city an area five thousand cubits wide and twenty-five thousand cubits long; it shall belong to the whole house of Israel.[*]

7 "And to the prince shall belong the land on both sides of the holy district and the holding of the city, alongside the holy district and the holding of the city, on the west and on the east, corresponding in length to one of the tribal portions and extending from the western to the eastern boundary[*] 8of the land. It is to be his property in Israel. And my princes shall no longer oppress my people, but they shall let the house of Israel have the land according to their tribes.[*]

9 "Thus says the Lord GOD: Enough, O princes of Israel! Put away violence and oppression, and do what is just and right. Cease your evictions of my people, says the Lord GOD.[*]

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

10 "You shall have honest balances, an honest ephah, and an honest bath.[s,*] [11]The ephah and the bath shall be of the same measure, the bath containing one-tenth of a homer and the ephah one-tenth of a homer; the homer shall be the standard measure. [12]The shekel shall be twenty gerahs. Twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels, and fifteen shekels shall make a mina for you.[*]

OFFERINGS

13 "This is the offering that you shall make: one-sixth of an ephah from each homer of wheat, and one-sixth of an ephah from each homer of barley, [14]and as the fixed portion of oil[t] one-tenth of a bath[u] from each cor (the cor,[v] like the homer, contains ten baths), [15]and one sheep from every flock of two hundred from the pastures of Israel. This is the offering for grain offerings, burnt offerings, and offerings of well-being, to make atonement for them, says the Lord GOD.[*] [16]All the people of the land shall join in making this offering in Israel through the prince. [17]This shall be the obligation of the prince regarding the burnt offerings, grain offerings, and drink offerings, at the festivals, the new moons, and the Sabbaths, all the appointed festivals of the house of Israel: he shall provide the purification offerings, the grain offerings, the burnt offerings, and the offerings of well-being, to make atonement for the house of Israel.[*]

FESTIVALS

18 "Thus says the Lord GOD: In the first month, on the first day of the month, you shall take a bull of the herd without blemish and purify the sanctuary.[*] [19]The priest shall take some of the blood of the purification offering and put it on the doorposts of the temple, the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and the posts of the gate of the inner court.[*] [20]You shall do the same on the seventh day of the month for anyone who has sinned through error or ignorance; so you shall make atonement for the temple.[*]

21 "In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, you shall celebrate the Festival of the Passover, and for seven days unleavened bread shall be eaten.[*] [22]On that day the prince shall provide for himself and all the people of the land a bull for a purification offering.[*] [23]And during the seven

days of the festival he shall provide as a burnt offering to the LORD seven bulls and seven rams without blemish, on each of the seven days, and a male goat daily for a purification offering.* 24He shall provide as a grain offering an ephah for each bull, an ephah for each ram, and a hin of oil to each ephah. 25In the seventh month, on the fifteenth day of the month and for the seven days of the festival, he shall make the same provision for purification offerings, burnt offerings, and grain offerings and for the oil.*

Ezekiel 46

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS

1 "Thus says the Lord GOD: The gate of the inner court that faces east shall
remain closed on the six working days, but on the Sabbath day it shall be
opened, and on the day of the new moon it shall be opened.* [2]The prince
shall enter by the vestibule of the gate from outside and shall take his stand
by the post of the gate. The priests shall offer his burnt offering and his
offerings of well-being, and he shall bow down at the entryway of the gate.
Then he shall go out, but the gate shall not be closed until evening.* [3]The
people of the land shall bow down at the entrance of that gate before the
LORD on the Sabbaths and on the new moons.* [4]The burnt offering that the
prince offers to the LORD on the Sabbath day shall be six lambs without
blemish and a ram without blemish,* [5]and the grain offering with the ram
shall be an ephah, and the grain offering with the lambs shall be as much as
he wishes to give, together with a hin of oil to each ephah.* [6]On the day of
the new moon he shall offer a bull of the herd without blemish and six
lambs and a ram, which shall be without blemish;* [7]as a grain offering he
shall provide an ephah with the bull and an ephah with the ram and with the
lambs as much as he wishes, together with a hin of oil to each ephah.*
[8]When the prince enters, he shall come in by the vestibule of the gate, and
he shall go out by the same way.*

9 "When the people of the land come before the LORD at the appointed
festivals, whoever enters by the north gate to worship shall go out by the
south gate, and whoever enters by the south gate shall go out by the north
gate: they shall not return by way of the gate by which they entered but
shall go out straight ahead.* [10]When they come in, the prince shall come in
with them, and when they go out, he shall go out.

11 "At the festivals and the appointed seasons the grain offering with a
bull shall be an ephah and with a ram an ephah and with the lambs as much
as one wishes to give, together with a hin of oil to an ephah.* [12]When the
prince provides a freewill offering, either a burnt offering or offerings of
well-being as a freewill offering to the LORD, the gate facing east shall be

opened for him, and he shall offer his burnt offering or his offerings of well-being as he does on the Sabbath day. Then he shall go out, and after he has gone out the gate shall be closed.*

13 "You shall provide a lamb, a yearling, without blemish, for a burnt offering to the LORD daily; morning by morning you shall provide it.* 14And you shall provide a grain offering with it morning by morning regularly, one-sixth of an ephah and one-third of a hin of oil to moisten the choice flour, as a grain offering to the LORD; this is the ordinance for all time.* 15Thus the lamb and the grain offering and the oil shall be provided, morning by morning, as a regular burnt offering.*

16 "Thus says the Lord GOD: If the prince makes a gift to any of his sons out of his inheritance,[w] it shall belong to his sons; it is their holding by inheritance.* 17But if he makes a gift out of his inheritance to one of his servants, it shall be his to the year of liberty; then it shall revert to the prince; only his sons may keep a gift from his inheritance.* 18The prince shall not take any of the inheritance of the people, thrusting them out of their holding; he shall give his sons their inheritance out of his own holding, so that none of my people shall be dispossessed of their holding."*

19 Then he brought me through the entrance, which was at the side of the gate, to the north row of the holy chambers for the priests, and there I saw a place at the extreme western end of them.* 20He said to me, "This is the place where the priests shall boil the guilt offering and the purification offering and where they shall bake the grain offering, in order not to bring them out into the outer court and so communicate holiness to the people."*

21 Then he brought me out to the outer court and led me past the four corners of the court, and in each corner of the court there was a court: 22in the four corners of the court were small[x] courts, forty cubits long and thirty wide; the four were of the same size. 23On the inside, around each of the four courts,[y] was a row of masonry, with hearths made at the bottom of the rows all around. 24Then he said to me, "These are the kitchens where those who serve at the temple shall boil the sacrifices of the people."*

Ezekiel 47

WATER FLOWING FROM THE TEMPLE

1 Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there water was
flowing from below the entryway of the temple toward the east (for the
temple faced east), and the water was flowing down from below the south
side of the temple, south of the altar.* 2Then he brought me out by way of
the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces
toward the east,z and the water was trickling out on the south side.*

3 Going on eastward with a cord in his hand, the man measured one
thousand cubits and then led me through the water, and it was ankle-deep.*
4Again he measured one thousand and led me through the water, and it was
knee-deep. Again he measured one thousand and led me through the water,
and it was up to the waist. 5Again he measured one thousand, and it was a
river that I could not cross, for the water had risen; it was deep enough to
swim in, a river that could not be crossed. 6He said to me, "Mortal, have
you seen this?"

Then he led me back along the bank of the river.* 7As I came back, I saw
on the bank of the river a great many trees on the one side and on the other.*
8He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down
into the Arabah, and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the
water will become fresh.* 9Wherever the river goes,a every living creature
that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish once these waters
reach there. It will become fresh, and everything will live where the river
goes. 10People will stand fishing beside the seab from En-gedi to En-eglaim;
it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many
kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea.* 11But its swamps and marshes will not
become fresh; they are to be left for salt. 12On the banks, on both sides of
the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not
wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because
the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and
their leaves for healing."*

THE NEW BOUNDARIES OF THE LAND

13 Thus says the Lord GOD: These are the boundaries by which you shall divide the land for inheritance among the twelve tribes of Israel. Joseph shall have two portions.* [14]You shall divide it equally; I swore to give it to your ancestors, and this land shall fall to you as your inheritance.*

15 This shall be the boundary of the land: On the north side, from the Great Sea by way of Hethlon to Lebo-hamath and on to Zedad,[c,*] [16]Berothah, Sibraim (which lies between the border of Damascus and the border of Hamath), as far as Hazer-hatticon, which is on the border of Hauran.* [17]So the boundary shall run from the sea to Hazar-enon, which is north of the border of Damascus, with the border of Hamath to the north.[d] This shall be the north side.*

18 On the east side, between Hauran and Damascus; along the Jordan between Gilead and the land of Israel; to the eastern sea and as far as Tamar.[e] This shall be the east side.*

19 On the south side, it shall run from Tamar as far as the waters of Meribath-kadesh, from there along the Wadi of Egypt[f] to the Great Sea. This shall be the south side.*

20 On the west side, the Great Sea shall be the boundary to a point opposite Lebo-hamath. This shall be the west side.*

21 So you shall divide this land among you according to the tribes of Israel. [22]You shall allot it as an inheritance for yourselves and for the aliens who reside among you and have fathered children among you. They shall be to you as native-born of Israel; with you they shall be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel.* [23]In whatever tribe aliens reside, there you shall assign them their inheritance, says the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 48

THE TRIBAL PORTIONS

1 These are the names of the tribes: Beginning at the northern border, on the Hethlon road,[g] to Lebo-hamath, as far as Hazar-enon (which is on the border of Damascus, with Hamath to the north), and[h] extending from the east side to the west,[i] Dan, one portion.* 2Adjoining the territory of Dan, from the east side to the west, Asher, one portion.* 3Adjoining the territory of Asher, from the east side to the west, Naphtali, one portion. 4Adjoining the territory of Naphtali, from the east side to the west, Manasseh, one portion.* 5Adjoining the territory of Manasseh, from the east side to the west, Ephraim, one portion.* 6Adjoining the territory of Ephraim, from the east side to the west, Reuben, one portion.* 7Adjoining the territory of Reuben, from the east side to the west, Judah, one portion.*

8 Adjoining the territory of Judah, from the east side to the west, shall be the portion that you shall set apart, twenty-five thousand cubits in width, and in length equal to one of the tribal portions, from the east side to the west, with the sanctuary in the middle of it.* 9The portion that you shall set apart for the LORD shall be twenty-five thousand cubits in length and twenty[j] thousand in width. 10These shall be the allotments of the holy portion: the priests shall have an allotment measuring twenty-five thousand cubits on the northern side, ten thousand cubits in width on the western side, ten thousand in width on the eastern side, and twenty-five thousand in length on the southern side, with the sanctuary of the LORD in the middle of it.* 11As for the consecrated priests, the descendants[k] of Zadok who kept my charge, who did not go astray when the people of Israel went astray, as the Levites did,* 12they shall have a special portion from the holy portion of the land, a most holy place, adjoining the territory of the Levites.* 13Alongside the territory of the priests, the Levites shall have an allotment twenty-five thousand cubits in length and ten thousand in width. The whole length shall be twenty-five thousand cubits and the width twenty[l] thousand.* 14They shall not sell or exchange any of it; they shall not transfer this choice portion of the land, for it is holy to the LORD.*

15 The remainder, five thousand cubits in width and twenty-five thousand in length, shall be for ordinary use for the city, for dwellings and for pasturelands. In the middle of it shall be the city,* 16and these shall be its dimensions: the north side four thousand five hundred cubits, the south side four thousand five hundred, the east side four thousand five hundred, and the west side four thousand five hundred.* 17The city shall have pasturelands: on the north two hundred fifty cubits, on the south two hundred fifty, on the east two hundred fifty, on the west two hundred fifty.* 18The remainder of the length alongside the holy portion shall be ten thousand cubits to the east and ten thousand to the west, and it shall be alongside the holy portion. Its produce shall be food for the workers of the city.* 19The workers of the city, from all the tribes of Israel, shall cultivate it.* 20The whole portion that you shall set apart shall be twenty-five thousand cubits square, that is, the holy portion together with the property of the city.*

21 What remains on both sides of the holy portion and of the property of the city shall belong to the prince. Extending from the twenty-five thousand cubits of the holy portion to the east border and westward from the twenty-five thousand cubits to the west border, parallel to the tribal portions, it shall belong to the prince. The holy portion with the sanctuary of the temple in the middle of it,* 22and the property of the Levites and of the city, shall be in the middle of that which belongs to the prince. The portion of the prince shall lie between the territory of Judah and the territory of Benjamin.

23 As for the rest of the tribes: from the east side to the west, Benjamin, one portion.* 24Adjoining the territory of Benjamin, from the east side to the west, Simeon, one portion.* 25Adjoining the territory of Simeon, from the east side to the west, Issachar, one portion.* 26Adjoining the territory of Issachar, from the east side to the west, Zebulun, one portion.* 27Adjoining the territory of Zebulun, from the east side to the west, Gad, one portion.* 28And adjoining the territory of Gad to the south, the boundary shall run from Tamar to the waters of Meribath-kadesh, from there along the Wadi of Egypt[m] to the Great Sea.* 29This is the land that you shall allot as an inheritance among the tribes of Israel, and these are their portions, says the Lord GOD.*

30 These shall be the exits of the city: On the north side, which is to be
four thousand five hundred cubits by measure,* [31]three gates: the gate of
Reuben, the gate of Judah, and the gate of Levi, the gates of the city being
named after the tribes of Israel.* [32]On the east side, which is to be four
thousand five hundred cubits, three gates: the gate of Joseph, the gate of
Benjamin, and the gate of Dan. [33]On the south side, which is to be four
thousand five hundred cubits by measure, three gates: the gate of Simeon,
the gate of Issachar, and the gate of Zebulun. [34]On the west side, which is to
be four thousand five hundred cubits, three gates:[n] the gate of Gad, the gate
of Asher, and the gate of Naphtali. [35]The circumference of the city shall be
eighteen thousand cubits. And the name of the city from that time on shall
be, The LORD Is There.*

Ezekiel 1

* **1.1** Ezek 3.15, 23; Mt 3.16; Acts 7.56
* **1.2** 2 Kings 24.12
* **1.4** Isa 21.1
* **1.5** Ezek 10.8, 14; Rev 4.6
* **1.6** vv 10, 23
* **1.7** Rev 1.15; 2.18
* **1.8** Ezek 10.8, 21
* **1.10** Ezek 10.14; Rev 4.7
* **1.11** Isa 6.2; Ezek 10.16, 19

a **1.13** Gk OL: Heb *And the appearance of*

* **1.13** Ps 104.4; Rev 4.5
* **1.14** Mt 24.27

b **1.15** Heb *of their faces*

* **1.15** vv 19–21
* **1.16** Ezek 10.9–11; Dan 10.6
* **1.17** v 12
* **1.18** Ezek 10.12; Rev 4.6, 8
* **1.19** Ezek 10.16, 17, 19
* **1.20** v 12; Ezek 10.17
* **1.21** Ezek 10.17

c **1.22** Gk: Heb *like the awesome crystal*

* **1.22** Ezek 10.1

d **1.24** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*

* **1.24** 2 Kings 7.6; Ezek 10.5; 43.2; Rev 1.15; 19.6

e **1.26** Or *lapis lazuli*

* **1.26** Ex 24.10; Ezek 10.1; 43.6, 7; Rev 1.13
* **1.27** Ezek 8.2
* **1.28** Ezek 3.23; 8.4; Dan 8.17; Rev 1.17; 4.3; 10.1

Ezekiel 2

f **2.1** Heb *son of man* (and so throughout the book when Ezekiel is addressed)

* **2.1** Dan 10.11
* **2.2** Ezek 3.24; Dan 8.18

g **2.3** Syr: Heb *to nations*

* **2.3** Jer 3.25; Ezek 20.18, 30
* **2.4** Jer 5.3; Ezek 3.7
* **2.5** Ezek 3.11, 26, 27; 33.33
* **2.6** Isa 9.18; Jer 1.8, 17; Ezek 3.9; Mic 7.4

* **2.7** Jer 1.7, 17
* **2.8** Isa 50.5; Rev 10.9
* **2.9** Ezek 3.1; 8.3

Ezekiel 3

* **3.1** Ezek 2.8, 9
* **3.3** Ps 19.10; 119.103; Jer 15.16; Rev 10.9, 10
* **3.6** Mt 11.21, 23; Acts 13.46–48
* **3.7** Ezek 2.4; Jn 15.20
* **3.9** Isa 50.7; Ezek 2.6; Mic 3.8
* **3.11** Ezek 2.5, 7

h **3.12** Cn: Heb *and blessed be the glory of the* LORD

* **3.12** Ezek 8.3; Acts 2.2; 8.39
* **3.14** Jer 6.11; Ezek 1.3; 8.1

i **3.15** Heb mss Syr: MT *Chebar, and to where they lived*

* **3.15** Job 2.13; Ezek 1.1
* **3.17** Isa 52.8; 56.10; Jer 6.17; Ezek 33.7–9
* **3.18** Gen 2.17; Ezek 33.6; Jn 8.21, 24
* **3.19** Ezek 33.3, 9; Acts 18.6; 20.26
* **3.20** Jer 6.21; Ezek 18.24; 33.12, 13
* **3.21** v 19; Acts 20.31
* **3.22** v 14; Ezek 8.4; Acts 9.6
* **3.23** Ezek 1.1, 28
* **3.24** Ezek 2.2
* **3.25** Ezek 4.8
* **3.26** Ezek 2.5–7; 24.27; Lk 1.20, 22
* **3.27** vv 9, 11, 26; Ezek 24.27; 33.22

Ezekiel 4

* **4.1** Isa 20.2; Ezek 5.1
* **4.2** Ezek 21.22
* **4.3** Ezek 5.2; 12.6, 11; 24.24, 27
* **4.4** Lev 10.17; Num 18.1
* **4.5** Num 14.34
* **4.7** v 3; Ezek 21.2
* **4.8** Ezek 3.25
* **4.12** Isa 36.12
* **4.13** Hos 9.3
* **4.14** Ex 22.31; Lev 17.15; Deut 14.3; Isa 65.4; Ezek 9.8; Acts 10.14

j **4.16** Heb *staff of bread*

* **4.16** vv 10, 11; Lev 26.26; Isa 3.1; Ezek 5.16; 12.19; 14.13
* **4.17** Lev 26.39; Ezek 24.23

Ezekiel 5

* **5.1** Lev 21.5; Isa 7.20; Ezek 44.20
k **5.2** Heb *it*
* **5.2** v 12; Lev 26.33; Ezek 4.2–8
* **5.3** Jer 39.10
* **5.4** Jer 41.1, 2; 44.14
* **5.5** Lam 1.1; Ezek 4.1
* **5.6** Jer 11.10; Ezek 16.47, 48, 51; Zech 7.11
* **5.7** 2 Chr 33.9; Ezek 16.47
* **5.8** Ezek 15.7
* **5.9** Dan 9.12; Mt 24.21
* **5.10** Lev 26.29; Ezek 12.14; Zech 2.6
* **5.11** 2 Chr 36.14; Ezek 7.4, 9; 8.18
* **5.12** Jer 43.10, 11; Ezek 12.14
* **5.13** Lam 4.11; Ezek 21.17; 36.6
* **5.14** Lev 26.31, 32; Neh 2.17
l **5.15** Q ms Gk Syr Vg Tg: MT *It shall be*
* **5.15** Deut 28.37; 1 Kings 9.7; Jer 24.9; Ezek 25.17
m **5.16** Heb *them*
n **5.16** Heb *staff of bread*
* **5.16** Deut 32.23, 24; Ezek 4.16
* **5.17** Ezek 14.21; 38.22

Ezekiel 6

* **6.3** Ezek 36.4, 6
* **6.4** Lev 26.30
o **6.6** Syr Vg Tg: Heb *and will bear their punishment*
* **6.6** Lev 26.31; Zech 13.2
* **6.7** Ezek 11.10, 12
* **6.8** Jer 44.28; Ezek 5.2, 12; 12.16; 14.22
* **6.9** Ps 78.40; Isa 7.13; Jer 51.50; Ezek 20.7, 24, 43; 43.24
* **6.11** Ezek 5.12; 7.15; 21.14; 25.6
* **6.12** Ezek 5.13; Dan 9.7
* **6.13** v 7; Isa 57.5; Jer 2.20; Hos 4.13
p **6.14** Cn: Heb *Diblah*
* **6.14** Num 33.46; Isa 5.25; Ezek 14.13

Ezekiel 7

* **7.2** Ezek 11.13; Am 8.2; Rev 7.1; 20.8
* **7.4** Ezek 5.11; 6.7; 8.18; 11.21
* **7.5** 2 Kings 21.12, 13
q **7.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.7** v 12; Isa 22.5
* **7.8** v 3; Ezek 6.12; 20.8, 21
r **7.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
s **7.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.11** Jer 6.7; 16.5, 6; Ezek 24.16, 22
t **7.13** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.15** Deut 32.25; Ezek 5.12
* **7.16** Isa 38.14; 59.11; Ezek 6.8; 14.22
* **7.17** Isa 13.7; Ezek 21.7; Heb 12.12
* **7.18** Isa 15.2, 3; Ezek 27.31; Am 8.10
* **7.19** Prov 11.4; Isa 30.22; Ezek 13.5; 14.3, 4; Zeph 1.18
u **7.20** Syr Symmachus: Heb *its*
* **7.20** Jer 7.30
* **7.21** Ps 74.2–8
v **7.22** Or *secret*
* **7.22** Ezek 39.23, 24
w **7.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.23** 2 Kings 21.16; Ezek 8.17; 9.9
* **7.24** Ezek 21.31; 24.21; 33.28
* **7.25** Ezek 13.10, 16
* **7.26** Deut 32.23; Ps 74.9; Jer 4.20; Ezek 20.1, 3; 21.7
* **7.27** vv 3, 4, 8; Ps 35.26; Ezek 18.20; 26.16

Ezekiel 8

* **8.1** Ezek 1.3; 3.22; 14.1; 20.1; 33.31
x **8.2** Gk: Heb *like fire*
* **8.2** Ezek 1.4, 27
* **8.3** Jer 32.34; Ezek 3.12, 14; 5.11; 11.1; Dan 5.5
* **8.4** Ezek 1.28
y **8.5** Heb *he*
* **8.5** v 3; Zech 5.5
* **8.6** vv 9, 11, 14, 16, 17; Ezek 5.11; 7.22, 24
* **8.10** Ex 20.4; Ezek 14.3
* **8.11** Num 16.17, 35; Jer 19.1; Ezek 16.18; 23.41
* **8.13** Ezek 9.3

* **8.14** Ezek 44.4; 46.9
* **8.16** Deut 4.19; Job 31.26; Jer 2.27; 44.17; Ezek 11.1
* **8.17** Jer 7.18, 19; Ezek 9.9; 16.26; Mic 2.2
* **8.18** Isa 1.15; Jer 11.11; Ezek 5.13; 7.4; 9.5, 10; Mic 3.4; Zech 7.13

Ezekiel 9

* **9.2** Ezek 10.2; Rev 15.6
z **9.3** Heb *he*
* **9.3** Ezek 8.4; 10.4, 18; 11.22, 23
* **9.4** Ex 12.7; 1 Pet 4.17; Rev 7.3; 9.4
* **9.5** Ezek 5.11; 7.4, 9
* **9.6** 2 Chr 36.17; Jer 25.29; Ezek 8.11, 12, 16; Am 3.2; Rev 9.4
* **9.7** 2 Chr 36.17; Ezek 6.7; 7.20–22
* **9.8** Josh 7.6; 1 Chr 21.16; Ezek 11.13
* **9.9** Ezek 7.23; 8.12; 22.29
* **9.10** Isa 65.6; Ezek 7.4; 8.18; 11.21

Ezekiel 10

a **10.1** Or *lapis lazuli*
* **10.1** Ezek 1.22, 26; Rev 4.2
* **10.2** v 13; Isa 6.6; Ezek 9.2, 3; Rev 8.5
* **10.3** Ezek 8.3, 16
* **10.4** Ex 40.34, 35; 1 Kings 8.10, 11; Ezek 1.28; 9.3
b **10.5** Traditional rendering of Heb *El Shaddai*
* **10.5** Ezek 1.24
* **10.9** Ezek 1.15, 16
* **10.12** Ezek 1.18; Rev 4.6, 8
* **10.14** Ezek 1.6, 10; Rev 4.7
* **10.16** Ezek 1.19
* **10.17** Ezek 1.12, 20, 21
* **10.19** Ezek 11.1, 22
* **10.20** v 15; Ezek 1.1, 22
* **10.21** Ezek 1.6, 8
* **10.22** Ezek 1.10, 12

Ezekiel 11

* **11.1** Ezek 3.12, 14; 8.3, 16; 10.19
* **11.2** Isa 30.1; Mic 2.1
* **11.3** Jer 1.13; Ezek 12.22, 27; 24.3, 6; 2 Pet 3.4
* **11.4** Ezek 3.4, 17

* **11.5** Jer 11.20; Ezek 2.2; 3.24; 38.10
* **11.6** Ezek 7.23; 22.3, 4
* **11.7** v 9; Ezek 24.3, 6, 10, 11; Mic 3.3
* **11.9** Ps 106.41; Ezek 5.8
* **11.10** 2 Kings 14.25; 25.19–21; Jer 52.10; Ezek 6.7
* **11.12** v 10; Ezek 8.10, 14, 16; 18.8, 9
* **11.13** v 1; Ezek 9.8
c **11.15** Gk Syr: Heb *people of your kindred*
* **11.15** Ezek 33.24
d **11.16** Or *a little sanctuary*
* **11.16** Isa 8.14
* **11.17** Jer 24.5; Ezek 28.25; 34.13
* **11.18** Ezek 37.23
e **11.19** Heb mss Gk Syr Vg: MT *you*
* **11.19** Jer 32.39; Ezek 18.31; 36.26, 27; Zech 7.12; 2 Cor 3.3
* **11.20** Ps 105.45; Ezek 14.11
f **11.21** Cn: Heb *And to the heart of their detestable things and their abominations their heart goes*
* **11.21** Ezek 9.10
* **11.22** Ezek 1.19; 10.19
* **11.23** Ezek 8.4; 9.3; Zech 14.4

Ezekiel 12

* **12.2** Jer 5.21; Ezek 2.6–8; Mt 13.13, 14
* **12.3** Jer 26.3; 36.3, 7; 2 Tim 2.25
* **12.4** Jer 39.4
* **12.6** Isa 8.18; Ezek 4.3; 24.24
* **12.9** Ezek 2.5; 17.12; 24.19
g **12.10** Tg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
h **12.10** Heb *in them*
* **12.10** Mal 1.1
* **12.11** 2 Kings 25.4–7
i **12.12** Gk Syr: Heb *they*
* **12.12** Jer 39.4
* **12.13** Isa 24.17, 18; Jer 52.11; Ezek 17.16; Hos 7.12
* **12.14** 2 Kings 25.4, 5; Ezek 5.2, 12
* **12.15** Ezek 6.7, 14
* **12.16** Jer 22.8, 9; Ezek 6.8–10; 14.22
* **12.19** Ezek 4.16; 23.33; Zech 7.14
* **12.20** Ezek 5.14; 36.3
* **12.22** Ezek 11.3; 16.44; Am 6.3; 2 Pet 3.4
* **12.23** Joel 2.1; Zeph 1.14

* **12.24** Ezek 13.23; Zech 13.2–4
* **12.25** vv 2, 28; Isa 55.11; Dan 9.12; Hab 1.5
* **12.27** v 22; Dan 10.14; 2 Pet 3.4
* **12.28** v 25; Mt 24.48–50

Ezekiel 13

* **13.2** v 17; Jer 14.14; 23.16, 26; 37.19; Am 7.16
* **13.3** Jer 23.28–32; Lam 2.14
* **13.5** Ps 106.23, 30; Isa 58.12; Ezek 7.19; 22.30
* **13.6** v 22; Jer 28.15; Ezek 22.28
* **13.9** Ezra 2.59, 62; Neh 7.5; Ps 69.28; Ezek 11.10, 12

j **13.10** Heb *they*

* **13.10** v 16; Jer 8.11; 50.6; Ezek 22.28

k **13.11** Heb *rain and you*

* **13.11** Ezek 38.22
* **13.14** v 9; Ezek 14.8; Mic 1.6
* **13.16** Isa 57.21; Ezek 6.14
* **13.17** v 2; Ezek 20.46; 21.2
* **13.18** Ezek 22.25; 2 Pet 2.14
* **13.19** Prov 28.21; Jer 23.14, 17; Ezek 20.39; Mic 3.5

l **13.20** Gk Syr: Heb *lives for birds*

* **13.22** Jer 23.14; Ezek 33.14–16; Am 5.12
* **13.23** vv 6, 9; Ezek 12.24; 14.8; Mic 3.6

Ezekiel 14

* **14.1** Ezek 8.1; 20.1; 33.31
* **14.3** Jer 11.11; Ezek 7.19; 20.3, 16, 31
* **14.5** Isa 1.4; Jer 2.11; Zech 11.8
* **14.6** Isa 2.20; 30.22; Ezek 8.6; 18.30
* **14.7** v 4; Ex 12.48; 20.10
* **14.8** Isa 65.15; Jer 44.11; Ezek 5.15; 6.7; 15.7
* **14.9** 1 Kings 22.23; Job 12.16; Jer 4.10; 14.15; 2 Thess 2.11
* **14.11** Ezek 11.20; 37.27; 44.10, 15

m **14.13** Heb *staff of bread*

* **14.13** vv 17, 19, 21; Ezek 5.16; 6.14; 15.8

n **14.14** Or *Danel*

* **14.14** vv 16, 18, 20; Gen 6.8; Job 1.1, 5; Jer 15.1; Dan 1.6
* **14.15** Ezek 5.17
* **14.17** Ezek 5.12; 21.3, 4; 25.13; Zeph 1.3
* **14.19** v 21; Ezek 7.8; 38.22

o **14.20** Or *Danel*
* **14.21** Jer 15.2, 3; Ezek 5.17; Rev 6.8
* **14.22** Ezek 7.16; 12.16; 16.54; 20.43
* **14.23** Jer 22.8, 9

Ezekiel 15

* **15.2** Isa 5.1–7; Jer 2.21; Hos 10.1
* **15.4** v 6; Ezek 19.14; Jn 15.6
* **15.6** v 2; Ezek 17.3–10
* **15.7** Lev 17.10; Isa 24.18; Ezek 6.7; 7.4; 14.8
* **15.8** Ezek 14.13

Ezekiel 16

* **16.2** Ezek 8.9–17; 20.4; 22.2
* **16.3** v 45; Ezek 21.30
* **16.4** Hos 2.3
* **16.5** Deut 32.10
* **16.6** v 22; Ex 19.4
p **16.7** Gk Syr: Heb *Live! I made you a myriad*
q **16.7** Cn: Heb *ornament of ornaments*
* **16.7** v 22; Ex 1.7
* **16.8** Gen 22.16–18; Ex 19.5; 24.7, 8; Ruth 3.9; Jer 2.2
r **16.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16.11** Gen 24.22, 47; Prov 1.9; Ezek 23.40
s **16.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16.13** Deut 32.13, 14; 1 Sam 10.1
t **16.15** Heb adds *Let it be his*
* **16.15** Isa 57.8; Jer 2.20; Ezek 23.3, 8, 11, 12
u **16.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16.16** v 10; Ezek 6.3, 6; Hos 2.8
* **16.17** Ezek 7.20
* **16.20** 2 Kings 16.3; Isa 57.5
* **16.21** 2 Kings 17.17; Jer 19.5
* **16.22** vv 4–6; Hos 11.1
* **16.24** Isa 57.5, 7; Jer 2.20; 3.2
v **16.25** Heb *spreading your legs*
* **16.25** v 15; Prov 9.14
w **16.26** Heb *large-membered neighbors*
* **16.26** Ezek 8.17; 20.7, 8
* **16.27** 2 Chr 28.18, 19; Ezek 14.13; 20.33, 34

* **16.28** 2 Kings 16.7, 10; 2 Chr 28.23
* **16.29** Ezek 23.14–17
x **16.30** Or *How furious I am with you*
* **16.33** Isa 30.6; Hos 8.9, 10
* **16.36** v 15; Jer 19.5; Ezek 23.10, 18, 29
* **16.37** Isa 47.3; Jer 13.22, 26; Hos 2.10; Nah 3.5
* **16.38** Lev 20.10; Jer 18.21; Ezek 23.45
* **16.39** vv 24, 31; Ezek 21.31; 23.26
* **16.40** Ezek 23.46, 47; Jn 8.5, 7
* **16.41** Deut 13.16; 2 Kings 25.9; Jer 52.13; Ezek 23.10, 27, 48
* **16.43** v 22; Ps 78.42; Ezek 6.9; 11.21; 22.31
* **16.44** Ezek 12.22, 23
* **16.46** Gen 13.11–13; Isa 1.10
* **16.47** 2 Kings 21.9; Ezek 5.6, 7
* **16.48** Mt 10.15; 11.24
* **16.49** Gen 13.10; Isa 3.9; Ezek 18.7, 12, 16; Lk 12.16–20
* **16.50** Ezek 7.10
* **16.51** Jer 3.11; Ezek 5.6; Mt 12.41, 42
* **16.53** vv 60, 61; Isa 19.24, 25
* **16.54** Ezek 14.22, 23
y **16.57** Heb mss Syr: MT *Aram*
* **16.57** 2 Kings 16.5; 2 Chr 28.18; Ezek 5.14
* **16.58** Ezek 23.49
* **16.59** Deut 29.12; Ezek 17.13
* **16.60** Jer 2.2; 32.40; Ezek 37.26; Hos 2.15
z **16.61** Heb lacks *my*
* **16.61** Isa 54.1; 60.4; Jer 31.31; Ezek 20.43
* **16.62** Ezek 20.37, 43, 44; Hos 2.19, 20
* **16.63** v 61; Rom 3.19

Ezekiel 17

* **17.2** Ezek 20.49; 24.3
* **17.3** Jer 22.23
a **17.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **17.5** Deut 8.7–9; Isa 44.4
* **17.7** v 15
b **17.9** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **17.10** v 15; Ezek 19.14; Hos 13.15
* **17.12** v 3; 2 Kings 24.11–16; Ezek 2.5; 12.9
* **17.13** 2 Kings 24.15–17; 2 Chr 36.13
* **17.14** v 6; Ezek 29.14

* **17.15** 2 Kings 24.20; 2 Chr 36.13
* **17.16** vv 13, 18, 19; Jer 52.11; Ezek 12.13
* **17.17** Jer 37.7; Ezek 4.2; 29.6, 7
* **17.18** Lam 5.6
* **17.20** Ezek 12.13; 20.36; 32.3
c **17.21** Or *fugitives*
* **17.21** 2 Kings 25.5, 11; Ezek 6.7, 10; 12.14
* **17.22** Isa 11.1; Jer 23.5; Ezek 20.40; 36.36; Zech 3.8
* **17.23** Isa 2.2, 3; Ezek 20.40; Hos 14.5–7; Mt 13.31, 32
* **17.24** Ps 96.12; Ezek 19.12; 21.26; 22.14; 24.14

Ezekiel 18

* **18.2** Jer 31.29; Lam 5.7
* **18.4** v 20; Isa 42.5; Rom 6.23
* **18.6** vv 12, 15; Lev 18.19; 20.18; Ezek 22.9, 10
* **18.7** Ex 22.21; Lev 19.13, 15; Deut 24.12, 13
* **18.8** Ex 22.25; Lev 25.36, 37; Deut 1.16; 23.19; Zech 8.16
* **18.9** Ezek 20.11; Am 5.4
* **18.10** Ex 21.12; Num 35.31
d **18.11** Heb *he*
* **18.12** Isa 59.6, 7; Ezek 8.6, 17; Am 4.1
* **18.13** vv 8, 17; Ezek 33.4, 5
* **18.14** Prov 23.24
* **18.16** Ps 41.1
e **18.17** Gk: Heb *the poor*
* **18.19** Ex 20.5; Deut 5.9; 2 Kings 23.26
* **18.20** Deut 24.16; Isa 3.10, 11; Rom 2.9
* **18.21** Ezek 3.21; 33.12, 19
* **18.22** Ps 18.20–24; Ezek 33.16; Mic 7.19
* **18.23** Ezek 33.11; 1 Tim 2.4; 2 Pet 3.9
* **18.24** Ezek 3.20; 33.12, 13, 18; 2 Pet 2.20
* **18.25** v 29; Ezek 33.17, 20; Zeph 3.5
f **18.30** Or *so that they shall not be a stumbling block of iniquity to you*
* **18.30** Ezek 7.3; 33.20; Mt 3.2; Rev 2.5
* **18.31** Isa 1.16, 17; 55.7; Ezek 11.19; 36.26
* **18.32** Ezek 33.11; 2 Pet 3.9

Ezekiel 19

* **19.1** Ezek 26.17; 27.2
* **19.2** Isa 5.29; Nah 2.11, 12; Zech 11.3

* **19.3** v 6; 2 Kings 23.31, 32
* **19.4** 2 Kings 23.33; 2 Chr 36.4
* **19.5** 2 Kings 23.34
* **19.6** v 3; 2 Kings 24.9
g **19.7** Tg: Heb *his widows*
* **19.7** Ezek 12.19; 30.12
* **19.8** v 4; 2 Kings 24.2
* **19.9** 2 Chr 36.6; Jer 22.18; Ezek 6.2
h **19.10** Cn: Heb *in your blood*
* **19.10** Ps 80.8–11
i **19.11** Heb *Its strongest stems became rulers' scepters*
* **19.11** Ezek 31.3; Dan 4.11
* **19.12** Jer 31.28; Ezek 17.10; 28.17; Hos 13.15
* **19.13** Hos 2.3
* **19.14** Lam 4.20; Ezek 15.4

Ezekiel 20

* **20.1** Ezek 8.1, 11, 12; 9.6
* **20.4** Ezek 16.2; 22.2
* **20.5** Ex 6.2, 3, 7; 20.2; Deut 7.6
* **20.6** Ex 3.8, 17; Deut 8.7–9; Ps 48.2; Jer 32.22; Dan 8.9
* **20.7** Ex 20.2; Deut 29.16, 18; Ezek 18.31
* **20.8** Isa 63.10; Ezek 7.8
* **20.9** Ex 32.12; Num 14.13ff; Ezek 36.21; 39.7
* **20.10** Ex 13.18
* **20.11** Lev 18.5; Deut 4.8; Rom 10.5; Gal 3.12
* **20.12** Ex 31.13, 17
* **20.13** Num 14.22, 29; Ps 78.40; 95.8–10; 106.23; Prov 1.25
* **20.15** Num 14.28; Ps 95.11
* **20.16** Num 15.39; Ps 78.37; Am 5.25
* **20.19** Ex 6.7; Deut 5.32
* **20.21** Num 25.1
* **20.22** vv 9, 14; Ps 78.38
* **20.23** Lev 26.33; Deut 28.64; Ps 106.27; Jer 15.4
* **20.25** Ps 81.12; Rom 1.24; 2 Thess 2.11
* **20.26** v 30; 2 Kings 17.17; 2 Chr 28.3; Ezek 6.7; 16.20, 21
* **20.27** Ezek 2.7; 18.24; 39.23, 26; Rom 2.24
* **20.28** Isa 57.5–7; Ezek 6.13; 16.19
j **20.29** That is, *high place*
* **20.31** Ps 106.37–39; Jer 7.31; Ezek 16.20
* **20.33** Jer 21.5

* **20.35** Ezek 17.20
* **20.36** vv 13, 21; Deut 32.10; 1 Cor 10.5–10
* **20.37** Jer 33.13; Ezek 16.60, 62
* **20.38** Jer 44.14; Ezek 6.7; 34.17, 20; Am 9.9, 10
* **20.39** Isa 1.13; Jer 44.25, 26; Ezek 23.38, 39; Am 4.4
* **20.40** Isa 56.7; 60.7; Ezek 17.23; 37.22, 24; Mic 4.1; Mal 3.4
* **20.41** Eph 5.2; Phil 4.18
* **20.42** Ezek 34.13; 36.24
* **20.43** Ezek 16.61; 36.31; Hos 5.15; Zech 12.10
* **20.44** Ezek 36.22
k **20.45** 21.1 in Heb
* **20.46** Ezek 6.2; 21.2
* **20.47** Jer 17.24; 21.4, 14
* **20.48** Jer 7.20; 17.27
* **20.49** Ezek 17.2; Mt 13.13, 14

Ezekiel 21

l **21.1** 21.6 in Heb
* **21.2** Ezek 20.46; Am 7.16
* **21.3** vv 9–11, 19; Job 9.22; Jer 21.13; Ezek 5.8
* **21.6** Isa 22.4
* **21.9** Deut 32.41
m **21.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
n **21.11** Heb *It*
* **21.12** Jer 31.19
o **21.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **21.14** Lev 26.21, 24; Num 24.10; Ezek 6.11; 30.24
p **21.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **21.17** v 14; Ezek 5.13; 22.13
* **21.19** v 15; Ezek 4.1–3
q **21.20** Gk Syr: Heb *Judah in*
* **21.20** Jer 49.2; Ezek 25.5; Am 1.14
r **21.21** Or *the household gods*
* **21.21** Num 23.23; Judg 17.5; Prov 16.33
* **21.23** Ezek 17.13, 15, 16, 18; 29.16
s **21.24** Or *be taken captive*
* **21.25** Ezek 7.2, 3, 7; 35.5
* **21.26** Jer 13.18; Ezek 16.12; 17.24; Lk 1.52
* **21.27** Ps 2.6; Jer 23.5, 6; Ezek 34.24; 37.24; Hag 2.21, 22
t **21.28** Cn: Heb *to contain*
* **21.28** Isa 31.8; Jer 12.12; 49.1; Ezek 25.2, 3; Zeph 2.8

* **21.29** v 25; Ezek 13.6–9; 22.28; 35.5
* **21.30** Jer 47.6, 7; Ezek 16.3
* **21.31** Jer 6.22, 23; 51.20, 21; Ezek 7.8; 14.19; 22.20, 21
* **21.32** Ezek 25.10; Mal 4.1

Ezekiel 22

* **22.2** Ezek 16.2; 20.4; 24.6–9; Nah 3.1
* **22.6** Isa 1.23
* **22.7** Ex 22.21, 22; Deut 27.16
* **22.8** v 26; Lev 19.30; Ezek 23.38, 39
* **22.9** Ezek 18.6, 11, 15
* **22.10** Lev 18.8, 19; Ezek 18.6
* **22.11** Lev 18.9, 15; Ezek 18.11
* **22.12** Lev 19.13; 25.36; Jer 3.21; Mic 7.2, 3
* **22.14** Ezek 21.7; 24.14
* **22.15** Deut 4.27; Ezek 23.27
u **22.18** Transposed from the end of the verse
* **22.18** Isa 1.22; Jer 6.28
* **22.22** Ezek 20.8, 33; 21.7
v **22.25** Gk: Heb *A conspiracy of its prophets*
* **22.25** Ps 10.9; Jer 15.8; Hos 6.9
* **22.26** Lev 10.10; Ezek 20.12, 13; 36.20; 44.23; Hag 2.11–14; Mal 2.8
* **22.27** Isa 1.23
* **22.28** Ezek 13.6, 7, 10–16
* **22.29** Ex 22.21; 23.9; Isa 5.7; Am 3.10
* **22.30** Ps 106.23; Jer 5.1; Ezek 13.5
* **22.31** Isa 13.5; Ezek 9.10; 11.21; 16.43

Ezekiel 23

* **23.3** Josh 24.14; Ezek 16.22; 20.8
* **23.4** Ezek 16.8, 20
w **23.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **23.5** 1 Kings 12.28–30; Ezek 16.28; Hos 8.9, 10
* **23.7** Hos 5.3; 6.10
* **23.8** Ex 32.4; Ezek 16.15
* **23.9** Ezek 16.37; Hos 11.5
* **23.10** Ezek 16.37, 57; Hos 2.10
* **23.11** Jer 3.8–11; Ezek 16.47
x **23.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **23.12** 2 Chr 28.16–23

* **23.14** Jer 22.14; Ezek 8.10; 16.29
* **23.18** v 10; Jer 6.8
* **23.20** Ezek 16.26
y **23.21** Heb mss: MT *from Egypt*
z **23.21** Cn: Heb *for the sake of*
* **23.21** v 3
* **23.22** v 28; Ezek 16.37
* **23.23** vv 6, 12; 2 Kings 24.2; Jer 50.21; Ezek 21.19
a **23.24** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **23.24** Jer 39.5, 6; 47.3; Ezek 16.40; 21.15, 19
* **23.26** Ezek 16.39
* **23.27** vv 3, 19; Ezek 16.41; 22.15
* **23.29** v 26; Ezek 16.39
* **23.32** Isa 51.17; Jer 25.15; Ezek 22.4, 5
* **23.34** Ps 75.8; Isa 51.17
* **23.35** 1 Kings 14.9; Neh 9.26; Jer 3.21; Hos 8.14
* **23.36** Isa 58.1; Ezek 20.4; 22.2
* **23.37** vv 3, 45; Ezek 16.20, 21, 36, 45
* **23.39** 2 Kings 21.4
* **23.40** 2 Kings 9.30; Isa 57.9; Jer 4.30; Ezek 16.13–16
* **23.41** Esth 1.6; Prov 7.17; Hos 2.8; Am 6.4
* **23.42** Jer 51.7; Ezek 16.11, 12, 49
b **23.44** Q ms: MT *he has*
* **23.45** Lev 20.10; Ezek 16.38; Hos 6.5
* **23.47** 2 Chr 36.17, 19; Jer 39.8; Ezek 16.40; 24.21
* **23.48** v 27; Ezek 22.15; 2 Pet 2.6

Ezekiel 24

* **24.1** Ezek 1.2; 8.1; 20.1; 26.1
* **24.2** 2 Kings 25.1; Isa 8.1; Jer 39.1; 52.4
* **24.3** Jer 1.13; Ezek 11.3; 17.2
c **24.5** Heb *the bones*
d **24.5** Heb mss: MT *its boilings*
e **24.5** Cn: Heb *its bones seethe*
f **24.6** Heb *piece, no lot has fallen on it*
* **24.6** v 9; Ezek 22.3; Joel 3.3; Mic 7.2; Nah 3.10
* **24.7** Lev 17.13; Deut 12.16; Ezek 23.37, 45
* **24.9** v 6; Nah 3.1; Hab 2.12
g **24.10** Gk: Heb *mix in the spices*
h **24.12** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **24.13** Jer 6.28–30; Ezek 5.13; 8.18; 16.42; 22.24

* **24.14** 1 Sam 15.29; Isa 55.11; Ezek 9.10; 18.30; 36.19
* **24.16** Job 23.2; Jer 13.17; 16.5; 22.10
i **24.17** Vg Tg: Heb *of men*
* **24.17** 2 Sam 15.30; Jer 16.5–7; Mic 3.7
* **24.21** Ps 27.4; Jer 6.11; 7.14; Ezek 23.47
j **24.22** Vg Tg: Heb *of men*
* **24.23** Job 27.15; Ps 78.64; Ezek 33.10
* **24.24** Jer 17.15; Ezek 4.3; 6.7; 12.6, 11; 25.5
k **24.25** Heb lacks *and also*
* **24.25** Jer 11.22
* **24.27** v 24; Ezek 3.26, 27; 33.22

Ezekiel 25

* **25.2** Jer 27.3; Ezek 21.28; Am 1.13; Zeph 2.8, 9
* **25.3** Prov 17.5; Ezek 26.2
* **25.5** Isa 17.2; Ezek 21.20; Zeph 2.14
* **25.6** Job 27.23; Lam 2.15; Zeph 2.8, 10
* **25.7** Ezek 6.14; 26.5; Am 1.14, 15
l **25.8** Gk OL: Heb *Moab and Seir*
m **25.9** Heb *towns from its towns*
* **25.12** Lam 4.21, 22; Ezek 35.2; Am 1.11; Ob 10–16
* **25.13** Jer 25.23; Am 1.12
* **25.14** Isa 11.14; Jer 49.2
* **25.15** 2 Chr 28.18; Isa 14.29–31; Jer 25.20; Joel 3.4
* **25.16** 1 Sam 30.14; Jer 47.1–7; Zeph 2.4, 5
* **25.17** Ps 9.16; Ezek 5.15

Ezekiel 26

n **26.1** Gk ms: Heb *eleventh year*
o **26.1** Cn: Heb lacks *eleventh*
* **26.2** Isa 23; Jer 25.22; Ezek 25.3; 36.2
* **26.3** Isa 5.30; Jer 50.42; Mic 4.11
* **26.4** Am 1.10
* **26.5** Ezek 27.32; 29.19
* **26.6** Ezek 25.5
* **26.7** Ezra 7.12; Jer 27.3–6; Ezek 23.24; Dan 2.37
* **26.8** v 6; Jer 6.6; 32.24; Ezek 21.22
* **26.9** Ezek 21.22
* **26.10** Jer 4.13; 39.3; Ezek 27.28
* **26.11** Isa 26.5; Jer 43.13; Hab 1.8

* **26.13** Isa 14.11; 23.16; 25.10; Rev 18.22
* **26.15** v 18; Ezek 31.16
* **26.16** Job 2.13; Ezek 27.35; Jon 3.6
p **26.17** Gk OL Aquila: Heb *have vanished, O inhabited one,*
q **26.17** Heb *it and its inhabitants*
r **26.17** Heb *their*
s **26.17** Cn: Heb *its inhabitants*
* **26.17** Isa 23.4; Ezek 27.32; 28.2; Rev 18.9
* **26.18** v 15
t **26.20** Gk: Heb *I will give beauty*
* **26.20** Jer 33.9; Ezek 32.18, 24; Am 9.2
* **26.21** v 14; Ezek 27.36; 28.19

Ezekiel 27

* **27.2** Ezek 28.12
* **27.3** v 33; Ezek 28.2, 12
* **27.4** vv 25–27
* **27.5** Deut 3.9
u **27.6** Or *boxwood*
* **27.6** Isa 2.13; Jer 2.10; Zech 11.12
v **27.8** Cn: Heb *your skilled men, O Tyre*
* **27.8** 1 Kings 9.27
* **27.9** v 27; 1 Kings 5.18
w **27.10** Or *Persia*
* **27.10** v 11; Ezek 30.5; 38.5
x **27.11** Or *and your army*
* **27.11** vv 3, 8, 10
* **27.12** 2 Chr 20.36; Isa 23.6, 10
* **27.13** Gen 10.2; Isa 66.19; Rev 18.13
* **27.14** Gen 10.3; Ezek 38.6
y **27.15** Gk: Heb *The Dedanites*
* **27.15** Gen 10.7; Rev 18.12
z **27.16** Heb mss Syr Aquila: MT *Aram*
* **27.16** Ezek 28.13
a **27.17** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **27.17** Judg 11.33; Jer 8.22
* **27.18** Jer 49.23
b **27.19** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **27.21** Isa 60.7; Jer 25.24; 49.28
* **27.22** Gen 10.7; 1 Kings 10.1, 2; Isa 60.6
* **27.23** Gen 11.31; 2 Kings 19.12; Am 1.5

c **27.24** Cn: Heb *in your market*
* **27.25** Isa 2.16
* **27.26** Ps 48.7; Ezek 26.19
* **27.27** Prov 11.4; Rev 18.9–19
* **27.28** Ezek 26.15
* **27.29** Rev 18.17–19
* **27.30** Job 2.12; Rev 18.19
* **27.31** Isa 16.9; 22.12; Jer 16.6; Ezek 29.18
d **27.32** Tg Vg: Heb *silenced*
* **27.32** Rev 18.18
* **27.33** Rev 18.19
* **27.34** vv 26, 27; Ezek 26.19; Zech 9.3, 4
* **27.35** Ezek 26.15, 16; 32.10
* **27.36** Ps 37.10, 36; Jer 18.16; Ezek 26.21; Zeph 2.15

Ezekiel 28

* **28.2** v 6; Isa 31.3; Ezek 27.25–27
e **28.3** Or *Danel*
* **28.3** Dan 1.20
* **28.4** Ezek 27.33
* **28.5** Ps 62.10; Hos 13.6; Zech 9.3
* **28.6** v 2
* **28.7** v 17; Ezek 26.7; 30.11; 31.12; 32.12
* **28.8** Ezek 27.26, 27, 34; 32.30
* **28.10** Ezek 31.18; 32.19, 21, 25, 27
f **28.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **28.12** v 3; Ezek 27.2, 3
g **28.13** Or *lapis lazuli*
h **28.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **28.13** Ezek 31.8, 9; 36.35
i **28.14** Gk: Heb adds *anointed guardian*
* **28.14** v 16; Ex 25.20; Ezek 20.40; Rev 18.16
* **28.15** Isa 14.12; Ezek 27.3, 4
* **28.16** v 14; Gen 3.24; Ezek 8.17; 27.12ff
* **28.17** vv 2, 5; Ezek 26.16; 27.3, 4; 31.10
* **28.18** v 16; Am 1.9, 10; Mal 4.3
* **28.19** Jer 51.64; Ezek 26.21; 27.36
* **28.21** Isa 23.4, 12; Ezek 6.2; 25.2; 32.30
* **28.22** v 26; Ps 9.16; Ezek 26.3; 38.16; 39.13
* **28.23** vv 24, 26; Jer 51.52; Ezek 38.22
* **28.24** Num 33.55; Josh 23.13; Isa 55.13; Ezek 25.6; 36.5

* **28.25** Isa 11.12; Jer 23.8; 27.11; 32.37; Ezek 20.41; 37.25
* **28.26** Isa 65.21; Jer 23.6; Am 9.13, 14

Ezekiel 29

* **29.2** Isa 19.1; Jer 25.19; 44.30; 46.2, 25; Ezek 28.21
* **29.3** Isa 27.1; 51.9; Jer 44.30; Ezek 28.22; 32.2
* **29.4** 2 Kings 19.28; Isa 37.29; Ezek 38.4
* **29.5** Jer 7.33; 34.20; Ezek 32.4–6; 39.4

j **29.6** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *they*

* **29.6** Isa 36.6

k **29.7** Syr: Heb *stand*

* **29.7** Jer 37.5–11; Ezek 17.17
* **29.8** Ezek 14.17; 32.11–13

l **29.9** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *he*

* **29.10** Ezek 30.6, 12
* **29.11** Jer 43.11, 12; Ezek 32.13
* **29.12** Ezek 30.7, 26
* **29.13** Isa 19.22, 23; Jer 46.26

m **29.16** Heb *It*

* **29.16** vv 6, 9, 21; Isa 30.2, 3; 36.4, 6; Jer 14.10; Hos 8.13
* **29.18** Jer 27.6; Ezek 26.7, 8; 27.31
* **29.19** Jer 43.10–13; Ezek 30.4, 10
* **29.20** Isa 45.1–3; Jer 25.9
* **29.21** v 6; Ps 132.17; Ezek 6.7; 24.27; 33.22; Lk 21.15

Ezekiel 30

* **30.2** Isa 13.6; Ezek 21.12; Joel 1.5, 11, 13
n **30.3** Heb lacks *of doom*
* **30.3** v 18; Ezek 7.7, 12; Joel 2.1; Ob 15; Zeph 1.7
* **30.4** vv 5, 9, 11; Ezek 29.19
o **30.5** Compare Gk Syr Vg: Heb *Cub*
p **30.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **30.5** Jer 25.20, 24
* **30.6** Isa 20.3–6; Ezek 29.10
* **30.7** Ezek 29.12
* **30.8** vv 5, 6, 14, 16; Ezek 29.6, 9, 16
q **30.9** Heb *the day of Egypt*
* **30.9** Isa 18.1, 2; Ezek 32.9, 10; 38.11
* **30.10** Ezek 29.19
* **30.11** v 4; Ezek 28.7
* **30.12** Isa 19.5, 6; Ezek 29.3, 9
* **30.13** v 16; Isa 19.1, 16; Zech 10.11; 13.2
* **30.14** vv 15, 16; Ps 78.12, 43; Ezek 29.14
* **30.15** v 16; Jer 46.25
r **30.17** Heb *and they*
s **30.18** Heb *she*
* **30.18** v 3; Jer 43.8–13; Ezek 34.27
* **30.19** vv 14, 25, 26
* **30.21** Ps 10.15; Jer 46.11
* **30.22** Ps 37.17; Ezek 29.3
* **30.23** v 26; Ezek 29.12
* **30.24** vv 10, 25; Ezek 21.14, 25; 26.15; Zeph 2.12; Zech 10.12
* **30.25** vv 11, 22, 24; Isa 5.25
* **30.26** Ezek 29.12

Ezekiel 31

* **31.2** v 18; Ezek 29.19; 30.10
* **31.3** vv 5, 10; Ezek 17.23; Nah 3.1ff
* **31.4** Ezek 17.5, 8; Rev 17.1, 15
* **31.5** Ps 37.35; Ezek 17.5
* **31.6** Ezek 17.23; Dan 4.12; Mt 13.32; Mk 4.32; Lk 13.19
* **31.8** vv 16, 18; Gen 2.8; 13.10; Ezek 28.13
t **31.10** Syr Vg: Heb *you*
* **31.10** Isa 14.13, 14; Ezek 28.17; Dan 5.20

* **31.11** Ezek 30.10, 11; Nah 3.18
* **31.12** Ezek 28.7; 32.5; 35.8; Nah 3.17, 18; Hab 1.6
* **31.13** Isa 18.6; Ezek 32.4
* **31.14** vv 16–18; Ps 63.9; Ezek 32.24
* **31.15** Ezek 32.7; Nah 2.10
* **31.16** Isa 14.8, 15; Ezek 26.15; 32.18, 31
u **31.17** Heb *its arms*
* **31.17** Ps 9.17
* **31.18** vv 8, 9, 14; Ezek 28.10; 32.19, 21

Ezekiel 32

v **32.2** Heb *their*
* **32.2** Ezek 19.3, 6; 27.2; 34.18; 38.13
w **32.3** Gk Vg: Heb *they*
* **32.3** Ezek 12.13; 17.20; Hos 7.12
* **32.4** Isa 18.6; Ezek 29.5; 31.13
x **32.5** Symmachus Syr Vg: Heb *your height*
* **32.6** Ezek 35.6; Rev 14.20
* **32.7** Prov 13.9; Isa 13.10; 34.4; Joel 2.31; 3.15; Am 8.9; Mt 24.29; Rev 6.12, 13
y **32.9** Gk: Heb *bring your destruction*
* **32.9** Ex 15.14–16; Ezek 28.19; Rev 18.10–15
* **32.10** Jer 46.10; Ezek 26.16; 27.35
* **32.11** Jer 46.26; Ezek 30.4
* **32.12** Ezek 28.7; 30.18; 31.12
* **32.13** Ezek 29.8, 11
* **32.15** Ps 9.16; Ezek 6.7; 29.12, 19, 20
* **32.16** 2 Sam 1.17; 2 Chr 35.25; Ezek 26.17
z **32.17** Gk: Heb lacks *in the first month*
a **32.18** Heb *it*
* **32.18** vv 2, 16, 24; Ezek 26.20; 31.14; Mic 1.8
* **32.19** vv 21, 24, 29; Ezek 28.10; 31.2, 18
b **32.20** Heb *It*
c **32.20** Cn: Heb *carry away both it and its hordes*
* **32.21** vv 27, 31, 32; Isa 1.31; 14.9, 10
* **32.22** Ezek 31.3, 16
* **32.23** vv 24–27, 32; Isa 14.15
* **32.24** vv 25, 30; Ps 27.13; Isa 38.11; Jer 11.19; 49.34–39
d **32.25** Heb *it*
* **32.25** vv 19, 23, 24; Ps 139.8
* **32.26** vv 19, 32; Gen 10.2; Ezek 27.13; 38.2
e **32.27** Gk OL: Heb *of the uncircumcised*

f **32.27** Cn: Heb *iniquities*
* **32.27** Isa 14.18, 19, 21, 23
* **32.29** Isa 34.5–15; Jer 49.7–22; Ezek 25.13
* **32.30** Ezek 28.21; 38.6, 15; 39.2
g **32.32** Cn: Heb *I*

Ezekiel 33

* **33.2** 2 Sam 18.24, 25; 2 Kings 9.17; Jer 12.12; Ezek 3.11; Zech 13.7
* **33.3** Hos 8.1; Joel 2.1
* **33.4** Jer 6.17; Ezek 18.13; Zech 1.4; Acts 18.6
* **33.5** Heb 11.7
* **33.6** v 8; Isa 56.10, 11; Ezek 3.18, 20
* **33.7** Jer 26.2; Ezek 3.17–21; Acts 5.20
* **33.9** Ezek 3.19, 21; Acts 13.40, 41, 46
* **33.10** Ezek 18.2; 24.23; 37.11
* **33.11** 2 Sam 14.14; Ezek 18.23, 30–32; 2 Pet 3.9
h **33.12** Heb *by it*
* **33.12** 2 Chr 7.14; Ezek 3.20
* **33.13** Ezek 3.20; 18.24; 2 Pet 2.20, 21
* **33.14** Ezek 3.18, 19; 18.27
* **33.15** Lev 6.2, 4, 5; Num 5.6, 7; Ezek 20.11; Lk 19.8
* **33.16** Ezek 18.22
i **33.18** Heb *them*
* **33.18** Ezek 18.26
j **33.19** Heb *them*
* **33.20** Ezek 18.25
* **33.21** 2 Kings 25.4; Ezek 1.2; 24.26
* **33.22** Ezek 1.3; 24.27; Lk 1.64
* **33.24** Isa 51.2; Ezek 36.4; Acts 7.5
* **33.25** Deut 12.16; Ezek 20.24; 22.6, 9
* **33.26** Ezek 18.6; 22.11
* **33.27** 1 Sam 13.6; Isa 2.19; Ezek 39.4
* **33.28** Jer 44.2, 6, 22; Ezek 7.24; 36.34, 35
* **33.29** Ezek 23.33, 35
k **33.31** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **33.31** Ps 78.36, 37; Isa 29.13; Ezek 8.1; 14.1; 20.1; Mt 13.22
l **33.32** Cn: Heb *like a love song*
* **33.33** 1 Sam 3.20; Ezek 2.5

Ezekiel 34

* **34.2** Jer 10.21; Jn 10.11; 21.15–17
* **34.3** Isa 56.11; Ezek 22.25, 27; Zech 11.16
* **34.4** Zech 11.16; Mt 9.36; Lk 15.4; 1 Pet 5.3
* **34.5** Jer 10.21; 23.2; 50.6, 7; Mt 9.36
* **34.8** vv 2, 5, 6; Acts 20.29
* **34.10** vv 2, 8; Ezek 3.18; Heb 13.17
* **34.11** Ezek 11.17; 20.41

m **34.12** Cn: Heb *their scattered sheep*

* **34.12** Ezek 30.3; Joel 2.2; Jn 10.16
* **34.13** Isa 30.25; 65.9, 10; Jer 23.3; Ezek 37.22
* **34.14** Ps 23.1, 2; Ezek 20.40; 28.25, 26
* **34.16** Isa 49.26; Lk 5.32
* **34.17** Ezek 20.37, 38; Zech 10.3; Mt 25.32, 33
* **34.23** Isa 40.11; Jer 23.4, 5; 30.9; Hos 3.5
* **34.24** Ezek 36.28; 37.24, 25, 27; Hos 3.5
* **34.25** Isa 11.6–9; Jer 23.6; Hos 2.18
* **34.26** Isa 56.7; Zech 8.13
* **34.27** Ps 85.12; Isa 4.2; Jer 2.20
* **34.28** Jer 30.10
* **34.29** Isa 60.21; Ezek 36.3, 6, 29

n **34.31** Gk OL: Heb *pasture, you are people*

* **34.31** Ps 100.3; Jn 10.11

Ezekiel 35

* **35.2** Jer 49.7, 8
* **35.5** Ezek 7.2; 21.25, 29; 25.12; Ob 10
* **35.7** Ezek 25.13; 29.11
* **35.8** Isa 34.5, 6; Ezek 31.12; 32.4, 5
* **35.9** Jer 49.13; Ezek 6.7; 36.11
* **35.10** Ps 48.1, 3; Ezek 36.2, 5; 48.35

o **35.11** Gk: Heb *them*

* **35.11** Ps 9.16; Am 1.11; Mt 7.2
* **35.13** Jer 7.11; 29.23; Ezek 36.3
* **35.14** Isa 49.13; Jer 51.48
* **35.15** Jer 50.11; Ezek 6.7; Ob 4, 21

Ezekiel 36

* **36.2** Ezek 25.3; 35.10; Hab 3.19
* **36.3** Jer 2.15; 18.16; 51.34; Ezek 35.13
* **36.4** Ps 79.4; Jer 48.27; Ezek 6.3; 34.28

* **36.5** Jer 50.11; Ezek 25.12–14; 35.10, 12; 38.19; Mic 7.8
* **36.6** Ps 123.3, 4; Ezek 34.29
* **36.10** v 33; Isa 27.6; Ezek 32.21, 22
* **36.11** Jer 30.18; Ezek 16.55; 35.9
* **36.15** Jer 13.16; 18.15; Ezek 22.4; 34.29
* **36.17** Lev 18.25, 26, 28; Jer 2.7
* **36.18** Ezek 16.36–38; 22.20; 23.37
* **36.19** Ezek 39.24; Am 9.9; Rom 2.6
* **36.20** Isa 52.5; Jer 33.24; Rom 2.24
* **36.21** Ps 74.18; Isa 48.9; Ezek 20.44
* **36.22** Ps 106.8
* **36.23** Ps 126.2; Ezek 20.41; 28.25; 39.27
* **36.24** Ezek 34.13; 37.21
* **36.25** Isa 52.15; Zech 13.1; Heb 10.22
* **36.26** Ps 51.10; Ezek 11.19
* **36.27** Ezek 11.19; 37.14
* **36.28** Jer 30.22; Ezek 11.20; 37.27
* **36.29** Ezek 34.27, 29; Hos 2.21–23; Zech 13.1
* **36.31** Ezek 6.9; 16.61–63; 20.43
* **36.32** Ezek 20.44
* **36.35** Isa 51.3; Ezek 31.9; Joel 2.3
* **36.36** Ezek 22.14; 37.14; 39.27, 28
* **36.38** 1 Kings 8.63; Zech 11.17

Ezekiel 37

* **37.1** Ezek 1.3; 8.3; Lk 4.1; Acts 8.39
* **37.3** Deut 32.39; 1 Sam 2.6; Isa 26.19
p **37.5** Or *wind* or *spirit*
* **37.5** vv 9, 10; Ps 104.29, 30
q **37.6** Or *wind* or *spirit*
* **37.6** Ezek 6.7; 35.12; Joel 2.27; 3.17
r **37.9** Or *wind* or *spirit*
s **37.9** Or *wind* or *spirit*
* **37.9** Ps 104.30; Hos 13.14
* **37.10** vv 5, 6; Rev 11.11
* **37.11** Ps 141.7; Isa 49.14; Ezek 36.10; 39.25
* **37.12** v 25; Isa 26.19; Ezek 36.24; Hos 13.14; Am 9.14, 15
* **37.13** Ezek 6.7
* **37.14** Ezek 36.27, 36; 39.29
* **37.16** Num 17.2; 2 Chr 11.11–17; 15.9
t **37.19** Heb *I will put them upon it*

* **37.19** Zech 10.6
* **37.21** Ezek 36.24; 39.27
* **37.22** Isa 11.13; Jer 3.18; Ezek 34.23; Hos 1.11
u **37.23** Cn: MT *from all the settlements in which they have sinned*
* **37.23** Ezek 11.18; 36.25, 28; 43.7
* **37.24** Isa 40.11; Jer 30.9; Ezek 36.27; Hos 3.5
* **37.25** Ezek 28.25; 36.28; Zech 6.12
v **37.26** Tg: Heb *give*
* **37.26** Isa 55.3; Ezek 20.40; 36.10; 43.7
* **37.27** Lev 26.11; Jn 1.14
* **37.28** Ezek 20.12; 36.23

Ezekiel 38

* **38.2** Ezek 39.1; Rev 20.8
* **38.4** 2 Kings 19.28; Ezek 39.2
* **38.5** Ezek 27.10; 30.4, 5
* **38.6** Gen 10.2; Ezek 27.14
w **38.7** Cn: Heb *hold yourselves in reserve for them*
* **38.8** Isa 24.22; Ezek 36.24
* **38.9** Isa 28.2; Joel 2.2
* **38.10** Mic 2.1
* **38.11** v 8; Jer 49.31; Zech 2.4
x **38.12** Heb *navel*
* **38.12** Isa 10.6; Ezek 29.19
y **38.13** Heb *young lions*
* **38.13** Ezek 27.15, 22; Nah 2.11–13
z **38.14** Gk: Heb *will you not know?*
* **38.14** Jer 23.6; Zech 2.5, 8
* **38.15** Ezek 39.2
* **38.16** Ezek 36.23
* **38.17** Isa 34.1–6
* **38.18** Ps 18.8, 15
* **38.19** Ezek 36.5, 6; Nah 1.2; Hag 2.6, 7; Rev 16.18
* **38.20** Jer 4.24; Hos 4.3; Nah 1.5, 6; Zech 14.4
a **38.21** Heb *him*
b **38.21** Heb *to* or *for*
* **38.21** Judg 7.22; 1 Sam 14.20; 2 Chr 20.23; Ezek 14.17
* **38.22** Ps 11.6; Isa 66.16; Jer 25.31; Rev 16.21
* **38.23** Ps 9.16; Ezek 36.23; 37.28

Ezekiel 39

* **39.1** Ezek 38.2–4
* **39.3** Ezek 30.21–24; Hos 1.5
* **39.4** Ezek 33.27; 38.21
* **39.6** Ps 72.10; Jer 25.22; Ezek 38.22; Am 1.4
* **39.7** v 25; Isa 60.9, 14; Ezek 20.39; 36.20–22; 38.16
* **39.9** Ps 46.9
* **39.10** Isa 14.2; Hab 2.8

c **39.11** Or *of the Abarim*

d **39.11** That is, *the horde of Gog*

* **39.11** vv 1, 15; Ezek 38.2
* **39.13** Jer 33.9; Ezek 28.22

e **39.14** Heb *travelers*

* **39.14** v 12; Jer 14.16

f **39.15** Heb *travelers*

g **39.15** That is, *the horde of Gog*

h **39.16** That is, *the horde*

* **39.17** v 4; Isa 34.6, 7; Jer 46.10; Zeph 1.7; Rev 19.17
* **39.18** Deut 32.14; Ps 22.12; Am 4.1; Rev 19.18
* **39.20** Ps 76.6; Ezek 38.4; Rev 19.18
* **39.21** v 13; Ezek 38.16, 23
* **39.23** v 29; Isa 59.2; Ezek 20.27; 36.18–20, 23
* **39.24** Ezek 36.19
* **39.25** Jer 30.3, 18; Ezek 20.40; 34.13; 36.24; Hos 1.11
* **39.26** Isa 17.2; Ezek 34.25–28; Mic 4.4
* **39.27** Ezek 28.25, 26; 36.23, 24; 38.16
* **39.28** v 22; Ezek 34.30
* **39.29** Isa 32.15; Ezek 36.27; Joel 2.28; Acts 2.17

Ezekiel 40

* **40.1** Ezek 1.2, 3; 33.21
* **40.2** Ezek 8.3; 17.23; Dan 7.1, 7; Rev 21.10
* **40.3** Ezek 1.7; 47.3; Dan 10.6; Rev 11.1; 21.15
* **40.4** Jer 26.2; Ezek 43.10; 44.5; Acts 20.27

i **40.6** Heb *deep, and one threshold, one reed deep*

* **40.6** vv 20, 26
* **40.7** vv 10–16, 21, 29, 33, 36
* **40.10** v 7

j **40.13** Gk: Heb *roof*

k **40.13** Gk: Heb *roof*

l **40.13** Heb *opening facing opening*
m **40.14** Heb *made*
n **40.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **40.14** vv 9, 16; 1 Chr 28.6; Isa 62.9; Ezek 42.1
o **40.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **40.16** vv 21, 22, 26, 31, 34, 37; 1 Kings 6.4
* **40.17** 1 Chr 9.26; 2 Chr 31.11; Ezek 41.6; 45.5; Rev 11.2
p **40.19** Compare Gk: Heb *from before*
q **40.19** Heb adds *the east and the north*
* **40.19** vv 23, 27
* **40.21** vv 7, 16, 30
r **40.22** Gk: Heb *before them*
* **40.22** vv 6, 16, 26, 31, 34, 37, 49
* **40.23** vv 19, 27
* **40.24** v 21
* **40.25** vv 16, 21, 22, 33
s **40.26** Gk: Heb *before them*
* **40.26** vv 6, 16, 22
* **40.27** vv 19, 23, 32
* **40.28** vv 32, 35
* **40.29** vv 7, 10, 16, 21, 22, 25
t **40.30** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **40.30** vv 16, 21, 25
* **40.31** vv 16, 22, 26, 34, 37
* **40.32** vv 28–31, 35
* **40.33** vv 16, 21, 29
* **40.34** vv 16, 22, 37
* **40.35** Ezek 44.4; 47.2
u **40.36** Heb ms: MT lacks *were of the same size as the others*
* **40.36** vv 7, 16, 29
v **40.37** Gk Vg: Heb *posts*
* **40.37** vv 16, 35
w **40.38** Cn: Heb *at the posts of the gates*
* **40.38** 2 Chr 4.6; Ezek 41.10; 42.13
* **40.39** Lev 4.2, 3; 5.6; 6.6; 7.1
* **40.42** v 39; Ex 20.25
x **40.44** Gk: Heb *chambers for the singers*
y **40.44** Heb lacks *one*
z **40.44** Gk: Heb *east*
* **40.44** vv 17, 23, 27, 38; 1 Chr 6.31; 25.1–7
* **40.45** vv 17, 38; Lev 8.35; 1 Chr 9.23; 2 Chr 13.11

* **40.46** vv 17, 38; Num 18.5; 1 Kings 2.35; Ezek 43.19; 44.15
* **40.47** vv 19, 23, 27
a **40.48** Gk: Heb lacks *between the posts*
b **40.48** Gk: Heb *and the width of the gate was three cubits*
c **40.49** Gk: Heb *eleven*
d **40.49** Gk: Heb *and by steps that went up*
* **40.49** 1 Kings 6.3; Jer 52.17–23; Rev 3.12

Ezekiel 41

e **41.1** Compare Gk: Heb *tent*
* **41.1** vv 21, 23; Ezek 40.2, 3, 9, 17
* **41.2** 1 Kings 6.2, 17; 2 Chr 3.3
f **41.3** Gk: Heb *width*
* **41.3** v 1; Ezek 40.16
* **41.4** 1 Kings 6.20; 2 Chr 3.8
g **41.6** Gk: Heb *they entered*
* **41.6** 1 Kings 6.5, 6
h **41.7** Cn: Heb *it was surrounded*
* **41.7** 1 Kings 6.8
* **41.8** Ezek 40.5
* **41.9** v 11
* **41.10** Ezek 40.17
* **41.11** v 9
* **41.12** vv 13–15; Ezek 42.1
* **41.13** vv 13–15; Ezek 40.47
* **41.14** Ezek 40.47
i **41.15** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
j **41.15** Gk: Heb *of the court*
* **41.15** v 25; Ezek 40.6; 42.1, 10, 13
k **41.16** Gk: Heb *the thresholds*
l **41.16** Cn Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **41.16** vv 15, 25, 26; 1 Kings 6.15; Ezek 40.16; 42.3
m **41.17** Heb *measures*
* **41.18** 1 Kings 6.29; 7.36; 2 Chr 3.5; Ezek 40.16
* **41.19** Ezek 1.10; 10.14
n **41.20** Cn: Heb *and the wall*
* **41.21** v 1; 1 Kings 6.33; Ezek 40.9, 14, 16
o **41.22** Gk: Heb lacks *two cubits wide*
p **41.22** Gk: Heb *length*
* **41.22** Ex 30.1, 8; Ezek 44.16; Mal 1.7, 12; Rev 8.3
* **41.23** vv 1, 4; 1 Kings 6.31–35

q **41.26** Cn: Heb *vestibule. And the side chambers of the temple and the canopies*
* **41.26** v 16; Ezek 40.9, 16, 48

Ezekiel 42

* **42.1** vv 10, 13; Ezek 40.17, 28; 41.1, 12
r **42.2** Gk: Heb *door*
s **42.2** Gk: Heb *before the length*
t **42.3** Heb lacks *the chambers rose*
u **42.3** Meaning of Heb uncertain
v **42.3** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **42.3** Ezek 41.10, 16
w **42.4** Gk Syr: Heb *a way of one cubit*
x **42.4** Heb *their*
* **42.4** Ezek 46.19
y **42.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
z **42.6** Gk: Heb lacks *outer*
* **42.6** Ezek 41.6
* **42.8** Ezek 41.13, 14
* **42.9** Ezek 44.5; 46.19
a **42.10** Compare Gk: Heb *in the thickness of the wall*
b **42.10** Gk: Heb *east*
c **42.11** Heb *and all their exits*
d **42.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **42.13** Lev 6.25, 29; 7.6; 10.13, 14, 17; Num 18.9, 10
* **42.14** Ex 29.4–9; Ezek 44.19; Zech 3.4, 5
* **42.15** Ezek 40.6; 43.1
e **42.17** Gk: Heb *measuring reed all around. He measured*
f **42.18** Gk: Heb *measuring reed all around. He measured*
* **42.20** Ezek 40.5; 45.2; Zech 2.5

Ezekiel 43

* **43.1** Ezek 10.19; 44.1; 46.1
* **43.2** Ezek 1.24; 10.4; 11.23; Rev 1.15; 18.1
g **43.3** Gk: Heb *Like the vision*
h **43.3** Syr: Heb *and the visions*
* **43.3** Jer 1.10; Ezek 1.3, 4, 28; 3.23
* **43.4** Ezek 10.19; 44.2
* **43.5** 1 Kings 8.10, 11; Ezek 3.14; 8.3; 44.4
* **43.6** Ezek 1.26; 40.3
i **43.7** Or *the corpses of their kings*

j **43.7** Or *on their high places*
* **43.7** Ps 47.8; Jer 16.18; Ezek 1.26; 6.5, 13; 37.26, 28
* **43.8** Ezek 8.3; 23.39; 44.7
k **43.9** Or *the corpses of their kings*
* **43.9** Ezek 18.30, 31
* **43.10** v 11; Ezek 40.4
* **43.11** Ezek 11.20; 12.3; 36.27; 44.5
* **43.12** Ezek 40.2
l **43.13** Gk: Heb lacks *high*
* **43.13** Ezek 40.5; 41.8
* **43.14** vv 17, 20; Ezek 45.19
* **43.15** Ex 27.2; Lev 9.9; 1 Kings 1.50
* **43.16** Ex 27.1
* **43.17** Ex 20.26; Ezek 40.6
* **43.18** Ex 40.29; Lev 1.5; Ezek 2.1
* **43.19** Num 16.5, 40; Ezek 44.15
* **43.21** Ex 29.14; Heb 13.11
* **43.23** Ex 29.1
* **43.24** Lev 2.13; Mk 9.49, 50; Col 4.6
* **43.25** Ex 29.35, 36; Lev 8.33
* **43.27** Lev 3.1; 9.1; 17.5; Ezek 20.40

Ezekiel 44

* **44.3** Gen 31.54; Ezek 37.25; 46.2, 8; 1 Cor 10.18
* **44.4** Ezek 1.28; 3.23; 40.20, 40; 43.5; Rev 15.8
m **44.5** Syr Tg Vg: Heb *entrance*
* **44.5** Ezek 40.4; 43.10, 11
n **44.6** Gk: Heb lacks *house*
* **44.6** Ezek 2.5; 3.9; 45.9; 1 Pet 4.3
o **44.7** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *They*
* **44.7** Ex 12.43–49; Lev 22.25; 26.41; Deut 10.16; Jer 4.4; 9.26
p **44.8** Heb lacks *foreigners*
* **44.10** Num 18.23; 2 Kings 23.8, 9; Ezek 22.26
* **44.11** Num 16.9; 1 Chr 26.1; 2 Chr 29.34
* **44.12** 2 Kings 16.10–16; Ps 106.26; Ezek 14.3, 4
* **44.13** Num 18.3; 2 Kings 23.9; Ezek 32.30; 39.26
* **44.14** v 11; Num 18.4
* **44.15** Deut 10.8; Ezek 40.46; 48.11
* **44.17** Ex 28.39, 40, 43; 39.27, 28
* **44.18** Ex 28.40, 42; Isa 3.20
* **44.19** Ezek 42.14; 46.20

* **44.21** Lev 10.9
* **44.22** Lev 21.7, 13, 14
* **44.23** Lev 10.10; Mal 2.7
* **44.24** Deut 17.8, 9; Ezek 20.12, 20
* **44.25** Lev 21.1–3
* **44.26** Num 19.13–19
* **44.28** Num 18.20; Deut 10.9; Josh 13.14, 33
* **44.29** Lev 27.21, 28; Num 18.9, 14
* **44.30** Ex 29.19; Num 3.13; 15.20; Neh 10.37; Mal 3.10
* **44.31** Ex 22.31; Lev 22.8

Ezekiel 45

q **45.1** Gk: Heb *ten*
* **45.4** v 1; Ezek 48.10, 11
r **45.5** Gk: Heb *as their holding, twenty chambers*
* **45.5** Ezek 48.13
* **45.6** Ezek 48.15
* **45.7** Ezek 46.16–18; 48.21
* **45.8** Josh 11.23; Isa 11.3–5; Jer 23.5; Ezek 22.27; 46.18
* **45.9** v 6; Neh 5.1–5; Jer 6.7; 22.3
s **45.10** A Heb measure of volume
* **45.10** Lev 19.35, 36; Prov 11.1
* **45.12** Ex 30.13; Lev 27.25; Num 3.47
t **45.14** Cn: Heb *oil, the bath the oil*
u **45.14** A Heb measure of volume
v **45.14** Vg: Heb *homer*
* **45.15** v 17; Lev 1.4; 6.30
* **45.17** Lev 23.1–44; 1 Kings 8.64; 2 Chr 31.3; Ezek 43.27; 46.4–12
* **45.18** Lev 16.16; Ezek 46.1, 3, 6
* **45.19** Ezek 43.20
* **45.20** vv 15, 18; Lev 4.27; 16.20
* **45.21** Ex 12.18; Lev 23.5, 6; Num 9.2, 3; 28.16, 17
* **45.22** Lev 4.14
* **45.23** Lev 23.8; Num 28.16–25; Job 42.8
* **45.25** Lev 23.34; Num 29.12; Deut 16.13

Ezekiel 46

* **46.1** Ezek 45.17–19
* **46.2** vv 8, 12; Ezek 44.3; 45.9
* **46.3** v 1; Lk 1.10

* **46.4** Ezek 45.17
* **46.5** vv 7, 11; Ezek 45.24
* **46.6** v 1
* **46.7** v 5
* **46.8** v 2; Ezek 44.3
* **46.9** Ex 23.14–17; Deut 16.16
* **46.11** vv 5, 7; Ezek 45.17
* **46.12** v 2; 2 Chr 29.31; Ezek 44.3; 45.17
* **46.13** Ex 29.38; Num 28.3; Isa 50.4
* **46.14** Num 28.5
* **46.15** Ex 29.42; Num 28.6
w **46.16** Gk: Heb *it is his inheritance*
* **46.16** 2 Chr 21.3
* **46.17** Lev 27.10
* **46.18** Ezek 34.3–6, 21; 45.8; Mic 2.1, 2
* **46.19** Ezek 42.9, 13
* **46.20** Lev 2.4, 5, 7; 2 Chr 35.13; Ezek 44.19
x **46.22** Gk Syr Vg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
y **46.23** Heb *the four of them*
* **46.24** v 20; Ezek 44.11

Ezekiel 47

* **47.1** Jer 2.13; Joel 3.18; Zech 13.1; 14.8
z **47.2** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **47.2** Ezek 44.1, 2, 4
* **47.3** Ezek 40.3
* **47.6** Ezek 2.1; 8.6; 40.4; 44.5
* **47.7** v 12; Rev 22.2
* **47.8** Deut 3.17; Josh 3.16; Isa 35.6, 7
a **47.9** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *the two rivers go*
b **47.10** Heb *it*
* **47.10** Gen 14.7; Num 34.6; Josh 23.4; 2 Chr 20.2; Ezek 26.5, 15
* **47.12** v 7; Job 8.16; Ps 1.3; Jer 17.8; Rev 22.2
* **47.13** Gen 48.5; Num 34.2–12; 1 Chr 5.1; Ezek 48.4
* **47.14** Gen 12.7; Deut 1.8; Ezek 20.5, 6
c **47.15** Gk: Heb *Lebo-zedad,* [16]*Hamath*
* **47.15** Num 34.8; Ezek 48.1
* **47.16** vv 17, 18, 20; Ezek 48.1
d **47.17** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **47.17** v 16; Num 34.9; Ezek 48.1

e **47.18** Compare Syr: Heb *you shall measure*
* **47.18** v 16; Gen 13.10, 11; Jer 50.19
f **47.19** Heb lacks *of Egypt*
* **47.19** Deut 32.51; Isa 27.12; Ezek 48.28
* **47.20** vv 10, 15; Num 34.6; Ezek 48.1; Am 6.14
* **47.22** Num 26.55, 56; Isa 56.6, 7; Rom 10.12; Eph 2.12–14; 3.6; Col 3.11

Ezekiel 48

g **48.1** Cn: Heb *by the side of the way*
h **48.1** Cn: Heb *and they shall be his*
i **48.1** Gk: Heb *the east side the west*
* **48.1** Josh 19.40–48; Ezek 47.15–17, 20
* **48.2** Josh 19.24–31
* **48.4** Josh 13.29–31; 17.1–11
* **48.5** Josh 16.5–9; 17.8–10, 14–18
* **48.6** Josh 13.15–21
* **48.7** Josh 15.1–63
* **48.8** Ezek 45.1–6
j **48.9** Cn: Heb *ten*
* **48.10** v 8; Ezek 44.28; 45.4
k **48.11** Heb ms Gk: MT *of the descendants*
* **48.11** Ezek 44.10, 12, 15
* **48.12** Ezek 45.4
l **48.13** Gk: Heb *ten*
* **48.13** Ezek 45.3
* **48.14** Lev 25.32–34
* **48.15** Ezek 42.20; 45.6
* **48.16** Rev 21.16
* **48.17** Ezek 45.2
* **48.18** v 8
* **48.19** Ezek 45.6
* **48.20** v 16
* **48.21** vv 8, 10, 22; Ezek 34.24; 45.7
* **48.23** vv 1–7; Josh 18.21–28
* **48.24** Josh 19.1–9
* **48.25** Josh 19.17–23
* **48.26** Josh 19.10–16
* **48.27** Josh 13.24–28
m **48.28** Heb lacks *of Egypt*
* **48.28** Ezek 47.19, 20
* **48.29** Ezek 47.13–20

* **48.30** vv 31–34
* **48.31** Rev 21.12, 13
n **48.34** Heb ms Gk Syr: MT *their gates three*
* **48.35** Isa 12.6; 24.23; Jer 3.17; 14.9; Joel 3.21; Rev 21.3; 22.3

Daniel

Daniel 1

FOUR YOUNG ISRAELITES AT THE BABYLONIAN COURT

1 In the third year of the reign of King Jehoiakim of Judah, King
Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.* 2The Lord
gave King Jehoiakim of Judah into his power, as well as some of the vessels
of the house of God. These he brought to the land of Shinar,[a] and he placed
the vessels in the treasury of his gods.*

3 Then the king commanded his palace master Ashpenaz to bring some
of the Israelites of the royal family and of the nobility: 4young men without
physical defect and handsome, versed in every branch of wisdom, endowed
with knowledge and insight, and competent to serve in the king's palace;
they were to be taught the literature and language of the Chaldeans.* 5The
king assigned them a daily portion of the royal rations of food and wine.
They were to be educated for three years, so that at the end of that time they
could be stationed in the king's court.* 6Among them were Daniel,
Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, from the tribe of Judah.* 7The palace
master gave them other names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he
called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called
Abednego.*

8 But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the royal
rations of food and wine, so he asked the palace master to allow him not to
defile himself.* 9Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion from the
palace master.* 10The palace master said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord
the king; he has appointed your food and your drink. If he should see you in
poorer condition than the other young men of your age, you would
endanger my head with the king." 11Then Daniel asked the guard whom the
palace master had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:
12"Please test your servants for ten days. Let us be given vegetables to eat
and water to drink. 13You can then compare our appearance with the
appearance of the young men who eat the royal rations and deal with your

servants according to what you observe." [14]So he agreed to this proposal and tested them for ten days. [15]At the end of ten days it was observed that they appeared better and fatter than all the young men who had been eating the royal rations.* [16]So the guard continued to withdraw their royal rations and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables. [17]To these four young men God gave knowledge and skill in every aspect of literature and wisdom; Daniel also had insight into all visions and dreams.*

18 At the end of the time that the king had set for them to be brought in, the palace master brought them into the presence of Nebuchadnezzar, [19]and the king spoke with them. Among them all, no one was found to compare with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they were stationed in the king's court.* [20]In every matter of wisdom and understanding concerning which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.* [21]And Daniel continued there until the first year of King Cyrus.*

Daniel 2

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM

1 In the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed
such dreams that his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him.* [2]So the king
commanded that the magicians, the enchanters, the sorcerers, and the
Chaldeans be summoned to tell the king his dreams. When they came in
and stood before the king,* [3]he said to them, "I have had such a dream that
my spirit is troubled by the desire to understand it."* [4]The Chaldeans said to
the king (in Aramaic),[b] "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream,
and we will reveal the interpretation."* [5]The king answered the Chaldeans,
"This is a public decree: if you do not tell me both the dream and its
interpretation, you shall be torn limb from limb, and your houses shall be
laid in ruins.* [6]But if you do tell me the dream and its interpretation, you
shall receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. Therefore tell me
the dream and its interpretation."* [7]They answered a second time, "Let the
king first tell his servants the dream, then we can give its interpretation."*
[8]The king answered, "I know with certainty that you are trying to gain time
because you see the decree from me is firm: [9]if you do not tell me the
dream, there is but one verdict for you. You have agreed to speak lying and
misleading words to me until things take a turn. Therefore, tell me the
dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation."* [10]The
Chaldeans answered the king, "There is no one on earth who can reveal
what the king demands! In fact, no king, however great and powerful, has
ever asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or Chaldean. [11]The
thing that the king is asking is too difficult, and no one can reveal it to the
king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with mortals."*

12 Because of this the king flew into a violent rage and commanded that
all the wise men of Babylon be destroyed. [13]The decree was issued, and the
wise men were about to be executed, and they looked for Daniel and his
companions, to execute them. [14]Then Daniel responded with prudence and
discretion to Arioch, the king's chief executioner, who had gone out to
execute the wise men of Babylon;* [15]he asked Arioch, the royal official,

“Why is the decree of the king so urgent?” Arioch then explained the matter to Daniel.* 16So Daniel went in and requested that the king give him time and he would tell the king the interpretation.

GOD REVEALS NEBUCHADNEZZAR’S DREAM

17 Then Daniel went to his home and informed his companions, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, of the matter 18and told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.* 19Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night, and Daniel blessed the God of heaven.*

20Daniel said:

“Blessed be the name of God from age to age,
for wisdom and power are his.*
21He changes times and seasons,
deposes kings and sets up kings;
he gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to those who have understanding.*
22He reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what is in the darkness,
and light dwells with him.*
23To you, O God of my ancestors,
I give thanks and praise,
for you have given me wisdom and power
and have now revealed to me what we asked of you,
for you have revealed to us what the king ordered.”

DANIEL INTERPRETS THE DREAM

24 Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, “Do not destroy the wise

men of Babylon; bring me in before the king, and I will give the king the interpretation."

25 Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king and said to him: "I have found among the exiles from Judah a man who can tell the king the interpretation."* [26]The king said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to tell me the dream that I have seen and its interpretation?" [27]Daniel answered the king, "No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or diviners can show to the king the mystery that the king is asking, [28]but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has disclosed to King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen at the end of days. Your dream and the visions of your head as you lay in bed were these:* [29]To you, O king, as you lay in bed, came thoughts of what would be hereafter, and the revealer of mysteries disclosed to you what is to be.* [30]But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me because of any wisdom that I have more than any other living being, but in order that the interpretation may be known to the king and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind.*

31 "You were looking, O king, and there appeared a great statue. That statue was huge, its brilliance extraordinary; it was standing before you, and its appearance was frightening.* [32]The head of that statue was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its midsection and thighs of bronze, [33]its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. [34]As you looked on, a stone was cut out, not by human hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and broke them in pieces.* [35]Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were all broken in pieces and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors, and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.*

36 "That was the dream; now we will tell the king its interpretation. [37]You, O king, the king of kings—to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the might, and the glory,* [38]into whose hand he has given human beings wherever they live, the wild animals of the field, and the birds of the air and whom he has established as ruler over them all—you are the head of gold.* [39]After you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over the whole earth.* [40]And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron; just as iron

crushes and smashes everything,[c] it shall crush and shatter all these.* 41As you saw the feet and toes partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom, but some of the strength of iron shall be in it, as you saw the iron mixed with the clay.* 42As the toes of the feet were part iron and part clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. 43As you saw the iron mixed with clay, so will they mix with one another in marriage,[d] but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. 44And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall this kingdom be left to another people. It shall crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever,* 45just as you saw that a stone was cut from the mountain not by hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. The great God has informed the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain and its interpretation trustworthy."*

DANIEL AND HIS FRIENDS PROMOTED

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, worshiped Daniel, and commanded that a grain offering and incense be offered to him.* 47The king said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery!"* 48Then the king promoted Daniel, gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon.* 49Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king's court.*

Daniel 3

THE GOLDEN IMAGE

1 King Nebuchadnezzar made a golden statue whose height was sixty cubits
and whose width was six cubits; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the
province of Babylon.* [2]Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent for the satraps, the
prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the
magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces to assemble and come to
the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.* [3]So the
satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the
justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces assembled for
the dedication of the statue that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. When
they were standing before the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up, [4]the
herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and
languages,* [5]that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon,
harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you are to fall down and worship
the golden statue that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up.* [6]Whoever does not
fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of
blazing fire."* [7]Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the
horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum,[e] and entire musical ensemble, all the
peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden statue
that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.*

8 Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and
denounced the Jews.* [9]They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live
forever!* [10]You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the
sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical
ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue,* [11]and whoever
does not fall down and worship shall be thrown into a furnace of blazing
fire. [12]There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of
the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men
pay no heed to you, O king. They do not serve your gods, and they do not
worship the golden statue that you have set up."*

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in, so they brought those men before the king.* 14Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up?* 15Now if you are ready, when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you should fall down and worship the statue that I have made. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?"*

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. 17If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us.[f] 18But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up."

THE FIERY FURNACE

19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was customary 20and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. 21So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics,[g] their trousers,[h] their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. 22Because the king's command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. 23But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire.

24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, "Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?" They answered the king, "True, O king." 25He replied, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt, and the fourth has the appearance of a god."[i] 26Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of the furnace of blazing fire and said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come

here!” So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. [27]And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king’s counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics[j] were not scorched, and not even the smell of fire came from them.* [28]Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king’s command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.* [29]Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that utters blasphemy against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb and their houses laid in ruins, for there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way.”* [30]Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.*

Daniel 4

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S SECOND DREAM

1 [k]King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages that live throughout the earth: May you have abundant prosperity![*] 2The signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked for me I am pleased to recount.[*]

3How great are his signs,
how mighty his wonders!
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and his sovereignty is from generation to generation.[*]

4 [l]I, Nebuchadnezzar, was living at ease in my home and prospering in my palace.[*] 5I saw a dream that frightened me; my fantasies in bed and the visions of my head terrified me.[*] 6So I made a decree that all the wise men of Babylon should be brought before me, in order that they might tell me the interpretation of the dream.[*] 7Then the magicians, the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the diviners came in, and I told them the dream, but they could not tell me its interpretation.[*] 8At last Daniel came in before me—he who was named Belteshazzar after the name of my god and who is endowed with a spirit of the holy gods[m]—and I told him the dream:[*] 9"O Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that you are endowed with a spirit of the holy gods[n] and that no mystery is too difficult for you. Hear[o] the dream that I saw, and tell me its interpretation.[*]

10[p]Upon my bed this is what I saw:
there was a tree at the center of the earth,
and its height was great.[*]
11The tree grew great and strong,
its top reached to heaven,
and it was visible to the ends of the whole earth.
12Its foliage was beautiful,

its fruit abundant,
and it provided food for all.
The animals of the field found shade under it,
the birds of the air nested in its branches,
and from it all living beings were fed.*

13 "I continued looking, in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and there was a holy watcher coming down from heaven.* [14]He cried aloud and said:

'Cut down the tree and chop off its branches;
strip off its foliage and scatter its fruit.
Let the animals flee from beneath it
and the birds from its branches.*
[15]But leave its stump and roots in the ground,
with a band of iron and bronze,
in the tender grass of the field.
Let him be bathed with the dew of heaven,
and let his lot be with the animals
in the grass of the earth.
[16]Let his mind be changed from that of a human,
and let the mind of an animal be given to him.
And let seven times pass over him.*
[17]The sentence is rendered by decree of the watchers,
the decision is given by order of the holy ones,
in order that all who live may know
that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdom of mortals;
he gives it to whom he will
and sets over it the lowliest of human beings.'*

18 "This is the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, saw. Now you, Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation, since all the wise men of my

kingdom are unable to tell me the interpretation. You are able, however, for you are endowed with a spirit of the holy gods."[q,*]

DANIEL INTERPRETS THE SECOND DREAM

19 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was severely distressed for a while. His thoughts terrified him. The king said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or the interpretation terrify you." Belteshazzar answered, "My lord, may the dream be for those who hate you and its interpretation for your enemies![*] 20The tree that you saw, which grew great and strong so that its top reached to heaven and was visible to the whole earth,[*] 21whose foliage was beautiful and its fruit abundant, and which provided food for all, under which animals of the field lived and in whose branches the birds of the air had nests—22it is you, O king! You have grown great and strong. Your greatness has increased and reaches to heaven, and your sovereignty to the ends of the earth.[*] 23And whereas the king saw a holy watcher coming down from heaven and saying, 'Cut down the tree and destroy it, but leave its stump and roots in the ground, with a band of iron and bronze, in the grass of the field, and let him be bathed with the dew of heaven, and let his lot be with the animals of the field, until seven times pass over him'[*] —24this is the interpretation, O king, and it is a decree of the Most High that has come upon my lord the king: 25You shall be driven away from human society, and your dwelling shall be with the wild animals. You shall be made to eat grass like oxen, you shall be bathed with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over you, until you have learned that the Most High has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals and gives it to whom he will.[*] 26As it was commanded to leave the stump and roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be reestablished for you from the time that you learn that Heaven is sovereign.[*] 27Therefore, O king, may my counsel be acceptable to you: atone for[r] your sins with righteousness and your iniquities with mercy to the oppressed, so that your prosperity may be prolonged."[*]

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S HUMILIATION

28 All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar.[*] 29At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, 30and

the king said, “Is this not magnificent Babylon, which I have built as a royal capital by my mighty power and for my glorious majesty?”* 31While the words were still in the king’s mouth, a voice came down from heaven: “O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: The kingdom is taken from you!* 32You shall be driven away from human society, and your dwelling shall be with the animals of the field. You shall be made to eat grass like oxen, and seven times shall pass over you, until you have learned that the Most High has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals and gives it to whom he will.” 33Immediately the sentence was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven away from human society, he ate grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until his hair grew as long as eagles’ feathers and his nails became like birds’ claws.*

NEBUCHADNEZZAR PRAISES GOD

34 When that period was over, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me.

I blessed the Most High
and praised and honored the one who lives forever.
For his sovereignty is an everlasting sovereignty,
and his kingdom endures from generation to generation.*
35All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,
and he does what he wills with the host of heaven
and the inhabitants of the earth.
There is no one who can stay his hand
or say to him, “What have you done?”*

36At that time my reason returned to me, and my majesty and splendor were restored to me for the glory of my kingdom. My counselors and my lords sought me out, I was reestablished over my kingdom, and still more greatness was added to me.* 37Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven,

for all his works are truth,
and his ways are justice;
he is able to bring low

those who walk in pride.*

Daniel 5

BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST

1 King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and he
was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand.*

2 Under the influence of the wine, Belshazzar commanded that they bring
in the vessels of gold and silver that his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken
out of the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his lords, his wives, and
his concubines might drink from them.* [3]So they brought in the vessels of
gold that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem,
and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them.
[4]They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron,
wood, and stone.*

THE WRITING ON THE WALL

5 Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing
on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The
king was watching the hand as it wrote.* [6]Then the king's face turned pale,
and his thoughts terrified him. His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked
together.* [7]The king cried aloud to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans,
and the diviners, and the king said to the wise men of Babylon, "Whoever
can read this writing and tell me its interpretation shall be clothed in purple,
have a chain of gold around his neck, and rank third in the kingdom."*
[8]Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing
or tell the king the interpretation.* [9]Then King Belshazzar became greatly
terrified, and his face turned pale, and his lords were perplexed.*

10 The queen, when she heard the discussion of the king and his lords,
came into the banquet hall. The queen said, "O king, live forever! Do not let
your thoughts terrify you or your face grow pale.* [11]There is a man in your
kingdom who is endowed with a spirit of the holy gods.[s] In the days of your
father he was found to have enlightenment, understanding, and wisdom like
the wisdom of the gods. Your father, King Nebuchadnezzar, made him chief

of the magicians, enchanters, Chaldeans, and diviners,[t,*] [12]because an excellent spirit, knowledge, and understanding to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar. Now let Daniel be called, and he will reveal the interpretation."[*]

THE WRITING ON THE WALL INTERPRETED

13 Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king said to Daniel, "So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah?[*] [14]I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods[u] is in you and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you. [15]Now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me to read this writing and tell me its interpretation, but they were not able to reveal the interpretation of the matter. [16]But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom."[*]

17 Then Daniel answered in the presence of the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, or give your rewards to someone else! Nevertheless I will read the writing to the king and let him know the interpretation.[*] [18]As for you, O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar kingship, greatness, glory, and majesty.[*] [19]And because of the greatness that he gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. He killed those he wanted to kill, kept alive those he wanted to keep alive, honored those he wanted to honor, and degraded those he wanted to degrade.[*] [20]But when his heart was lifted up and his spirit was hardened so that he acted proudly, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and his glory was stripped from him.[*] [21]He was driven from human society, and his mind was made like that of an animal. His dwelling was with the wild asses, he was fed grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals and sets over it whomever he will.[*] [22]And you, Belshazzar his son, have not humbled your heart, even though you knew all this![*] [23]You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven! The vessels of his temple have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives, and

your concubines have been drinking wine from them. You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know, but the God in whose power is your very breath and to whom belong all your ways, you have not honored.*

24 "So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed.* 25And this is the writing that was inscribed: MENE,[v] TEKEL, and PARSIN. 26This is the interpretation of the matter: MENE: God has numbered the days of[w] your kingdom and brought it to an end;* 27TEKEL: you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting;* 28PERES:[x] your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

29 Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made concerning him that he should rank third in the kingdom.

30 That very night Belshazzar, the Chaldean king, was killed.* 31[y]And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.*

Daniel 6

THE PLOT AGAINST DANIEL

1 [z]It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred twenty satraps,
stationed throughout the whole kingdom,* [2]and over them three
adminstrators, one of whom was Daniel; to these the satraps gave account,
so that the king might suffer no loss.* [3]Soon Daniel distinguished himself
above the other administrators and satraps because an excellent spirit was in
him, and the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom.* [4]So the
administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for complaint against
Daniel in connection with the kingdom. But they could find no grounds for
complaint or any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or
corruption could be found in him.* [5]The men said, "We shall not find any
ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection
with the law of his God."

6 So the adminstrators and satraps conspired and came to the king and
said to him, "O King Darius, live forever!* [7]All the administrators of the
kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are
agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict,
that whoever prays to any god or human, for thirty days, except to you,
O king, shall be thrown into the den of lions.* [8]Now, O king, establish the
interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to
the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked."*
[9]Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict.*

DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN

10 Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he
continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open
toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to
his God and praise him, just as he had done previously.* [11]Then those men
watched[a] and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God.
[12]Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, "O king!
Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to any god or human,

within thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the den of lions?" The king answered, "The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked."* 13Then they responded to the king, "Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day."*

14 When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him.* 15Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, "Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed."*

16 Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!"* 17A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet ring of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. 18Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no entertainment was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.*

DANIEL SAVED FROM THE LIONS

19 Then at dawn, the king got up and at first light hurried to the den of lions. 20When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?"* 21Daniel then said to the king, "O king, live forever! 22My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; also before you, O king, I have done no wrong."* 23Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him because he had trusted in his God.* 24The king gave a command, and those who had maliciously accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den, the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.*

25 Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language
throughout the whole world: “May you have abundant prosperity!* 26I make
a decree, that in all my royal dominion people shall tremble and fear before
the God of Daniel:

For he is the living God,
enduring forever.
His kingdom shall never be destroyed,
and his dominion has no end.*
27He delivers and rescues;
he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth;
he has saved Daniel
from the power of the lions.”

28So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus
the Persian.*

Daniel 7

VISIONS OF THE FOUR BEASTS

1 In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and
visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream:[b,*] [2]I,[c]
Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the
great sea, [3]and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one
another.[*] [4]The first was like a lion and had eagles' wings. Then, as I
watched, its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground
and made to stand on two feet like a human being, and a human mind was
given to it.[*] [5]Another beast appeared, a second one, that looked like a bear.
It was raised up on one side, had three tusks[d] in its mouth among its teeth,
and was told, "Arise, devour many bodies!" [6]After this, as I watched,
another appeared, like a leopard. The beast had four wings of a bird on its
back and four heads, and dominion was given to it.[*] [7]After this I saw in the
visions by night a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly
strong. It had great iron teeth and was devouring, breaking in pieces, and
stamping what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that
preceded it, and it had ten horns.[*] [8]I was considering the horns when
another horn appeared, a little one that came up among them. Three of the
orginal horns were plucked up from before it. There were eyes like human
eyes in this horn and a mouth speaking arrogantly.[*]

JUDGMENT BEFORE THE ANCIENT ONE

[9]As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One[e] took his throne;
his clothing was white as snow
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.[*]

[10]A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.*
[11]I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant words that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the beast was put to death and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.* [12]As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. [13]As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being[f]
coming with the clouds of heaven.
And he came to the Ancient One[g]
and was presented before him.*
[14]To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.*

DANIEL'S VISIONS INTERPRETED

15 As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me,[h] and the visions of my head terrified me.* [16]I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter:* [17]"As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. [18]But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever."*

19 Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which
was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrifying, with its teeth of iron
and claws of bronze, and which devoured and broke in pieces and stamped
what was left with its feet; [20]and concerning the ten horns that were on its
head, and concerning the other horn that came up and before which three
others had fallen—the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke arrogantly
and that seemed greater than the others. [21]As I looked, that horn made war
with the holy ones and was prevailing over them,* [22]until the Ancient One[i]
came; then judgment was given for the holy ones of the Most High, and the
time arrived when the holy ones gained possession of the kingdom.*

23 This is what he said: "As for the fourth beast,
there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth
that shall be different from all the other kingdoms;
it shall devour the whole earth
and trample it down and break it to pieces.*
[24]As for the ten horns,
out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise,
and another shall arise after them.
This one shall be different from the former ones
and shall put down three kings.*
[25]He shall speak words against the Most High,
shall wear out the holy ones of the Most High,
and shall attempt to change the ritual calendar and the law,
and they shall be given into his power
for a time, two times,[j] and half a time.*
[26]Then the court shall sit in judgment,
and his dominion shall be taken away,
to be consumed and totally destroyed.*
[27]The kingship and dominion
and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven
shall be given to the people of the holy ones of the Most High;

their kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom,
and all dominions shall serve and obey them.”*

28 Here the account ends. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly terrified me, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter in my mind.*

Daniel 8

VISION OF A RAM AND A GOAT

1 In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me,
Daniel, after the one that had appeared to me at first.* 2In the vision[k] I saw
myself in Susa the capital, in the province of Elam,[l] and I was by the Ulai
Gate.[m,*] 3I looked up and saw a ram standing beside the gate.[n] It had two
horns. Both horns were long, but one was longer than the other, and the
longer one came up second.* 4I saw the ram charging westward and
northward and southward. All beasts were powerless to withstand it, and no
one could rescue from its power; it did as it pleased and became strong.*

5 As I was watching, a male goat appeared from the west, coming across
the face of the whole earth without touching the ground. The goat had a
horn[o] between its eyes.* 6It came toward the ram with the two horns that I
had seen standing beside the gate,[p] and it ran at it with savage force.* 7I saw
it approaching the ram. It was enraged against it and struck the ram,
breaking its two horns. The ram did not have power to withstand it; it threw
the ram down to the ground and trampled upon it, and there was no one
who could rescue the ram from its power.* 8Then the male goat grew
exceedingly great, but at the height of its power the great horn was broken,
and in its place there came up four prominent horns toward the four winds
of heaven.*

9 Out of one of them came another[q] horn, a little one, which grew
exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the
beautiful land.* 10It grew as high as the host of heaven. It threw down to
earth some of the host and some of the stars and trampled on them.* 11Even
against the prince of the host it acted arrogantly; it took the regular burnt
offering away from him and overthrew the place of his sanctuary.*
12Because of wickedness, the host was given over to it together with the
regular burnt offering;[r] it cast truth to the ground and kept prospering in
what it did. 13Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said
to the one who spoke, “For how long is this vision concerning the regular
burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of

the sanctuary and host to be trampled?"[s,*] [14]And he answered him,[t] "For two thousand three hundred evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state."

GABRIEL INTERPRETS THE VISION

15 When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I tried to understand it. Then someone appeared standing before me, having the appearance of a man,[*] [16]and I heard a human voice by the Ulai, calling, "Gabriel, help this man understand the vision."[*] [17]So he came near where I stood, and when he came, I became frightened and fell prostrate. But he said to me, "Understand, O mortal,[u] that the vision is for the time of the end."[*]

18 As he was speaking to me, I fell into a trance, face to the ground; then he touched me and set me on my feet.[*] [19]He said, "Listen, and I will tell you what will take place later in the period of wrath, for it refers to the appointed time of the end.[*] [20]As for the ram that you saw with the two horns, these are the kings of Media and Persia. [21]The male goat[v] is the king of Greece, and the great horn between its eyes is the first king.[*] [22]As for the horn that was broken, in place of which four others arose, four kingdoms shall arise from his[w] nation but not with his power.[*]

[23]At the end of their rule,
when the transgressions have reached their full measure,
a king of bold countenance shall arise,
skilled in intrigue.
[24]He shall grow strong in power,[x]
shall cause fearful destruction,
and shall succeed in what he does.
He shall destroy the powerful
and the people of the holy ones.[*]
[25]By his cunning
he shall make deceit prosper under his hand,
and in his own mind he shall be great.
Without warning he shall destroy many

and shall even rise up against the Prince of princes.

But he shall be broken, and not by human hands.*

26"The vision of the evenings and the mornings that has been told is true. As for you, seal up the vision, for it refers to many days from now."*

27 So I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for some days; then I arose and went about the king's business. But I was dismayed by the vision and did not understand it.*

Daniel 9

DANIEL'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE

1 In the first year of Darius son of Ahasuerus, by birth a Mede, who became
king over the realm of the Chaldeans,* [2]I,[y] Daniel, perceived in the books
the number of years that, according to the word of the LORD to the prophet
Jeremiah, must be fulfilled for the devastation of Jerusalem, namely,
seventy years.*

3 Then I turned to the Lord God to seek an answer by prayer and
supplication with fasting and sackcloth and ashes.* [4]I prayed to the LORD
my God and made confession, saying,

"Ah, Lord, great and awesome God, keeping covenant and steadfast love
with those who love you[z] and keep your[a] commandments,* [5]we have sinned
and done wrong, acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your
commandments and ordinances.* [6]We have not listened to your servants the
prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our
ancestors, and to all the people of the land.

7 "Righteousness is on your side, O Lord, but open shame, as at this day,
falls on us, the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and all Israel,
those who are near and those who are far away, in all the lands to which you
have driven them because of the treachery that they have committed against
you.* [8]Open shame, O LORD, falls on us, our kings, our princes, and our
ancestors because we have sinned against you. [9]To the Lord our God belong
mercy and forgiveness, but we have rebelled against him* [10]and have not
obeyed the voice of the LORD our God by following his laws, which he set
before us by his servants the prophets.

11 "All Israel has transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to
obey your voice. So the curse and the oath written in the law of Moses, the
servant of God, have been poured out upon us because we have sinned
against you.* [12]He has confirmed his words that he spoke against us and
against our rulers by bringing upon us a calamity so great that what has
been done against Jerusalem has never before been done under the whole
heaven.* [13]Just as it is written in the law of Moses, all this calamity has

come upon us. We did not entreat the favor of the LORD our God, turning from our iniquities and reflecting on his[b] fidelity.* 14So the LORD kept watch over this calamity until he brought it upon us. Indeed, the LORD our God is right in all that he has done, for we have disobeyed his voice.*

15 "And now, O Lord our God, who brought your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and made your name renowned even to this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly.* 16O Lord, in view of all your righteous acts, let your anger and wrath, we pray, turn away from your city Jerusalem, your holy mountain; because of our sins and the iniquities of our ancestors, Jerusalem and your people have become a disgrace among all our neighbors.* 17Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his supplication, and for your own sake, Lord,[c] let your face shine upon your desolated sanctuary.* 18Incline your ear, O my God, and hear. Open your eyes and look at our desolation and the city that bears your name. We do not present our supplication before you on the ground of our righteousness but on the ground of your great mercies.* 19O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, listen and act and do not delay! For your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people bear your name!"*

THE SEVENTY WEEKS

20 While I was speaking and was praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God on behalf of the holy mountain of my God,* 21while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen before in a vision, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice.* 22He came[d] and said to me, "Daniel, I have now come out to give you wisdom and understanding. 23At the beginning of your supplications a word went out, and I have come to declare it, for you are greatly beloved. So consider the word and understand the vision:*

24 "Seventy weeks are decreed for your people and your holy city: to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.[e,*] 25Know therefore and understand: from the time that the word went out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the time of an anointed prince, there shall be seven weeks, and for sixty-two weeks it shall

be built again with streets and moat, but in a troubled time.* 26After the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing, and the troops of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its[f] end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed.* 27He shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall make sacrifice and offering cease, and in their place[g] shall be a desolating sacrilege until the decreed end is poured out upon the desolator."*

Daniel 10

CONFLICT OF NATIONS AND HEAVENLY POWERS

1 In the third year of King Cyrus of Persia a word was revealed to Daniel,
who was named Belteshazzar. The word was true, and it concerned a great
conflict. He understood the word, having received understanding in the
vision.*

2 At that time I, Daniel, had been mourning for three weeks.* [3]I had
eaten no rich food, no meat or wine had entered my mouth, and I had not
anointed myself at all, for the full three weeks. [4]On the twenty-fourth day of
the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river (that is, the
Tigris),* [5]I looked up and saw a man clothed in linen, with a belt of gold
from Uphaz around his waist.* [6]His body was like beryl, his face like
lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of
burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the roar of a multitude.*
[7]I, Daniel, alone saw the vision; the people who were with me did not see
the vision, though a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled and hid
themselves.* [8]So I was left alone to see this great vision. My strength left
me, and my complexion grew deathly pale, and I retained no strength.*
[9]When[h] I heard the sound of his words, I fell into a trance, face to the
ground.*

10 But then a hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees.*
[11]He said to me, "Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I
am going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to
you." So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling.*
[12]He said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set
your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God,
your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words.*
[13]But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me twenty-one days. So
Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with
the prince of the kingdom of Persia[i],* [14]and have come to help you
understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is
a further vision for those days."*

15 While he was speaking these words to me, I turned my face toward
the ground and was speechless.* 16Then one in human form touched my
lips, and I opened my mouth to speak and said to the one who stood before
me, "My lord, because of the vision such pains have come upon me that I
retain no strength.* 17How can my lord's servant talk with my lord? For I
am exhausted;[j] no strength remains in me, and no breath is left in me."

18 Again one in human form touched me and strengthened me. 19He said,
"Do not fear, greatly beloved; you are safe. Be strong and courageous!"
When he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, "Let my lord speak, for
you have strengthened me."* 20Then he said, "Do you know why I have
come to you? Now I must return to fight against the prince of Persia, and
when I am through with him, the prince of Greece will come. 21But I am to
tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth. There is no one with me who
contends against these princes except Michael, your prince.*

Daniel 11

1 “As for me, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to support and
strengthen him.*

2 “Now I will announce the truth to you. Three more kings shall arise in
Persia. The fourth shall be far richer than all of them, and when he has
become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of
Greece. 3Then a warrior king shall arise who shall rule with great dominion
and take action as he pleases.* 4And while still rising in power, his kingdom
shall be broken and divided toward the four winds of heaven but not to his
posterity nor according to the dominion with which he ruled, for his
kingdom shall be uprooted and go to others besides these.*

5 “Then the king of the south shall grow strong, but one of his officers
shall grow stronger than he and shall rule a realm greater than his own
realm. 6After some years they shall make an alliance, and the daughter of
the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to ratify the
agreement. But she shall not retain her power, and his offspring shall not
endure. She shall be given up, she and her attendants and her child and the
one who supported her.

“In those times* 7a branch from her roots shall rise up in his place. He
shall come against the army and enter the fortress of the king of the north,
and he shall take action against them and prevail.* 8Even their gods, with
their idols and with their precious vessels of silver and gold, he shall carry
off to Egypt as spoils of war. For some years he shall refrain from attacking
the king of the north;* 9then the latter shall invade the realm of the king of
the south but will return to his own land.

10 “His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces that
shall advance like a flood and pass through and again shall carry the war as
far as his fortress.* 11Moved with rage, the king of the south shall go out
and do battle against the king of the north, who shall muster a great
multitude, but the multitude shall be given over to his hand.* 12When the
multitude has been carried off, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall
overthrow tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. 13For the king of the

north shall again raise a multitude larger than the former, and after some years[k] he shall advance with a great army and abundant supplies.*

14 "In those times many shall rise against the king of the south. The lawless among your own people shall lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision, but they shall fail. 15Then the king of the north shall come and throw up siegeworks and take a well-fortified city. And the forces of the south shall not stand, not even his picked troops, for there shall be no strength to resist.* 16But he who comes against him shall take the actions he pleases, and no one shall withstand him. He shall take a position in the beautiful land, and all of it shall be in his power.* 17He shall set his face to come with the strength of his whole kingdom. He shall make peace with him and shall give him a woman in marriage, in order to destroy the kingdom,[l] but it shall not succeed or be to his advantage.* 18Afterward he shall turn to the coastlands and shall capture many, but a commander shall put an end to his insolence; indeed,[m] he shall turn his insolence back upon him.* 19Then he shall turn back toward the fortresses of his own land, but he shall stumble and fall and shall not be found.*

20 "Then shall arise in his place one who shall send an official for the glory of the kingdom, but within a few days he shall be broken, though not in anger or in battle.[n,*] 21In his place shall arise a contemptible person on whom royal majesty had not been conferred; he shall come in suddenly and seize the kingdom through intrigue.* 22Armies shall be utterly swept away and broken before him, and the prince of the covenant as well.* 23And after an alliance is made with him, he shall act deceitfully and become strong with a small party.* 24Suddenly he shall come into the richest parts[o] of the province and do what none of his predecessors had ever done, lavishing plunder, spoil, and wealth on them. He shall devise plans against strongholds but only for a time.* 25He shall stir up his power and determination against the king of the south with a great army, and the king of the south shall wage war with a much greater and stronger army. But he shall not succeed, for plots shall be devised against him. 26Those who eat of the royal rations shall break him, his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall slain.* 27The two kings, their minds bent on evil, shall sit at one table and exchange lies. But it shall not succeed, for there remains an end at the time appointed.* 28He shall return to his land with great wealth, but his

heart shall be set against the holy covenant. He shall work his will and return to his own land.

29 "At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south, but this time it shall not be as it was before. [30]For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall lose heart and withdraw. He shall be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and come to an understanding with those who forsake the holy covenant.* [31]Forces sent by him shall occupy and profane the temple and fortress. They shall abolish the regular burnt offering and set up the desolating sacrilege.* [32]He will flatter with smooth words those who violate the covenant, but the people who are loyal to their God shall stand firm and take action.* [33]The wise among the people shall give understanding to many; for some days, however, they shall fall by sword and flame and suffer captivity and plunder.* [34]When they fall, they shall receive a little help, and many shall join them insincerely.* [35]Some of the wise shall fall, so that they may be refined, purified, and cleansed,[p] until the time of the end, for there is still an interval until the time appointed.*

36 "The king shall act as he pleases. He shall exalt himself and consider himself greater than any god and shall speak horrendous things against the God of gods. He shall prosper until the period of wrath is completed, for what is determined shall be done.* [37]He shall pay no respect to the gods of his ancestors or to the one beloved by women; he shall pay no respect to any other god, for he shall consider himself greater than all. [38]He shall honor the god of fortresses instead of these; a god whom his ancestors did not know he shall honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. [39]He shall deal with the strongest fortresses with the help of a foreign god. Those who acknowledge him he shall make more wealthy and shall appoint them as rulers over many and shall distribute the land for a price.

THE TIME OF THE END

40 "At the time of the end the king of the south shall attack him. But the king of the north shall rush upon him like a whirlwind, with chariots and horsemen and with many ships. He shall advance against countries and pass through like a flood.* [41]He shall come into the beautiful land, and tens of

thousands shall fall victim, but Edom and Moab and the main part of the Ammonites shall escape from his power.* 42He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape. 43He shall gain control of the treasures of gold and of silver and all the riches of Egypt, and the Libyans and the Cushites shall follow in his train.* 44But reports from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go out with great fury to bring ruin and complete destruction to many. 45He shall pitch his palatial tents between the sea and the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he shall come to his end, with no one to help him.*

Daniel 12

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

1 "At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall
arise. There shall be a time of anguish such as has never occurred since
nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be
delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.* [2]Many of those who
sleep in the dust of the earth[q] shall awake, some to everlasting life and some
to shame and everlasting contempt.* [3]Those who are wise shall shine like
the brightness of the sky,[r] and those who lead the many to righteousness,
like the stars forever and ever.* [4]But you, Daniel, keep the words secret and
the book sealed until the time of the end. Many shall be running back and
forth,[s] and evil[t] shall increase."*

5 Then I, Daniel, looked, and two others appeared, one standing on this
bank of the stream and one on the other. [6]One of them said to the man
clothed in linen, who was upstream, "How long shall it be until the end of
these wonders?"* [7]The man clothed in linen, who was upstream, raised his
right hand and his left hand toward heaven. And I heard him swear by the
one who lives forever that it would be for a time, two times, and half a
time[u] and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to
an end all these things would be accomplished.* [8]I heard but could not
understand, so I said, "My lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?"
[9]He said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are to remain secret and
sealed until the time of the end. [10]Many shall be purified, cleansed, and
refined, but the wicked shall continue to act wickedly. None of the wicked
shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand.* [11]From the time
that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the desolating sacrilege is
set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred ninety days.* [12]Happy are
those who persevere and attain the thousand three hundred thirty-five days.*
[13]But you, go your way,[v] and rest; you shall rise for your reward at the end
of the days."*

Daniel 1

* **1.1** 2 Kings 24.1; 2 Chr 36.6
a **1.2** Gk: Heb adds *to the house of his own gods*
* **1.2** Isa 11.11; Jer 27.19, 20; Zech 5.11
* **1.4** 2 Sam 14.25; Dan 2.4
* **1.5** 1 Kings 10.8
* **1.6** Ezek 14.14, 20
* **1.7** Dan 2.49; 3.12; 4.8; 5.12
* **1.8** Deut 32.38; Ezek 4.13; Hos 9.3
* **1.9** Job 5.15, 16; Ps 106.46; Prov 16.7
* **1.15** Ex 23.25; Prov 10.22
* **1.17** 1 Kings 3.12; Dan 2.19; 7.1; 8.1; Jas 1.5, 17
* **1.19** Gen 41.46; 1 Kings 10.8; Jer 15.1
* **1.20** Dan 2.2, 27, 28, 46, 48
* **1.21** Dan 6.28; 10.1

Daniel 2

* **2.1** Gen 41.8; Esth 6.1; Dan 4.5; 6.18
* **2.2** vv 10, 27; Gen 41.8; Ex 7.11; Dan 5.7
* **2.3** Gen 40.8; 41.15; Dan 4.5
b **2.4** The text from this point through 7.28 is in Aramaic
* **2.4** 1 Kings 1.31; Isa 36.11; Dan 3.9; 5.10; 6.6, 21
* **2.5** v 12; Ezra 6.11; Dan 3.29
* **2.6** Dan 5.7, 16, 29
* **2.7** v 4
* **2.9** Esth 4.11; Isa 41.23
* **2.11** Isa 57.15; Dan 5.11
* **2.14** v 24; Jer 52.12, 14
* **2.15** vv 1–12; Dan 3.22
* **2.18** v 23; Isa 37.4; Jer 33.3
* **2.19** vv 22, 27–29; Num 12.6; Job 33.15, 16
* **2.20** vv 21–23; Ps 113.2; Jer 32.19
* **2.21** Esth 1.13; Job 12.18; Ps 75.6, 7; Dan 7.25; Jas 1.5
* **2.22** Job 12.22; Ps 25.14; 139.11, 12; Isa 45.7; Jer 23.24
* **2.25** Gen 41.14; Dan 1.6; 5.13; 6.13
* **2.28** Gen 40.8; 41.16; 49.1; Isa 2.2; Dan 4.5; Mic 4.1
* **2.29** vv 22, 28
* **2.30** Gen 41.16; Ps 139.2; Isa 45.3
* **2.31** Dan 7.7; Hab 1.7

* **2.34** Ps 2.9; Isa 60.12; Dan 8.25; Zech 4.6
* **2.35** Ps 1.4; 37.10, 36; Isa 2.2, 3; Hos 13.3
* **2.37** Ezra 1.2; Ps 62.11; Isa 47.5; Jer 27.6, 7; Ezek 26.7
* **2.38** v 32; Jer 27.6; Dan 4.21, 22
* **2.39** v 32

c **2.40** Gk Theodotion Syr Vg: Aram adds *and like iron that crushes*

* **2.40** Dan 7.7, 23
* **2.41** v 33

d **2.43** Aram *by human seed*

* **2.44** Ps 2.9; Isa 60.12; 1 Cor 15.24
* **2.45** vv 29, 35; Gen 41.28, 32; Isa 28.16; Dan 8.25; Mal 1.11
* **2.46** Dan 8.17; Acts 10.25; 14.13; 28.6; Rev 19.10
* **2.47** vv 22, 28; Dan 11.36
* **2.48** v 6; Dan 4.9; 5.11
* **2.49** Esth 2.19, 21; 3.2; Dan 3.12

Daniel 3

* **3.1** v 30; Isa 46.6; Dan 2.48; Hab 2.19
* **3.2** vv 3, 27
* **3.4** Isa 40.9; 58.1; Dan 4.1; 6.25; Rev 10.11
* **3.5** vv 7, 10, 15
* **3.6** vv 11, 15, 21; Jer 29.22; Rev 14.11

e **3.7** Aram mss Gk Vg: MT lacks *drum*

* **3.7** vv 4, 5
* **3.8** Dan 4.7; 6.12
* **3.9** Dan 2.4; 5.10
* **3.10** vv 4–7, 15; Dan 6.12
* **3.12** Dan 1.7; 2.49; 6.13
* **3.13** v 19; Dan 2.12
* **3.14** v 1; Isa 46.1; Jer 50.2
* **3.15** vv 5, 6; Ex 5.2; Isa 36.18–20; Dan 2.47

f **3.17** Or *If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us, he will deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king.*

g **3.21** Meaning of Aram uncertain

h **3.21** Meaning of Aram uncertain

i **3.25** Aram *a son of the gods*

j **3.27** Meaning of Aram uncertain

* **3.27** vv 2, 21; Isa 43.2; Heb 11.34
* **3.28** vv 15, 18, 25; Ps 34.7, 8; Jer 17.7; Acts 5.19; 12.7
* **3.29** v 12; Dan 2.5, 47; 6.26, 27
* **3.30** Dan 2.49

Daniel 4

k **4.1** 3.31 in Aram
* **4.1** Dan 6.25
* **4.2** Dan 3.26
* **4.3** v 34; Dan 2.44; 6.26, 27
l **4.4** 4.1 in Aram
* **4.4** Isa 47.7, 8
* **4.5** Dan 2.1, 28, 29
* **4.6** Dan 2.2
* **4.7** Dan 2.2
m **4.8** Or *a holy, divine spirit*
* **4.8** Dan 1.7; 2.26; 5.11, 14
n **4.9** Or *a holy, divine spirit*
o **4.9** Theodotion: Aram *The visions of*
* **4.9** Dan 2.4, 5, 47, 48; 5.11
p **4.10** Theodotion Syr Compare Gk: Aram adds *The visions of my head*
* **4.10** vv 5, 20; Ezek 31.3–6
* **4.12** Lam 4.20; Ezek 31.6, 7; Mt 13.32; Lk 13.19
* **4.13** vv 17, 23; Dan 7.1; 8.13; Zech 14.5
* **4.14** Ezek 31.10–14; Mt 3.10
* **4.16** Dan 7.25; 11.13; 12.7
* **4.17** vv 2, 25; Ps 9.16; Dan 5.18, 19; 11.21
q **4.18** Or *a holy, divine spirit*
* **4.18** vv 7–9; Gen 41.8, 15; Dan 5.8, 15
* **4.19** 2 Sam 18.32; Jer 29.7; Dan 7.15, 28
* **4.20** vv 10–12
* **4.22** 2 Sam 12.7; Jer 27.6–8; Dan 2.37, 38; 5.18, 19
* **4.23** vv 13–16; Dan 5.21
* **4.25** Ps 83.18; Jer 27.5; Dan 5.21
* **4.26** Mt 21.25; Lk 15.18
r **4.27** Aram *break off*
* **4.27** 1 Kings 21.29; Ps 41.1–3; Isa 55.6, 7; Ezek 18.21, 22
* **4.28** Zech 1.6
* **4.30** v 25; Isa 37.24, 25; Dan 5.20, 21; Hab 2.4
* **4.31** vv 13, 14, 23; Dan 5.5
* **4.33** Dan 5.21
* **4.34** vv 2, 3, 16, 26, 32; Dan 5.18, 21; 12.7; Lk 1.33; Rev 4.10
* **4.35** Ps 135.6; Isa 40.15, 17; 43.13; 45.9; Rom 9.20
* **4.36** vv 26, 30, 34; Dan 2.31
* **4.37** Ex 18.11; Ps 33.4, 5; Dan 5.20

Daniel 5

* **5.1** Esth 1.3
* **5.2** v 23; Jer 52.19; Dan 1.2
* **5.4** v 23; Rev 9.20
* **5.5** v 24; Dan 4.31
* **5.6** Ezek 7.17; 21.7; Dan 4.5, 19; Nah 2.10
* **5.7** Isa 47.13; Ezek 16.11; Dan 2.6; 6.2, 3
* **5.8** Dan 2.10, 27; 4.7
* **5.9** v 6; Isa 21.2–4; Jer 6.24
* **5.10** Dan 2.4; 3.9

s **5.11** Or *a holy, divine spirit*

t **5.11** Aram adds *the king your father*

* **5.11** Dan 1.17; 2.47, 48; 4.8, 9, 18
* **5.12** Dan 1.7; 6.3
* **5.13** Dan 1.1, 2; 2.25; 6.13

u **5.14** Or *a divine spirit*

* **5.16** vv 7, 29; Gen 40.8
* **5.17** 2 Kings 5.16
* **5.18** v 21; Jer 27.5–7; Dan 2.37, 38; 4.17
* **5.19** Dan 2.12, 13; 3.4
* **5.20** 2 Kings 17.14; 2 Chr 36.13; Jer 13.18; Dan 4.30, 37
* **5.21** Ezek 17.24; Dan 4.16, 32–35
* **5.22** 2 Chr 33.23; 36.12
* **5.23** vv 3, 4; Job 12.10; 31.4; Ps 115.5, 6; Jer 10.23; 50.29; Hab 2.18, 19
* **5.24** v 5

v **5.25** Gk Vg: Aram reads *MENE, MENE,*

w **5.26** Aram lacks *the days of*

* **5.26** Isa 13.6, 17; Jer 27.7; 50.41–43
* **5.27** Job 31.6; Ps 62.9

x **5.28** The singular of *Parsin*

* **5.30** Isa 21.4–9; Jer 51.31, 39, 57

y **5.31** 6.1 in Aram

* **5.31** Dan 6.1; 9.1

Daniel 6

z **6.1** 6.2 in Aram

* **6.1** Esth 1.1; Dan 5.31
* **6.2** Ezra 4.22; Dan 2.48, 49
* **6.3** Esth 10.3; Dan 1.20; 5.12, 14
* **6.4** v 22; Gen 43.18

* **6.6** v 21; Neh 2.3; Dan 2.4
* **6.7** v 16; Ps 59.3; Dan 3.2, 6, 27
* **6.8** vv 12, 15; Esth 1.19; 8.8
* **6.9** Ps 118.9; 146.3
* **6.10** 1 Kings 8.48, 49; Ps 55.17; 95.6; 1 Thess 5.17, 18
a **6.11** Gk Theodotion Syr: Aram *rushed in*
* **6.12** Dan 3.8; Acts 16.19–21
* **6.13** Esth 3.8; Dan 1.6; 3.12; 5.13; Acts 5.29
* **6.14** Mk 6.26
* **6.15** v 8; Esth 8.8
* **6.16** vv 7, 20; Ps 37; 39; 40; Jer 38.5
* **6.18** 2 Sam 12.16, 17; Esth 6.1; Dan 2.1
* **6.20** vv 26, 27; Jer 32.17; Dan 3.17
* **6.22** 1 Sam 24.10; Acts 12.11; 2 Tim 4.17; Heb 11.33
* **6.23** vv 14, 18; Isa 26.3; Dan 3.25, 27; Heb 11.33
* **6.24** 2 Kings 14.6; Ps 54.5; Isa 38.13
* **6.25** Ezra 1.1, 2; Esth 3.12; 8.9; Dan 4.1; 1 Pet 1.2
* **6.26** Ps 93.1, 2; 99.1; Dan 3.29; 4.3, 34; 7.14, 27
* **6.28** Ezra 1.1, 2; Dan 1.21; 10.1

Daniel 7

b **7.1** Q ms Theodotion: MT adds *the beginning of the words; he said*
* **7.1** Jer 36.4, 32; Dan 1.17; 4.13, 15; 5.1, 22, 30
c **7.2** Theodotion: Aram *Daniel answered and said, I*
* **7.3** v 17; Rev 13.1
* **7.4** Jer 48.40; Ezek 17.3; Hab 1.8
d **7.5** Or *ribs*
* **7.6** v 12
* **7.7** Rev 12.3; 13.1; 17.3
* **7.8** vv 20, 21, 24, 25; Rev 9.7
e **7.9** Aram *an Ancient of Days*
* **7.9** Ezek 1.13, 26; 10.2, 6; Mk 9.3; Rev 1.14
* **7.10** Ps 50.3; 97.3; Isa 30.33; Rev 5.11; 20.12
* **7.11** vv 7, 8; Rev 19.20
f **7.13** Aram *one like a son of man*
g **7.13** Aram *the Ancient of Days*
* **7.13** Ezek 1.26; Mt 24.30; 26.64; Mk 13.26; Lk 21.27; Rev 1.7, 13
* **7.14** Ps 2.6–8; 72.11; 102.22; Dan 2.44; Mic 4.7; 1 Cor 15.27; Eph 1.22; Phil 2.9–11; Heb 12.28
h **7.15** Aram *troubled in its sheath*
* **7.15** vv 1, 28
* **7.16** Dan 8.16, 17; Rev 5.5; 7.13, 14

* **7.18** Isa 60.12–14; Rev 2.26; 20.4
* **7.21** Rev 13.7
i **7.22** Aram *the Ancient of Days*
* **7.22** vv 9, 13, 18; 1 Cor 6.2, 3
* **7.23** vv 7, 19
* **7.24** vv 7, 8; Rev 17.12
j **7.25** Aram *a time, times*
* **7.25** Isa 37.23; Dan 2.21; 8.24, 25; 12.7; Rev 12.14; 13.5; 17.6; 18.24
* **7.26** vv 10, 22
* **7.27** vv 14, 18, 22; Ps 2.6–12; Isa 60.12; Lk 1.33; Jn 12.34; Rev 11.15
* **7.28** v 15; Dan 8.27; Lk 2.19

Daniel 8

* **8.1** Dan 7.1, 15, 28
k **8.2** Syr Vg: Heb *vision I was looking and*
l **8.2** Gk Theodotion: Heb repeats *in the vision I was looking*
m **8.2** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *River Ulai*
* **8.2** v 16; Esth 1.2; Ezek 32.24; Dan 7.2, 15
n **8.3** Or *river*
* **8.3** v 20; Dan 10.5
* **8.4** v 7
o **8.5** Theodotion: Heb *a horn of vision*
* **8.5** v 21
p **8.6** Or *river*
* **8.6** v 3
* **8.7** Dan 7.7; 11.11
* **8.8** v 22; 2 Chr 26.16; Dan 5.20; 7.2; Rev 7.1
q **8.9** Cn: Heb *one*
* **8.9** v 23; Dan 11.16, 41
* **8.10** Rev 12.4
* **8.11** Josh 5.14; Ezek 46.13, 14; Dan 11.31, 36, 37; 12.11
r **8.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
s **8.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.13** Dan 4.13, 23; 12.6, 11; Rev 11.2
t **8.14** Gk Theodotion Syr Vg: Heb *me*
* **8.15** v 1; Dan 7.13
* **8.16** Dan 9.21; Lk 1.19, 26
u **8.17** Heb *son of man*
* **8.17** Ezek 1.28; Rev 1.17
* **8.18** Ezek 2.2; Dan 10.9, 10, 16, 18
* **8.19** Hab 2.3

v **8.21** Or *shaggy male goat*
* **8.21** v 5; Dan 10.20
w **8.22** Gk Theodotion Vg: Heb *the*
* **8.22** v 8
x **8.24** Gk Theodotion: Heb *power, but not with his power*
* **8.24** Dan 11.36
* **8.25** v 11; Dan 2.34, 45; 11.21
* **8.26** Dan 10.1, 14; 12.4, 9
* **8.27** Dan 7.28; Hab 3.16

Daniel 9

* **9.1** Dan 5.31; 11.1
y **9.2** Theodotion: Heb *in the first year of his reign, I*
* **9.2** 2 Chr 36.21; Jer 29.10; Zech 7.5
* **9.3** Neh 1.4; Jer 29.12; Jas 4.8
z **9.4** Heb *him*
a **9.4** Heb *his*
* **9.4** Deut 7.9, 21; Neh 9.32
* **9.5** v 11; Ps 106.6; Lam 1.18, 20
* **9.7** Jer 23.6; 33.16; Am 9.9
* **9.9** Neh 9.17; Ps 130.4
* **9.11** Deut 27.15; Isa 1.4–6; Jer 8.5, 10
* **9.12** Isa 44.26; Ezek 5.9; Zech 1.6
b **9.13** Heb *your*
* **9.13** Isa 9.13; Jer 2.30
* **9.14** vv 7, 10; Jer 31.28; 44.27
* **9.15** Ex 6.1, 6; Neh 9.10; Jer 32.20, 21
* **9.16** 1 Sam 12.7; Ps 31.1; Zech 8.3
c **9.17** Theodotion Vg Compare Syr: Heb *for the Lord's sake*
* **9.17** Num 6.25; Lam 5.18
* **9.18** Isa 37.17; Jer 25.29; 36.7
* **9.19** Ps 44.23; 74.10, 11
* **9.20** Isa 6.5; 58.9
* **9.21** Isa 6.2; Dan 8.16, 18; 10.10, 16, 18
d **9.22** Gk Syr: Heb *He made to understand*
* **9.23** Dan 10.12; Mt 24.15; Lk 1.28
e **9.24** Or *thing* or *one*
* **9.24** Isa 53.10; Acts 3.14; Rom 5.10
* **9.25** Ezra 4.24; Neh 2.1–8; 3.1; Isa 9.6; Jn 1.41; 4.25
f **9.26** Or *His*
* **9.26** Isa 53.8; Nah 1.8; Mk 9.12; Lk 19.43, 44

g **9.27** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.27** Isa 10.23; Dan 11.31; Mt 24.15; Lk 21.20

Daniel 10

* **10.1** Dan 1.7; 2.21; 6.28; 8.26
* **10.2** Ezra 9.4, 5; Neh 1.4
* **10.4** Gen 2.14; Dan 8.2
* **10.5** Jer 10.9; Dan 12.6, 7; Rev 1.13
* **10.6** Mt 17.2; Rev 1.14–16; 2.18
* **10.7** 2 Kings 6.17; Ezek 12.18; Acts 9.7
* **10.8** Gen 32.24; Dan 7.28; 8.27
h **10.9** Gk Syr: Heb *Then I heard the sound of his words, and when*
* **10.9** Dan 8.18
* **10.10** Jer 1.9; Dan 9.21; Rev 1.17
* **10.11** Dan 9.23
* **10.12** Dan 9.3, 20–23; Rev 1.17
i **10.13** Gk Theodotion: Heb *I was left there with the kings of Persia*
* **10.13** Dan 12.1; Jude 9; Rev 12.7
* **10.14** Dan 2.28; 8.26; Hab 2.3
* **10.15** Ezek 24.27; Lk 1.20
* **10.16** Jer 1.9; Dan 8.15
j **10.17** Gk: Heb *from now*
* **10.19** Judg 6.23
* **10.21** Dan 11.2

Daniel 11

* **11.1** Dan 5.31; 9.1
* **11.3** Dan 8.4, 5, 21
* **11.4** Ezek 37.9; Dan 8.8, 22; Zech 2.6; Rev 7.1
* **11.6** vv 13, 15, 40
* **11.7** vv 19, 38, 39
* **11.8** Isa 37.19; 46.1, 2; Jer 43.12, 13
* **11.10** v 7; Isa 8.8; Jer 46.7, 8; Dan 9.26
* **11.11** vv 5, 10, 13; Dan 8.7
k **11.13** Heb *and at the end of the times years*
* **11.13** Dan 4.16; 12.7
* **11.15** Jer 6.6; Ezek 4.2; 17.17
* **11.16** vv 3, 36, 41, 45; Josh 1.5; Dan 8.4, 7
l **11.17** Heb *it*
* **11.17** 2 Kings 12.17; Ezek 4.3, 7

m **11.18** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.18** Isa 66.19; Jer 31.10; Hos 12.14
* **11.19** Job 20.8; Ps 27.2; Ezek 26.21
n **11.20** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.20** Isa 60.17
* **11.21** vv 24, 32, 34
* **11.22** v 10; Dan 8.10, 11
* **11.23** Dan 8.25
o **11.24** Or *among the richest men*
* **11.24** v 21; Ezek 34.14
* **11.26** vv 10, 40
* **11.27** vv 35, 40; Ps 52.1; 64.6; Jer 9.3–5; Hab 2.3
* **11.30** Gen 10.4; Num 24.24; Jer 2.10
* **11.31** Dan 8.11; 9.27; Mt 24.15; Mk 13.14
* **11.32** vv 21, 34; Mic 5.7–9
* **11.33** Mt 24.9; Jn 16.2; Heb 11.36–38
* **11.34** Mt 7.15; Rom 16.18
p **11.35** Heb *made them white*
* **11.35** vv 27, 40; Zech 13.9; Jn 15.2
* **11.36** Dan 2.47; 8.12, 19; 9.27; 2 Thess 2.4; Rev 13.5, 6
* **11.40** vv 10, 13, 15; Isa 5.28
* **11.41** Jer 48.47; 49.6
* **11.43** 2 Chr 12.3; Ezek 30.4, 5; Nah 3.9
* **11.45** Isa 65.25; 66.20; Dan 9.16, 20

Daniel 12

* **12.1** v 4; Dan 9.12; 10.13, 21; Mt 24.21; Rev 16.18
q **12.2** Or *the land of dust*
* **12.2** Isa 26.19; Mt 25.46; Jn 5.28; Acts 24.15
r **12.3** Or *dome*
* **12.3** Dan 11.33; Mt 13.43
s **12.4** Meaning of Heb uncertain
t **12.4** Gk: Heb *knowledge*
* **12.4** Dan 11.33; Rev 22.10
* **12.6** Dan 8.13; 10.5
u **12.7** Heb *a time, times, and a half*
* **12.7** Dan 4.34; 7.25; Lk 21.24; Rev 10.5–7; 12.14
* **12.10** Isa 32.6, 7; Dan 11.35
* **12.11** Dan 8.11–14; 9.27; 11.31; Mt 24.15; Mk 13.14
* **12.12** Isa 30.18; Rev 11.2; 12.6; 13.5
v **12.13** Gk Theodotion: Heb adds *to the end*

* **12.13** Rev 14.13

Hosea

Hosea 1

1 The word of the LORD that came to Hosea son of Beeri, in the days of
Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah and in the days of
King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel.

THE FAMILY OF HOSEA

2 When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea,
"Go, take for yourself a wife of prostitution and have children of
prostitution, for the land commits great prostitution by forsaking the
LORD."* [3]So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she
conceived and bore him a son.

4 And the LORD said to him, "Name him Jezreel,[a] for in a little while I
will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end
to the kingdom of the house of Israel.* [5]On that day I will break the bow of
Israel in the Valley of Jezreel."*

6 She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him,
"Name her Lo-ruhamah,[b] for I will no longer have pity on the house of
Israel or forgive them.* [7]But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I
will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow or by
sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen."*

8 When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son.
[9]Then the LORD said, "Name him Lo-ammi,[c] for you are not my people, and
I am not your God."[d]

THE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL

10 [e]Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the
sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered, and in the place where it
was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them,
"Children of the living God."* [11]The people of Judah and the people of

Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head, and they shall rise up from the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.*

Hosea 2

1 [f]Say to your brothers, “Ammi,”[g] and to your sisters, “Ruhamah.”[h]

ISRAEL’S INFIDELITY, PUNISHMENT, AND REDEMPTION

[2]Plead with your mother, plead—
for she is not my wife,
and I am not her husband—
that she put away her prostitution from her face
and her adultery from between her breasts,[*]
[3]or I will strip her naked
and expose her as in the day she was born
and make her like a wilderness
and turn her into a parched land
and kill her with thirst.[*]
[4]Upon her children also I will have no pity,
because they are children of prostitution.[*]
[5]For their mother has prostituted herself;
she who conceived them has acted shamefully.
For she said, “I will go after my lovers;
they give me my bread and my water,
my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.”[*]
[6]Therefore I will hedge up her[i] way with thorns,
and I will build a wall against her
so that she cannot find her paths.[*]
[7]She shall pursue her lovers
but not overtake them,
and she shall seek them

but shall not find them.
Then she shall say, “I will go
and return to my first husband,
for it was better with me then than now.”*
8She did not know
that it was I who gave her
the grain, the wine, and the oil
and who lavished upon her silver
and gold that they used for Baal.*
9Therefore I will take back
my grain in its time
and my wine in its season,
and I will take away my wool and my flax,
which were to cover her nakedness.
10Now I will uncover her shame
in the sight of her lovers,
and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.*
11I will put an end to all her mirth,
her festivals, her new moons, her Sabbaths,
and all her appointed festivals.*
12I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees,
of which she said,
“These are my pay,
which my lovers have given me.”
I will make them a forest,
and the wild animals shall devour them.*
13I will punish her for the festival days of the Baals,
to whom she offered incense
and decked herself with her rings and jewelry
and went after her lovers

and forgot me, says the LORD.*

14Therefore, I will now allure her
and bring her into the wilderness
and speak tenderly to her.*
15From there I will give her her vineyards
and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope.
There she shall respond as in the days of her youth,
as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.*
16On that day, says the LORD, you will call me "my husband," and no longer will you call me "my Baal."[j] 17For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, and they shall be mentioned by name no more.* 18I will make for you[k] a covenant on that day with the wild animals, the birds of the air, and the creeping things of the ground, and I will abolish[l] the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and I will make you[m] lie down in safety.* 19And I will take you for my wife forever; I will take you for my wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy.* 20I will take you for my wife in faithfulness, and you shall know the LORD.*

21On that day I will answer, says the LORD,
I will answer the heavens,
and they shall answer the earth,
22and the earth shall answer the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and they shall answer Jezreel,[n,*]
23and I will sow him[o] for myself in the land.
And I will have pity on Lo-ruhamah,[p]
and I will say to Lo-ammi,[q] "You are my people,"
and he shall say, "You are my God."*

Hosea 3

FURTHER ASSURANCES OF GOD'S REDEEMING LOVE

1 The LORD said to me again, "Go, love a woman who has a lover and is an
adulteress, just as the LORD loves the people of Israel, though they turn to
other gods and love raisin cakes."* [2]So I bought her for fifteen shekels of
silver and a homer of barley and a measure of wine.[r,*] [3]And I said to her,
"You must remain as mine for many days; you shall not prostitute yourself;
you shall not have intercourse with a man, nor I with you." [4]For the
Israelites shall remain many days without king or prince, without sacrifice
or pillar, without ephod or teraphim.* [5]Afterward the Israelites shall return
and seek the LORD their God and David their king; they shall come in awe
to the LORD and to his goodness in the latter days.*

Hosea 4

GOD ACCUSES ISRAEL

[1]Hear the word of the LORD, O people of Israel,
for the LORD has an indictment against the inhabitants of the land.
There is no faithfulness or loyalty
and no knowledge of God in the land.*
[2]Swearing, lying, and murder,
and stealing and adultery break out;
bloodshed follows bloodshed.
[3]Therefore the land mourns,
and all who live in it languish;
together with the wild animals
and the birds of the air,
even the fish of the sea are perishing.*

[4]Yet let no one contend,
and let none accuse,
for with you is my contention, O priest.s,*
[5]You shall stumble by day;
the prophet also shall stumble with you by night,
and I will destroy your mother.*
[6]My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge!
Because you have rejected knowledge,
I reject you from being a priest to me;
and since you have forgotten the law of your God,
I also will forget your children.*

[7]The more they increased,
the more they sinned against me;
they changed[t] their glory into shame.*
[8]They feed on the sin of my people;
they are greedy for their iniquity.
[9]And it shall be like people, like priest;
I will punish them for their ways
and repay them for their deeds.*
[10]They shall eat but not be satisfied;
they shall prostitute themselves but not multiply,
because they have forsaken the LORD
to devote themselves to* [11]prostitution.

THE IDOLATRY OF ISRAEL

Wine and new wine
take away the understanding.*
[12]My people consult a piece of wood,
and their divining rod gives them oracles.
For a spirit of prostitution has led them astray,
and they have prostituted themselves, forsaking their God.*
[13]They sacrifice on the tops of the mountains
and make offerings upon the hills,
under oak, poplar, and terebinth
because their shade is good.

Therefore your daughters prostitute themselves,
and your daughters-in-law commit adultery.*
[14]I will not punish your daughters when they prostitute themselves
nor your daughters-in-law when they commit adultery,

for the men themselves go aside with prostitutes
    and sacrifice with female attendants;
thus a people without understanding comes to ruin.*

15 Though you prostitute yourself, O Israel,
    do not let Judah become guilty.
Do not enter into Gilgal
    or go up to Beth-aven,
    and do not swear, "As the LORD lives."*
16 Like a stubborn heifer,
    Israel is stubborn;
can the LORD now feed them
    like a lamb in a broad pasture?*

17 Ephraim is joined to idols—
    let him alone.
18 When their drinking is ended, they indulge in sexual orgies;
    they love lewdness more than their glory.[u],*
19 A wind has wrapped them[v] in its wings,
    and they shall be ashamed because of their altars.[w],*

Hosea 5

IMPENDING JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL AND JUDAH

[1]Hear this, O priests!
Give heed, O house of Israel!
Listen, O house of the king!
For the judgment pertains to you,
for you have been a snare at Mizpah
and a net spread upon Tabor*
[2]and a pit dug deep in Shittim,x
but I will punish all of them.

[3]I know Ephraim,
and Israel is not hidden from me,
for now, O Ephraim, you have prostituted yourself;
Israel is defiled.*
[4]Their deeds do not permit them
to return to their God.
For the spirit of prostitution is within them,
and they do not know the LORD.*

[5]Israel's pride testifies against him;
Ephraimy stumbles in his guilt;
Judah also stumbles with them.*
[6]With their flocks and herds they shall go
to seek the LORD,
but they will not find him;
he has withdrawn from them.*
[7]They have dealt faithlessly with the LORD,

for they have borne illegitimate children.
Now the new moon shall devour them along with their fields.*

8 Blow the horn in Gibeah,
the trumpet in Ramah.
Sound the alarm at Beth-aven;
look behind you, Benjamin!*
9 Ephraim shall become a desolation
in the day of punishment;
among the tribes of Israel
I declare what is sure.*
10 The princes of Judah have become
like those who remove the landmark;
on them I will pour out
my wrath like water.*
11 Ephraim is oppressed, crushed in judgment,
because he was determined to go after vanity.z
12 Therefore I am like maggots to Ephraim
and like rottenness to the house of Judah.*
13 When Ephraim saw his sickness
and Judah his wound,
then Ephraim went to Assyria
and sent to the great king.a
But he is not able to cure you
or heal your wound.*
14 For I will be like a lion to Ephraim
and like a young lion to the house of Judah.
I myself will tear and go away;
I will carry off, and no one shall rescue.*
15 I will return again to my place

until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.
In their distress they will beg my favor:*

Hosea 6

A CALL TO REPENTANCE

[1]"Come, let us return to the LORD,
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.*
[2]After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.
[3]Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD;
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;
he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth."*

IMPENITENCE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

[4]What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.*
[5]Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,
and my[b] judgment goes forth as the light.*
[6]For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.*

[7]But at[c] Adam they transgressed the covenant;
there they dealt faithlessly with me.
[8]Gilead is a city of evildoers,
tracked with blood.

9 As robbers lie in wait[d] for someone,
so the priests are banded together;[e]
they murder on the road to Shechem;
they commit a monstrous crime.*
10 In the house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing;
Ephraim's prostitution is there; Israel is defiled.*

11 For you also, O Judah, a harvest is appointed.

When I would restore the fortunes of my people,*

Hosea 7

[1]when I would heal Israel,
the corruption of Ephraim is revealed,
and the wicked deeds of Samaria,
for they deal falsely;
the thief breaks in,
and the bandits raid outside.*
[2]But they do not consider
that I remember all their wickedness.
Now their deeds surround them;
they are before my face.*
[3]By their wickedness they make the king glad,
and the officials by their treachery.
[4]They are all adulterers;
they are like a heated oven
whose baker does not need to stir the fire
from the kneading of the dough until it is leavened.*
[5]On the day of our king the officials
became sick with the heat of wine;
he stretched out his hand with mockers.*
[6]For they are kindled[f] like an oven; their heart burns within them;
all night their anger smolders;
in the morning it blazes like a flaming fire.
[7]All of them are hot as an oven,
and they devour their rulers.
All their kings have fallen;
none of them calls upon me.*

[8]Ephraim mixes himself with the peoples;
Ephraim is a cake not turned.
[9]Foreigners devour his strength,
but he does not know it;
gray hairs are sprinkled upon him,
but he does not know it.*
[10]Israel's pride testifies against[g] him;
yet they do not return to the LORD their God
or seek him, for all this.*

FUTILE RELIANCE ON THE NATIONS

[11]Ephraim has become like a dove,
silly and without sense;
they call upon Egypt, they go to Assyria.*
[12]As they go, I will cast my net over them;
I will bring them down like birds of the air;
I will discipline them according to the report made to their assembly.[h,*]
[13]Woe to them, for they have strayed from me!
Destruction to them, for they have rebelled against me!
I would redeem them,
but they speak lies against me.*

[14]They do not cry to me from the heart,
but they wail upon their beds;
they gash themselves for grain and wine;
they rebel against me.*
[15]It was I who trained and strengthened their arms,
yet they plot evil against me.*
[16]They turn to that which does not profit;[i]

they have become like a defective bow;
their officials shall fall by the sword
because of the rage of their tongue.
So much for their babbling in the land of Egypt.*

Hosea 8

ISRAEL'S APOSTASY

[1]Set the trumpet to your lips!
One like a vulture[j] is over the house of the LORD,
because they have broken my covenant
and transgressed my law.*
[2]They cry to me,
"My God, we know you!"[k,*]
[3]Israel has spurned the good;
the enemy shall pursue him.

[4]They made kings but not through me;
they set up princes but without my knowledge.
With their silver and gold they made idols
for their own destruction.*
[5]Your calf is rejected, O Samaria.
My anger burns against them.
How long will they be incapable of innocence?*
[6]For it is from Israel,
an artisan made it;
it is not God.
The calf of Samaria
shall be broken to pieces.*

[7]For they sow the wind,
and they shall reap the whirlwind.
The standing grain has no heads;
it shall yield no meal;

if it were to yield,
foreigners would devour it.*
8Israel is swallowed up;
now they are among the nations
as a useless vessel.*
9For they have gone up to Assyria,
a wild ass wandering alone;
Ephraim has bargained for lovers.*
10Though they bargain with the nations,
I will now gather them up.
They shall soon writhe
under the burden of kings and princes.*

11When Ephraim multiplied altars to expiate sin,
they became to him altars for sinning.
12Though I write for him the multitude of my instructions,
they are regarded as a strange thing.*
13Though they offer choice sacrifices,[1]
though they eat flesh,
the LORD does not accept them.
Now he will remember their iniquity
and punish their sins;
they shall return to Egypt.*
14Israel has forgotten his Maker
and built palaces,
and Judah has multiplied fortified cities,
but I will send a fire upon his cities,
and it shall devour his strongholds.*

Hosea 9

PUNISHMENT FOR ISRAEL'S SIN

[1]Do not rejoice, O Israel!
Do not exult[m] as other nations do,
for you have prostituted yourself, departing from your God.
You have loved a prostitute's pay
on all threshing floors.*
[2]Threshing floor and wine vat shall not feed them,
and the new wine shall fail them.*
[3]They shall not remain in the land of the LORD,
but Ephraim shall return to Egypt,
and in Assyria they shall eat unclean food.*

[4]They shall not pour drink offerings of wine to the LORD,
and their sacrifices shall not please him.
Such sacrifices shall be like mourners' bread;
all who eat of it shall be defiled,
for their bread shall be for their hunger only;
it shall not come to the house of the LORD.*

[5]What will you do on the day of appointed festival
and on the day of the festival of the LORD?*
[6]For even if they escape destruction,
Egypt shall gather them;
Memphis shall bury them.
Nettles shall possess their precious things of silver;[n]
thorns shall be in their tents.*

[7]The days of punishment have come;
the days of recompense have come.
Israel will cry out,[o]
"The prophet is a fool;
the man of the spirit is mad!"
Because of your great iniquity,
your hostility is great.*
[8]The prophet is a sentinel for my God over Ephraim,
yet a hunter's snare is on all his ways
and hostility in the house of his God.*
[9]They have deeply corrupted themselves
as in the days of Gibeah;
he will remember their iniquity;
he will punish their sins.*

[10]Like grapes in the wilderness,
I found Israel.
Like the first fruit on the fig tree,
in its first season,
I saw your ancestors.
But they came to Baal-peor
and consecrated themselves to a thing of shame
and became detestable like the thing they loved.*
[11]Ephraim's glory shall fly away like a bird—
no birth, no pregnancy, no conception!*
[12]Even if they bring up children,
I will bereave them until no one is left.
Woe to them indeed
when I depart from them!*

13 Once I saw Ephraim as a young palm planted in a lovely
meadow,[p]
but now Ephraim must lead out his children for slaughter.*
14 Give them, O LORD—
what will you give?
Give them a miscarrying womb
and dry breasts.

15 Every evil of theirs began at Gilgal;
there I came to hate them.
Because of the wickedness of their deeds
I will drive them out of my house.
I will love them no more;
all their officials are rebels.*

16 Ephraim is stricken,
their root is dried up,
they shall bear no fruit.
Even though they give birth,
I will kill the cherished offspring of their womb.*
17 Because they have not listened to him,
my God will reject them;
they shall become wanderers among the nations.*

Hosea 10

ISRAEL'S SIN AND CAPTIVITY

[1]Israel is a luxuriant vine
that yields its fruit.
The more his fruit increased,
the more altars he built;
as his country improved,
he improved his pillars.*
[2]Their heart is false;
now they must bear their guilt.
The LORD[q] will break down their altars
and destroy their pillars.*

[3]For now they will say:
"We have no king,
for we do not fear the LORD,
and a king—what could he do for us?"
[4]They utter mere words;
with empty oaths they make covenants;
so litigation springs up like poisonous weeds
in the furrows of the field.*
[5]The inhabitants of Samaria tremble
for the calf[r] of Beth-aven.
Its people shall mourn for it,
and its idolatrous priests shall wail[s] over it,
over its glory that has departed from it.*
[6]The thing itself shall be carried to Assyria
as tribute to the great king.[t]

Ephraim shall be put to shame,
and Israel shall be ashamed of his idol.[u,*]

7 Samaria's king shall perish
like a chip on the face of the waters.*
8 The high places of Aven, the sin of Israel,
shall be destroyed.
Thorn and thistle shall grow up
on their altars.
They shall say to the mountains, "Cover us,"
and to the hills, "Fall on us."*

9 Since the days of Gibeah you have sinned, O Israel;
there they have continued.
Shall not war overtake them in Gibeah?*
10 I will come[v] against the wayward people to punish them,
and nations shall be gathered against them
when they are punished[w] for their double iniquity.*

11 Ephraim was a trained heifer
that loved to thresh,
and I spared her fair neck,
but I will make Ephraim break the ground;
Judah must plow;
Jacob must harrow for himself.*
12 Sow for yourselves righteousness;
reap steadfast love;
break up your fallow ground,
for it is time to seek the LORD,
that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.*

[13]You have plowed wickedness;
you have reaped injustice;
you have eaten the fruit of lies.
Because you have trusted in your chariots,[x]
in the multitude of your warriors,[*]
[14]therefore the tumult of war shall rise against your people,
and all your fortresses shall be destroyed,
as Shalman destroyed Beth-arbel on the day of battle,
when mothers were dashed in pieces with their children.[*]
[15]Thus it shall be done to you, O Bethel,
because of your great wickedness.
At dawn the king of Israel
shall be utterly cut off.[*]

Hosea 11

GOD'S COMPASSION DESPITE ISRAEL'S INGRATITUDE

[1]When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.*
[2]The more I[y] called them,
the more they went from me;[z]
they kept sacrificing to the Baals
and offering incense to idols.*

[3]Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk;
I took them up in my[a] arms,
but they did not know that I healed them.*
[4]I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.
I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.[b]
I bent down to them and fed them.*

[5]They shall return to the land of Egypt,
and Assyria shall be their king,
because they have refused to return to me.*
[6]The sword rages in their cities;
it consumes their oracle priests
and devours because of their schemes.*
[7]My people are bent on turning away from me.
To the Most High they call,
but he does not raise them up at all.[c,*]

[8]How can I give you up, Ephraim?
    How can I hand you over, O Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
    How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart recoils within me;
    my compassion grows warm and tender.*
[9]I will not execute my fierce anger;
    I will not again destroy Ephraim,
for I am God and no mortal,
    the Holy One in your midst,
    and I will not come in wrath.[d],*

[10]They shall go after the LORD,
    who roars like a lion;
when he roars,
    his children shall come trembling from the west.*
[11]They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt
    and like doves from the land of Assyria,
    and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD.*

[12][e]Ephraim has surrounded me with lies
    and the house of Israel with deceit,
but Judah still walks[f] with God
    and is faithful to the Holy One.*

Hosea 12

[1]Ephraim herds the wind
and pursues the east wind all day long;
they multiply falsehood and violence;
they make a treaty with Assyria,
and oil is carried to Egypt.*

THE LONG HISTORY OF REBELLION

[2]The LORD has an indictment against Judah
and will punish Jacob according to his ways
and repay him according to his deeds.*
[3]In the womb he tried to supplant his brother,
and in his manhood he strove with God.*
[4]He strove with the angel and prevailed;
he wept and sought his favor;
he met him at Bethel,
and there he spoke with him.g,*
[5]The LORD the God of hosts,
the LORD is his name!
[6]But as for you, return to your God;
hold fast to love and justice,
and wait continually for your God.*

[7]A trader in whose hands are false balances,
he loves to oppress.*
[8]Ephraim has said, "Ah, I am rich;
I have gained wealth for myself;
in all of my gain

no offense has been found in me
that would be sin."[h,*]
[9]I am the LORD your God
from the land of Egypt;
I will make you live in tents again,
as in the days of the appointed festival.*

[10]I spoke to the prophets;
it was I who multiplied visions,
and through the prophets I will bring destruction.*
[11]In[i] Gilead there is iniquity;
they shall surely come to nothing.
In Gilgal they sacrifice bulls,
so their altars shall be like stone heaps
on the furrows of the field.*
[12]Jacob fled to the land of Aram;
there Israel served for a wife,
and for a wife he guarded sheep.[j,*]
[13]By a prophet the LORD brought Israel up from Egypt,
and by a prophet he was guarded.*
[14]Ephraim has given bitter offense,
so his Lord will bring his crimes down on him
and pay him back for his insults.*

Hosea 13

RELENTLESS JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL

[1]When Ephraim spoke, there was trembling;
he was exalted in Israel,
but he incurred guilt through Baal and died.*
[2]And now they keep on sinning
and make a cast image for themselves,
idols of silver made according to their understanding,
all of them the work of artisans.
"Sacrifice to these," they say.[k]
People are kissing calves!*
[3]Therefore they shall be like the morning mist
or like the dew that goes away early,
like chaff that swirls from the threshing floor
or like smoke from a window.*

[4]Yet I have been the LORD your God
ever since the land of Egypt;
you know no God but me,
and besides me there is no savior.*
[5]It was I who fed[l] you in the wilderness,
in the land of drought.*
[6]When I fed[m] them, they were satisfied;
they were satisfied, and their heart was proud;
therefore they forgot me.*
[7]So I will become like a lion to them;
like a leopard I will lurk beside the way.*

[8]I will fall upon them like a bear robbed of her cubs
and will tear open the covering of their heart;
there I will devour them like a lion,
as a wild animal would mangle them.

[9]I will destroy you, O Israel;
who can help you?[n]
[10]Where now is[o] your king, that he may save you?
Where in all your cities are your rulers,
of whom you said,
"Give me a king and rulers"?[*]
[11]I gave you a king in my anger,
and I took him away in my wrath.[*]

[12]Ephraim's iniquity is bound up;
his sin is kept in store.[*]
[13]The pangs of childbirth come for him,
but he is an unwise son,
for at the proper time he does not present himself
at the mouth of the womb.[*]

[14]Shall I ransom them from the power of Sheol?
Shall I redeem them from Death?
O Death, where are[p] your plagues?
O Sheol, where is[q] your destruction?
Compassion is hidden from my eyes.[*]

[15]Although he may flourish among rushes,[r]
the east wind shall come, a blast from the LORD,
rising from the wilderness,
and his fountain shall dry up;

his spring shall be parched.
It shall strip his treasury
of every precious thing.*
16 s Samaria shall bear her guilt
because she has rebelled against her God;
they shall fall by the sword;
their little ones shall be dashed in pieces,
and their pregnant women ripped open.*

Hosea 14

A PLEA FOR REPENTANCE

[1]Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God,
for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.*
[2]Take words with you
and return to the LORD;
say to him,
"Take away all guilt;
accept that which is good,
and we will offer
the fruit[t] of our lips.*
[3]Assyria shall not save us;
we will not ride upon horses;
we will say no more, 'Our God,'
to the work of our hands.
In you the orphan finds mercy."*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

[4]I will heal their disloyalty;
I will love them freely,
for my anger has turned from them.*
[5]I will be like the dew to Israel;
he shall blossom like the lily;
he shall strike root like the forests of Lebanon.[u],*
[6]His shoots shall spread out;
his beauty shall be like the olive tree
and his fragrance like that of Lebanon.*

7 They shall again live beneath my[v] shadow;
    they shall flourish as a garden;[w]
they shall blossom like the vine;
    their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.*

8 O Ephraim, what have I[x] to do with idols?
    It is I who answer and look after you.[y]
I am like an evergreen cypress;
    your fruit comes from me.*
9 Those who are wise understand these things;
    those who are discerning know them.
For the ways of the LORD are right,
    and the upright walk in them,
    but transgressors stumble in them.*

Hosea 1

* **1.2** Jer 3.1, 12, 14; Hos 2.5; 3.1; 5.3
a **1.4** That is, *God sows*
* **1.4** 2 Kings 10.1–14; 15.10
* **1.5** 2 Kings 15.29
b **1.6** That is, *not pitied*
* **1.6** vv 3, 8; Hos 2.4
* **1.7** Isa 30.18; Jer 25.5, 6; Zech 9.9, 10
c **1.9** That is, *not my people*
d **1.9** Heb *I am not yours*
e **1.10** 2.1 in Heb
* **1.10** v 9; Gen 32.12; Isa 63.16; 64.8; Jer 33.22; Rom 9.25–27
* **1.11** Isa 11.12; Jer 23.5, 6; Ezek 37.21–24; Hos 3.5

Hosea 2

f **2.1** 2.3 in Heb
g **2.1** That is, *my people*
h **2.1** That is, *pitied*
* **2.2** v 5; Isa 50.1; Hos 1.2; 4.5
* **2.3** Isa 32.13, 14; Ezek 16.7, 22, 39; Am 8.11
* **2.4** Jer 13.14; Ezek 8.18
* **2.5** Isa 1.21; Jer 3.1, 2, 6; 44.17, 18
i **2.6** Gk Syr: Heb *your*
* **2.6** Job 3.23; 19.8; Hos 9.6; 10.8
* **2.7** Jer 2.2; 3.1; Ezek 16.8; Hos 13.6
* **2.8** Isa 1.3; Ezek 16.19; Hos 8.4
* **2.10** Ezek 16.37
* **2.11** Isa 1.13, 14; Jer 7.34; 16.9; Am 8.10
* **2.12** v 5; Isa 5.5; Hos 13.8
* **2.13** Ezek 16.12, 17; Hos 4.6; 8.14; 13.6
* **2.14** Ezek 20.33–38
* **2.15** Ex 15.1, 2; Josh 7.26; Jer 2.2; Ezek 28.25, 26; Hos 11.1
j **2.16** That is, *"my master"*
* **2.17** v 13; Ex 23.13; Josh 23.7; Ps 16.4; Zech 13.2
k **2.18** Heb *them*
l **2.18** Heb *break*
m **2.18** Heb *them*
* **2.18** Job 5.23; Ps 46.9; Isa 11.6–9; Ezek 34.25
* **2.19** Isa 1.27; 62.4, 5; Jer 3.14

* **2.20** Hos 6.6; 13.4
n **2.22** That is, *God sows*
* **2.22** Jer 31.12; Joel 2.19
o **2.23** Cn: Heb *her*
p **2.23** That is, *not pitied*
q **2.23** That is, *not my people*
* **2.23** Jer 31.27; Hos 1.6, 9, 10; Zech 13.9; Rom 9.25, 26

Hosea 3

* **3.1** 2 Sam 6.19; 1 Chr 16.3; Hos 1.2
r **3.2** Gk: Heb *a homer of barley and a lethek of barley*
* **3.2** Ruth 4.10
* **3.4** Ex 28.6; Judg 17.5; Hos 13.10, 11; Zech 10.2
* **3.5** Jer 31.9; 50.4, 5; Ezek 34.23, 24; Mic 4.1

Hosea 4

* **4.1** Isa 59.4; Jer 7.28; Hos 5.1, 4; 6.6; 12.2; Mic 6.2
* **4.3** Jer 4.25, 28; Zeph 1.3
s **4.4** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.4** Deut 17.12; Ezek 3.26
* **4.5** Ezek 14.3, 7; Hos 2.2, 5; 5.5
* **4.6** v 1; Hos 2.13; 8.1, 12; Mal 2.7, 8
t **4.7** Tg Syr: MT *I will change*
* **4.7** Hos 10.1; 13.6; Hab 2.16; Mal 2.9
* **4.9** Isa 24.2; Jer 5.31; Hos 9.9
* **4.10** Lev 26.26; Hos 7.14; 9.17; Mic 6.14
* **4.11** Isa 28.7; Hos 5.4
* **4.12** Jer 2.27; Hos 5.4; 9.1; Hab 2.19
* **4.13** Jer 3.6; Ezek 6.13; Hos 2.13; 11.2; Am 7.17; Rom 1.28
* **4.14** vv 1, 6, 11; Deut 23.17
* **4.15** 1 Kings 12.28, 29; Am 4.4
* **4.16** Ps 78.8; Isa 5.17; 7.25
u **4.18** Cn Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.18** vv 7, 14
v **4.19** Heb *her*
w **4.19** Gk Syr: Heb *sacrifices*
* **4.19** Isa 1.29; Hos 12.1; 13.15

Hosea 5

* **5.1** Hos 4.1; 6.9

x **5.2** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.3** Hos 6.10; Am 3.2
* **5.4** Hos 4.11, 12
y **5.5** Heb *Israel and Ephraim*
* **5.5** Ezek 23.31–35; Hos 4.5; 7.10
* **5.6** Isa 1.15; Ezek 8.6; Mic 6.6, 7
* **5.7** Isa 48.8; Hos 2.4, 11, 12; 6.7
* **5.8** Isa 10.29, 30; Hos 4.15; 9.9; 10.9
* **5.9** Isa 37.3; 46.10; Zech 1.6
* **5.10** Deut 19.14; Ps 93.3, 4; Ezek 7.8
z **5.11** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.12** Ps 39.11; Prov 12.4
a **5.13** Cn: Heb *to a king who will contend*
* **5.13** Jer 30.12; Hos 7.11; 8.9; 10.6; 14.3
* **5.14** Ps 50.22; Hos 13.7, 8; Mic 5.8
* **5.15** Isa 64.7–9; Jer 2.27; Hos 3.5

Hosea 6

* **6.1** Isa 30.26; Jer 50.4, 5; Hos 5.14; 14.4
* **6.3** Ps 19.6; Isa 2.3; Joel 2.23; Mic 4.2; 5.2
* **6.4** Hos 7.1; 11.8; 13.3
b **6.5** Gk Syr: Heb *your*
* **6.5** v 3; Jer 1.10, 18; Heb 4.12
* **6.6** Ps 50.8, 9; Hos 2.20; Mt 9.13
c **6.7** Cn: Heb *like*
d **6.9** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
e **6.9** Syr: Heb *are a company*
* **6.9** Jer 7.9, 10; Ezek 22.9; 23.27; Hos 7.1
* **6.10** Jer 5.30, 31; Hos 5.3
* **6.11** Joel 3.13; Zeph 2.7

Hosea 7

* **7.1** v 13; Hos 4.2; 6.4, 9; 11.8
* **7.2** Jer 2.19; Hos 4.9; 8.13; 9.9; Am 8.7
* **7.4** Jer 9.2; 23.10
* **7.5** Isa 28.1, 7, 8
f **7.6** Gk Syr: Heb *brought near*
* **7.7** v 16; Ps 21.9; Isa 64.7
* **7.9** Isa 1.7; Hos 4.6
g **7.10** Or *humbles*

* **7.10** vv 7, 14; Hos 5.4, 5
* **7.11** v 16; Hos 4.6, 11, 14; 5.13; 8.9; 11.11; 12.1
h **7.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.12** Ezek 12.13
* **7.13** v 1; Jer 14.10; Ezek 34.6; Hos 9.12, 17; Mt 23.37
* **7.14** Jer 3.10; Hos 13.16; Am 2.8; Mic 2.11
* **7.15** Nah 1.9
i **7.16** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **7.16** v 7; Ps 78.57; Ezek 23.32

Hosea 8

j **8.1** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.1** Hos 4.6; 5.8; 6.7; Hab 1.8
k **8.2** Gk Syr: Heb adds *Israel*
* **8.2** Hos 7.14
* **8.4** Hos 2.8; 13.10, 11
* **8.5** v 6; Jer 13.27; Hos 10.5; 13.2
* **8.6** Hos 13.2
* **8.7** Isa 66.15; Hos 10.12, 13; Nah 1.3
* **8.8** Jer 51.34; Hos 13.15
* **8.9** Jer 2.24; Ezek 16.33; Hos 7.11
* **8.10** Jer 42.2; Ezek 16.37; 22.20
* **8.12** v 1; Hos 4.6
l **8.13** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **8.13** Jer 7.21; Hos 4.9; 7.2; 9.3, 6, 7; 1 Cor 4.5
* **8.14** Jer 17.27; Hos 2.13; 13.6

Hosea 9

m **9.1** Gk: Heb *To exultation*
* **9.1** Isa 22.12, 13; Jer 44.17; Hos 4.12; 10.5
* **9.2** Hos 2.9
* **9.3** Jer 2.7; Ezek 4.13; Hos 7.11; 8.13
* **9.4** Jer 6.20; Hos 5.6; 8.13; Hag 2.14
* **9.5** Isa 10.3; Jer 5.31; Joel 1.13
n **9.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.6** Isa 5.6; Jer 2.16; Ezek 30.13, 16; Hos 8.13; 10.8
o **9.7** Or *will know*
* **9.7** Isa 34.8; Jer 10.15; 16.18; Ezek 14.9, 10; Mic 7.4
* **9.8** Hos 5.1
* **9.9** Judg 19.12; Isa 31.6; Hos 5.8; 7.2; 8.13; 10.9

* **9.10** Num 25.3; Jer 11.13; 24.2; Hos 4.14; Mic 7.1
* **9.11** v 14; Hos 4.7; 10.5
* **9.12** v 16; Hos 7.13
p **9.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.13** Ezek 27.3, 4
* **9.15** Isa 1.23; Hos 4.9; 7.2; 12.2
* **9.16** v 12; Hos 5.11; 8.7
* **9.17** Deut 28.65; Hos 4.10

Hosea 10

* **10.1** Ezek 15.1–5; Hos 3.4; 8.11
q **10.2** Heb *he*
* **10.2** v 8; 1 Kings 18.21; Hos 13.16; Mt 6.24
* **10.4** Deut 31.16, 17; Ezek 17.13–19; Hos 4.2
r **10.5** Gk Syr: Heb *calves*
s **10.5** Cn: Heb *exult*
* **10.5** Hos 8.5, 6; 9.11
t **10.6** Cn: Heb *to a king who will contend*
u **10.6** Cn: Heb *plan*
* **10.6** Isa 30.3; Jer 7.24; Hos 4.7; 5.13; 11.5
* **10.7** Hos 13.11
* **10.8** vv 2, 5; 1 Kings 12.30; Hos 9.6; Lk 23.30; Rev 6.16
* **10.9** Hos 5.8; 9.9
v **10.10** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *In my desire*
w **10.10** Gk: Heb *bound*
* **10.10** Ezek 5.13; Hos 4.9
* **10.11** Ps 66.12; Jer 28.14; 50.11; Hos 4.16
* **10.12** Prov 11.18; Isa 44.3; 45.8; Jer 4.3; Hos 6.3; 12.6
x **10.13** Gk: Heb *your way*
* **10.13** Job 4.8; Hos 4.2; 7.3; Gal 6.7, 8
* **10.14** Isa 17.3; Hos 13.16
* **10.15** v 7

Hosea 11

* **11.1** Hos 2.15; 12.9, 13; 13.4; Mt 2.15
y **11.2** Gk: Heb *they*
z **11.2** Gk: Heb *them*
* **11.2** 2 Kings 17.13–15; Isa 65.7; Jer 18.15; Hos 2.13
a **11.3** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *his*
* **11.3** Deut 1.31; Jer 30.17; Hos 7.15

b **11.4** Or *who ease the yoke on their jaws*
* **11.4** Ex 16.32; Lev 26.13; Ps 78.25; Jer 31.2, 3
* **11.5** Hos 7.16; 10.6
* **11.6** Hos 4.16, 17; 13.16
c **11.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.7** v 2; Jer 8.5
* **11.8** Gen 14.8; Isa 63.15; Hos 6.4
d **11.9** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.9** Deut 13.17; Isa 41.14, 16; 55.8, 9; Jer 26.3; Mal 3.6
* **11.10** Isa 66.2, 5; Hos 6.1–3; Joel 3.16
* **11.11** Isa 11.11; 60.8; Ezek 28.25, 26
e **11.12** 12.1 in Heb
f **11.12** Heb *roams* or *rules*
* **11.12** Hos 4.2; 7.3

Hosea 12

* **12.1** 2 Kings 17.4; Isa 30.6
* **12.2** Hos 4.9; Mic 6.2
* **12.3** Gen 25.26; 32.24, 28
g **12.4** Gk Syr: Heb *us*
* **12.4** Gen 28.12–15; 32.26
* **12.6** Hos 6.8; Mic 6.8; 7.7
* **12.7** Am 8.5; Mic 6.11
h **12.8** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **12.8** Hos 4.8; 13.6; 14.1; Rev 3.17
* **12.9** Lev 23.42; Neh 8.17; Hos 11.1
* **12.10** 2 Kings 17.13; Jer 7.25; Ezek 17.2; 20.49
i **12.11** Syr: Heb *If*
* **12.11** Hos 4.15; 6.8; 9.15; 10.1, 2
j **12.12** Heb lacks *sheep*
* **12.12** Gen 28.5
* **12.13** Ex 13.3
* **12.14** Ezek 18.10–13; Dan 11.18; Mic 6.16

Hosea 13

* **13.1** Judg 8.1; 12.1; Hos 2.8–17
k **13.2** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *To these they say sacrifices of people*
* **13.2** Isa 46.6; Hos 8.6
* **13.3** Ps 68.2; Dan 2.35; Hos 6.4
* **13.4** Isa 43.11; Hos 12.9

l **13.5** Gk Syr: Heb *knew*
* **13.5** Deut 2.7; 8.15
m **13.6** Cn: Heb *according to their pasture*
* **13.6** Deut 8.12, 14; Hos 2.13; 4.6
* **13.7** Jer 5.6; Lam 3.10
n **13.9** Gk Syr: Heb *for in me is your help*
o **13.10** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *I will be*
* **13.10** 2 Kings 17.4; Hos 8.4
* **13.11** 1 Sam 8.7; 1 Kings 14.7–10
* **13.12** Deut 32.34; Rom 2.5
* **13.13** Isa 37.3; 66.9; Mic 4.9, 10
p **13.14** Gk Syr: Heb *I will be*
q **13.14** Gk Syr: Heb *I will be*
* **13.14** Ezek 37.12, 13; Rom 11.29; 1 Cor 15.54
r **13.15** Or *among brothers*
* **13.15** Jer 20.5; 51.36; Ezek 17.10; 19.12; Hos 10.1
s **13.16** 14.1 in Heb
* **13.16** 2 Kings 15.16; Isa 13.16; Hos 7.14; 10.2, 14

Hosea 14

* **14.1** Hos 10.12; 12.6; Joel 2.13
t **14.2** Gk Syr: Heb *bulls*
* **14.2** Mic 7.18, 19; Heb 13.15
* **14.3** Ps 10.14; Isa 31.1; Hos 5.13; 8.6; 13.2
* **14.4** Isa 12.1; Zeph 3.17
u **14.5** Cn: Heb *like Lebanon*
* **14.5** Job 29.19; Isa 35.2; Mt 6.28
* **14.6** Ps 52.8; Song 4.11
v **14.7** Heb *his*
w **14.7** Cn: Heb *they shall grow grain*
* **14.7** Ps 91.4; Ezek 17.23; Hos 2.21, 22
x **14.8** Or *What more has Ephraim*
y **14.8** Heb *him*
* **14.8** v 3; Isa 41.19; Ezek 17.23
* **14.9** Ps 107.43; Isa 1.28; 26.7; Acts 13.10

Joel

Joel 1

1 The word of the LORD that came to Joel son of Pethuel:*

LAMENT OVER THE RUIN OF THE COUNTRY

[2]Hear this, O elders;
give ear, all inhabitants of the land!
Has such a thing happened in your days
or in the days of your ancestors?*
[3]Tell your children of it,
and let your children tell their children,
and their children another generation.*

[4]What the cutting locust left,
the swarming locust has eaten;
what the swarming locust left,
the hopping locust has eaten;
and what the hopping locust left,
the destroying locust has eaten.*

[5]Wake up, you drunkards, and weep,
and wail, all you wine drinkers,
over the sweet wine,
for it is cut off from your mouth.
[6]For a nation has invaded my land,
powerful and innumerable;
its teeth are lions' teeth,

and it has the fangs of a lioness.*
7It has laid waste my vines
and splintered my fig trees;
it has stripped off their bark and thrown it down;
their branches have turned white.*

8Lament like a virgin dressed in sackcloth
for the husband of her youth.*
9The grain offering and the drink offering are cut off
from the house of the LORD.
The priests mourn,
the ministers of the LORD.*
10The fields are devastated,
the ground mourns,
for the grain is destroyed,
the wine dries up,
the oil fails.*

11Be dismayed, you farmers;
wail, you vinedressers,
over the wheat and the barley,
for the crops of the field are ruined.*
12The vine withers;
the fig tree droops.
Pomegranate, palm, and apple—
all the trees of the field are dried up;
surely, joy withers away
among the people.*

A CALL TO REPENTANCE AND PRAYER

13 Put on sackcloth and lament, you priests;
wail, you ministers of the altar.
Come, pass the night in sackcloth,
you ministers of my God!
Grain offering and drink offering
are withheld from the house of your God.*

14 Consecrate a fast;
call a solemn assembly.
Gather the elders
and all the inhabitants of the land
to the house of the LORD your God,
and cry out to the LORD.*

15 Alas for the day!
For the day of the LORD is near,
and as destruction from the Almighty[a] it comes.*
16 Is not the food cut off
before our eyes,
joy and gladness
from the house of our God?*

17 The seed shrivels under the clods;[b]
the storehouses are desolate;
the granaries are ruined
because the grain has withered.
18 How the animals groan!
The herds of cattle wander about
because there is no pasture for them;
even the flocks of sheep are perishing.*

19 To you, O LORD, I cry,

for fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness,
and flames have burned
all the trees of the field.*
20Even the wild animals cry to you
because the watercourses are dried up,
and fire has devoured
the pastures of the wilderness.*

Joel 2

[1]Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—*
[2]a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains,
a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them
in ages to come.*

[3]Fire devours in front of them,
and behind them a flame burns.
Before them the land is like the garden of Eden,
but after them a desolate wilderness,
and nothing escapes them.*

[4]They have the appearance of horses,
and like war horses they charge.*
[5]As with the rumbling of chariots,
they leap on the tops of the mountains,
like the crackling of a flame of fire
devouring the stubble,
like a powerful army
drawn up for battle.*

[6]Before them peoples are in anguish;

all faces grow pale.[c,*]
7Like warriors they charge;
like soldiers they scale the wall.
Each keeps to its own course;
they do not swerve from their paths.
8They do not jostle one another;
each keeps to its own track;
they burst through the weapons
and are not halted.
9They leap upon the city;
they run upon the walls;
they climb up into the houses;
they enter through the windows like a thief.*

10The earth quakes before them;
the heavens tremble.
The sun and the moon are darkened,
and the stars withdraw their shining.*
11The LORD utters his voice
at the head of his army;
how vast is his host!
Numberless are those who obey his command.
Truly the day of the LORD is great,
terrible indeed—who can endure it?*

12Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;*
13rend your hearts and not your clothing.
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love,
and relenting from punishment.*
14 Who knows whether he will not turn and relent
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
for the LORD your God?*

15 Blow the trumpet in Zion;
consecrate a fast;
call a solemn assembly;*
16 gather the people.
Consecrate the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room
and the bride her canopy.*

17 Between the vestibule and the altar,
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?' "*

GOD'S RESPONSE AND PROMISE

18 Then the LORD became jealous for his land
and had pity on his people.*
19 In response to his people the LORD said:
"I am sending you

grain, wine, and oil,
and you will be satisfied;
and I will no more make you
a mockery among the nations.*

20 I will remove the northern army far from you
and drive it into a parched and desolate land,
its front into the eastern sea
and its rear into the western sea;
its stench and foul smell will rise up."
Surely he has done great things!*

21 Do not fear, O soil;
be glad and rejoice,
for the LORD has done great things!
22 Do not fear, you animals of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit;
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.*

23 O children of Zion, be glad,
and rejoice in the LORD your God,
for he has given the early rain[d] for your vindication;
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.*
24 The threshing floors shall be full of grain;
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

25 I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army that I sent against you.*

[26]You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.*
[27]You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.*

GOD'S SPIRIT POURED OUT

[28e]Then afterward
I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.*
[29]Even on the male and female slaves,
in those days I will pour out my spirit.*

30 I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke.* [31]The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes.* [32]Then everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved, for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.*

Joel 3

1 [f]For then, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of
Judah and Jerusalem,* [2]I will gather all the nations and bring them down to
the valley of Jehoshaphat, and I will enter into judgment with them there,
on account of my people and my heritage Israel, because they have
scattered them among the nations. They have divided my land* [3]and cast
lots for my people and traded boys for prostitutes and sold girls for wine
and drunk it down.*

4 What are you to me, O Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Philistia?
Are you paying me back for something? If you are paying me back, I will
turn your deeds back upon your own heads swiftly and speedily.* [5]For you
have taken my silver and my gold and have carried my rich treasures into
your temples.[g] [6]You have sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the
Greeks, removing them far from their own border. [7]But now I will rouse
them to leave the places to which you have sold them, and I will turn your
deeds back upon your own heads.* [8]I will sell your sons and your daughters
into the hand of the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans,
to a nation far away, for the LORD has spoken.*

JUDGMENT IN THE VALLEY OF JEHOSHAPHAT

[9]Proclaim this among the nations:
Consecrate yourselves for war;
stir up the warriors.
Let all the soldiers draw near;
let them come up.
[10]Beat your plowshares into swords
and your pruning hooks into spears;
let the weakling say, "I am a warrior."*

[11]Come quickly,[h]

all you nations all around;
gather yourselves there.
Bring down your warriors, O LORD.*
12 Let the nations rouse themselves
and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat,
for there I will sit to judge
all the neighboring nations.*

13 Put in the sickle,
for the harvest is ripe.
Go in, tread,
for the winepress is full.
The vats overflow,
for their wickedness is great.*

14 Multitudes, multitudes,
in the valley of decision!
For the day of the LORD is near
in the valley of decision.*
15 The sun and the moon are darkened,
and the stars withdraw their shining.

16 The LORD roars from Zion
and utters his voice from Jerusalem,
and the heavens and the earth shake.
But the LORD is a refuge for his people,
a stronghold for the people of Israel.*

THE GLORIOUS FUTURE OF JUDAH

17 So you shall know that I, the LORD your God,
dwell in Zion, my holy mountain.

And Jerusalem shall be holy,
    and strangers shall never again pass through it.*

18In that day
the mountains shall drip sweet wine,
    the hills shall flow with milk,
and all the streambeds of Judah
    shall flow with water;
a fountain shall come forth from the house of the LORD
    and water the Wadi Shittim.*

19Egypt shall become a desolation
    and Edom a desolate wilderness,
because of the violence done to the people of Judah,
    in whose land they have shed innocent blood.*
20But Judah shall be inhabited forever
    and Jerusalem to all generations.*
21I will avenge their blood, and I will not clear the guilty,[i]
    for the LORD dwells in Zion.*

Joel 1

* **1.1** Jer 1.2; Ezek 1.3; Hos 1.1; Acts 2.16
* **1.2** v 14; Hos 4.1; 5.1; Joel 2.2
* **1.3** Ps 78.4
* **1.4** Deut 28.38; Isa 33.4; Joel 2.25; Nah 3.15, 16
* **1.6** Joel 2.2, 11; Rev 9.8
* **1.7** Isa 5.6; Am 4.9
* **1.8** v 13; Am 8.10
* **1.9** Joel 2.14, 17
* **1.10** Isa 24.4–7; Hos 9.2
* **1.11** Isa 17.11; Jer 9.12; 14.3, 4
* **1.12** Isa 16.10; 24.11; Jer 48.33; Hab 3.17, 18
* **1.13** vv 8, 9; 1 Kings 21.27; Jer 4.8; Joel 2.17
* **1.14** v 2; 2 Chr 20.3, 4; Joel 2.15, 16; Jon 3.8

a **1.15** Traditional rendering of Heb *Shaddai*

* **1.15** Isa 13.6, 9; Jer 30.7; Joel 2.1, 11, 31
* **1.16** Deut 12.6, 7; Ps 43.4; Isa 3.7

b **1.17** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **1.18** 1 Kings 18.5; Jer 14.5, 6; Hos 4.3
* **1.19** Ps 50.15; Jer 9.10; Joel 2.3
* **1.20** 1 Kings 17.7; Job 38.41; Ps 104.21

Joel 2

* **2.1** vv 15, 31; Num 10.9; Jer 4.5; Joel 1.15; Zeph 1.14–16
* **2.2** Lam 1.12; Joel 1.2, 6; Am 5.18
* **2.3** Gen 2.8; Ps 105.34, 35; Isa 51.3; Joel 1.19, 20
* **2.4** Rev 9.7
* **2.5** Isa 5.24; 30.30; Rev 9.9

c **2.6** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **2.6** Isa 13.8; Jer 30.6; Nah 2.10
* **2.9** v 7; Jer 9.21; Jn 10.1
* **2.10** v 15; Ps 18.7; Isa 13.10; Mt 24.29
* **2.11** vv 2, 25; Jer 50.34; Joel 3.16; Am 1.2; Rev 18.8
* **2.12** Jer 4.1; Hos 12.6
* **2.13** 2 Sam 1.11; Ps 34.18; Isa 57.15; Jer 18.8; 42.10; Jon 4.2
* **2.14** Jer 26.3; Joel 1.9, 13; Hag 2.19
* **2.15** v 1; Num 10.3; Jer 36.9; Joel 1.14
* **2.16** Ex 19.10, 22; Ps 19.5
* **2.17** Deut 9.26–29; Isa 37.20; Ezek 8.16; Joel 1.9; Mt 23.35

* **2.18** Isa 60.10; Zech 1.14
* **2.19** Ezek 34.29; 36.15; Hos 2.21, 22
* **2.20** Deut 11.24; Isa 34.3; Jer 1.14, 15; Am 4.10; Zech 14.8
* **2.22** Ps 65.12, 13
d **2.23** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **2.23** Deut 11.14; Ps 149.2; Isa 41.16; Jer 5.24; Hos 6.3
* **2.25** Joel 1.4
* **2.26** Ps 67.5–7; Isa 25.1; 45.17; 62.9
* **2.27** Isa 45.5, 21; 49.23; Joel 3.17, 21
e **2.28** 3.1 in Heb
* **2.28** Isa 40.5; Acts 2.17–21
* **2.29** 1 Cor 12.13; Gal 3.28
* **2.30** Mt 24.29; Lk 21.11, 25; Acts 2.19
* **2.31** Isa 13.9, 10; Mal 4.1, 5; Mt 24.29; Rev 6.12
* **2.32** Isa 46.13; Mic 4.7; Rom 9.27

Joel 3

f **3.1** 4.1 in Heb
* **3.1** Jer 30.3; Ezek 38.14
* **3.2** Isa 66.16; Ezek 34.6; 35.10; 36.1–5
* **3.3** Ob 11; Nah 3.10
* **3.4** Ezek 25.12–17; Am 1.9, 10
g **3.5** Or *palaces*
* **3.7** Isa 43.5, 6; Jer 23.8
* **3.8** Isa 14.2; 60.14; Jer 6.20; Ezek 23.42
* **3.10** Isa 2.4; Mic 4.3; Zech 12.8
h **3.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.11** Isa 13.3; Ezek 38.15, 16
* **3.12** Isa 2.4; 3.13
* **3.13** Isa 63.3; Mt 13.39; Rev 14.15, 19
* **3.14** Isa 34.2–8; Joel 1.15; 2.1
* **3.16** Jer 17.17; Joel 2.11; Am 1.2; Hag 2.6
* **3.17** v 21; Isa 52.1; Ezek 20.40; Ob 17; Nah 1.15
* **3.18** Isa 30.25; 35.6; Ezek 47.1–12; Am 9.13; Rev 22.1
* **3.19** Ob 10
* **3.20** Ezek 37.25; Am 9.15
i **3.21** Gk Syr: Heb *I will hold innocent their blood that I have not held innocent*
* **3.21** v 17; Ezek 36.25

Amos

Amos 1

1 The words of Amos, who was among the shepherds of Tekoa, which he
saw concerning Israel in the days of King Uzziah of Judah and in the days
of King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel, two years[a] before the earthquake.*

JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL'S NEIGHBORS

2 And he said:

The LORD roars from Zion
and utters his voice from Jerusalem;
the pastures of the shepherds wither,
and the top of Carmel dries up.*

3 Thus says the LORD:
For three transgressions of Damascus,
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[b]
because they have threshed Gilead
with threshing sledges of iron.*
4 So I will send a fire on the house of Hazael,
and it shall devour the strongholds of Ben-hadad.*
5 I will break the gate bars of Damascus
and cut off the inhabitants from the Valley of Aven
and the one who holds the scepter from Beth-eden,
and the people of Aram shall go into exile to Kir,
says the LORD.*

6 Thus says the LORD:
For three transgressions of Gaza,

and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[c]
because they carried into exile entire communities,
to hand them over to Edom.*
7So I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza,
and it shall devour its strongholds.
8I will cut off the inhabitants from Ashdod
and the one who holds the scepter from Ashkelon;
I will turn my hand against Ekron,
and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish,
says the Lord God.*

9Thus says the Lord:
For three transgressions of Tyre,
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[d]
because they delivered entire communities over to Edom
and did not remember the covenant of kinship.*
10So I will send a fire on the wall of Tyre,
and it shall devour its strongholds.*

11Thus says the Lord:
For three transgressions of Edom,
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[e]
because he pursued his brother with the sword
and cast off all pity;
he maintained his anger perpetually[f]
and kept his wrath[g] forever.*
12So I will send a fire on Teman,
and it shall devour the strongholds of Bozrah.*

13Thus says the Lord:
For three transgressions of the Ammonites,

and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[h]
because they have ripped open pregnant women in Gilead
in order to enlarge their territory.*
14So I will kindle a fire against the wall of Rabbah,
and it shall devour its strongholds,
with shouting on the day of battle,
with a storm on the day of the whirlwind;*
15then their king shall go into exile,
he and his officials together,
says the LORD.*

Amos 2

[1]Thus says the LORD:
For three transgressions of Moab,
  and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[i]
because he burned to lime
  the bones of the king of Edom.*
[2]So I will send a fire on Moab,
  and it shall devour the strongholds of Kerioth,
and Moab shall die amid uproar,
  amid shouting and the sound of the trumpet;*
[3]I will cut off the ruler from its midst
  and will kill all its officials with him,
says the LORD.*

JUDGMENT ON JUDAH

[4]Thus says the LORD:
For three transgressions of Judah,
  and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[j]
because they have rejected the instruction of the LORD
  and have not kept his statutes,
but they have been led astray by the same lies
  after which their ancestors walked.*
[5]So I will send a fire on Judah,
  and it shall devour the strongholds of Jerusalem.*

JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL

[6]Thus says the LORD:

For three transgressions of Israel,
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,[k]
because they sell the righteous for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals—*
7they who trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth
and push the afflicted out of the way;
father and son go in to the same young woman,
so that my holy name is profaned;*
8they lay themselves down beside every altar
on garments taken in pledge;
and in the house of their God they drink
wine bought with fines they imposed.*

9Yet I destroyed the Amorite before them,
whose height was like the height of cedars
and who was as strong as oaks;
I destroyed his fruit above
and his roots beneath.*
10Also I brought you up out of the land of Egypt
and led you forty years in the wilderness,
to possess the land of the Amorite.*
11And I raised up some of your children to be prophets
and some of your youths to be nazirites.
Is it not indeed so, O people of Israel?
says the LORD.*

12But you made the nazirites drink wine
and commanded the prophets,
saying, "You shall not prophesy."*

13So, I will press you down in your place,

just as a cart presses down
when it is full of sheaves.[1,*]
14 Flight shall perish from the swift,
and the strong shall not retain their strength,
nor shall the mighty save their lives;[*]
15 those who handle the bow shall not stand,
and those who are swift of foot shall not save themselves,
nor shall those who ride horses save their lives;[*]
16 and those who are stout of heart among the mighty
shall flee away naked on that day,
says the LORD.[*]

Amos 3

ISRAEL'S GUILT AND PUNISHMENT

1 Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel,
against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:*

[2]You only have I known
of all the families of the earth;
therefore I will punish you
for all your iniquities.*

[3]Do two walk together
unless they have made an appointment?*
[4]Does a lion roar in the forest
when it has no prey?
Does a young lion cry out from its den
if it has caught nothing?*
[5]Does a bird fall into a snare on the earth
when there is no trap for it?
Does a snare spring up from the ground
when it has taken nothing?
[6]Is a trumpet blown in a city,
and the people are not afraid?
Does disaster befall a city
unless the LORD has done it?*
[7]Surely the Lord GOD does nothing
without revealing his secret
to his servants the prophets.*
[8]The lion has roared;
who will not fear?

The Lord God has spoken;
who can but prophesy?*

9 Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod
and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt,
and say, "Assemble yourselves on Mount[m] Samaria,
and see what great tumults are within it
and what oppressions are in its midst."*
10 They do not know how to do right, says the Lord,
those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds.*
11 Therefore thus says the Lord God:
An adversary shall surround the land
and strip you of your defense,
and your strongholds shall be plundered.*

12 Thus says the Lord: As the shepherd rescues from the mouth of the lion two legs or a piece of an ear, so shall the people of Israel who live in Samaria be rescued, with the corner of a couch and part[n] of a bed.*

13 Hear and testify against the house of Jacob,
says the Lord God, the God of hosts:*
14 On the day I punish Israel for its transgressions,
I will punish the altars of Bethel,
and the horns of the altar shall be cut off
and fall to the ground.
15 I will tear down the winter house as well as the summer house,
and the houses of ivory shall perish,
and the great houses[o] shall come to an end,
says the Lord.*

Amos 4

[1]Hear this word, you cows of Bashan
who are on Mount Samaria,
who oppress the poor, who crush the needy,
who say to their husbands, "Bring something to drink!"*
[2]The Lord GOD has sworn by his holiness:
The time is surely coming upon you
when they shall take you away with hooks,
even the last of you with fishhooks.*
[3]Through breaches in the wall you shall leave,
each one straight ahead,
and you shall be flung out into Harmon,[p]
says the LORD.
[4]Come to Bethel—and transgress;
to Gilgal—and multiply transgression;
bring your sacrifices every morning,
your tithes every three days;*
[5]bring a thank offering of leavened bread
and proclaim freewill offerings, publish them;
for so you love to do, O people of Israel!
says the Lord GOD.*

ISRAEL REJECTS CORRECTION

[6]I gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities
and lack of bread in all your places;
yet you did not return to me,
says the LORD.*

[7]And I also withheld the rain from you
when there were still three months to the harvest;
I would send rain on one city
and send no rain on another city;
one field would be rained upon,
and the field on which it did not rain withered;
[8]so two or three towns wandered to one town
to drink water and were not satisfied;
yet you did not return to me,
says the LORD.*

[9]I struck you with blight and mildew;
I laid waste[q] your gardens and your vineyards;
the locust devoured your fig trees and your olive trees;
yet you did not return to me,
says the LORD.*

[10]I sent among you a pestilence after the manner of Egypt;
I killed your young men with the sword;
I carried away your horses;[r]
and I made the stench of your camp go up into your nostrils;
yet you did not return to me,
says the LORD.*

[11]I overthrew some of you
as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah,
and you were like a brand snatched from the fire;
yet you did not return to me,
says the LORD.*

[12]Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel;
because I will do this to you,

prepare to meet your God, O Israel!*

13For the one who forms the mountains, creates the wind,
reveals his thoughts to mortals,
makes the morning darkness,
and treads on the heights of the earth—
the LORD, the God of hosts, is his name!*

Amos 5

A LAMENT FOR ISRAEL'S SIN

1 Hear this word that I take up over you in lamentation, O house of Israel:*

[2]Fallen, no more to rise,
is maiden Israel;
forsaken on her land,
with no one to raise her up.*

[3]For thus says the Lord GOD:
The city that marched out a thousand
shall have a hundred left,
and that which marched out a hundred
shall have ten left.s,*

[4]For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel:
Seek me and live,*
[5]but do not seek Bethel,
and do not enter into Gilgal
or cross over to Beer-sheba,
for Gilgal shall surely go into exile,
and Bethel shall come to nothing.*

[6]Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.*
[7]Ah, you who turn justice to wormwood
and bring righteousness to the ground!

[8]The one who made the Pleiades and Orion

and turns deep darkness into the morning
and darkens the day into night,
who calls for the water of the sea
and pours it out on the surface of the earth,
the LORD is his name,*
9who makes destruction flash out against the strong,
so that destruction comes upon the fortress.

10They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.*
11Therefore because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.*
12For I know how many are your transgressions
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe
and push aside the needy in the gate.*
13Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time,
for it is an evil time.

14Seek good and not evil,
that you may live,
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.*
15Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.*

16 Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of hosts, the Lord:
In all the squares there shall be wailing,
and in all the streets they shall say, “Alas! Alas!”
They shall call the farmers to mourning
and those skilled in lamentation to wailing;*
17 in all the vineyards there shall be wailing,
for I will pass through the midst of you,
says the LORD.*

THE DAY OF THE LORD A DARK DAY

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,*
19 as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.*
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?*

21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.*
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.*
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like water

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.*

25 Did you bring to me sacrifices and offerings the forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?* [26]You shall take up Sakkuth your king and Kaiwan your star god, your images,[t] which you made for yourselves; [27]therefore I will take you into exile beyond Damascus, says the LORD, whose name is the God of hosts.*

Amos 6

COMPLACENT SELF-INDULGENCE WILL BE PUNISHED

[1]Woe to those who are at ease in Zion
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
the notables of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel resorts![*]
[2]Cross over to Calneh and see;
from there go to Hamath the great;
then go down to Gath of the Philistines.
Are you better[u] than these kingdoms?
Or is your[v] territory greater than their[w] territory,[*]
[3]you who put far away the evil day
and bring near a reign of violence?[*]

[4]Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,[*]
[5]who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,[*]
[6]who drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph![*]
[7]Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.[*]

[8]The Lord GOD has sworn by himself
(says the LORD, the God of hosts):

I abhor the pride of Jacob
and hate his strongholds,
and I will deliver up the city and all that is in it.*

9 If ten people remain in one house, they shall die. 10And if a relative, one who burns it,[x] takes up the body to bring it out of the house and says to someone in the innermost parts of the house, "Is anyone else with you?" the answer will come, "No." Then the relative[y] shall say, "Hush! We must not mention the name of the LORD."

11For the LORD commands,
and he will shatter the great house to bits
and the little house to pieces.*
12Do horses run on rocky crags?
Does one plow the sea with oxen?[z]
But you have turned justice into poison
and the fruit of righteousness into wormwood,*
13you who rejoice in Lo-debar,[a]
who say, "Have we not by our own strength
taken Karnaim[b] for ourselves?"
14Indeed, I am raising up against you a nation,
O house of Israel, says the LORD, the God of hosts,
and they shall oppress you from Lebo-hamath
to the Wadi Arabah.*

Amos 7

LOCUSTS, FIRE, AND A PLUMB LINE

1 This is what the Lord GOD showed me: he was forming locusts at the time
the latter growth began to sprout (it was the latter growth after the king's
mowings).* [2]When they had finished eating the grass of the land, I said,

"O Lord GOD, forgive, I beg you!
How can Jacob stand?
He is so small!"*

[3]The LORD relented concerning this;
"It shall not be," said the LORD.*

4 This is what the Lord GOD showed me: the Lord GOD was calling for
judgment by fire, and it devoured the great deep and was eating up the land.
[5]Then I said,

"O Lord GOD, cease, I beg you!
How can Jacob stand?
He is so small!"*

[6]The LORD relented concerning this;
"This also shall not be," said the Lord GOD.*

7 This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built
with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. [8]And the LORD said to me,
"Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will spare them no longer;*

[9]the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."*

AMAZIAH COMPLAINS TO THE KING

10 Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel,
saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of
Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words.* [11]For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.' "*

[12]And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah,
earn your bread there, and prophesy there, [13]but never again prophesy at
Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."*

14 Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am[c] no prophet nor a prophet's
son, but I am[d] a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees,* [15]and the LORD
took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy
to my people Israel.'*

[16]"Now therefore hear the word of the LORD.
You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel,
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.'*
[17]Therefore thus says the LORD:
Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
and your land shall be parceled out by line;
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land."*

Amos 8

THE BASKET OF FRUIT

1 This is what the Lord GOD showed me: a basket of summer fruit. [2]He said, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the LORD said to me,

"The end[e] has come upon my people Israel;
I will spare them no longer.*
[3]The songs of the temple[f] shall become wailings on that day,"
says the Lord GOD;
"the dead bodies shall be many,
cast out in every place. Be silent!"*

[4]Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,*
[5]saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,*
[6]buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."*

[7]The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.*
[8]Shall not the land tremble on this account,
and everyone mourn who lives in it,

and all of it rise like the Nile,
and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?*

9On that day, says the Lord GOD,
I will make the sun go down at noon
and darken the earth in broad daylight.*
10I will turn your feasts into mourning
and all your songs into lamentation;
I will bring sackcloth on all loins
and baldness on every head;
I will make it like the mourning for an only son
and the end of it like a bitter day.*

11The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD,
when I will send a famine on the land,
not a famine of bread or a thirst for water,
but of hearing the words of the LORD.*
12They shall wander from sea to sea
and from north to east;
they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD,
but they shall not find it.*

13On that day the beautiful young women and the young men
shall faint for thirst.*
14Those who swear by Ashimah of Samaria
and say, "As your god lives, O Dan,"
and, "As the way of Beer-sheba lives"—
they shall fall and never rise again.*

Amos 9

THE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL

1 I saw the LORD standing beside[g] the altar, and he said:
Strike the capitals until the thresholds shake
and shatter them on the heads of all the people,[h]
and those who are left I will kill with the sword;
not one of them shall flee away,
not one of them shall escape.*

2Though they dig into Sheol,
from there shall my hand take them;
though they climb up to heaven,
from there I will bring them down.*
3Though they hide themselves on the top of Carmel,
from there I will search out and take them;
and though they hide from my sight at the bottom of the sea,
there I will command the serpent, and it shall bite them.*
4And though they go into captivity in front of their enemies,
there I will command the sword, and it shall kill them;
and I will fix my eyes on them
for harm and not for good.*

5The Lord, GOD of hosts,
he who touches the earth and it melts,
and all who live in it mourn,
and all of it rises like the Nile
and sinks again, like the Nile of Egypt,*
6who builds his upper chambers in the heavens

and founds his vault upon the earth,
who calls for the waters of the sea
and pours them out upon the surface of the earth—
the LORD is his name.*

7 Are you not like the Cushites to me,
O people of Israel? says the LORD.
Did I not bring Israel up from the land of Egypt
and the Philistines from Caphtor and the Arameans from Kir?*
8 The eyes of the Lord GOD are upon the sinful kingdom,
and I will destroy it from the face of the earth
—except that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob,
says the LORD.*

9 For I will command
and shake the house of Israel among all the nations,
as one shakes with a sieve
but no pebble shall fall to the ground.*
10 All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword,
who say, "Evil shall not overtake or meet us."*

THE RESTORATION OF DAVID'S KINGDOM

11 On that day I will raise up
the booth of David that is fallen
and repair its[i] breaches
and raise up its[j] ruins
and rebuild it as in the days of old,*
12 in order that they may possess the remnant of Edom
and all the nations who are called by my name,
says the LORD who does this.*

[13]The time is surely coming, says the LORD,
when the one who plows shall catch up with the one who reaps
and the treader of grapes with the one who sows the seed;
the mountains shall drip sweet wine,
and all the hills shall flow with it.*
[14]I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel,
and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine,
and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit.*
[15]I will plant them upon their land,
and they shall never again be plucked up
out of the land that I have given them,
says the LORD your God.*

Amos 1

a **1.1** Or *during two years*
* **1.1** 2 Sam 14.2; 2 Kings 14.23–29; Zech 14.5
* **1.2** Jer 25.30; Joel 1.18, 19; 3.16; Am 9.3
b **1.3** Heb *cause it to return*
* **1.3** v 13; Isa 7.8; 8.4
* **1.4** 1 Kings 20.1; 2 Kings 6.24; Jer 49.27
* **1.5** 2 Kings 16.9; Jer 51.30; Am 9.7
c **1.6** Heb *cause it to return*
* **1.6** v 9; 1 Sam 6.17; Jer 47.1, 5; Ob 11
* **1.8** Ps 81.14; Zeph 2.4; Zech 9.6
d **1.9** Heb *cause it to return*
* **1.9** 1 Kings 5.1; 9.11–14; Isa 23.1–18; Ezek 26.2–4
* **1.10** Zech 9.4
e **1.11** Heb *cause it to return*
f **1.11** Syr Vg: Heb *and his anger tore perpetually*
g **1.11** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *and his wrath kept*
* **1.11** Isa 34.5, 6; 57.16; 63.1–6; Jer 49.7–22; Ob 10–12; Mic 7.18
* **1.12** Jer 49.7, 20
h **1.13** Heb *cause it to return*
* **1.13** 2 Kings 15.16; Jer 49.1–6; Ezek 25.2–7
* **1.14** Isa 29.6; 30.30; Jer 49.2; Ezek 21.22; Am 2.2
* **1.15** Jer 49.3

Amos 2

i **2.1** Heb *cause it to return*
* **2.1** Isa 15; 16; Jer 48; Zeph 2.8, 9
* **2.2** Jer 48.41, 45
* **2.3** Ps 2.10; Isa 40.23; Jer 48.7; Am 5.7, 12
j **2.4** Heb *cause it to return*
* **2.4** 2 Kings 17.19; Jer 6.19; Ezek 20.13; Joel 3.2
* **2.5** Jer 17.27; Hos 8.14
k **2.6** Heb *cause it to return*
* **2.6** 2 Kings 18.12; Joel 3.3; Am 5.11, 12
* **2.7** Lev 20.3; Hos 4.14; Am 5.12; 8.4
* **2.8** Ex 22.26; Am 4.1; 6.6; 1 Cor 8.10
* **2.9** Num 13.33; Deut 2.31; Isa 5.24; Mal 4.1
* **2.10** Ex 3.8; 12.51; Deut 2.7
* **2.11** Num 6.2, 3; Jer 7.25

* **2.12** Isa 30.10; Jer 11.21; Am 7.12, 13; Mic 2.6
l **2.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **2.13** Joel 3.13
* **2.14** Ps 33.16; Isa 30.16, 17; Jer 9.23
* **2.15** Isa 31.3; Jer 51.26; Ezek 39.3
* **2.16** Jer 48.41

Amos 3

* **3.1** Jer 8.3; 13.11; Am 2.10; 9.7
* **3.2** Deut 7.6; Jer 14.10; Ezek 20.36; Lk 12.47; Rom 2.9
* **3.3** Lev 26.23, 24
* **3.4** Hos 11.10
* **3.6** Isa 14.24–27; 45.7; Jer 6.1; Hos 5.8
* **3.7** Gen 18.17; Jn 15.15; Rev 10.7
* **3.8** Jer 20.9; Am 1.2; Jon 1.1; 3.1; Acts 4.20
m **3.9** Gk Syr: Heb *the mountains of*
* **3.9** Am 1.8; 4.1; 6.1; 8.6
* **3.10** Jer 4.22; Am 5.7; 6.12; Hab 2.8–11; Zeph 1.9; Zech 5.3, 4
* **3.11** Am 2.5, 14; 6.14
n **3.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.12** 1 Sam 17.34–37; Ps 132.3; Am 6.4
* **3.13** Ezek 2.7
o **3.15** Or *many houses*
* **3.15** Judg 3.20; 1 Kings 22.39; Jer 36.22

Amos 4

* **4.1** Ps 22.12; Ezek 39.18; Am 2.8; 3.9; 5.11; 6.1, 6; 8.6
* **4.2** Ps 89.35; Isa 37.29; Ezek 29.4; 38.4; Am 6.8; 8.7
p **4.3** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.4** Num 28.3, 4; Deut 14.28; Hos 4.15; Am 3.14; 5.5
* **4.5** Lev 7.13; 22.18, 21; Hos 9.1, 10
* **4.6** Isa 3.1; Jer 5.3; 14.18; Hag 2.17
* **4.8** Jer 3.7; 14.4; Ezek 4.16
q **4.9** Cn: Heb *the multitude of*
* **4.9** Deut 28.22; Jer 3.10; Joel 1.4; 2.25; Hag 2.17
r **4.10** Heb *with the captivity of your horses*
* **4.10** Ex 9.3, 6; Deut 28.27, 60; Jer 11.22; 18.21; 48.15; Joel 2.20
* **4.11** Isa 13.19; Jer 23.14; Zech 3.2
* **4.12** v 2; Ezek 13.5
* **4.13** Ps 139.2; Jer 10.13; 13.16; Dan 2.28; Am 5.8, 27; Mic 1.3

Amos 5

* **5.1** Ezek 19.1
* **5.2** Isa 51.18; Jer 14.17; 50.32; Am 8.14
s **5.3** Heb adds *to the house of Israel*
* **5.3** Isa 6.13; Am 6.9
* **5.4** Isa 55.3; Jer 29.3
* **5.5** 1 Sam 7.16; 11.14; Am 4.4; 8.14
* **5.6** v 14; Deut 4.24; Isa 55.3, 6, 7; Am 3.14
* **5.8** Job 9.9; 12.22; Ps 104.6–9; Isa 42.16; Am 8.9; 9.6
* **5.10** 1 Kings 22.8; Isa 29.21; 59.15
* **5.11** Am 3.9, 15; 6.11; 8.6; Mic 6.15
* **5.12** Isa 29.21; Am 2.6, 7
* **5.14** v 6; Mic 3.11
* **5.15** Ps 97.10; Joel 2.14; Mic 5.3, 7, 8; Rom 12.9
* **5.16** 2 Chr 35.25; Jer 9.17; Joel 1.11
* **5.17** Isa 16.10; Jer 48.33; Nah 1.2
* **5.18** Isa 5.19; Jer 30.7; Joel 1.15; 2 Pet 3.4
* **5.19** Jer 48.44
* **5.20** Isa 13.10; Zeph 1.15
* **5.21** Lev 26.31; Isa 1.11–16
* **5.22** Isa 66.3; Am 4.5; Mic 6.6, 7
* **5.24** Jer 22.3; Ezek 45.9; Mic 6.8
* **5.25** Deut 32.17; Ezek 20.8, 16; Acts 7.42
t **5.26** Heb *your images, your star god*
* **5.27** 2 Kings 17.6; Am 4.13

Amos 6

* **6.1** Ex 19.5; Isa 32.9–11; Am 3.2; Lk 6.24
u **6.2** Or *Are they better*
v **6.2** Heb *their*
w **6.2** Heb *your*
* **6.2** 2 Kings 18.34; 2 Chr 26.6; Isa 10.9; Jer 2.10; Nah 3.8
* **6.3** Isa 56.12; Am 9.10
* **6.4** Ezek 34.2, 3; Am 3.12, 15
* **6.5** 1 Chr 23.5; Isa 5.12; Am 5.23
* **6.6** Gen 37.25; Ezek 9.4; Am 2.8; 4.1
* **6.7** Dan 5.4–6, 30; Am 7.11, 17
* **6.8** Deut 32.19; Ps 106.40; Jer 51.14; Heb 6.13
x **6.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
y **6.10** Heb *he*

* **6.11** Isa 55.11; Am 3.15
z **6.12** Or *Does one plow them with oxen*
* **6.12** Isa 59.13, 14; Am 5.7
a **6.13** Or *in a thing of nothingness*
b **6.13** Or *horns*
* **6.14** Num 34.8; 1 Kings 8.65; Jer 5.15; Am 3.11

Amos 7

* **7.1** vv 4, 7; Joel 1.4; Am 4.9; 8.1; Nah 3.15
* **7.2** Ex 10.14, 15; Isa 37.4; Jer 42.2; Ezek 9.8; 11.13
* **7.3** Deut 32.36; Jer 26.19; Jon 3.10
* **7.5** v 2
* **7.6** v 3
* **7.8** Isa 28.17; 34.11; Lam 2.8; Am 8.2; Mic 7.18
* **7.9** 2 Kings 15.10; Isa 63.18; Hos 10.8; Mic 1.5
* **7.10** 1 Kings 12.32; 2 Kings 14.23; Jer 26.8–11
* **7.11** vv 9, 17
* **7.13** 1 Kings 12.32; 13.1; Am 2.12
c **7.14** Or *was*
d **7.14** Or *was*
* **7.14** 1 Kings 20.35; 2 Kings 2.5; 4.38; 2 Chr 19.2; Am 1.1
* **7.15** 2 Sam 7.8; Jer 7.1; Ezek 2.3, 4; Am 3.8
* **7.16** Ezek 21.2; Am 2.12; Mic 2.6
* **7.17** Jer 14.16; 29.21; Ezek 4.13; Hos 4.13, 14; 9.3

Amos 8

e **8.2** In Heb the word for *end* is related to the word for *summer fruit*
* **8.2** Jer 24.3; Ezek 7.2; Am 7.8
f **8.3** Or *palace*
* **8.3** Am 5.23; 6.9, 10
* **8.4** Ps 14.4; Am 5.11, 12
* **8.5** 2 Kings 4.23; Neh 13.15, 16; Mic 6.10–11
* **8.6** Am 2.6
* **8.7** Deut 33.26, 29; Hos 8.13; 9.9; Am 6.8
* **8.8** Isa 5.25; Hos 4.3; Am 9.5
* **8.9** Isa 13.10; Jer 15.9; Am 4.13; 5.8; Mic 3.6
* **8.10** Jer 6.26; 48.37; Ezek 7.18; Am 5.21; 6.4, 5; Zech 12.10
* **8.11** 1 Sam 3.1; 2 Chr 15.3; Ezek 7.26; Mic 3.6
* **8.12** Ezek 20.3, 31
* **8.13** Isa 41.17; Lam 1.18; Hos 2.3

* **8.14** 1 Kings 12.28, 29; Hos 4.15; Am 5.5

Amos 9

g **9.1** Or *on*
h **9.1** Heb *all of them*
* **9.1** v 4; Am 2.14; 3.14; Hab 3.13; Zeph 2.14
* **9.2** Ps 139.8; Jer 51.53; Ob 4
* **9.3** Isa 27.1; Jer 16.16, 17; Am 1.2
* **9.4** Lev 26.33; Jer 44.11; Ezek 5.12
* **9.5** Am 8.8; Mic 1.4
* **9.6** Ps 104.3; Am 4.13; 5.8
* **9.7** Isa 43.3; Jer 47.4; Am 1.5; 2.10; 3.1
* **9.8** vv 4, 10; Jer 30.11; 44.27; Joel 2.32
* **9.9** Isa 30.28
* **9.10** Am 6.3; 8.14
i **9.11** Gk: Heb *their*
j **9.11** Gk: Heb *his*
* **9.11** Ps 80.12; Isa 63.11; Jer 46.26; Acts 15.16, 17
* **9.12** Isa 11.14; 43.7; Ob 19
* **9.13** Lev 26.5; Joel 3.18
* **9.14** Isa 60.4; 61.4; Jer 30.18; Ezek 28.26; 36.35
* **9.15** Isa 60.21; Jer 24.6; 31.28; 32.41; Ezek 34.28

Obadiah

Obadiah 1

PROUD EDOM WILL BE BROUGHT LOW

1 The vision of Obadiah.

Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom:
We have heard a report from the LORD,
and a messenger has been sent among the nations:
"Rise up! Let us rise against it for battle!"*
2I will surely make you least among the nations;
you shall be utterly despised.
3Your proud heart has deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the rock,[a]
whose dwelling is in the heights.
You say in your heart,
"Who will bring me down to the ground?"*
4Though you soar aloft like the eagle,
though your nest is set among the stars,
from there I will bring you down,
says the LORD.*

PILLAGE AND SLAUGHTER WILL REPAY EDOM'S CRUELTY

5If thieves came to you,
if plunderers by night
—how you have been destroyed!—
would they not steal only what they wanted?
If grape gatherers came to you,

would they not leave gleanings?*
6How Esau has been pillaged,
his treasures searched out!
7All your allies have deceived you;
they have driven you to the border;
your confederates have prevailed against you;
those who ate your food have set a trap for you—
there is no understanding.*
8On that day, says the LORD,
I will destroy the wise out of Edom
and understanding out of Mount Esau.*
9Your warriors shall be shattered, O Teman,
so that everyone from Mount Esau will be cut off.*

EDOM MISTREATED HIS BROTHER

10For the slaughter and violence done to your brother Jacob,
shame shall cover you,
and you shall be cut off forever.*
11On the day that you stood aside,
on the day that strangers carried off his wealth
and foreigners entered his gates
and cast lots for Jerusalem,
you, too, were one of them.*
12But you should not have gloated over[b] your brother
on the day of his misfortune;
you should not have rejoiced over the people of Judah
on the day of their ruin;
you should not have boasted
on the day of distress.*

13 You should not have entered the gate of my people
on the day of their calamity;
you should not have joined in the gloating over Judah's[c] disaster
on the day of his calamity;
you should not have stolen his goods
on the day of his calamity.*
14 You should not have stood at the crossings
to cut off his fugitives;
you should not have handed over his survivors
on the day of distress.

15 For the day of the LORD is near against all the nations.
As you have done, it shall be done to you;
your deeds shall return on your own head.*
16 For as you have drunk on my holy mountain,
all the nations shall drink continually;
they shall drink and gulp down[d]
and shall be as though they had never been.*

ISRAEL'S FINAL TRIUMPH

17 But on Mount Zion there shall be those who escape,
and it shall be holy,
and the house of Jacob shall take possession of those who dispossessed them.*
18 The house of Jacob shall be a fire,
the house of Joseph a flame,
and the house of Esau stubble;
they shall burn them and consume them,
and there shall be no survivor of the house of Esau,
for the LORD has spoken.*

[19]Those of the Negeb shall possess Mount Esau,
and those of the Shephelah the land of the Philistines;
they shall possess the land of Ephraim and the land of Samaria,
and Benjamin shall possess Gilead.*
[20]The exiles of the Israelites who are in Halah[e]
shall possess[f] Phoenicia as far as Zarephath,
and the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad
shall possess the towns of the Negeb.*
[21]Those who have been saved[g] shall go up to Mount Zion
to rule Mount Esau,
and the kingdom shall be the LORD's.*

Obadiah 1

* **1** Isa 30.4; 34.5; Jer 6.4, 5; 49.14; Ezek 25.12; Joel 3.19
a **3** Or *clefts of Sela*
* **3** 2 Kings 14.7; Isa 14.13–15; 16.6; Jer 49.16; Rev 18.7
* **4** Job 20.6; Isa 14.13–15; Hab 2.9
* **5** vv 9, 10; Isa 17.6; Jer 49.9
* **7** Ps 41.9; Jer 30.14; 38.22; 49.7
* **8** Job 5.12; Isa 29.14
* **9** v 5; Jer 49.22; Am 1.12; Hab 3.3
* **10** Ps 137.7; Joel 3.19; Nah 3.10
* **11** Ps 137.7; Joel 3.3; Am 1.6
b **12** Heb *on the day of*
* **12** Ps 31.18; Ezek 35.15; 36.5; Mic 4.11
c **13** Heb *his*
* **13** Ezek 35.5, 10; 36.2, 3
* **15** Jer 50.29; Ezek 30.3; 35.11; Joel 1.15; Hab 2.8
d **16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **16** Jer 25.15, 16; 49.12, 13
* **17** Isa 4.2, 3; Am 9.11–15
* **18** Isa 10.17; Jer 11.23; Am 1.8
* **19** Isa 11.14; Jer 31.5; 32.44; Am 9.12; Zeph 2.7
e **20** Cn: Heb *in this army*
f **20** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **20** 1 Kings 17.9; Jer 32.44; 33.13
g **21** Gk Syr: Heb *Saviors*
* **21** Neh 9.27; Ps 22.28; 67.4; Dan 2.44; Zech 14.9

Jonah

Jonah 1

JONAH TRIES TO RUN AWAY FROM GOD

1 Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying,* 2"Go at
once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness
has come up before me."* 3But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the
presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to
Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to
Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.*

4 But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty
storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up.* 5Then the
sailors were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was
in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone
down into the hold of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep.* 6The
captain came and said to him, "What are you doing sound asleep? Get up;
call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not
perish."*

7 The sailors[a] said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may
know on whose account this calamity has come upon us." So they cast lots,
and the lot fell on Jonah.* 8Then they said to him, "Tell us why this
calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come
from? What is your country? And of what people are you?"* 9"I am a
Hebrew," he replied. "I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made
the sea and the dry land."* 10Then the men were even more afraid and said
to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was
fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them so.*

11 Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may
quiet down for us?" For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous.
12He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will
quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great storm has

come upon you."* [13]Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring the ship[b] back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. [14]Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, O LORD, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you."* [15]So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. [16]Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.*

17 [c]But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.*

Jonah 2

A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING

1 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, [2]saying,

"I called to the LORD out of my distress,
and he answered me;
out of the belly of Sheol I cried,
and you heard my voice.
[3]You cast me into the deep,
into the heart of the seas,
and the flood surrounded me;
all your waves and your billows
passed over me.*
[4]Then I said, 'I am driven away
from your sight;
how[d] shall I look again
upon your holy temple?'*
[5]The waters closed in over me;
the deep surrounded me;
weeds were wrapped around my head*
[6]at the roots of the mountains.
I went down to the land
whose bars closed upon me forever;
yet you brought up my life from the Pit,
O LORD my God.*
[7]As my life was ebbing away,
I remembered the LORD,
and my prayer came to you,

into your holy temple.*
8 Those who worship vain idols
forsake their true loyalty.*
9 But I with the voice of thanksgiving
will sacrifice to you;
what I have vowed I will pay.
Deliverance belongs to the LORD!"*
10 Then the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out onto the dry land.

Jonah 3

CONVERSION OF NINEVEH

1 The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying,* 2"Get up, go
to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you."
3So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD.
Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across.
4Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out,
"Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" 5And the people of
Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and
small, put on sackcloth.*

6 When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne,
removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.* 7Then
he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his
nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They
shall not feed, nor shall they drink water.* 8Humans and animals shall be
covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn
from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands.* 9Who
knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce
anger, so that we do not perish."*

10 When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways,
God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring
upon them, and he did not do it.*

Jonah 4

JONAH'S ANGER

1 But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.* [2]He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment.* [3]And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."* [4]And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"* [5]Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.*

6 The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. [7]But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. [8]When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

JONAH IS REPROVED

9 But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." [10]Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. [11]And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"*

Jonah 1

* **1.1** 2 Kings 14.25; Mt 12.39
* **1.2** Ezra 9.6; Jon 3.2, 3; 4.11
* **1.3** Ps 139.7, 9, 10; Acts 9.36
* **1.4** Ps 107.25
* **1.5** 1 Sam 24.3; Acts 27.18
* **1.6** Ps 107.28; Jon 3.9

a **1.7** Heb *They*

* **1.7** Josh 7.14; 1 Sam 10.20; 14.41, 42; Acts 1.26
* **1.8** Josh 7.19; 1 Sam 14.43
* **1.9** Ps 146.6; Acts 17.24
* **1.10** Job 27.22
* **1.12** 2 Sam 24.17; 1 Chr 21.17; Jn 11.50

b **1.13** Heb lacks *the ship*

* **1.14** v 16; Deut 21.8; Ps 115.3
* **1.16** 1 Sam 6.2–5

c **1.17** 2.1 in Heb

* **1.17** Jon 4.6; Mt 12.40; 16.4; Lk 11.30

Jonah 2

* **2.3** Ps 42.7; 88.6

d **2.4** Theodotion: Heb *surely*

* **2.4** 1 Kings 8.38; Ps 31.22
* **2.5** Ps 69.1; Lam 3.54
* **2.6** Ps 16.10
* **2.7** Ps 18.6; 77.10, 11; 142.3
* **2.8** 2 Kings 17.15; Ps 31.6; Jer 10.8; 16.19
* **2.9** Job 22.27; Ps 3.8; 50.14; Hos 14.2; Heb 13.15

Jonah 3

* **3.1** Jon 1.1, 2
* **3.5** Jer 31.34; Dan 9.3; Joel 1.14
* **3.6** Job 2.8; Jer 6.26; Dan 9.3
* **3.7** v 5; 2 Chr 20.3
* **3.8** Ps 130.1; Isa 55.6, 7; Jer 18.11; Jon 1.6, 14
* **3.9** 2 Sam 12.22; Joel 2.14
* **3.10** Ex 32.14; Jer 18.8; 31.18; Am 7.3, 6

Jonah 4

* **4.1** vv 4, 9; Mt 20.15; Lk 15.28
* **4.2** Ex 34.6; Ps 86.5; Joel 2.13; Jon 1.3
* **4.3** v 8; 1 Kings 19.4; Job 7.15, 16
* **4.4** v 9; Mt 20.11, 15
* **4.5** 1 Kings 19.9, 13
* **4.11** Deut 1.39; Ps 36.6; Jon 1.2; 3.2, 3

Micah

Micah 1

1 The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Kings Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.*

JUDGMENT PRONOUNCED AGAINST SAMARIA

[2]Hear, you peoples, all of you;
  listen, O earth, and all that is in it,
and let the Lord GOD be a witness against you,
  the Lord from his holy temple.*
[3]For the LORD is coming out of his place
  and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth.*
[4]Then the mountains will melt under him,
  and the valleys will burst open
like wax near the fire,
  like waters poured down a slope.*
[5]All this is for the transgression of Jacob
  and for the sins of the house of Israel.
What is the transgression of Jacob?
  Is it not Samaria?
And what is the high place[a] of Judah?
  Is it not Jerusalem?*
[6]Therefore I will make Samaria a heap in the open country,
  a place for planting vineyards.
I will pour down her stones into the valley

and uncover her foundations.*
7All her images shall be beaten to pieces,
all her wages shall be burned with fire,
and all her idols I will lay waste;
for as the wages of a prostitute she gathered them,
and as the wages of a prostitute they shall again be used.*

THE DOOM OF THE CITIES OF JUDAH

8For this I will lament and wail;
I will go barefoot and naked;
I will make lamentation like the jackals
and mourning like the ostriches.*
9For her wound[b] is incurable.
It has come to Judah;
it has reached to the gate of my people,
to Jerusalem.*

10Tell it not in Gath;
weep not at all;
in Beth-leaphrah
roll yourselves in the dust.*
11Pass on your way,
inhabitants of Shaphir,
in nakedness and shame;
the inhabitants of Zaanan
do not come forth;
Beth-ezel is wailing
and shall remove its support from you.*
12For the inhabitants of Maroth
wait anxiously for good,

yet disaster has come down from the LORD
to the gate of Jerusalem.*
13Harness the steeds to the chariots,
inhabitants of Lachish;
it was the beginning of sin
to daughter Zion,
for in you were found
the transgressions of Israel.*
14Therefore you shall give parting gifts
to Moresheth-gath;
the houses of Achzib shall be a deception
to the kings of Israel.*
15I will again bring a conqueror upon you,
inhabitants of Mareshah;
the glory of Israel
shall come to Adullam.*
16Make yourselves bald and cut off your hair
for your pampered children;
make yourselves as bald as the eagle,
for they have gone from you into exile.*

Micah 2

SOCIAL EVILS DENOUNCED

[1]Woe to those who devise wickedness
and evil deeds[c] on their beds!
When the morning dawns, they perform it,
because it is in their power.*
[2]They covet fields and seize them,
houses and take them away;
they oppress householder and house,
people and their inheritance.*
[3]Therefore thus says the LORD:
Now, I am devising against this family an evil
from which you cannot remove your necks,
and you shall not walk arrogantly,
for it will be an evil time.*
[4]On that day they shall take up a taunt song against you
and wail with bitter lamentation
and say, "We are utterly ruined;
the LORD[d] alters the inheritance of my people;
how he removes it from me!
Among our captors[e] he parcels out our fields."*
[5]Therefore you will have no one in the LORD's assembly
to allot you a piece of land.*

[6]"Do not preach"—thus they preach—
"one should not preach of such things;
disgrace will not overtake us."*
[7]Should this be said, O house of Jacob?

Is the LORD's patience exhausted?
Are these his doings?
Do not my words do good
to one who walks uprightly?
8 But you rise up against my people[f] as an enemy;
you strip the robe from the peaceful,[g]
from those who pass by trustingly
with no thought of war.
9 The women of my people you drive out
from their pleasant houses;
from their young children you take away
my glory forever.
10 Arise and go,
for this is no place to rest,
because of uncleanness that destroys
with a violent destruction.*
11 If someone were to go about uttering empty falsehoods,
saying, "I will preach to you of wine and strong drink,"
such a one would be the preacher for this people!*

A PROMISE FOR THE REMNANT OF ISRAEL

12 I will surely gather all of you, O Jacob;
I will gather the survivors of Israel;
I will set them together
like sheep in a fold,
like a flock in its pasture;
it will resound with people.*
13 The one who breaks out will go up before them;
they will break through and pass the gate,
going out by it.

Their king will pass on before them,
the LORD at their head.*

Micah 3

WICKED RULERS AND PROPHETS

[1]And I said:
Listen, you heads of Jacob
and rulers of the house of Israel!
Should you not know justice?—*
[2]you who hate the good and love the evil,
who tear the skin off my people[h]
and the flesh off their bones,*
[3]who eat the flesh of my people,
flay their skin off them,
break their bones in pieces,
and chop them up like meat[i] in a kettle,
like flesh in a caldron.*

[4]Then they will cry to the LORD,
but he will not answer them;
he will hide his face from them at that time
because they have acted wickedly.*

[5]Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets
who lead my people astray,
who cry "Peace"
when they have something to eat
but declare war against those
who put nothing into their mouths.*
[6]Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision,
and darkness to you, without revelation.

The sun shall go down upon the prophets,
and the day shall be black over them;*
7the seers shall be disgraced
and the diviners put to shame;
they shall all cover their lips,
for there is no answer from God.*
8But as for me, I am filled with power,
with the spirit of the LORD,
and with justice and might,
to declare to Jacob his transgression
and to Israel his sin.*

9Hear this, you rulers of the house of Jacob
and chiefs of the house of Israel,
who abhor justice
and pervert all equity,*
10who build Zion with blood
and Jerusalem with wrong!*
11Its rulers give judgment for a bribe;
its priests teach for a price;
its prophets give oracles for money;
yet they lean upon the LORD and say,
"Surely the LORD is with us!
No harm shall come upon us."*
12Therefore because of you
Zion shall be plowed as a field;
Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins,
and the mountain of the temple a wooded height.*

Micah 4

PEACE AND SECURITY THROUGH OBEDIENCE

[1]In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's temple
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised up above the hills.
Peoples shall stream to it,*
[2]and many nations shall come and say:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*
[3]He shall judge between many peoples
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more;*
[4]but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,
and no one shall make them afraid,
for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.*

[5]For all the peoples walk,
each in the name of its god,
but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God

forever and ever.*

RESTORATION PROMISED AFTER EXILE

6On that day, says the LORD,
I will assemble the lame
and gather those who have been driven away
and those whom I have afflicted.*
7The lame I will make the remnant,
and those who were cast off, a strong nation,
and the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion
now and forevermore.*

8And you, O tower of the flock,
hill of daughter Zion,
to you it shall come,
the former dominion shall come,
the sovereignty of daughter Jerusalem.*

9Now why do you cry aloud?
Is there no king in you?
Has your counselor perished,
that pangs have seized you like a woman in labor?*
10Writhe and groan,[j] O daughter Zion,
like a woman in labor,
for now you shall go forth from the city
and camp in the open country;
you shall go to Babylon.
There you shall be rescued;
there the LORD will redeem you
from the hands of your enemies.*

[11]Now many nations
are assembled against you,
saying, “Let her be profaned,
and let our eyes gaze upon Zion.”*
[12]But they do not know
the thoughts of the LORD;
they do not understand his plan,
that he has gathered them as sheaves to the threshing floor.*
[13]Arise and thresh,
O daughter Zion,
for I will make your horn iron
and your hoofs bronze;
you shall beat in pieces many peoples
and shall[k] devote their gain to the LORD,
their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth.*

Micah 5

[1][l]Now you are walled around with a wall;[m]
siege is laid against us;
with a rod they strike the ruler of Israel
upon the cheek.*

THE RULER FROM BETHLEHEM

[2][n]But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.*
[3]Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.*
[4]And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth,*
[5]and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land
and tread upon our soil,[o]
we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight rulers.*
[6]They shall rule the land of Assyria with the sword

and the land of Nimrod with the drawn sword;[p]
they[q] shall rescue us from the Assyrians
if they come into our land
or tread within our border.*

THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE REMNANT

7Then the remnant of Jacob,
surrounded by many peoples,
shall be like dew from the LORD,
like showers on the grass,
which do not depend upon people
or wait for any mortal.*
8And among the nations the remnant of Jacob,
surrounded by many peoples,
shall be like a lion among the animals of the forest,
like a young lion among the flocks of sheep,
which, when it goes through, treads down
and tears in pieces, with no one to deliver.*
9Your hand shall be lifted up over your adversaries,
and all your enemies shall be cut off.*

10On that day, says the LORD,
I will cut off your horses from among you
and will destroy your chariots;*
11and I will cut off the cities of your land
and destroy all your strongholds;*
12and I will cut off sorceries from your hand,
and you shall have no more soothsayers;*
13and I will cut off your images
and your pillars from among you,

and you shall bow down no more
to the work of your hands;
14 and I will uproot your sacred poles[r] from among you
and destroy your towns.[*]
15 And in anger and wrath I will execute vengeance
on the nations that did not obey.[*]

Micah 6

GOD CHALLENGES ISRAEL

[1]Hear what the LORD says:
Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.*
[2]Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.*

[3]"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!*
[4]For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.*
[5]O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."*

WHAT GOD REQUIRES

[6]"With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
[7]Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”*
8He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?*

CHEATING AND VIOLENCE TO BE PUNISHED

9The voice of the LORD cries to the city
(and he shall save those who fear his name[s]):
Hear, O tribe and assembly of the city![t]
10Can I forget[u] the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked
and the despicable false measure?*
11Can I tolerate wicked scales
and a bag of dishonest weights?*
12Your[v] wealthy are full of violence;
your[w] inhabitants speak lies
with tongues of deceit in their mouths.
13Therefore I have begun[x] to strike you down,
making you desolate because of your sins.*
14You shall eat but not be satisfied,
and there shall be a gnawing hunger within you;
you shall put away but not save,
and what you save, I will hand over to the sword.*
15You shall sow but not reap;
you shall tread olives but not anoint yourselves with oil;
you shall tread grapes but not drink wine.*
16For you have kept the statutes of Omri[y]

and all the works of the house of Ahab,
and you have followed their counsels.
Therefore I will make you a desolation and your[z] inhabitants an object of hissing,
so you shall bear the scorn of my people.[*]

Micah 7

THE TOTAL CORRUPTION OF THE PEOPLE

[1]Woe is me! For I have become like one who,
after the summer fruit has been gathered,
after the vintage has been gleaned,
finds no cluster to eat;
there is no first-ripe fig for which I hunger.*
[2]The faithful have disappeared from the land,
and there is no one left who is upright;
they all lie in wait for blood,
and they hunt each other with nets.*
[3]Their hands are skilled to do evil;
the official and the judge ask for a bribe,
and the powerful dictate what they desire;
thus they pervert justice.[a,*]
[4]The best of them is like a brier,
the most upright of them a thorn hedge.
The day of their[b] sentinels, of their[c] punishment, has come;
now their confusion is at hand.*
[5]Put no trust in a friend;
have no confidence in a loved one;
guard the doors of your mouth
from her who lies in your embrace,
[6]for the son treats the father with contempt,
the daughter rises up against her mother,
the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
your enemies are members of your own household.*

7 But as for me, I will look to the LORD;
I will wait for the God of my salvation;
my God will hear me.*

PENITENCE AND TRUST IN GOD

8 Do not rejoice over me, my enemies;[d]
when I fall, I shall rise;
when I sit in darkness,
the LORD will be a light to me.*
9 I must bear the indignation of the LORD
because I have sinned against him,
until he takes my side
and executes judgment for me.
He will bring me out to the light;
I shall see his vindication.*
10 Then my enemies[e] will see,
and shame will cover those[f] who said to me,
"Where is the LORD your God?"
My eyes will see their[g] downfall;[h]
now they[i] will be trodden down
like the mire of the streets.*

A PROPHECY OF RESTORATION

11 A day for the building of your walls!
On that day the boundary shall be far extended.*
12 On that day they will come to you
from Assyria to[j] Egypt
and from Egypt to the River,
from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain.*

13 But the earth will be desolate
because of its inhabitants,
for the fruit of their doings.*

14 Shepherd your people with your staff,
the flock that belongs to you,
which lives alone in a forest
in the midst of a garden land;
let them feed in Bashan and Gilead
as in the days of old.
15 As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt,
show us[k] marvelous things.*
16 The nations shall see and be ashamed
of all their might;
they shall lay their hands on their mouths;
their ears shall be deaf;*
17 they shall lick dust like a snake,
like the crawling things of the earth;
they shall come trembling out of their fortresses;
they shall turn in dread to the LORD our God,
and they shall stand in fear of you.*

GOD'S COMPASSION AND STEADFAST LOVE

18 Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over the transgression
of the remnant of his possession?
He does not retain his anger forever
because he delights in showing steadfast love.*
19 He will again have compassion upon us;
he will tread our iniquities under foot.

You will cast all our[l] sins
into the depths of the sea.*
20You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and steadfast love to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our ancestors
from the days of old.*

Micah 1

* **1.1** 2 Kings 15.5, 7, 32–38; 16.1–20; 18.1–20; Jer 26.18
* **1.2** Ps 11.4; 50.7; Jer 6.19; 22.29
* **1.3** Isa 26.21; Am 4.13
* **1.4** Isa 64.1, 2; Nah 1.5

a **1.5** Heb *what are the high places*

* **1.5** 2 Chr 34.3, 4; Isa 28.1; Am 8.14
* **1.6** Jer 31.5; Ezek 13.14; Am 5.11
* **1.7** Deut 9.21; 2 Chr 34.7; Isa 23.17
* **1.8** Isa 13.21, 22; 22.4; 32.11

b **1.9** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *wounds*

* **1.9** v 12; 2 Kings 18.13; Jer 30.12, 15
* **1.10** 2 Sam 1.20
* **1.11** Ezek 23.29
* **1.12** Isa 59.9–11; Jer 14.19
* **1.13** 2 Kings 14.19; Isa 36.2
* **1.14** Josh 15.44; 2 Kings 16.8; Jer 15.18
* **1.15** Josh 12.15; 15.44; 2 Sam 23.13; Mic 5.2
* **1.16** Isa 15.2; 22.12; Lam 4.5; Am 7.11

Micah 2

c **2.1** Cn: Heb *work evil*

* **2.1** Prov 3.27; Isa 32.7; Hos 7.6, 7; Nah 1.11
* **2.2** 1 Kings 21.1–15; Isa 5.8; Am 8.4
* **2.3** Deut 28.48; Isa 2.11, 12; Jer 18.11; Am 3.1, 2; 5.13

d **2.4** Heb *he*

e **2.4** Cn: Heb *the rebellious*

* **2.4** Isa 24.3; Jer 4.13; 6.12; 8.10; Mic 1.8; Hab 2.6
* **2.5** Josh 18.4, 10
* **2.6** Isa 30.10; Am 2.12; 7.16; Mic 3.6; 6.16

f **2.8** Cn: Heb *But yesterday my people rose*

g **2.8** Cn: Heb *from before a garment*

* **2.10** Lev 18.25, 28, 29; Deut 12.9; Ps 106.38
* **2.11** Isa 28.7; 30.10, 11; Jer 5.13, 31
* **2.12** Jer 23.3; Mic 4.6, 7; 5.7, 8; 7.18
* **2.13** Isa 52.12; Hos 3.5

Micah 3

* **3.1** Jer 5.4, 5
h **3.2** Heb *from them*
* **3.2** Ezek 22.27; Mic 2.8; 7.2, 3
i **3.3** Gk: Heb *as*
* **3.3** Ps 14.4; Ezek 11.3; 34.2, 3; Zeph 3.3
* **3.4** Ps 18.41; Prov 1.28; Isa 1.15; 59.2; Mic 7.13; Zech 7.13
* **3.5** Isa 56.10; Jer 6.14; 14.14, 15; Ezek 13.10, 18, 19; Mic 2.11
* **3.6** Isa 8.20, 22; Ezek 13.23; Am 8.9
* **3.7** v 4; 1 Sam 28.6; Isa 44.25; Mic 7.16; Zech 13.4
* **3.8** Isa 58.1; 61.1, 2
* **3.9** v 1; Isa 1.23
* **3.10** Jer 22.13; Ezek 22.27; Hab 2.12
* **3.11** Isa 1.23; 48.2; Jer 6.13; 7.4; Hos 4.18
* **3.12** Jer 26.18; Mic 4.1, 2

Micah 4

* **4.1** Isa 2.2–4; Jer 3.17; Ezek 17.22
* **4.2** Isa 42.1–4; 54.13; Jer 31.6; Zech 2.11; 14.8, 9, 16
* **4.3** Ps 72.7; Isa 2.4; Joel 3.10
* **4.4** 1 Kings 4.25; Isa 1.20; 40.5; Zech 3.10
* **4.5** 2 Kings 17.29; Isa 26.8, 13; Zech 10.12
* **4.6** Ps 147.2; Ezek 34.13, 16; Zeph 3.19
* **4.7** Isa 9.6; Dan 7.14; Mic 2.12; Lk 1.33; Rev 11.15
* **4.8** Isa 1.26; Mic 2.12; Zech 9.10
* **4.9** Isa 13.8; Jer 8.19; 30.6
j **4.10** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **4.10** Isa 45.13; 48.20; Hos 2.14; Mic 7.8–12
* **4.11** Lam 2.16; Ob 12; Mic 7.10
* **4.12** Isa 21.10; 55.8; Rom 11.33
k **4.13** Gk Syr Tg: Heb *and I will*
* **4.13** Isa 41.15; Dan 2.44; Zech 4.14

Micah 5

l **5.1** 4.14 in Heb
m **5.1** Cn Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **5.1** 1 Kings 22.24; Jer 4.7; Lam 3.30
n **5.2** 5.1 in Heb
* **5.2** 1 Sam 17.12; 23.23; Isa 9.6; Mt 2.6; Lk 2.4
* **5.3** Isa 10.20–22; Hos 11.8; Mic 4.10
* **5.4** Isa 40.11; 52.13; Ezek 34.23; Lk 1.32

o **5.5** Gk: Heb *in our palaces*
* **5.5** Isa 8.7, 8; 9.6; Rev 11.15
p **5.6** Cn: Heb *in its entrances*
q **5.6** Heb *he*
* **5.6** Gen 10.8; Isa 37.36, 37; Nah 2.11–13; Zeph 2.13
* **5.7** Deut 32.2; Hos 14.5; Mic 2.12
* **5.8** Ps 50.22; Hos 5.14; Mic 4.13; Zech 10.5
* **5.9** Ps 10.12; 21.8; Isa 26.11
* **5.10** Isa 2.7; Hos 14.3; Zech 9.10
* **5.11** Isa 1.7; Hos 10.14; Am 5.9
* **5.12** Deut 18.10–12; Isa 2.6
r **5.14** Or *Asherahs*
* **5.14** Ex 34.13; Isa 17.8; 27.9
* **5.15** Ps 149.7; Isa 65.12

Micah 6

* **6.1** Ps 50.1; Ezek 6.2, 3
* **6.2** Deut 32.1; Isa 1.18; Hos 4.1; 12.2
* **6.3** Ps 50.7; Isa 43.22, 23; Jer 2.5
* **6.4** Ex 12.51; 15.20; Deut 4.20; 7.8; Ps 77.20
* **6.5** Num 22.5, 6; 25.1; Josh 4.19; 5.9, 10; Judg 5.11; 1 Sam 12.7; Rev 2.14
* **6.7** 2 Kings 16.3; 21.6; Jer 7.31
* **6.8** Deut 10.12; 1 Sam 15.22; Isa 56.1; 57.15; 66.2; Hos 6.6; 12.6
s **6.9** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
t **6.9** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *tribe, and who has appointed it yet?*
u **6.10** Cn: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **6.10** Jer 5.26, 27; Am 3.10; 8.5
* **6.11** Hos 12.7
v **6.12** Heb *Whose*
w **6.12** Heb *whose*
x **6.13** Gk Syr Vg: Heb *have made sick*
* **6.13** Isa 1.7; 6.11; Mic 1.9
* **6.14** Lev 26.26; Isa 9.20; 30.6
* **6.15** Deut 28.38; Jer 12.13; Am 5.11; Zeph 1.13
y **6.16** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *the statutes of Omri are kept*
z **6.16** Heb *its*
* **6.16** 1 Kings 16.25–33; Jer 7.24; 19.8

Micah 7

* **7.1** Isa 24.13; 28.4; Hos 9.10

* **7.2** Ps 12.1; Isa 57.1; 59.7; Jer 5.26; Hos 5.1
a **7.3** Cn: Heb *they weave it*
* **7.3** Prov 4.16, 17; Am 5.12; Mic 3.11
b **7.4** Heb *your*
c **7.4** Heb *your*
* **7.4** Isa 10.3; 22.5; Ezek 2.6; 28.24; Hos 9.7; Nah 1.10
* **7.6** Ezek 22.7; Mt 10.21, 35, 36; Lk 12.53
* **7.7** Ps 4.3; 130.5; Hab 2.1
d **7.8** Heb *enemy*
* **7.8** Ps 37.24; Prov 24.17; Isa 9.2; Lam 4.21
* **7.9** Isa 42.7, 16; 56.1; Lam 3.39, 40
e **7.10** Heb *enemy*
f **7.10** Heb *she*
g **7.10** Heb *her*
h **7.10** Heb lacks *downfall*
i **7.10** Heb *she*
* **7.10** Ps 35.26; Isa 51.23; Zech 10.5
* **7.11** Isa 54.11; Zeph 2.2
j **7.12** Heb ms: MT *Assyria and cities of*
* **7.12** Isa 11.16; 19.23–25
* **7.13** Isa 3.10, 11; Jer 25.11; Mic 3.4; 6.13
k **7.15** Cn: Heb *I will show him*
* **7.15** Ex 3.20; Ps 78.12
* **7.16** Job 21.5; Mic 3.7
* **7.17** Deut 32.24; Ps 18.45; 72.9; Isa 49.23; 59.19
* **7.18** Ex 34.7, 9; Isa 43.25; Jer 32.41
l **7.19** Gk Syr Vg Tg: Heb *their*
* **7.19** Isa 38.17; 43.25; Jer 31.34; 50.20
* **7.20** Deut 7.8, 12; Lk 1.55, 72

Nahum

Nahum 1

1 An oracle concerning Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum of Elkosh.*

THE CONSUMING WRATH OF GOD

[2]A jealous and avenging God is the LORD;
the LORD is avenging and wrathful;
the LORD takes vengeance on his adversaries
and prolongs it against his enemies.*
[3]The LORD is slow to anger but great in power,
and the LORD will by no means clear the guilty.

His way is in whirlwind and storm,
and the clouds are the dust of his feet.*
[4]He rebukes the sea and makes it dry,
and he dries up all the rivers;
Bashan and Carmel wither,
and the bloom of Lebanon fades.
[5]The mountains quake before him,
and the hills melt;
the earth heaves before him,
the world and all who live in it.*

[6]Who can stand before his indignation?
Who can endure the heat of his anger?
His wrath is poured out like fire,
and by him the rocks are broken in pieces.*

7 The LORD is good,
a stronghold in a day of trouble;
he protects those who take refuge in him,
8 even in a rushing flood.
He will make a full end of his adversaries[a]
and will pursue his enemies into darkness.*
9 Why do you plot against the LORD?
He will make an end;
no adversary will rise up twice.*
10 Like thorns they are entangled;
like drunkards they are drunk;
they are consumed like dry straw.*
11 From you one has gone out
who plots evil against the LORD,
one who counsels wickedness.*

GOOD NEWS FOR JUDAH

12 Thus says the LORD:
Though they are at full strength and many,[b]
they will be cut off and pass away.
Though I have afflicted you,
I will afflict you no more.*
13 And now I will break off his yoke from you
and snap the bonds that bind you.*

14 The LORD has commanded concerning you:
Your name shall be perpetuated no longer;
from the house of your gods I will cut off
the carved image and the cast image.
I will prepare your grave, for you are worthless.*

15c Look! On the mountains the feet of one
who brings good tidings,
who proclaims peace!
Celebrate your festivals, O Judah;
fulfill your vows,
for never again shall the wicked invade you;
they are utterly cut off.*

Nahum 2

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WICKED CITY

[1]A scatterer has come up against you.
Guard the ramparts;
watch the road;
gird your loins;
collect all your strength.*

[2](For the LORD is restoring the majesty of Jacob,
as well as the majesty of Israel,
though ravagers have ravaged them
and ruined their branches.)*

[3]The shields of his warriors are red;
his soldiers are clothed in crimson.
The metal on the chariots flashes
on the day when he musters them;
the chargers[d] prance.*
[4]The chariots race madly through the streets;
they rush to and fro through the squares;
their appearance is like torches;
they dart like lightning.*
[5]He calls his officers;
they stumble as they come forward;
they hasten to the wall,
and the screen[e] is set up.
[6]The river gates are opened;
the palace trembles.

[7]It is decreed[f] that the city[g] be exiled,
its slave women led away,
moaning like doves
and beating their breasts.*
[8]Nineveh is like a pool
whose waters[h] run away.
"Halt! Halt!"—
but no one turns back.*
[9]"Plunder the silver;
plunder the gold!
There is no end of treasure!
An abundance of every precious thing!"

[10]Devastation, desolation, and destruction!
Hearts faint and knees tremble;
all loins quake;
all faces grow pale!*
[11]What became of the lions' den,
the cave of the young lions,
where the lion goes,
and the lion's cubs, with no one to disturb them?*
[12]The lion has torn enough for his whelps
and strangled prey for his lionesses;
he has filled his caves with prey
and his dens with torn flesh.*

13 See, I am against you, says the LORD of hosts, and I will burn your[i] chariots in smoke, and the sword shall devour your young lions; I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers shall be heard no more.*

Nahum 3

RUIN IMMINENT AND INEVITABLE

[1]Woe, city of bloodshed,
utterly deceitful, full of plunder—
no end to the prey![*]
[2]The crack of whip and rumble of wheel,
galloping horse and bounding chariot![*]
[3]Horsemen charging,
flashing sword and glittering spear,
piles of dead,
heaps of corpses,
dead bodies without end—
they stumble over the bodies![*]
[4]Because of the countless debaucheries of the prostitute,
gracefully alluring, mistress of sorcery,
who enslaves[j] nations through her debaucheries
and peoples through her sorcery,[*]
[5]I am against you,
says the LORD of hosts,
and will lift up your skirts over your face,
and I will let nations look on your nakedness
and kingdoms on your shame.[*]
[6]I will throw filth at you
and treat you with contempt
and make you a spectacle.[*]
[7]Then all who see you will shrink from you and say,
"Nineveh is devastated; who will bemoan her?"

Where shall I seek comforters for you?*

8 Are you better than Thebes[k]
that sat by the Nile,
with water around her,
her rampart a sea,
water her wall?*
9 Cush was her strength,
Egypt, too, and that without limit;
Put and the Libyans were her[l] helpers.*

10 Yet she became an exile;
she went into captivity;
even her infants were dashed in pieces
at the head of every street;
lots were cast for her nobles;
all her dignitaries were bound in fetters.*
11 You also will be drunken;
you will go into hiding;[m]
you will seek
a refuge from the enemy.*
12 All your fortresses are like fig trees
with first-ripe figs—
if shaken they fall
into the mouth of the eater.*
13 Look at your troops:
they are women in your midst.
The gates of your land
are wide open to your foes;
fire has devoured the bars of your gates.*

14 Draw water for the siege;
strengthen your forts;
trample the clay;
tread the mortar;
take hold of the brick mold!
15 There the fire will devour you;
the sword will cut you off.
It will devour you like the locust.

Multiply yourselves like the locust;
multiply like the grasshopper![*]
16 You increased your merchants
more than the stars of the heavens.
The locust sheds its skin and flies away.
17 Your guards are like grasshoppers,
your scribes like swarms[n] of locusts
settling on the fences
on a cold day—
when the sun rises, they fly away;
no one knows where they have gone.

18 Your shepherds are asleep,
O king of Assyria;
your nobles slumber.
Your people are scattered on the mountains
with no one to gather them.[*]
19 There is no assuaging your hurt;
your wound is mortal.
All who hear the news about you
clap their hands over you.
For who has ever escaped

your endless cruelty?*

Nahum 1

* **1.1** Isa 13.1; Nah 2.8; 3.7; Hab 1.1; Zeph 2.13
* **1.2** Ex 20.5; Deut 4.24; 32.35, 41; Ps 94.1
* **1.3** Ex 34.6, 7; Ps 103.8; 104.3; Isa 29.6
* **1.5** Ex 19.18; Isa 24.1, 20; Mic 1.4
* **1.6** 1 Kings 19.11; Isa 66.15; Jer 10.10; Mal 3.2

a **1.8** Gk: Heb *of her place*

* **1.8** Isa 13.9, 10; 28.2, 18
* **1.9** Ps 2.1; Isa 28.22
* **1.10** 2 Sam 23.6; Mal 4.1
* **1.11** v 9; Ezek 11.2

b **1.12** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **1.12** Isa 10.16–19, 33, 34; 54.7, 8
* **1.13** Isa 9.4; Jer 2.20
* **1.14** Isa 46.1, 2; Ezek 32.22, 23; Mic 5.13, 14

c **1.15** 2.1 in Heb

* **1.15** Lev 23.2, 4; Isa 29.7, 8; 40.9; 52.1, 7; Joel 3.17; Rom 10.15

Nahum 2

* **2.1** Jer 51.20–23; Nah 3.12, 14
* **2.2** Isa 60.15; Ezek 37.21–23

d **2.3** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *cypresses*

* **2.3** Job 39.23; Ezek 23.14, 15
* **2.4** Jer 4.13; Ezek 26.10

e **2.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain

f **2.7** Meaning of Heb uncertain

g **2.7** Heb *it*

* **2.7** Isa 59.11

h **2.8** Cn Compare Gk: Heb *a pool, from the days that she has become, and they*

* **2.8** Jer 46.5; 47.3; Nah 3.7
* **2.10** Ps 22.14; Isa 13.7, 8; Joel 2.6
* **2.11** Isa 5.29; Jer 4.7; Nah 3.1
* **2.12** Isa 10.6–14; Jer 51.34

i **2.13** Heb *her*

* **2.13** Ps 46.9; Isa 49.24, 25; Nah 3.5

Nahum 3

* **3.1** Ezek 24.6, 9

* **3.2** Jer 47.3; Nah 2.3, 4
* **3.3** 2 Kings 19.35; Isa 34.3; Hab 3.11
j **3.4** Heb *sells*
* **3.4** Isa 23.17; 47.9; Rev 17.1, 2; 18.3
* **3.5** Isa 47.2, 3; Jer 13.22; Ezek 16.37; Nah 2.13
* **3.6** Job 9.31; Isa 14.16; Jer 51.37; Mal 2.9
* **3.7** Isa 51.19; Jer 15.5; 51.9; Nah 2.9; Zeph 2.13
k **3.8** Or *No-amon*
* **3.8** Isa 19.6–8; Jer 46.25; Ezek 30.14–16
l **3.9** Gk Syr: Heb *your*
* **3.9** 2 Chr 12.3; Isa 20.5; Ezek 27.10
* **3.10** Isa 20.4; Lam 2.19; Hos 13.16; Joel 3.3
m **3.11** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.11** Isa 2.10, 19; Jer 25.27
* **3.12** Isa 28.4; Rev 6.13
* **3.13** Ps 147.13; Jer 50.37; 51.30
* **3.15** v 13; Joel 1.4
n **3.17** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **3.18** 1 Kings 22.17; Ps 76.5, 6; Isa 56.10; Jer 51.57; Nah 2.5
* **3.19** Lam 2.15; Mic 1.9; Zeph 2.15

Habakkuk

Habakkuk 1

1 The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

THE PROPHET'S COMPLAINT

[2]O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?*
[3]Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.*
[4]So the law becomes slack,
and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.*

[5]Look at the nations and see!
Be astonished! Be astounded!
For a work is being done in your days
that you would not believe if you were told.*
[6]For I am rousing the Chaldeans,
that fierce and impetuous nation,
who march through the breadth of the earth
to seize dwellings not their own.*
[7]Dread and fearsome are they;

their justice and dignity proceed from themselves.*
8 Their horses are swifter than leopards,
more menacing than wolves at dusk;
their horses charge.
Their horsemen come from far away;
they fly like an eagle swift to devour.*
9 They all come for violence,
with faces pressing[a] forward;
they gather captives like sand.*
10 At kings they scoff,
and of rulers they make sport.
They laugh at every fortress
and heap up earth to take it.*
11 Then they sweep by like the wind;
they transgress and become guilty;
their own might is their god!*

12 Are you not from of old,
O LORD my God, my Holy One?
You[b] shall not die.
O LORD, you have marked them for judgment,
and you, O Rock, have established them for punishment.*
13 Your eyes are too pure to behold evil,
and you cannot look on wrongdoing;
why do you look on the treacherous
and are silent when the wicked swallow
those more righteous than they?*
14 You have made people like the fish of the sea,
like crawling things that have no ruler.*

15 He brings all of them up with a hook;
    he drags them out with his net;
he gathers them in his seine,
    so he rejoices and exults.*
16 Therefore he sacrifices to his net
    and makes offerings to his seine,
for by them his portion is lavish,
    and his food is rich.
17 Is he then to keep on emptying his net
    and destroying nations without mercy?*

Habakkuk 2

GOD'S REPLY TO THE PROPHET'S COMPLAINT

[1]I will stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me
and what he[c] will answer concerning my complaint.*
[2]Then the LORD answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.*
[3]For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.*
[4]Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faithfulness.*
[5]Moreover, wealth[d] is treacherous;
the arrogant do not endure.
They open their throats wide as Sheol;
like Death they never have enough.
They gather all nations for themselves
and collect all peoples as their own.*

THE WOES OF THE WICKED

6 Shall not everyone taunt such people and, with mocking riddles, say about them,

"Alas for you who heap up what is not your own!"

How long will you load yourselves with goods taken in pledge?*

7 Will not your own creditors suddenly rise
and those who make you tremble wake up?
Then you will be plunder for them.
8 Because you have plundered many nations,
all who survive of the peoples shall plunder you—
because of human bloodshed and violence to the earth,
to cities and all who live in them.*

9 "Alas for you who get evil gain for your house,
setting your nest on high
to be safe from the reach of harm!"*
10 You have devised shame for your house
by cutting off many peoples;
you have forfeited your life.*
11 The very stones will cry out from the wall,
and the rafter will respond from the woodwork.

12 "Alas for you who build a town by bloodshed
and found a city on iniquity!"*
13 Is it not from the LORD of hosts
that peoples labor only to feed the flames
and nations weary themselves for nothing?
14 But the earth will be filled
with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD,
as the waters cover the sea.*

15 "Alas for you who make your neighbors drink,
pouring out your wrath until they are drunk,
in order to gaze on their nakedness!"*

16 You will be sated with contempt instead of glory.
Drink, you yourself, and stagger![e]
The cup in the LORD's right hand
will come around to you,
and shame will come upon your glory![*]
17 For the violence done to Lebanon will overwhelm you;
the destruction of the animals will terrify you—[f]
because of human bloodshed and violence to the earth,
to cities and all who live in them.[*]

18 What use is an idol
once its maker has shaped it—
a cast image, a teacher of lies?
For its maker trusts in what has been made,
though the product is only an idol that cannot speak![*]
19 Alas for you who say to the wood, "Wake up!"
to silent stone, "Rouse yourself!"
Can it teach?
See, it is gold and silver plated,
and there is no breath in it at all.[*]

20 But the LORD is in his holy temple;
let all the earth keep silence before him![*]

Habakkuk 3

1 A prayer of the prophet Habakkuk according to Shigionoth.

THE PROPHET'S PRAYER

[2]O LORD, I have heard of your renown,
and I stand in awe, O LORD, of your work.
In our own time revive it;
in our own time make it known;
in wrath may you remember mercy.*
[3]God came from Teman,
the Holy One from Mount Paran. *Selah*
His glory covered the heavens,
and the earth was full of his praise.*
[4]The brightness was like the sun;
rays came forth from his hand,
where his power lay hidden.*
[5]Before him went pestilence,
and plague followed close behind.*
[6]He stopped and shook the earth;
he looked and made the nations tremble.
The eternal mountains were shattered;
along his ancient pathways
the everlasting hills sank low.*
[7]I saw the tents of Cushan under affliction;
the tent curtains of the land of Midian trembled.
[8]Was your wrath against the rivers,[g] O LORD,
or your anger against the rivers[h]

or your rage against the sea,[i]
when you drove your horses,
your chariots to victory?*
9 You brandished your naked bow;
sated[j] were the arrows at your command.[k] *Selah*
You split the earth with rivers.*
10 The mountains saw you and writhed;
a torrent of water swept by;
the deep gave forth its voice.
The sun raised high its hands;*
11 the moon stood still in its exalted place,
at the light of your arrows speeding by,
at the gleam of your flashing spear.*
12 In fury you marched on the earth;
in anger you trampled nations.*
13 You came forth to save your people,
to save your anointed.
You crushed the head of the wicked house,
laying it bare from foundation to roof.[l] *Selah**
14 You pierced with their[m] own arrows the head of his warriors,[n]
who came like a whirlwind to scatter us,[o]
gloating as if ready to devour the poor who were in hiding.
15 You trampled the sea with your horses,
churning the mighty waters.*

16 I hear, and I tremble within;
my lips quiver at the sound.
Rottenness enters into my bones,
and my steps tremble[p] beneath me.
I wait quietly for the day of calamity

to come upon the people who attack us.*

TRUST AND JOY IN THE MIDST OF TROUBLE

17 Though the fig tree does not blossom
and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails
and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold
and there is no herd in the stalls,*
18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.*
19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer
and makes me tread upon the heights.[q]

To the leader: with stringed[r] instruments.*

Habakkuk 1

* **1.2** Ps 13.1, 2; 22.1, 2
* **1.3** v 13; Jer 20.8
* **1.4** Ps 22.12; 119.126; Isa 5.20
* **1.5** Isa 29.9, 14; Acts 13.41
* **1.6** 2 Kings 24.2; Jer 4.11–13; 5.15; 8.10
* **1.7** Isa 18.2, 7; Jer 39.5–9
* **1.8** Jer 4.13; 5.6; Ezek 17.3; Hos 8.1

a **1.9** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **1.9** Hab 2.5
* **1.10** 2 Chr 36.6, 10; Isa 10.9; 14.16; Jer 32.24; Ezek 26.8
* **1.11** Jer 2.3; 4.11, 12; Dan 4.30

b **1.12** Or *We*

* **1.12** Deut 32.4; 33.27; Ps 90.2; Isa 10.5–7
* **1.13** Ps 50.21; Isa 24.16; Jer 12.1, 2
* **1.14** Eccl 9.12
* **1.15** Ps 10.9; Jer 16.16; Am 4.2
* **1.17** Isa 19.8

Habakkuk 2

c **2.1** Syr: Heb *I*

* **2.1** Ps 5.3; 85.8; Isa 21.8, 11
* **2.2** Deut 27.8; Isa 8.1; Rev 1.19
* **2.3** Ezek 12.25; Dan 8.17, 19; Heb 10.37, 38
* **2.4** Rom 1.17; Gal 3.11; Heb 10.37, 38

d **2.5** Q mss: MT *wine*

* **2.5** 2 Kings 14.10; Prov 20.1; 21.24; Jer 25.9
* **2.6** v 12; Jer 50.13; Ezek 18.7; Am 2.8
* **2.8** v 17; Isa 33.1; Zech 2.8
* **2.9** Jer 22.13; 49.16; Ezek 22.27
* **2.10** v 16; 2 Kings 9.26; Prov 1.18; Jer 26.19
* **2.12** Mic 3.10; Nah 3.1
* **2.14** Isa 11.9; Zech 14.8, 9
* **2.15** Isa 28.7, 8; Hos 7.5

e **2.16** Q ms Gk: MT *be uncircumcised*

* **2.16** v 10; Jer 25.15, 27; Lam 4.21; Nah 3.6

f **2.17** Gk Syr: Heb *terrify them*

* **2.17** v 8; Jer 51.35; Zech 11.1
* **2.18** Ps 115.4, 8; Isa 42.17; Jer 2.27, 28; 10.8, 14; Zech 10.2

* **2.19** 1 Kings 18.26–29; Ps 135.17; Jer 2.27, 28; 10.9, 14
* **2.20** Mic 1.2; Zeph 1.7; Zech 2.13

Habakkuk 3

* **3.2** Job 42.5, 6; Ps 85.6; 119.120; Isa 54.8; Jer 10.7
* **3.3** Deut 33.2; Ps 48.10; 113.4; Am 1.12
* **3.4** Job 26.14; Ps 18.12
* **3.5** Ex 12.29, 30; Num 16.46–49
* **3.6** Ps 35.5; Mic 5.8

g **3.8** Or *against River*

h **3.8** Or *against River*

i **3.8** Or *against Sea*

* **3.8** Ex 7.19, 20; Deut 33.26; Ps 68.17

j **3.9** Heb mss: MT *oaths*

k **3.9** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **3.9** Gen 26.3; Deut 7.8; Ps 78.16
* **3.10** Ex 14.22; Ps 114.3–8
* **3.11** Josh 10.12–14; Ps 18.12–14
* **3.12** Ps 68.7; Isa 41.15; Jer 51.33

l **3.13** Heb *neck*

* **3.13** Ex 15.2; Ps 68.19, 20; 110.6; Ezek 13.14

m **3.14** Heb *his*

n **3.14** Gk Vg Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain

o **3.14** Heb *me*

* **3.15** Ex 15.8; Ps 77.19

p **3.16** Cn Compare Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **3.16** Jer 5.15; 23.9
* **3.17** Jer 5.17; Joel 1.18
* **3.18** Ps 46.1–5; Isa 12.2; 61.10

q **3.19** Heb *my heights*

r **3.19** Heb *my stringed*

* **3.19** Deut 33.29; 2 Sam 22.34; Ps 18.33

Zephaniah

Zephaniah 1

1 The word of the LORD that came to Zephaniah son of Cushi son of Gedaliah son of Amariah son of Hezekiah, in the days of King Josiah son of Amon of Judah.*

THE COMING JUDGMENT ON JUDAH

2 I will utterly sweep away everything
from the face of the earth, says the LORD.*
3 I will sweep away humans and animals;
I will sweep away the birds of the air
and the fish of the sea.
I will make the wicked stumble.[a]
I will cut off humanity
from the face of the earth, says the LORD.*
4 I will stretch out my hand against Judah
and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem,
and I will cut off from this place every remnant of Baal
and the name of the idolatrous priests,[b,*]
5 those who bow down on the roofs
to the host of the heavens,
those who bow down and swear to the LORD
but also swear by Milcom,[c,*]
6 those who have turned back from following the LORD,
who have not sought the LORD or inquired of him.*

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD,

for the day of the LORD is at hand!
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.*
8And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice
I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who dress themselves in foreign attire.*
9On that day I will punish
all who leap over the threshold,
who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.*

10On that day, says the LORD,
a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.*
11The inhabitants of the Mortar wail,
for all the traders have perished;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm."*
13Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.*

THE GREAT DAY OF THE LORD

14 The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.*
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,*
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.*
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.*

Zephaniah 2

JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL'S ENEMIES

[1]Gather together, gather,
O shameless nation,*
[2]before you are driven away[d]
like the drifting chaff,[e]
before there comes upon you
the fierce anger of the LORD,
before there comes upon you
the day of the LORD's wrath.*
[3]Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land
who do his commands;
seek righteousness, seek humility;
perhaps you may be hidden
on the day of the LORD's wrath.*
[4]For Gaza shall be deserted,
and Ashkelon shall become a desolation;
Ashdod's people shall be driven out at noon,
and Ekron shall be uprooted.*

[5]Woe, inhabitants of the seacoast,
you nation of the Cherethites!
The word of the LORD is against you,
O Canaan, land of the Philistines,
and I will destroy you until no inhabitant is left.*
[6]And you, O seacoast, shall be pastures,
meadows for shepherds,
and folds for flocks.*

7The seacoast shall become the possession
of the remnant of the house of Judah,
on which they shall pasture,
and in the houses of Ashkelon
they shall lie down at evening.
For the LORD their God will be mindful of them
and restore their fortunes.*

8I have heard the taunts of Moab
and the revilings of the Ammonites,
how they have taunted my people
and made boasts against their territory.*
9Therefore, as I live, says the LORD of hosts,
the God of Israel,
Moab shall become like Sodom
and the Ammonites like Gomorrah,
a land possessed by nettles and salt pits
and a waste forever.
The remnant of my people shall plunder them,
and the survivors of my nation shall possess them.*
10This shall be their lot in return for their pride,
because they scoffed and boasted
against the people of the LORD of hosts.*
11The LORD will be terrible against them;
he will shrivel all the gods of the earth,
and to him shall bow down
each in its place,
all the coasts and islands of the nations.*

12You also, O Cushites,
shall be killed by my sword.*

[13]And he will stretch out his hand against the north
and destroy Assyria,
and he will make Nineveh a desolation,
a dry waste like the desert.*
[14]Herds shall lie down in it,
every wild animal of the earth;[f]
the desert owl[g] and the screech owl[h]
shall lodge on its capitals;
the owl[i] shall hoot at the window,
the raven[j] croak on the threshold,
for its cedar work will be laid bare.*
[15]Is this the exultant city
that lived secure,
that said to itself,
"I am, and there is no one else"?
What a desolation it has become,
a lair for wild animals!
Everyone who passes by it
hisses and shakes the fist.*

Zephaniah 3

THE WICKEDNESS OF JERUSALEM

[1]Woe, soiled, defiled,
oppressing city![*]
[2]It has listened to no voice;
it has accepted no correction.
It has not trusted in the LORD;
it has not drawn near to its God.[*]

[3]The officials within it
are roaring lions;
its judges are evening wolves
that leave nothing until the morning.[*]
[4]Its prophets are reckless,
faithless persons;
its priests have profaned what is sacred;
they have done violence to the law.[*]
[5]The LORD within it is righteous;
he does no wrong.
Every morning he renders his judgment,
each dawn without fail,
but the unjust knows no shame.[*]

[6]I have cut off nations;
their battlements are in ruins;
I have laid waste their streets
so that no one walks in them;
their cities have been made desolate,

without people, without inhabitants.*
7I said, "Surely the city[k] will fear me;
it will accept correction;
it will not lose sight[l]
of all that I have brought upon it."
But they were the more eager
to make all their deeds corrupt.*

PUNISHMENT AND CONVERSION OF THE NATIONS

8Therefore wait for me, says the LORD,
for the day when I arise as a witness.
For my decision is to gather nations,
to assemble kingdoms,
to pour out upon them my indignation,
all the heat of my anger,
for in the fire of my passion
all the earth shall be consumed.*

9At that time I will change the speech of the peoples
to a pure speech,
that all of them may call on the name of the LORD
and serve him with one accord.*
10From beyond the rivers of Cush
my suppliants, my scattered ones,
shall bring my offering.*

11On that day you shall not be put to shame
because of all the deeds by which you have rebelled against me;
for then I will remove from your midst
your proudly exultant ones,

and you shall no longer be haughty
in my holy mountain.*
12For I will leave in the midst of you
a people humble and lowly.
They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD—*
13the remnant of Israel;
they shall do no wrong
and utter no lies,
nor shall a deceitful tongue
be found in their mouths.
Then they will pasture and lie down,
and no one shall make them afraid.*

A SONG OF JOY

14Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!*
15The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.*
16On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
"Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.*
17The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will renew you[m] in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing*
[18]as on a day of festival."[n]
I will remove disaster from you,[o]
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
[19]I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.*
[20]At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.*

Zephaniah 1

* **1.1** 2 Kings 21.18–26; 22.1–20
* **1.2** Ezek 33.27
a **1.3** Cn: Heb *and those who cause the wicked to stumble*
* **1.3** Isa 6.11, 12; Jer 9.10; Ezek 7.19
b **1.4** Compare Gk: Heb *the idolatrous priests with the priests*
* **1.4** Ezek 6.14; Hos 10.5; Mic 5.13
c **1.5** Gk mss Syr Vg: Heb *their king*
* **1.5** Jer 5.2, 7; 19.13; 49.1
* **1.6** Isa 1.4; 9.13; Jer 2.13; Hos 7.7
* **1.7** v 14; Isa 13.6; 34.6; Jer 46.10; Hab 2.20; Zech 2.13
* **1.8** Isa 2.6; 24.21; Jer 39.6
* **1.9** Jer 5.27; Am 3.10
* **1.10** 2 Chr 33.14; 34.22; Ezek 6.13; Am 8.3
* **1.12** Jer 16.16, 17; 48.11; Ezek 8.12; 9.9; Am 6.1
* **1.13** Deut 28.30, 39; Am 5.11; Mic 6.15
* **1.14** Joel 2.1, 11
* **1.15** Isa 22.5; Jer 30.7; Am 5.18–20
* **1.17** Ps 79.3; Isa 59.10; Jer 9.22; 10.18
* **1.18** vv 2, 3; Prov 11.4; Zeph 3.8

Zephaniah 2

* **2.1** Jer 3.3; 6.15; Joel 1.14
d **2.2** Cn: Heb *before a decree is born*
e **2.2** Cn: Heb *like chaff a day has passed away*
* **2.2** Isa 17.13; Hos 13.3; Nah 1.6; Zeph 1.18
* **2.3** Ps 57.1; 76.9; Am 5.6, 14, 15
* **2.4** Am 1.7, 8; Zech 9.5–7
* **2.5** Isa 14.29, 30; Ezek 25.16; Am 3.1; Zeph 3.6
* **2.6** Isa 17.2
* **2.7** Ps 80.14; 126.1, 4; Isa 32.14; Mic 4.7; Lk 1.68
* **2.8** Jer 49.1; Ezek 25.3, 6, 8
* **2.9** Deut 29.23; Isa 11.14; 14; 15.1–9; Am 1.13
* **2.10** v 8; Isa 16.6; Jer 48.29
* **2.11** Isa 24.15; Joel 2.11; Zeph 1.4; 3.9; Mal 1.11
* **2.12** Isa 18.1
* **2.13** Isa 10.12; 14.26; Nah 3.7
f **2.14** Gk: Heb *nation*
g **2.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain

h **2.14** Meaning of Heb uncertain
i **2.14** Cn: Heb *a voice*
j **2.14** Gk Vg: Heb *desolation*
* **2.14** v 6; Isa 13.21; 34.11, 14; Jer 22.14
* **2.15** Isa 22.2; 32.14; 47.8; Jer 18.16; 19.8

Zephaniah 3

* **3.1** Jer 5.23; 6.6; Ezek 23.30
* **3.2** Ps 73.28; 78.22; Jer 5.3; 22.21
* **3.3** Ezek 22.27; Hab 1.8
* **3.4** Ezek 22.26; Hos 9.7
* **3.5** vv 15, 17; Deut 32.4; Jer 3.3
* **3.6** Isa 6.11; Zeph 1.16; 2.5
k **3.7** Heb *it*
l **3.7** Gk Syr: Heb *its dwelling will not be cut off*
* **3.7** v 2; Jer 7.7; Hos 9.9
* **3.8** Ps 27.14; Joel 3.2; Zeph 1.18; 2.2
* **3.9** Ps 22.27; Isa 19.18; Zeph 2.11
* **3.10** Ps 68.31; Isa 18.1, 7; 60.6, 7
* **3.11** Isa 2.12; 5.15; 45.17; Ezek 20.40; Joel 2.26, 27
* **3.12** Isa 14.32; Nah 1.7
* **3.13** Isa 60.21; Ezek 34.28; Mic 4.4, 7; Zech 8.3, 16; Rev 14.5
* **3.14** Isa 12.6; Zech 2.10
* **3.15** v 5; Isa 54.14; Ezek 37.26–28
* **3.16** Isa 35.3, 4; Heb 12.12
m **3.17** Gk Syr: Heb *he will be silent*
* **3.17** vv 5, 15; Isa 62.5; 63.1
n **3.18** Gk Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain
o **3.18** Cn: Heb *I will remove from you; they were*
* **3.19** Isa 60.14; Ezek 34.16; Mic 4.6, 7
* **3.20** Isa 56.5; 66.22; Ezek 37.12, 21; Zeph 2.7

Haggai

Haggai 1

THE COMMAND TO REBUILD THE TEMPLE

1 In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of
the month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel
son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the
high priest:* 2"Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has
not yet come to rebuild the LORD's house." 3Then the word of the LORD
came by the prophet Haggai, saying: 4"Is it a time for you yourselves to live
in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?* 5Now therefore thus
says the LORD of hosts: Consider how you have fared.* 6You have sown
much and harvested little; you eat, but you never have enough; you drink,
but you never have your fill; you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and
you that earn wages earn wages to put them into a bag with holes.*

7 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider how you have fared. 8Go up to
the hills and bring wood and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in
it and be honored, says the LORD.* 9You have looked for much, but it came
to little, and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? says the LORD
of hosts. Because my house lies in ruins, while all of you hurry off to your
own houses.* 10Therefore the heavens above you have withheld the dew,
and the earth has withheld its produce.* 11And I have called for a drought[a]
on the land and the hills, on the grain, the new wine, the oil, on what the
soil produces, on humans and animals, and on all their labors."*

12 Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Joshua son of Jehozadak, the
high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD
their God and the words of the prophet Haggai, as the LORD their God had
sent him, and the people feared the LORD.* 13Then Haggai, the messenger of
the LORD, spoke to the people with the LORD's message, saying, "I am with
you, says the LORD."* 14And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel son
of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua son of Jehozadak,
the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people, and they came

and worked on the house of the LORD of hosts, their God,* 15on the twenty-fourth day of the month, in the sixth month.

Haggai 2

THE FUTURE GLORY OF THE TEMPLE

In the second year of King Darius, [1]in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai, saying: [2]"Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say: [3]Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing?* [4]Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the LORD; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD; work, for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts,* [5]according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear.* [6]For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land,* [7]and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the LORD of hosts.* [8]The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of hosts. [9]The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts, and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts."*

A REBUKE AND A PROMISE

10 On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Haggai, saying: [11]"Thus says the LORD of hosts: Ask the priests for a ruling:* [12]If one carries consecrated meat in the fold of one's garment and with the fold touches bread, or stew, or wine, or oil, or any kind of food, does it become holy?" The priests answered, "No."* [13]Then Haggai said, "If one who is unclean by contact with a dead body touches any of these, does it become unclean?" The priests answered, "Yes, it becomes unclean."* [14]Haggai then said, "So is it with this people and with this nation before me, says the LORD, and so with every work of their hands; what they offer there is unclean.* [15]But

now, consider what will come to pass from this day on. Before a stone was placed upon a stone in the LORD's temple,* 16how did you fare?b When one came to a heap of twenty measures, there were but ten; when one came to the wine vat to draw fifty measures, there were but twenty.* 17I struck you and every work of your hands with blight and mildew and hail, yet you did not return to me, says the LORD.* 18Consider from this day on, from the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month. Since the day that the foundation of the LORD's temple was laid, consider:* 19Is there any seed left in the barn? Do the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree still yield nothing? From this day on I will bless you."

GOD'S PROMISE TO ZERUBBABEL

20 The word of the LORD came a second time to Haggai on the twenty-fourth day of the month: 21"Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying: I am about to shake the heavens and the earth* 22and to overthrow the throne of kingdoms; I am about to destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations and overthrow the chariots and their riders, and the horses and their riders shall fall, every one by the sword of a comrade.* 23On that day, says the LORD of hosts, I will take you, O Zerubbabel my servant, son of Shealtiel, says the LORD, and make you like a signet ring; for I have chosen you, says the LORD of hosts."*

Haggai 1

* **1.1** 1 Chr 3.17; Ezra 3.2; Zech 1.1; 6.11
* **1.4** v 9; 2 Sam 7.2
* **1.5** Lam 3.40
* **1.6** Deut 28.38; Mic 6.14; Zech 8.10
* **1.8** Ezra 3.7; Ps 132.13, 14; Hag 2.7, 9
* **1.9** v 6; Isa 40.7
* **1.10** Lev 26.19; Deut 28.23; 1 Kings 8.35

a **1.11** Or *ruin*

* **1.11** Deut 28.22; Hag 2.17; Mal 3.9–11
* **1.12** Isa 1.19; 50.10; Hag 2.2
* **1.13** Mal 2.7; 3.1; Rom 8.31
* **1.14** 2 Chr 36.22; Ezra 1.1; 5.2, 8

Haggai 2

* **2.3** Ezra 3.12; Zech 4.10
* **2.4** Zech 8.9; Acts 7.9
* **2.5** Ex 29.45, 46; Neh 9.20; Isa 63.11, 14
* **2.6** v 21; Isa 10.25; 29.17; Heb 12.26
* **2.7** Isa 60.4–9; Dan 2.44
* **2.9** Isa 66.12; Zech 2.5
* **2.11** Lev 10.10; Deut 33.10; Mal 2.7
* **2.12** Ezek 44.19; Mt 23.19
* **2.13** Num 19.11, 22
* **2.14** Prov 15.8; Isa 1.11–15
* **2.15** Ezra 3.10; 4.24; Hag 1.5

b **2.16** Gk: Heb *since they were*

* **2.16** Hag 1.6, 9; Zech 8.10
* **2.17** 1 Kings 8.37; Isa 9.13; Am 4.9
* **2.18** Zech 8.9
* **2.21** Hag 1.14; Zech 4.6–10; Heb 12.26
* **2.22** 2 Chr 20.23; Dan 2.44; Mic 5.10; Zech 4.6
* **2.23** Song 8.6; Isa 42.1; 43.10; Jer 22.24

Zechariah

Zechariah 1

ISRAEL URGED TO REPENT

1 In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD
came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berechiah son of Iddo, saying:* 2"The
LORD was very angry with your ancestors. 3Therefore say to them: Thus
says the LORD of hosts: Return to me, says the LORD of hosts, and I will
return to you, says the LORD of hosts.* 4Do not be like your ancestors, to
whom the former prophets proclaimed, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts:
Return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.' But they did not
hear or heed me, says the LORD.* 5Your ancestors, where are they? And the
prophets, do they live forever? 6But my words and my statutes, which I
commanded my servants the prophets, did they not overtake your
ancestors? So they repented and said, 'The LORD of hosts has dealt with us
according to our ways and deeds, just as he planned to do.' "*

FIRST VISION: THE HORSEMEN

7 On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, the month of Shebat,
in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet
Zechariah son of Berechiah son of Iddo: 8In the night I saw a man mounted
on a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in the shadows,[a]
and behind him were red, sorrel, and white horses.* 9Then I said, "What are
these, my lord?" The angel who spoke with me said to me, "I will show you
what they are."* 10So the man who was standing among the myrtle trees
answered, "They are those whom the LORD has sent to patrol the earth."*
11Then they spoke to the angel of the LORD who was standing among the
myrtle trees, "We have patrolled the earth, and the whole earth remains at
peace."* 12Then the angel of the LORD said, "O LORD of hosts, how long will
you withhold mercy from Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, with which you
have been angry these seventy years?"* 13Then the LORD replied with

gracious and comforting words to the angel who spoke with me.* 14So the angel who spoke with me said to me, "Proclaim this message: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I am very zealous for Jerusalem and for Zion,* 15and I am extremely angry with the nations that are at ease, for while I was only a little angry, they made the disaster worse.* 16Therefore, thus says the LORD: I have returned to Jerusalem with compassion; my house shall be built in it, says the LORD of hosts, and a measuring line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem.* 17Proclaim further: Thus says the LORD of hosts: My cities shall again overflow with prosperity; the LORD will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem."*

SECOND VISION: THE HORNS AND THE SMITHS

18 [b]And I looked up and saw four horns. 19I asked the angel who spoke with me, "What are those?" And he answered me, "Those are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem." 20Then the LORD showed me four blacksmiths. 21And I asked, "What are they coming to do?" He answered, "Those are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no head could be raised, but these have come to terrify them, to strike down the horns of the nations that lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter its people."[c,*]

Zechariah 2

THIRD VISION: THE MAN WITH A MEASURING LINE

1 [d]I looked up and saw a man with a measuring line in his hand.* [2]Then I asked, "Where are you going?" He answered me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see how wide and how long it is."* [3]Then the angel who spoke with me came forward, and another angel came forward to meet him [4]and said to him, "Run, say to that young man: Jerusalem shall be inhabited like unwalled villages because of the multitude of people and animals in it.* [5]For I will be a wall of fire all around it, says the LORD, and I will be the glory within it."*

INTERLUDE: AN APPEAL TO THE EXILES

6 Up, up! Flee from the land of the north, says the LORD, for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven, says the LORD.* [7]Up! Escape to Zion, you who live with daughter Babylon. [8]For thus said the LORD of hosts after his glory sent me to the nations who plundered you: Truly, one who touches you touches the apple of my eye.[e,]* [9]For I am going to raise[f] my hand against them, and they shall become plunder for their own slaves. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me.* [10]Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion! For I will come and dwell in your midst, says the LORD.* [11]Many nations shall join themselves to the LORD on that day and shall be my people, and I will dwell in your midst. And you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. [12]The LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem.*

13 Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.*

Zechariah 3

FOURTH VISION: JOSHUA AND SATAN

1 Then he showed me the high priest Joshua standing before the angel of
the LORD and the accuser[g] standing at his right hand to accuse him.* [2]And
the LORD said to the accuser,[h] "The LORD rebuke you, O accuser![i] The LORD
who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this man a brand plucked
from the fire?"* [3]Now Joshua was wearing filthy clothes as he stood before
the angel. [4]The angel[j] said to those who were standing before him, "Take
off his filthy clothes." And to him he said, "See, I have taken your guilt
away from you, and I will clothe you with festal apparel."* [5]And he said,[k]
"Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his
head and clothed him with apparel, and the angel of the LORD was standing
by.*

6 Then the angel of the LORD warned Joshua, saying [7]"Thus says the
LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my requirements, then
you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you
the right of access among those who are standing here.* [8]Now listen,
Joshua, high priest, you and your colleagues who sit before you! For they
are an omen of things to come: I am going to bring my servant the Branch.*
[9]For on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven
facets, I will engrave its inscription, says the LORD of hosts, and I will
remove the guilt of this land in a single day.* [10]On that day, says the LORD
of hosts, you shall invite each other to come under your vine and fig tree."*

Zechariah 4

FIFTH VISION: THE LAMPSTAND AND OLIVE TREES

1 The angel who spoke with me came again and wakened me, as one is
wakened from sleep.* [2]He said to me, "What do you see?" And I said, "I
see a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it; there are seven
lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it.*
[3]And by it there are two olive trees, one on the right of the bowl and the
other on its left."* [4]I said to the angel who spoke with me, "What are these,
my lord?" [5]Then the angel who spoke with me answered me, "Do you not
know what these are?" I said, "No, my lord." [6]He said to me, "This is the
word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my
spirit, says the LORD of hosts.* [7]What are you, O great mountain? Before
Zerubbabel you shall become a plain, and he shall bring out the top stone
amid shouts of 'Grace, grace to it!' "*

8 Moreover, the word of the LORD came to me, saying, [9]"The hands of
Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also
complete it. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you.*
[10]For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice and shall
see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel.

"These seven are the eyes of the LORD that range through the whole
earth."* [11]Then I said to him, "What are these two olive trees on the right
and the left of the lampstand?" [12]And a second time I said to him, "What
are these two branches of the olive trees that pour out the oil[1] through the
two golden pipes?" [13]He said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" I
said, "No, my lord." [14]Then he said, "These are the two anointed ones who
stand by the Lord of the whole earth."*

Zechariah 5

SIXTH VISION: THE FLYING SCROLL

1 Again I looked up and saw a flying scroll.* 2And he said to me, "What do
you see?" I answered, "I see a flying scroll; its length is twenty cubits and
its width ten cubits." 3Then he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out
over the face of the whole land, for everyone who has stolen, as is
forbidden on one side, has gone unpunished, and everyone who has sworn
falsely,[m] as is forbidden on the other side, has gone unpunished.* 4I have
sent it out, says the LORD of hosts, and it shall enter the house of the thief
and the house of anyone who swears falsely by my name, and it shall abide
in that house and consume it, both timber and stones."*

SEVENTH VISION: THE WOMAN IN A BASKET

5 Then the angel who spoke with me came forward and said to me,
"Look up and see what this is that is coming out." 6I said, "What is it?" He
said, "This is a basket[n] coming out." And he said, "This is their iniquity[o] in
the whole land." 7Then a leaden cover was lifted, and there was a woman
sitting in the basket![p] 8And he said, "This is Wickedness." So he thrust her
back into the basket[q] and pressed the leaden weight down on its mouth.*
9Then I looked up and saw two women coming forward. The wind was in
their wings; they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the
basket[r] between earth and sky. 10Then I said to the angel who spoke with
me, "Where are they taking the basket?"[s] 11He said to me, "To the land of
Shinar, to build a house for it, and when this is prepared, they will set it
down there on its base."*

Zechariah 6

EIGHTH VISION: FOUR CHARIOTS

1 And again I looked up and saw four chariots coming out from between
two mountains—mountains of bronze. [2]The first chariot had red horses, the
second chariot black horses,* [3]the third chariot white horses, and the fourth
chariot dappled gray[t] horses.* [4]Then I said to the angel who spoke with me,
"What are these, my lord?" [5]The angel answered me, "These are the four
winds[u] of heaven going out, after presenting themselves before the Lord of
the whole earth.* [6]The chariot with the black horses goes toward the north
country, the white ones go toward the west country,[v] and the dappled ones
go toward the south country."* [7]When the steeds came out, they were
impatient to get off and patrol the earth. And he said, "Go, patrol the earth."
So they patrolled the earth. [8]Then he cried out to me, "See, those who go
toward the north country have set my spirit at rest in the north country."*

THE CORONATION OF THE BRANCH

9 The word of the LORD came to me: [10]"Collect silver and gold[w] from the
exiles—from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah—who have arrived from
Babylon, and go the same day to the house of Josiah son of Zephaniah.*
[11]Take the silver and gold and make a crown[x] and set it on the head of the
high priest Joshua son of Jehozadak;* [12]say to him: Thus says the LORD of
hosts: Here is a man whose name is Branch, for he shall branch out in his
place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD.* [13]It is he who shall build
the temple of the LORD; he shall bear royal honor and shall sit upon his
throne and rule. There shall be a priest by his throne, with peaceful
understanding between the two of them.* [14]And the crown[y] shall be in the
care of Heldai,[z] Tobijah, Jedaiah, and Josiah[a] son of Zephaniah, as a
memorial in the temple of the LORD.

15 "Those who are far off shall come and help to build the temple of the
LORD, and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. This
will happen if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God."*

Zechariah 7

HYPOCRITICAL FASTING CONDEMNED

1 In the fourth year of King Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah
on the fourth day of the ninth month, which is Chislev.* [2]Now the people of
Bethel had sent Sharezer and Regem-melech and their men to entreat the
favor of the LORD* [3]and to ask the priests of the house of the LORD of hosts
and the prophets, "Should I mourn and practice abstinence in the fifth
month, as I have done for so many years?"* [4]Then the word of the LORD of
hosts came to me: [5]"Say to all the people of the land and the priests: When
you fasted and lamented in the fifth month and in the seventh for these
seventy years, was it for me that you fasted?* [6]And when you eat and when
you drink, do you not eat and drink only for yourselves? [7]Were not these
the words that the LORD proclaimed by the former prophets, when Jerusalem
was inhabited and in prosperity, along with the towns around it, and when
the Negeb and the Shephelah were inhabited?"

PUNISHMENT FOR REJECTING GOD'S DEMANDS

8 The word of the LORD came to Zechariah, saying: [9]"Thus says the LORD
of hosts: Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another;*
[10]do not oppress the widow, the orphan, the alien, or the poor; and do not
devise evil in your hearts against one another.* [11]But they refused to listen
and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears in order not to hear.*
[12]They made their hearts adamant in order not to hear the law and the words
that the LORD of hosts had sent by his spirit through the former prophets.
Therefore great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.* [13]Just as, when I[b]
called, they would not hear, so, when they called, I would not hear, says the
LORD of hosts,* [14]and I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the
nations that they had not known. Thus the land they left was desolate, so
that no one went to and fro, and a pleasant land was made desolate."*

Zechariah 8

GOD'S PROMISES TO ZION

1 The word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying: [2]"Thus says the LORD of hosts: I am zealous for Zion with great zeal, and I am zealous for her with great wrath.* [3]Thus says the LORD: I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the LORD of hosts shall be called the holy mountain.* [4]Thus says the LORD of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age.* [5]And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.* [6]Thus says the LORD of hosts: Even though it seems impossible to the remnant of this people in these days, should it also seem impossible to me, says the LORD of hosts?* [7]Thus says the LORD of hosts: I will save my people from the east country and from the west country,* [8]and I will bring them to live in Jerusalem. They shall be my people and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness."*

9 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: Let your hands be strong—you who have recently been hearing these words from the mouths of the prophets who were present when the foundation was laid for the rebuilding of the temple, the house of the LORD of hosts.* [10]For before those days there were no wages for people or for animals, nor was there any safety from the foe for those who went out or came in, and I set them all against one another.* [11]But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days, says the LORD of hosts. [12]For there shall be a sowing of peace; the vine shall yield its fruit, the ground shall give its produce, and the skies shall give their dew, and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things.* [13]Just as you have been a cursing among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so I will save you, and you shall be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong."*

14 "For thus says the LORD of hosts: Just as I purposed to bring disaster upon you when your ancestors provoked me to wrath, and I did not relent, says the LORD of hosts,* [15]so again I have purposed in these days to do good

to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah; do not be afraid. [16]These are the things that you shall do: speak the truth to one another, render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace,* [17]do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath, for all these are things that I hate, says the LORD."*

JOYFUL FASTING

18 The word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying: [19]"Thus says the LORD of hosts: The fast of the fourth month, and the fast of the fifth, and the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth shall be seasons of joy and gladness and cheerful festivals for the house of Judah; therefore love truth and peace."*

MANY PEOPLES DRAWN TO JERUSALEM

20 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, the inhabitants of many cities; [21]the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Come, let us go to entreat the favor of the LORD and to seek the LORD of hosts; I myself am going.'* [22]Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the LORD.* [23]Thus says the LORD of hosts: In those days ten men from nations of every language shall take hold of a Jew, grasping his garment and saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.' "*

Zechariah 9

JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL'S ENEMIES

1 An Oracle.

The word of the LORD is against the land of Hadrach
and will rest upon Damascus.
For to the LORD belongs the capital[c] of Aram,[d]
as do all the tribes of Israel;
2 Hamath also, which borders on it,
Tyre and Sidon, though they are very wise.*
3 Tyre has built itself a rampart
and heaped up silver like dust
and gold like the dirt of the streets.*
4 But now, the Lord will strip it of its possessions
and hurl its wealth into the sea,
and it shall be devoured by fire.*

5 Ashkelon shall see it and be afraid;
Gaza, too, and shall writhe in anguish;
Ekron also, because its hopes are withered.
The king shall perish from Gaza;
Ashkelon shall be uninhabited;*
6 a mongrel people shall settle in Ashdod,
and I will make an end of the pride of Philistia.*
7 I will take away its blood from its mouth
and its abominations from between its teeth;
it, too, shall be a remnant for our God;
it shall be like a clan in Judah,

and Ekron shall be like the Jebusites.*
8Then I will encamp at my house as a guard,
so that no one shall march to and fro;
no oppressor shall again overrun them,
for now I have seen with my own eyes.*

THE COMING RULER OF GOD'S PEOPLE

9Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*
10He[e] will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

11As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.*
12Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.*
13For I have bent Judah as my bow;
I have made Ephraim its arrow.[f]
I will arouse your sons, O Zion,
against your sons, O Greece,
and wield you like a warrior's sword.*

14 Then the LORD will appear over them,
and his arrow go forth like lightning;
the Lord GOD will sound the trumpet
and march forth in the whirlwinds of the south.*
15 The LORD of hosts will protect them,
and they shall consume and conquer the slingers;[g]
they shall drink their blood[h] like wine
and be full like a bowl,
drenched like the corners of the altar.*

16 On that day the LORD their God will save them,
for they are the flock of his people,
for like the jewels of a crown
they shall shine on his land.*
17 For what goodness and beauty are his!
Grain shall make the young men flourish,
and new wine the young women.*

Zechariah 10

RESTORATION OF JUDAH AND ISRAEL

[1]Ask rain from the LORD
in the season of the spring rain,
from the LORD who makes the storm clouds,
who gives showers of rain to you,[i]
the vegetation in the field to everyone.*
[2]For the teraphim[j] utter nonsense,
and the diviners see lies;
the dreamers tell false dreams
and give empty consolation.
Therefore the people[k] wander like sheep;
they suffer for lack of a shepherd.*

[3]My anger is hot against the shepherds,
and I will punish the leaders,[l]
for the LORD of hosts cares for his flock, the house of Judah,
and will make them like his proud war horse.*
[4]Out of them shall come the cornerstone,
out of them the tent peg,
out of them the battle bow,
out of them every commander.*
[5]Together they shall be like warriors in battle,
trampling the foe in the mud of the streets;
they shall fight, for the LORD is with them,
and they shall put to shame the riders on horses.*

[6]I will strengthen the house of Judah,

and I will save the house of Joseph.
I will bring them back because I have compassion on them,
and they shall be as though I had not rejected them,
for I am the LORD their God, and I will answer them.*
7 Then the people of Ephraim shall become like warriors,
and their hearts shall be glad as with wine.
Their children shall see it and rejoice;
their hearts shall exult in the LORD.*

8 I will signal for them and gather them in,
for I have redeemed them,
and they shall be as numerous as they were before.*
9 Though I scattered them among the nations,
yet in far countries they shall remember me,
and they shall rear their children and return.*
10 I will bring them home from the land of Egypt
and gather them from Assyria;
I will bring them to the land of Gilead and to Lebanon,
until there is no room for them.*
11 They[m] shall pass through the sea of distress,
and the waves of the sea shall be struck down,
and all the depths of the Nile dried up.
The pride of Assyria shall be laid low,
and the scepter of Egypt shall depart.*
12 I will make them strong in the LORD,
and they shall walk in his name,
says the LORD.*

Zechariah 11

[1]Open your doors, O Lebanon,
so that fire may devour your cedars![*]
[2]Wail, O cypress, for the cedar has fallen,
for the glorious trees are ruined!
Wail, oaks of Bashan,
for the thick forest has been felled![*]
[3]Listen, the wail of the shepherds,
for their glory is despoiled!
Listen, the roar of the lions,
for the thickets of the Jordan are destroyed![*]

TWO KINDS OF SHEPHERDS

4 "Thus says the LORD my God: Be a shepherd of the flock doomed to slaughter.[*] [5]Those who buy them kill them and go unpunished, and those who sell them say, 'Blessed be the LORD, for I have become rich,' and their own shepherds have no pity on them.[*] [6]For I will no longer have pity on the inhabitants of the earth, says the LORD. I will cause them, every one, to fall each into the hand of a neighbor and each into the hand of the king, and they shall devastate the earth, and I will deliver no one from their hand."[*]

7 So on behalf of the sheep merchants,[n] I became the shepherd of the flock doomed to slaughter. I took two staffs; one I named Favor, the other I named Unity, and I tended the sheep.[*] [8]In one month I disposed of the three shepherds, for I had become impatient with them, and they also detested me.[*] [9]So I said, "I will not be your shepherd. What is to die, let it die; what is to be destroyed, let it be destroyed; and let those that are left devour the flesh of one another!" [10]I took my staff Favor and broke it, annulling the covenant that I had made with all the peoples.[*] [11]So it was annulled on that day, and the sheep merchants[o] who were watching me knew that it was the word of the LORD.[*] [12]I then said to them, "If it seems right to you, give me

my wages, but if not, keep them." So they weighed out as my wages thirty shekels of silver.* 13Then the LORD said to me, "Throw it into the treasury"[p] —this lordly price at which I was valued by them. So I took the thirty shekels of silver and threw them into the treasury[q] in the house of the LORD.* 14Then I broke my second staff Unity, annulling the family ties between Judah and Israel.

15 Then the LORD said to me: "Take once more the implements of a worthless shepherd.* 16For I am now raising up in the land a shepherd who does not care for the perishing, or seek the wandering,[r] or heal the maimed, or nourish the healthy,[s] but devours the flesh of the fat ones, tearing off even their hoofs.

17Oh, my worthless shepherd,
who deserts the flock!
May the sword strike his arm
and his right eye!
Let his arm be completely withered,
his right eye utterly blinded!"*

Zechariah 12

JERUSALEM'S VICTORY

1 An Oracle.

The word of the LORD concerning Israel: Thus says the LORD, who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the human spirit within:* [2]See, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of reeling for all the surrounding peoples; it will be against Judah also in the siege against Jerusalem.* [3]On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it shall grievously hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth shall come together against it.* [4]On that day, says the LORD, I will strike every horse with panic and its rider with madness. But on the house of Judah I will keep a watchful eye, when I strike every horse of the peoples with blindness.* [5]Then the clans of Judah shall say to themselves, "The inhabitants of Jerusalem have strength through the LORD of hosts, their God."*

6 On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a blazing pot on a pile of wood, like a flaming torch among sheaves, and they shall devour to the right and to the left all the surrounding peoples, while Jerusalem shall again be inhabited in its place, in Jerusalem.*

7 And the LORD will save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not be exalted over that of Judah.* [8]On that day the LORD will shield the inhabitants of Jerusalem so that the feeblest among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the angel of the LORD, at their head.* [9]And on that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.*

MOURNING FOR THE PIERCED ONE

10 And I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem so that, when they look on the one[t] whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him as one mourns

for an only child and weep bitterly over him as one weeps over a firstborn.* 11On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.* 12The land shall mourn, each family by itself; the family of the house of David by itself and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself and their wives by themselves; 13the family of the house of Levi by itself and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself and their wives by themselves; 14and all the families that are left, each by itself and their wives by themselves.

Zechariah 13

1 On that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.*

IDOLATRY CUT OFF

2 On that day, says the LORD of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols
from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more, and also I will
remove from the land the prophets and the unclean spirit.* 3And if any
prophets appear again, their fathers and mothers who bore them will say to
them, "You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of the LORD," and
their fathers and their mothers who bore them shall pierce them through
when they prophesy.* 4On that day the prophets will be ashamed, every one,
of their visions when they prophesy; they will not put on a hairy mantle in
order to deceive,* 5but each of them will say, "I am no prophet; I am a tiller
of the soil, for the land has been my possession[u] since my youth." 6And if
anyone asks them, "What are these wounds on your chest?"[v] the answer
will be "The wounds I received in the house of my friends."

THE SHEPHERD STRUCK, THE FLOCK SCATTERED

7"Awake, O sword, against my shepherd,
against the man who is my associate,"
says the LORD of hosts.
"Strike the shepherd, that the sheep may be scattered;
I will turn my hand against the little ones.*
8In the whole land, says the LORD,
two-thirds shall be cut off and perish,
and one-third shall be left alive.*
9And I will put this third into the fire,
refine them as one refines silver,
and test them as gold is tested.

They will call on my name,
and I will answer them.
I will say, ‘They are my people,’
and they will say, ‘The LORD is our God.’ ”*

Zechariah 14

FUTURE WARFARE AND FINAL VICTORY

1 See, a day is coming for the LORD, when the plunder taken from you will
be divided in your midst.* [2]For I will gather all the nations against
Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and
the women raped; half the city shall go into exile, but the rest of the people
shall not be cut off from the city.* [3]Then the LORD will go forth and fight
against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle.* [4]On that day his
feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives, which lies before Jerusalem on the
east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a
very wide valley, so that one half of the mount shall withdraw northward
and the other half southward.* [5]And you shall flee by the valley of the
LORD's mountain,[w] for the valley between the mountains shall reach to
Azal,[x] and you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of
King Uzziah of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come and all the holy
ones with him.*

6 On that day there shall not be[y] either cold or frost.[z] [7]And there shall be
continuous day (it is known to the LORD), not day and not night, for at
evening time there shall be light.*

8 On that day living water shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of it to the
eastern sea and half of it to the western sea; it shall continue in summer as
in winter.*

9 And the LORD will become king over all the earth; on that day the LORD
will be one and his name one.*

10 The whole land shall be turned into a plain from Geba to Rimmon
south of Jerusalem. But Jerusalem[a] shall remain aloft on its site from the
Gate of Benjamin to the place of the former gate, to the Corner Gate, and
from the Tower of Hananel to the king's winepresses.* [11]And it shall be
inhabited, for never again shall it be doomed to destruction; Jerusalem shall
abide in security.*

12 This shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the
peoples who wage war against Jerusalem: their flesh shall rot while they are
still on their feet, their eyes shall rot in their sockets, and their tongues shall
rot in their mouths.* 13On that day a great panic from the LORD shall fall on
them, so that each will seize the hand of a neighbor, and the hand of the one
will be raised against the hand of the other;* 14even Judah will fight at
Jerusalem. And the wealth of all the surrounding nations shall be collected:
gold, silver, and garments in great abundance.* 15And a plague like this
plague shall fall on the horses, the mules, the camels, the donkeys, and
whatever animals may be in those camps.*

16 Then all who survive of the nations that have come against Jerusalem
shall go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to
keep the Festival of Booths.[b,*] 17If any of the families of the earth do not go
up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain
upon them.* 18And if the family of Egypt do not go up and present
themselves, there will be no rain for them; there will be the plague that the
LORD inflicts on the nations that do not go up to keep the Festival of
Booths.[c,*] 19Such shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of
all the nations that do not go up to keep the Festival of Booths.[d,*]

20 On that day there shall be inscribed on the bells of the horses, "Holy
to the LORD." And the cooking pots in the house of the LORD shall be as holy
as[e] the bowls in front of the altar,* 21and every cooking pot in Jerusalem
and Judah shall be holy to the LORD of hosts, so that all who sacrifice may
come and use them to boil the flesh of the sacrifice. And there shall no
longer be traders[f] in the house of the LORD of hosts on that day.*

Zechariah 1

* **1.1** Ezra 4.24; Neh 12.4, 16; Hag 1.1
* **1.3** Isa 31.6; Mal 3.7; Jas 4.8
* **1.4** 2 Chr 36.15; Jer 6.17; 11.7, 8; Hos 14.1
* **1.6** Jer 12.16, 17; Lam 2.17

a **1.8** Gk Syr: Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **1.8** Josh 5.13; Zech 6.2–7; Rev 6.4
* **1.9** Zech 2.3; 4.5
* **1.10** Heb 1.14
* **1.11** Isa 14.7
* **1.12** Dan 9.2; Hab 1.2
* **1.13** Isa 40.1, 2; Zech 4.1
* **1.14** Zech 8.2
* **1.15** Ps 123.4; Am 1.11
* **1.16** Isa 54.8; Zech 2.1, 2, 10
* **1.17** Isa 44.26; 51.3; Zech 2.12; 3.2

b **1.18** 2.1 in Heb

c **1.21** Heb *it*

* **1.21** Ps 75.10

Zechariah 2

d **2.1** 2.5 in Heb

* **2.1** Ezek 40.3; Zech 1.18
* **2.2** Ezek 40.3; Rev 21.15–17
* **2.4** Jer 30.19; Ezek 38.11
* **2.5** Isa 26.1; Rev 21.23
* **2.6** Isa 48.20; Ezek 17.21

e **2.8** Heb *his eye*

* **2.8** Deut 32.10; Isa 60.7–9

f **2.9** Or *wave*

* **2.9** Isa 11.15; Zech 4.9
* **2.10** Isa 12.6; Ezek 37.27; Zeph 3.14
* **2.12** Deut 32.9; Zech 1.17
* **2.13** Ps 78.65; Isa 51.9; Hab 2.20

Zechariah 3

g **3.1** Heb *the satan*

* **3.1** Ps 109.6; Hag 1.1

h **3.2** Heb *the satan*
i **3.2** Heb *the satan*
* **3.2** Am 4.11; Jude 9, 23
j **3.4** Heb *He*
* **3.4** Isa 43.25; Rev 19.8
k **3.5** Syr Vg Tg: MT *I said*
* **3.5** Ex 29.6
* **3.7** 1 Kings 3.14; Ezek 44.16; Zech 4.14
* **3.8** Isa 4.2; 53.2; Jer 33.15; Ezek 12.11
* **3.9** Isa 28.16; Mic 7.18; Zech 4.10
* **3.10** 1 Kings 4.25; Isa 36.16

Zechariah 4

* **4.1** Dan 8.18; Zech 1.9; 2.3
* **4.2** Ex 25.31; Rev 4.5
* **4.3** Rev 11.4
* **4.6** Hag 2.4, 5; Eph 6.17
* **4.7** Ezra 3.10, 11; Jer 51.25
* **4.9** Ezra 3.10; Isa 48.16; Zech 2.9, 11
* **4.10** Hag 2.3; Zech 1.10; 3.9; Rev 8.2
l **4.12** Cn: Heb *gold*
* **4.14** Mic 4.13; Zech 3.1–7; Rev 11.4

Zechariah 5

* **5.1** Ezek 2.9
m **5.3** The word *falsely* added from verse 4
* **5.3** v 4; Ex 20.15; Jer 26.6; Mal 3.8, 9
* **5.4** Lev 14.45; Hos 4.2, 3; Hab 2.9–11; Mal 3.5
n **5.6** Heb *ephah*
o **5.6** Gk Compare Syr: Heb *their eye*
p **5.7** Heb *ephah*
q **5.8** Heb *ephah*
* **5.8** Hos 12.7; Am 8.5; Mic 6.11
r **5.9** Heb *ephah*
s **5.10** Heb *ephah*
* **5.11** Gen 10.10; Jer 29.5, 28

Zechariah 6

* **6.2** Rev 6.4, 5
t **6.3** Meaning of Heb uncertain

* **6.3** Rev 6.2
u **6.5** Or *spirits*
* **6.5** Jer 49.36; Ezek 37.9; Mt 24.31; Rev 7.1
v **6.6** Cn: Heb *go after them*
* **6.6** Jer 1.14; Ezek 1.4; Dan 11.5
* **6.8** Ezek 5.13
w **6.10** Heb lacks *silver and gold*
* **6.10** Jer 28.6
x **6.11** Gk mss Syr Tg: Heb *crowns*
* **6.11** Ezra 3.2; Hag 1.1
* **6.12** Isa 11.1; 53.2; Zech 3.8
* **6.13** Isa 9.6, 7; 22.24
y **6.14** Gk Syr: Heb *crowns*
z **6.14** Syr: Heb *Helem*
a **6.14** Syr: Heb *Hen*
* **6.15** Isa 57.19; 60.10; Zech 3.7; 4.9

Zechariah 7

* **7.1** Neh 1.1; Zech 1.1, 7
* **7.2** Jer 26.19; Zech 8.21
* **7.3** Jer 52.12; Zech 8.19
* **7.5** Isa 58.5; Jer 41.1; Zech 8.19; Rom 14.6
* **7.9** Ezek 18.8; Mic 6.8; Zech 8.16
* **7.10** Deut 24.17; Jer 7.6; Mic 2.1
* **7.11** Jer 11.10; Acts 7.57
* **7.12** Neh 9.29, 30; Ezek 11.19; Dan 9.11
b **7.13** Heb *he*
* **7.13** Prov 1.24; Isa 1.15
* **7.14** Deut 4.27; Isa 60.15; Jer 23.19

Zechariah 8

* **8.2** Zech 1.14
* **8.3** Jer 31.23; Zech 1.16
* **8.4** Isa 65.20
* **8.5** Jer 30.19, 20
* **8.6** Ps 118.23; Jer 32.17, 27
* **8.7** Isa 11.11; 43.5, 6; Am 9.14
* **8.8** Ezek 37.25; Zech 10.10
* **8.9** Ezra 5.1; Hag 2.4
* **8.10** Hag 1.6

* **8.12** Isa 61.7; Joel 2.22; Hag 1.10
* **8.13** Gen 12.2; Ruth 4.11; Jer 42.18
* **8.14** Jer 31.28; Ezek 24.14
* **8.16** Zech 7.9; Eph 4.25
* **8.17** Prov 3.29; Hab 1.13; Zech 5.4; 7.10
* **8.19** v 16; Isa 12.1; Jer 39.2; 52.4; Zech 7.3, 5
* **8.21** Mic 4.1, 2
* **8.22** v 21; Isa 60.3; 66.23
* **8.23** 2 Chr 15.5; Isa 19.2; 45.14, 24; 60.14; 1 Cor 14.25

Zechariah 9

c **9.1** Heb *eye*
d **9.1** Cn: Heb *of Adam* (or *of humankind*)
* **9.2** Jer 49.23; Ezek 28.3–5, 12, 21
* **9.3** 2 Sam 24.7; 1 Kings 10.21, 27; Ezek 27.33
* **9.4** Isa 23.1; Ezek 28.18
* **9.5** Am 1.6–8
* **9.6** Am 1.8
* **9.7** Ezek 25.15–17
* **9.8** Isa 52.1; 54.14; 60.18; Zech 2.5
* **9.9** Isa 9.6, 7; 43.3, 11; 57.15; Zeph 3.14, 15; Mt 21.5
e **9.10** Gk: Heb *I*
* **9.10** Ps 72.8; Isa 57.19; 60.12; Hos 1.7; 2.18; Hag 2.22
* **9.11** Ex 24.8; Isa 51.14; Heb 10.29
* **9.12** Isa 61.7; Jer 16.19; 17.13
f **9.13** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **9.13** Ps 45.3; Isa 49.2; Jer 51.20; Joel 3.6
* **9.14** Ps 18.14; Isa 21.1; 27.13; 31.5; 66.15
g **9.15** Cn: Heb *the slingstones*
h **9.15** Gk: Heb *they roared*
* **9.15** Ex 27.2; Job 41.28; Ps 78.65; Isa 37.35; Zech 12.6
* **9.16** Isa 62.3; Jer 31.10, 11
* **9.17** Jer 31.12, 14

Zechariah 10

i **10.1** Heb *them*
* **10.1** Isa 30.23; Jer 10.13; 14.22
j **10.2** Or *household gods*
k **10.2** Heb *they*
* **10.2** Job 13.4; Jer 27.9; Ezek 21.21; 34.5; Hos 3.4

l **10.3** Or *male goats*
* **10.3** Jer 25.34–36; Ezek 34.12, 17
* **10.4** Zech 9.10
* **10.5** 2 Sam 22.43; Hag 2.22
* **10.6** v 12; Zech 1.16; 8.8; 9.16; 13.9
* **10.7** Isa 54.13; Zech 9.15; 13.9
* **10.8** Isa 5.26; Jer 33.22; Ezek 36.11
* **10.9** Ezek 6.9
* **10.10** Isa 11.11; 49.19, 20; Jer 50.19
m **10.11** Gk: Heb *He*
* **10.11** Isa 19.5–7; 51.9, 10; Ezek 30.13; Zeph 2.13
* **10.12** Mic 4.5

Zechariah 11

* **11.1** Jer 22.6, 7; Ezek 31.3
* **11.2** Isa 32.19
* **11.3** Jer 25.34–36; 50.44
* **11.4** v 7
* **11.5** Jer 50.7; Hos 12.8
* **11.6** Jer 13.14; Mic 5.8; Zech 14.13
n **11.7** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.7** vv 10, 14; Ezek 37.16; Zeph 3.12
* **11.8** Hos 5.7
* **11.10** v 7; Jer 14.21
o **11.11** Gk: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.11** Zeph 3.12
* **11.12** Gen 37.28; Ex 21.32; 1 Kings 5.6; Mt 26.15
p **11.13** Syr: Heb *it to the potter*
q **11.13** Syr: Heb *it to the potter*
* **11.13** Mt 27.9
* **11.15** Ezek 34.2–4
r **11.16** Syr Compare Gk Vg: Heb *the youth*
s **11.16** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **11.17** Jer 23.1; Ezek 30.21, 22; Mic 3.6, 7; Jn 10.12

Zechariah 12

* **12.1** Isa 42.5; 57.16; Heb 12.9
* **12.2** Isa 51.22, 23; Zech 14.14
* **12.3** Dan 2.34, 35, 44, 45; Zech 14.2; Mt 21.44
* **12.4** Ps 76.6; Ezek 38.4; Zech 9.10

* **12.5** Zech 10.6, 12
* **12.6** Isa 10.17, 18; Ob 18; Zech 2.4; 8.3–5
* **12.7** Jer 30.18; Am 9.11
* **12.8** Ps 8.5; 82.6; Mic 7.8; Zech 9.14, 15
* **12.9** v 3; Zech 14.2, 3
t **12.10** Heb *on me*
* **12.10** Isa 44.3; Jer 6.26; Ezek 39.29; Joel 2.28; Jn 19.34; Rev 1.7
* **12.11** 2 Kings 23.29

Zechariah 13

* **13.1** Ps 51.2, 7; Jer 2.13; Ezek 36.25; Heb 9.14
* **13.2** Ex 23.13; Jer 23.14, 15; Ezek 36.25, 29; Hos 2.17
* **13.3** Deut 13.6–11; 18.20; Jer 23.34
* **13.4** 2 Kings 1.8; Mic 3.6, 7; Mt 3.4
u **13.5** Cn: Heb *for humankind has caused me to possess*
v **13.6** Heb *wounds between your hands*
* **13.7** Isa 53.4, 5, 10; Jer 23.5, 6; 47.6; Mic 5.2, 4; Mt 26.31
* **13.8** Isa 6.13
* **13.9** Isa 48.10; Jer 30.22; Hos 2.23; Zech 10.6; 1 Pet 1.6

Zechariah 14

* **14.1** v 14; Isa 13.9; Joel 2.1; Mal 4.1
* **14.2** Isa 13.6; Zech 12.2, 3; 13.8
* **14.3** Zech 9.14, 15
* **14.4** Ezek 11.23; Mic 1.3, 4; Hab 3.6
w **14.5** Heb *my mountains*
x **14.5** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **14.5** Isa 66.15, 16; Am 1.1; Mt 25.31; Jude 14
y **14.6** Cn: Heb *there shall not be light*
z **14.6** Compare Gk Syr Vg Tg: Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **14.7** Isa 30.26; Rev 21.23
* **14.8** Ezek 47.1; Joel 3.18; Rev 22.1
* **14.9** Isa 45.21–24; Eph 4.5, 6; Rev 11.15
a **14.10** Heb *it*
* **14.10** Jer 31.38; 37.13; 38.7; Am 9.11; Zech 12.6
* **14.11** Jer 23.5, 6; Zech 2.4; Rev 22.3
* **14.12** Deut 28.21, 22
* **14.13** 1 Sam 14.15, 20; Ezek 38.21; Zech 11.6
* **14.14** Isa 23.18; Zech 12.2, 5
* **14.15** v 12

b **14.16** Or *Tabernacles*
* **14.16** v 9; Isa 60.6, 7, 9
* **14.17** vv 9, 16; Am 4.7
c **14.18** Or *Tabernacles*
* **14.18** v 12
d **14.19** Or *Tabernacles*
* **14.19** v 16
e **14.20** Heb *shall be like*
* **14.20** Ex 28.36–38; Zech 9.15
f **14.21** Or *Canaanites*
* **14.21** Neh 8.10; Ezek 44.9; Zech 9.8; 1 Cor 10.31

Malachi

Malachi 1

1 An oracle. The word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.[a]

ISRAEL PREFERRED TO EDOM

2 "I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have you loved
us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?" says the LORD. "Yet I have loved
Jacob,* [3]but I have hated Esau; I have made his hill country a desolation
and his heritage a desert for jackals.* [4]If Edom says, 'We are shattered but
we will rebuild the ruins,' the LORD of hosts says: They may build, but I
will tear down, until they are called the wicked country, the people with
whom the LORD is angry forever. [5]Your own eyes shall see this, and you
shall say, 'Great is the LORD beyond the borders of Israel!' "*

CORRUPTION OF THE PRIESTHOOD

6 A son honors his father and a servant his master. If then I am a father,
where is the honor due me? And if I am a master, where is the respect due
me? says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. You
say, "How have we despised your name?"* [7]By offering polluted food on
my altar. And you say, "How have we polluted it?"[b] By thinking that the
LORD's table may be despised.* [8]When you offer blind animals in sacrifice,
is that not wrong? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that
not wrong? Try presenting that to your governor; will he be pleased with
you or show you favor? says the LORD of hosts.* [9]And now implore the
favor of God, that he may be gracious to us. The fault is yours. Will he
show favor to any of you? says the LORD of hosts.* [10]Oh, that someone
among you would shut the temple[c] doors, so that you would not kindle fire
on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, says the LORD of hosts, and I
will not accept an offering from your hands.* [11]For from the rising of the
sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place

incense is offered to my name and a pure offering, for my name is great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts.* 12But you profane it when you say that the Lord's table is polluted and its food[d] may be despised. 13"What a weariness this is," you say, and you sniff at it,[e] says the LORD of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the LORD.* 14Cursed be the cheat who has a male in the flock and vows to give it and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished, for I am a great King, says the LORD of hosts, and my name is reverenced among the nations.*

Malachi 2

1 And now, O priests, this command is for you. [2]If you will not listen, if
you will not lay it to heart to give glory to my name, says the LORD of hosts,
then I will send the curse on you, and I will curse your blessings; indeed, I
have already cursed them[f] because you do not lay it to heart.* [3]I will rebuke
your offspring and spread dung on your faces, the dung of your offerings,
and I will put you out of my presence.[g]

4 Know, then, that I have sent this command to you, that my covenant
with Levi may hold, says the LORD of hosts.* [5]My covenant with him was a
covenant of life and well-being, which I gave him; this called for reverence,
and he revered me and stood in awe of my name.* [6]True instruction was in
his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in
integrity and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity.* [7]For the lips
of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction
from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.* [8]But you
have turned aside from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your
instruction; you have corrupted the covenant of Levi, says the LORD of
hosts,* [9]so I make you despised and humbled before all the people,
inasmuch as you have not kept my ways but have shown partiality in your
instruction.*

THE COVENANT PROFANED BY JUDAH

10 Have we not all one father? Has not one God created us? Why then
are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?*
[11]Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel
and in Jerusalem, for Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which
he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god.* [12]For the one who
does this, may the LORD cut off any witness[h] or advocate from the tents of
Jacob or anyone who could bring an offering to the LORD of hosts.*

13 And this you do as well: You cover the LORD's altar with tears, with
weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts
it with favor at your hand. [14]You ask, "Why does he not?" Because the

LORD was a witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.* 15Did God[i] not make them one, flesh with spirit in it? And what does the one desire? Godly offspring. So look to yourselves, and do not let anyone be faithless to the wife of his youth.[j,*] 16For I hate[k] divorce, says the LORD, the God of Israel, and covering one's garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So take heed to yourselves and do not be faithless.

17 You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, "How have we wearied him?" By saying, "All who do evil are good in the sight of the LORD, and he delights in them." Or by asking, "Where is the God of justice?"*

Malachi 3

THE COMING MESSENGER

1 See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the
Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of
the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of
hosts.* 2But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand
when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap;* 3he will sit as a
refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and
refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in
righteousness.[l,*] 4Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing
to the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years.

5 Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear
witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who
swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages,
the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien and do
not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.*

6 For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have
not perished.* 7Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside
from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to
you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, "How shall we return?"*

DO NOT ROB GOD

8 Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, "How are
we robbing you?" In your tithes and offerings!* 9You are cursed with a
curse, for you are robbing me—the whole nation of you! 10Bring the full
tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus
put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows
of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.* 11I will
rebuke the locust[m] for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your
soil, and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the LORD of hosts.

12Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight,
says the LORD of hosts.

13 You have spoken harsh words against me, says the LORD. Yet you say,
"How have we spoken against you?"* 14You have said, "It is vain to serve
God. What do we profit by keeping his command or by going about as
mourners before the LORD of hosts?* 15Now we count the arrogant happy;
evildoers not only prosper, but when they put God to the test they escape."*

THE REWARD OF THE FAITHFUL

16 Then those who revered the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD
took note and listened, and a book of remembrance was written before him
of those who revered the LORD and thought on his name.* 17They shall be
mine, says the LORD of hosts, my special possession on the day when I act,
and I will spare them as parents spare their children who serve them.*
18Then once more you shall see the difference between the righteous and
the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.*

Malachi 4

THE GREAT DAY OF THE LORD

1 [n]See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and
all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the
LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.* [2]But for
you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in
its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.* [3]And you
shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your
feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.*

4 Remember the teaching of my servant Moses, the statutes and
ordinances that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.*

5 See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day
of the LORD comes.* [6]He will turn the hearts of parents to their children and
the hearts of children to their parents, so that I will not come and strike the
land with a curse.[o]

Malachi 1

a **1.1** Or *by my messenger*
* **1.2** Isa 41.8, 9; Jer 31.3; Rom 9.13
* **1.3** Jer 49.18; Ezek 35.3–9
* **1.5** Job 42.8; Ps 35.27
* **1.6** Ex 20.12; Mal 2.1–10; 3.5; Lk 6.46
b **1.7** Gk: Heb *you*
* **1.7** v 12; Lev 21.6, 8
* **1.8** Lev 22.22
* **1.9** Lev 23.34–44; Am 5.22
c **1.10** Heb lacks *temple*
* **1.10** Isa 1.13; Jer 14.10, 12; Hos 5.6
* **1.11** Isa 45.6; 60.3, 5, 6; Jer 10.6, 7; Rev 8.3
d **1.12** Cn: Heb *its fruit, its food*
e **1.13** Or *at* me
* **1.13** Lev 22.20; Isa 43.22; 61.8
* **1.14** Lev 22.18–20; Zeph 2.11; Zech 14.9

Malachi 2

f **2.2** Heb *it*
* **2.2** Lev 26.14; Deut 28.15–20
g **2.3** Cn Compare Gk Syr: Heb *and he shall bear you to it*
* **2.4** Num 3.45; 18.21
* **2.5** Num 25.12; Deut 33.9; Ezek 34.25
* **2.6** Deut 33.8–10; Jer 23.22; Jas 5.20
* **2.7** Lev 10.11; Num 27.21; Jer 18.18
* **2.8** Jer 18.15; Ezek 44.10; Mal 3.7
* **2.9** Deut 1.17; 1 Sam 2.30; Mic 3.11
* **2.10** Ex 19.4–6; Isa 63.16; Jer 9.4, 5; 1 Cor 8.6
* **2.11** Ezra 9.1; Neh 13.23; Jer 3.7–9
h **2.12** Q ms Compare Gk: MT *arouse*
* **2.12** Hos 9.12; Mal 1.10, 13
* **2.14** Prov 2.17; 5.18
i **2.15** Heb *he*
j **2.15** Meaning of Heb uncertain
* **2.15** Gen 2.24; Ex 20.14; Lev 20.10; Mt 19.4
k **2.16** Cn: Heb *he hates*
* **2.17** Isa 5.19, 20; 43.24

Malachi 3

* **3.1** Mt 11.10; Mk 1.2; Lk 1.76; 7.27
* **3.2** Ezek 22.14; Zech 13.9; Mt 3.10–12; 1 Cor 3.13–15
l **3.3** Or *right offerings to the* LORD
* **3.3** Isa 1.25; Zech 13.9
* **3.5** Lev 19.13; Deut 18.10; Ezek 22.9–11; Zech 5.4
* **3.6** Num 23.19; Jas 1.17
* **3.7** Zech 1.3; Acts 7.51
* **3.8** Neh 13.10–12
* **3.10** 2 Chr 31.10; Ps 78.23–29; Prov 3.9, 10
m **3.11** Heb *devourer*
* **3.13** Mal 2.17
* **3.14** Ps 73.13; Isa 58.3; Jer 2.25; 18.12
* **3.15** Jer 7.10; Mal 4.1
* **3.16** Ps 34.15; 56.8; Rev 20.12
* **3.17** Isa 26.20; 1 Pet 2.9
* **3.18** Gen 18.25; Am 5.15

Malachi 4

n **4.1** 3.19 in Heb
* **4.1** Joel 2.31; Am 2.9; Ob 18
* **4.2** Mal 3.16; Lk 1.78; Eph 5.14
* **4.3** Mic 7.10; Zech 10.5
* **4.4** Ex 20.3
* **4.5** Mt 11.14; Mk 9.11; Lk 1.17
o **4.6** Or *a ban of utter destruction*

The Deuterocanonical/Apocryphal Books of the Old Testament

(a) The books and parts of books from Tobit through 2 Maccabees are recognized as Deuterocanonical Scripture by the Roman Catholic, Greek, and Russian Orthodox Churches.

Tobit

Tobit 1

1 The book of the words of Tobit son of Tobiel son of Hananiel son of
Aduel son of Gabael son of Raphael son of Raguel of the descendants[a] of
Asiel, of the tribe of Naphtali, [2]who in the days of King Shalmaneser[b] of
the Assyrians was taken into captivity from Thisbe, which is to the south of
Kedesh Naphtali in Upper Galilee, above Asher toward the west, and north
of Phogor.*

TOBIT'S YOUTH AND VIRTUOUS LIFE

3 I, Tobit, walked in the ways of truth and righteousness all the days of
my life. I performed many acts of charity for my kindred and my nation
who had gone with me in exile to Nineveh in the land of the Assyrians.*
[4]When I was in my own country, in the land of Israel, while I was still a
young man, the whole tribe of my ancestor Naphtali deserted the house of
David and Jerusalem. This city had been chosen from among all the tribes
of Israel, where all the tribes of Israel should offer sacrifice and where the
temple, the dwelling of God, had been consecrated and established for all
generations forever.*

5 All my kindred and my ancestral house of Naphtali sacrificed upon all
the mountains of Galilee to the calf that King Jeroboam of Israel had
erected in Dan and on all the mountains of Galilee.* [6]But I alone went often
to Jerusalem for the festivals, as it is prescribed for all Israel by an
everlasting decree. I would hurry off to Jerusalem with the first fruits of the
crops and the firstlings of the flock, the tithes of the cattle, and the first
shearings of the sheep.* [7]I would give these to the priests, the sons of
Aaron, at the altar, likewise the tenth of the grain, wine, olive oil,
pomegranates, figs, and the rest of the fruits to the sons of Levi who
ministered at Jerusalem. Also every six years I would save up a second
tenth in money and go and distribute it each year in Jerusalem,* [8]giving it to
the orphans and widows and to the converts who had attached themselves to

the Israelites. In the third year I would bring it and give it to them, and we would eat it according to the ordinance decreed concerning it in the law of Moses and according to the instructions of Deborah, the mother of my father Tobiel,[c] for my father had died and left me an orphan.* 9When I became a man I married a woman,[d] a member of our own family, and by her I became the father of a son whom I named Tobias.*

TAKEN CAPTIVE TO NINEVEH

10 After I was carried away captive to Assyria and came as a captive to Nineveh, everyone of my kindred and my people ate the food of the nations,* 11but I kept myself from eating the food of the nations.* 12Because I was mindful of God with all my heart, 13the Most High gave me favor and good standing with Shalmaneser,[e] and I used to buy everything he needed. 14Until his death I used to go into Media to buy for him there, and I left in trust bags holding ten talents of silver with Gabael, the brother of Gabri, in the country of Media.* 15But when Shalmaneser[f] died and his son Sennacherib reigned in his place, Median roads became lawless, and I could no longer travel to Media.*

COURAGE IN BURYING THE DEAD

16 In the days of Shalmaneser[g] I performed many acts of charity to my kindred, those of my people.* 17I would give my food to the hungry and my clothing to the naked, and if I saw the dead body of any of my nation thrown out behind the wall of Nineveh, I would bury it.* 18I also buried any whom King Sennacherib put to death when he came fleeing from Judea in those days of judgment that the King of heaven executed upon him because of his blasphemies. For in his anger he put to death many Israelites, but I would secretly remove the bodies and bury them. So when Sennacherib looked for them he could not find them.* 19Then one of the Ninevites went and informed the king about me, that I was burying them, so I hid myself. But when I realized that the king knew about me and that I was being searched for to be put to death, I was afraid and ran away. 20Then all my property was confiscated; nothing was left to me that was not taken into the royal treasury except my wife Anna and my son Tobias.*

21 But not forty days passed before two of Sennacherib's[h] sons killed him, and when they fled to the mountains of Ararat, his son Esar-haddon[i] reigned after him. He appointed Ahikar, the son of my brother Hanael,[j] over all the accounts of his kingdom, and he had authority over the entire administration.* [22]Ahikar interceded for me, and I returned to Nineveh. Now Ahikar was chief cupbearer, keeper of the signet, and in charge of administration and accounts under King Sennacherib of Assyria, so Esar-haddon[k] appointed him as second-in-command. He was my nephew[l] and so a close relative.*

Tobit 2

1 In the days of[m] Esar-haddon[n] I returned home, and my wife Anna and my
son Tobias were restored to me. At our Festival of Pentecost, which is the
sacred Festival of Weeks, a good dinner was prepared for me, and I reclined
to eat.* [2]When the table had been set for me and an abundance of food
placed before me, I said to my son Tobias, "Go, my son, and bring whatever
poor person you may find of our kindred among the exiles in Nineveh who
is wholeheartedly mindful of God,[o] and he shall eat together with me. I will
wait for you, my son, until you come back." [3]So Tobias went to look for
some poor person of our kindred. When he had returned he said, "Father!"
And I replied, "Here I am, my son." Then he went on to say, "Look, father,
one of our own nation has been killed and thrown into the marketplace, and
now he lies there strangled." [4]Then I sprang up, left the dinner before even
tasting it, and removed him from the square and laid him in one of the
outbuildings at my home until sunset, when I might bury him. [5]When I
returned, I washed myself and ate my food in sorrow. [6]Then I remembered
the prophecy of Amos, how he said against Bethel,

"Your festivals shall be turned into mourning
and all your songs[p] into lamentation."

And I wept.*

TOBIT BECOMES BLIND

7 When the sun had set, I went and dug a grave and buried him.* [8]And
my neighbors laughed and said, "Is he still not afraid? He has already been
hunted down to be put to death for doing this, and he ran away, yet here he
is again burying the dead!"* [9]That same night I washed myself and went
into my courtyard and lay down by the wall of the courtyard; my face was
uncovered because of the heat.* [10]I did not know that there were sparrows
on the wall; their fresh droppings fell into my eyes and produced white
films. I went to physicians to be healed, but the more they treated me with
ointments, the more my vision was obscured by the white films, until I
became completely blind. For four years I remained unable to see. All my

kindred were sorry for me, and Ahikar took care of me for two years before he went to Elymais.*

TOBIT'S WIFE EARNS THEIR LIVELIHOOD

11 At that time my wife Anna earned money at women's work. [12]She used to send what she made to the owners, and they would pay wages to her. One day, the seventh of Dystrus, when she cut off a piece she had woven and sent it to the owners, they paid her full wages and also gave her a young goat for a meal. [13]When it came toward me, the goat began to bleat, so I called her and said, "Where did you get this goat? It is surely not stolen, is it? Return it to the owners, for we have no right to eat anything stolen."* [14]But she said to me, "It was given to me as a gift in addition to my wages." But I did not believe her and told her to return it to the owners. I became flushed with anger against her over this. Then she replied to me, "Where are your acts of charity? Where are your righteous deeds? These things are known about you!"q,*

Tobit 3

TOBIT'S PRAYER

1 Then with much grief and anguish of heart I wept, and with groaning I began to pray:

[2]"You are righteous, O Lord,
and all your deeds are just;
all your ways are mercy and truth;
you judge the world.[r,*]

[3]And now, O Lord, may you be mindful of me
and look favorably upon me.
Do not punish me for my sins
or for my unwitting offenses
or for those of my ancestors.
They sinned against you[*]
[4]and disobeyed your commandments.
So you gave us over to plunder, exile, and death,
to become the talk, the byword, and an object of reproach
among all the nations among whom you have dispersed us.[*]

[5]And now your many judgments are true
in dealing with me according to my sins.
For we have not kept your commandments
and have not walked in accordance with truth before you.

[6]So now deal with me as you will;
command my spirit to be taken from me,
so that I may be released from the face of the earth and become dust.
For it is better for me to die than to live,
because I have had to listen to undeserved insults,

and great is the sorrow that attends me.
Command, O Lord, that I be released from this distress;
release me to go to the place of eternity,
and do not, O Lord, turn your face away from me.
For it is better for me to die
than to see so much distress in my life
and better not to listen to insults."*

SARAH FALSELY ACCUSED

7 On the same day, at Ecbatana in Media, it also happened that Sarah, the daughter of Raguel, was reproached by one of her father's female slaves.* [8]For she had been married to seven husbands, and the wicked demon Asmodeus had killed each of them before they had been with her as is customary for wives. So the female slave said to her, "You are the one who kills[s] your husbands! See, you have already been married to seven husbands and have not borne the name of[t] a single one of them.* [9]Why do you beat us? Because your husbands are dead? Go with them! May we never see a son or daughter of yours!"

SARAH'S PRAYER FOR DEATH

10 Overcome with emotion at that time, she wept and went up to her father's upper room, intending to hang herself. But she thought it over and said, "Let no one ever reproach my father, saying to him, 'You had only one beloved daughter, and she hanged herself out of distress!'[u] I would bring my father in his old age down in sorrow to Hades. It is better for me not to hang myself but to beg the Lord that I may die, so that I will not have to listen to these reproaches for the rest of my life."* [11]At that same time, with hands outstretched toward the window, she prayed and said,

"Blessed are you, merciful God!
Blessed is your name[v] forever;
let all your works bless you forever.*
[12]And now,[w] my face is toward you,

and I have raised my eyes.*
13 Command that I be released from the earth
and not listen to such reproaches any more.
14 You know, O Master, that I am innocent[x]
of any defilement with a man
15 and that I have not disgraced my name
or the name of my father in the land of my exile.
I am my father's only child;
he has no other child to be his heir,
and he has no close relative or other kindred
for whom I should keep myself as wife.
Already seven husbands of mine have died.
Why should I still live?
But if it is not pleasing to you, O Lord, to take my life,
hear me in my disgrace."

AN ANSWER TO PRAYER

16 At that very moment, the prayers of both of them were heard in the glorious presence of God. 17 So Raphael was sent to heal both of them: Tobit by removing the white films from his eyes, so that he might see God's light with his eyes,[y] and Sarah, daughter of Raguel, by giving her in marriage to Tobias son of Tobit, and by setting her free from the wicked demon Asmodeus. For Tobias was entitled to have her before all others who had desired to marry her. At the same time that Tobit returned from the courtyard into his house, Sarah daughter of Raguel came down from her upper room.*

Tobit 4

TOBIT GIVES INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS SON

1 That same day Tobit remembered the money that he had left in trust with
Gabael at Rages in Media,* 2and he said to himself, "Now that I have asked
for death, why do I not call my son Tobias and explain to him about this
money before I die?"* 3Then he called his son Tobias, and when he came to
him he said, "Give[z] me a proper burial. Honor your mother and do not
abandon her all the days of her life. Do whatever pleases her, and do
nothing that makes her unhappy.* 4Remember her, my son, because she
faced many dangers for you[a] while you were in her womb. And when she
dies, bury her beside me in the same grave.*

5 "Be mindful of the Lord all your days, my son, and refuse to sin or to
transgress his commandments. Do what is right all the days of your life, and
do not walk in the ways of wrongdoing,* 6for those who act honestly will
prosper in all their activities. To all those who practice righteousness,[b] 7give
alms according to your circumstances, my son, and do not turn your face
away from anyone who is poor. Then the face of God will not be turned
away from you.* 8Act according to what you have, my son. If you have
much, give alms from it; if you have little, give alms in accordance with
what you have. Do not be afraid, my son, to give alms.* 9You will be laying
up a good treasure for yourself against a day of need.* 10For almsgiving
delivers from death and keeps you from going into the darkness.* 11Indeed,
almsgiving, for all who practice it, is an excellent offering in the presence
of the Most High.

12 "Beware, my son, of every kind of sexual immorality. First of all,
marry a woman from among the descendants of your ancestors; do not
marry a foreign woman, who is not of your father's tribe, for we are the
descendants of prophets and true-born sons of prophets. The first prophet
was[c] Abraham, then Isaac and Jacob, our ancestors of old. Remember, my
son, that these all took wives from among their kindred. They were blessed
in their children, and their posterity will inherit the land.* 13So now, my son,
love your kindred, and in your heart do not be so arrogant against the

daughters of the members of your people as to refuse to take one of them as a wife. For in arrogance there is ruin and great confusion, and in idleness there is loss and dire poverty, because idleness is the mother of famine.*

14 "Do not keep over until the next day the wages of those who work for you, but pay them their wages the same day, and let not the pay of those among you be delayed overnight. Your pay will not be kept over if you serve God faithfully. Watch yourself, my son, in everything you do, and discipline yourself in all your conduct.* 15And what you hate, do not do to anyone. May[d] no evil go with you on any of your way.* 16Give some of your food to the hungry and some of your clothing to the naked. Give all your surplus as alms, my son, and do not let your eye begrudge your giving of alms.* 17Pour out your food and your wine on the grave of the righteous, but do not give it to sinners.* 18Seek advice from every wise person, and do not be disdainful, since any counsel is useful. 19At all times bless God and ask him that your ways may be made straight and that all your paths and plans may prosper. For no nation has good counsel, but the Lord himself gives it. Whom he wants to, he exalts, and whom he wants to, he casts down to Hades below. So now, my son, remember these commandments of mine, and do not let them be erased from your heart.*

MONEY LEFT IN TRUST WITH GABAEL

20 "And now, my son, let me explain to you that I left ten talents of silver in trust with Gabael son of Gabrias, at Rages in Media.* 21Do not be afraid, my son, because we have become poor. You have great wealth if you fear God and flee from every sin and do what is good in the sight of the Lord your God."*

Tobit 5

THE ANGEL RAPHAEL

1 Then Tobias answered his father Tobit, "I will do everything that you
have commanded me, father, [2]but how can I obtain the money[e] from him,
since he does not know me and I do not know him? What evidence[f] am I to
give him so that he will recognize and trust me and give me the money?
Also, I do not know the roads to Media or how to get there." [3]Then Tobit
answered his son Tobias, "He gave me his bond, and I gave him my bond.
I[g] divided his in two; we each took one part, and I put one with the money.
And now twenty years have passed since I left this money in trust. So now,
my son, find yourself a trustworthy man to go with you, and we will pay
him wages until you return. But get back the money from Gabael."[h,*]

4 So Tobias went out to look for a man to go with him to Media,
someone who was acquainted with the way. He went out and found the
angel Raphael standing in front of him, but he did not perceive that he was
an angel of God.[*] [5]Tobias[i] said to him, "Where do you come from, young
man?" "From the Israelites, your kindred," he replied, "and I have come
here to work." Then Tobias[j] said to him, "Do you know the way to go to
Media?"[*] [6]"Yes," he replied, "I have been there many times; I am
acquainted with it and know all the roads. I have often traveled to Media
and would stay with our kinsman Gabael who lives in Rages of Media. It is
a journey of two days from Ecbatana to Rages, for it lies in a mountainous
area, while Ecbatana is in the middle of the plain." [7]Then Tobias said to
him, "Wait for me, young man, until I go in and tell my father, for I do need
you to travel with me, and I will pay you your wages." [8]He replied, "All
right, I will wait, but do not take too long."

9 So Tobias went in to tell his father Tobit and said to him, "I have just
found a man who is one of our own Israelite kindred!" He replied, "Call the
man in so that I may learn about his people and to what tribe he belongs and
whether he is trustworthy enough to go with you, my son."

10 Then Tobias went out and called him and said, "Young man, my father
is calling for you." So he went in to him, and Tobit greeted him first. He

replied, “Many greetings to you!” But Tobit retorted, “What is left for me to greet any more? I am a man without eyesight; I cannot see the light of heaven, but I lie in darkness like the dead who no longer see the light. Although still alive, I am among the dead. I hear people’s voices, but I cannot see them.” But the young man[k] said, “Take courage; the time is near for God to heal you; take courage.” Then Tobit said to him, “My son Tobias wishes to go to Media. Can you accompany him and guide him? I will pay your wages, brother.” He answered, “I can go with him, and I know all the roads. I have often gone to Media, have crossed all its plains, and am familiar with its mountains and all of its roads.”

11 Then Tobit[l] said to him, “Brother, of what family are you and from what tribe? Tell me, brother.” [12]He replied, “Why do you need to know my tribe and lineage? Are you seeking an employee or a tribe and lineage?”[m] But Tobit[n] said, “I want to be sure, brother, whose son you are and what your name is.” [13]He replied, “I am Azariah, the son of the elder Hananiah, one of your relatives.” [14]Then Tobit[o] said to him, “You are very welcome, brother. Do not feel bitter toward me, brother, because I wanted to be sure about your family. It turns out that you are a kinsman and of good and noble lineage. For I knew Hananiah and Nathan, the two sons of the elder Shemeliah,[p] and they used to go with me to Jerusalem and worship with me there; they were not led astray. Your kindred are good people; you are of good stock. Welcome!”*

15 Then he added, “I will pay you a drachma a day as wages, as well as expenses for yourself and my son. So go with my son,* [16]and I will add something to your wages.” Raphael[q] answered, “I will go with him, so do not fear. We shall leave in good health and return to you in good health because the way is safe.” [17]So Tobit[r] said to him, “Blessings be upon you, brother.”

Then he called his son and said to him, “Make preparations for the journey, my son, and set out with your brother. May God in heaven bring you safely there and return you in good health to me, and may his angel, my son, accompany you both for your safety.”

Before he[s] went out to start his journey, he kissed his father and mother. Tobit then said to him, “Have a safe journey.”*

18 But his mother began to weep and said to Tobit, “Why is it that you
have sent my son away? Is he not the staff of our hand as he goes in and out
before us?* 19Do not heap money upon money, but let it be a ransom for our
son. 20The life that is given to us by the Lord is enough for us.” 21Tobit[t] said
to her, “Do not worry; our son will leave in good health and return to us in
good health. Your eyes will see him on the day when he returns to you in
good health. Say no more! Do not fear for them, my sister,* 22for a good
angel will accompany him; his journey will be successful, and he will come
back in good health.”*

Tobit 6

1 So she stopped weeping.

JOURNEY TO RAGES

The young man went out, and the angel went with him, [2]and the dog
came out with him and went along with them. So they both journeyed
along, and when the first night overtook them they camped by the Tigris
River.* [3]Then the young man went down to wash his feet in the Tigris
River, and a large fish leaped up from the water and tried to swallow the
young man's foot, and he cried out. [4]But the angel said to the young man,
"Catch hold of the fish and hang on to it!" So the young man grasped the
fish and drew it up on the land. [5]Then the angel said to him, "Cut open the
fish and take out its gall, heart, and liver. Keep them with you, but throw
away the intestines. For its gall, heart, and liver are useful as medicine." [6]So
after cutting open the fish the young man gathered together the gall, heart,
and liver; then he roasted and ate some of the fish and kept some to be
salted for the journey.[u]

The two continued on their way together until they were near Media.*
[7]Then the young man questioned the angel and said to him, "Azariah, my
brother, what medicinal value is there in the fish's heart and liver and in the
gall?" [8]He replied, "As for the fish's heart and liver, you must burn them to
make a smoke in the presence of a man or woman afflicted by a demon or
evil spirit, and every affliction will flee away and never remain with that
person any longer.* [9]And as for the gall, anoint a person's eyes where white
films have appeared on them; blow upon them, upon the white films, and
the eyes[v] will be healed."*

RAPHAEL'S INSTRUCTIONS

10 When they entered Media and were already approaching Ecbatana,*
[11]Raphael said to the young man, "Tobias, my brother." "Here I am," he
answered. Then Raphael[w] said to him, "We must stay this night in the home

of Raguel. That man is your relative, and he has a daughter named Sarah.* 12He has no male heir and no daughter except Sarah only, and you, as next of kin to her, have before all other men a hereditary claim on her. Also, it is right for you to inherit her father's possessions. Moreover, the young woman is intelligent, brave, and very beautiful, and her father is a good man."* 13He continued, "You have every right to take her in marriage. So listen to me, brother; tonight I will speak to her father about the young woman, so that we may take her to be your bride. When we return from Rages[x] we will celebrate her marriage. For I know that Raguel can by no means keep her from you or promise her to another man without incurring the penalty of death according to the decree of the book of Moses. Indeed, he knows that you, rather than any other man, are entitled to marry his daughter. So now listen to me, brother, and tonight we shall speak concerning the young woman and arrange her engagement to you. And when we return from Rages, we will take her and bring her back with us to your house."*

14 Then Tobias said in answer to Raphael, "Azariah, my brother, I have heard that she already has been married to seven husbands and that they died in the bridal chamber. On the night when they went in to her, they would die. And I have heard some say that a demon kills them.[y,*] 15It does not harm her, but it kills anyone who desires to approach her. So now, since I am the only son my father has, I am afraid that I may die and bring my father's and mother's lives down to their graves, grieving for me—and they have no other son to bury them."*

16 But Raphael[z] said to him, "Do you not remember your father's orders when he commanded you to take a wife from your father's house? Now listen to me, brother, and say no more about this demon. Take her. I know that this very night she will be given to you in marriage.* 17When you enter the bridal chamber, take some of the fish's liver and heart and put them on the embers of the incense. An odor will be given off;* 18the demon will smell it and flee and will never be seen near her any more. Now when you are about to go to bed with her, both of you must first stand up and pray, imploring the Lord of heaven that mercy and safety may be granted to you. Do not be afraid, for she has always been set apart for you. You will save her, and she will go with you. I know that you will have children by her, and they will be as brothers and sisters to you. Now say no more!" When

Tobias heard the words of Raphael and learned that she was his sister, related through his father's lineage, he loved her very much, and his heart was drawn to her.*

Tobit 7

ARRIVAL AT HOME OF RAGUEL

1 Now when they[a] entered Ecbatana, Tobias[b] said to him, “Azariah, my
brother, take me straight to our brother Raguel.” So he took him to Raguel’s
house, where they found him sitting beside the courtyard door. They greeted
him first, and he replied, “Many greetings, my brothers; welcome and good
health!” Then he brought them into his house.* 2He said to his wife Edna,
“How much this young man resembles my kinsman Tobit!”* 3Then Edna
questioned them, saying, “Where are you from, my brothers?” They
answered her, “We belong to the descendants of Naphtali who are exiles in
Nineveh.”* 4She said to them, “Do you know our kinsman Tobit?” And they
replied, “Yes, we know him.” Then she asked them, “Is he in good
health?”* 5They replied, “He is alive and in good health.” And Tobias
added, “He is my father!”* 6At that Raguel jumped up and kissed him and
wept. 7He also spoke to him as follows, “Blessings on you, my son,
offspring of a good and noble father! O most miserable of calamities that
such an upright and beneficent man has become blind!” He then embraced
his kinsman Tobias and wept.* 8His wife Edna also wept for him, and their
daughter Sarah likewise wept. 9Then Raguel[c] slaughtered a ram from the
flock and received them very warmly.

MARRIAGE OF TOBIAS AND SARAH

When they had bathed and washed themselves and had reclined to dine,
Tobias said to Raphael, “Azariah, my brother, ask Raguel to give me my
sister Sarah.”* 10But Raguel overheard it and said to the young man, “Eat
and drink, and be merry tonight. For no one except you, brother, has the
right to marry my daughter Sarah. Likewise I am not at liberty to give her to
any other man than you because you are my nearest relative. But let me
explain to you the true situation more fully, my son.* 11I have given her to
seven men of our kinsmen, and all died on the night when they went in to
her. But now, my son, eat and drink, and the Lord will act on behalf of you
both.” But Tobias said, “I will neither eat nor drink anything until you settle

the things that pertain to me." So Raguel said, "I will do so. She is given to you in accordance with the decree in the book of Moses, and it has been decreed from heaven that she be given to you. Take your sister; from now on you are her brother, and she is your sister. She is given to you from today and forever. May the Lord of heaven, my son, guide and prosper you both this night and grant you mercy and peace."* 12Then Raguel summoned his daughter Sarah. When she came to him, he took her by the hand and gave her to Tobias,[d] saying, "Take her to be your wife in accordance with the law and decree written in the book of Moses. Take her and bring her safely to your father. And may the God of heaven let your journey go smoothly and in his peace."* 13Then he called her mother and told her to bring writing material, and he wrote out a copy of a marriage contract, to the effect that he gave her to him as wife according to the decree of the law of Moses.[e,*] 14Then they began to eat and drink.

15 Raguel called his wife Edna and said to her, "Sister, get the other room ready, and take her there."* 16So she went and made the bed in the room as he had told her and brought Sarah[f] there. She wept for her daughter.[g] Then, wiping away the tears, she said to her, "Take courage, my daughter; the Lord of heaven grant you joy in place of your sorrow. Take courage, my daughter." Then she went out.*

Tobit 8

TOBIAS ROUTS THE DEMON

1 When they had finished eating and drinking, they wanted to retire, so they took the young man and brought him into the bedroom. [2]Then Tobias remembered the words of Raphael, and he took the fish's liver and heart out of the bag where he had them and put them on the embers of the incense.* [3]The odor of the fish so repelled the demon that he fled to the remotest parts[h] of Egypt. But Raphael followed him and at once bound him there hand and foot.*

4 When the parents[i] had gone out and shut the door of the room, Tobias got out of bed and said to Sarah,[j] "Sister, get up, and let us pray and implore our Lord that he grant us mercy and safety."* [5]So she got up, and they began to pray and implore that they might be kept safe. Tobias[k] began by saying,

"Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors,
and blessed is your name in all generations forever.
Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you forever.*
[6]You made Adam, and for him you made his wife Eve
as a helper and support.
From the two of them the human race has sprung.
You said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone;
let us make a helper for him like himself.'*
[7]I now am taking this sister of mine,
not for sexual gratification,
but with sincerity.
Grant that she and I may find mercy
and that we may grow old together."

[8]And they both together said, "Amen, Amen." [9]Then they went to sleep for the night.

But Raguel arose and called his servants to him, and they went and dug a grave, [10]for he said, "It is possible that he will die, and we will become an object of ridicule and derision." [11]When they had finished digging the grave, Raguel went into his house and called his wife, [12]saying, "Send one of the female slaves and have her go in to see if he is alive. But if he is dead, let us bury him without anyone knowing it."* [13]So they sent the female slave, lit a lamp, and opened the door; and she went in and found them lying in bed asleep together. [14]Then the female slave came out and informed them that he was alive and that nothing was wrong. [15]So they blessed the God of heaven, and Raguel[l] said,

"Blessed are you, O God, with every pure blessing;
let all your chosen ones bless you.[m]
Let them bless you forever.*
[16]Blessed are you because you have made me glad.
It has not turned out as I expected,
but you have dealt with us according to your great mercy.*
[17]Blessed are you because you had compassion
on two only children.
Be merciful to them, O Master, and keep them safe;
bring their lives to fulfillment
in happiness and mercy."*

[18]Then he ordered his servants to fill in the grave before daybreak.

WEDDING FEAST

19 After this he asked his wife to bake many loaves of bread, and he went out to the herd and brought two steers and four rams and ordered them to be slaughtered. So they began to make preparations.* [20]Then he called for Tobias and[n] said to him: "You shall not leave here for fourteen days but shall stay here eating and drinking with me, and you shall cheer up my daughter, who has been depressed.* [21]Take at once half of what I own and return in safety to your father; the other half will be yours when my wife and I die. Take courage, my son. I am your father, and Edna is your mother,

and we belong to you as well as to your sister now and forever. Take courage, my son."*

Tobit 9

THE MONEY RECOVERED

1 Then Tobias called Raphael and said to him,* 2"Azariah, my brother, take
four servants and two camels with you and travel to Rages. Go to the home
of Gabael, give him the bond, get the money, and then bring him with you
to the wedding celebration.* 4For you know that my father must be counting
the days, and if I delay even one day I will upset him very much.* 3You are
witness to the oath Raguel has sworn, and I cannot violate his oath."o,* 5So
Raphael with the four servants and two camels went to Rages in Media and
stayed with Gabael. Raphaelp gave him the bond and informed him that
Tobit's son Tobias had married and was inviting him to the wedding
celebration. So Gabaelq got up and counted out to him the money bags, with
their seals intact, and they put them together.* 6In the morning they both got
up early and went to the wedding celebration. When they came into
Raguel's house, they found Tobias reclining at table. He sprang up and
greeted Gabael,r who wept and blessed him with the words, "Good and
noble son of a father good and noble, upright and generous! May the Lord
grant the blessing of heaven to you and your wife and to your father and to
the mother of your wife. Blessed be God, for I see in Tobias the very image
of my cousin Tobit."*

Tobit 10

ANXIETY OF THE PARENTS

1 Now day by day Tobit kept counting how many days Tobias[s] would need
for going and for returning. And when the days had passed and his son did
not appear,[*] [2]he said, "Is it possible that he has been detained? Or that
Gabael has died, and there is no one to give him the money?" [3]And he
began to worry. [4]His wife Anna said, "My son has perished and is no longer
among the living." And she began to weep and mourn for her son, saying,
[5]"Woe to me, my child, the light of my eyes, that I let you make the
journey."[*] [6]But Tobit kept saying to her, "Be quiet and stop worrying, my
sister; he is all right. Something must have happened to delay them. The
man who went with him is trustworthy and is one of our own kin. Do not
grieve for him, my sister; he will be here soon." [7]She answered him, "Be
quiet yourself! Stop trying to deceive me! My son has perished." She would
rush out every day and watch the road her son had taken and would heed no
one.[t] When the sun had set she would go in and mourn and weep all night
long, getting no sleep.

TOBIAS AND SARAH START FOR HOME

Now when the fourteen days of the wedding celebration had ended that
Raguel had sworn to observe for his daughter, Tobias came to him and said,
"Send me back, for I know that my father and mother do not believe that
they will see me again. So I beg of you, father, to let me go so that I may
return to my own father. I have already explained to you how I left him."[*]
[8]But Raguel said to Tobias, "Stay, my son, stay with me; I will send
messengers to your father Tobit, and they will inform him about you." [9]But
he said to him, "No! I beg you to send me back to my father." [10]So Raguel
stood and gave Tobias his wife Sarah, as well as half of all his property:
male and female slaves, oxen and sheep, donkeys and camels, clothing,
money, and household goods.[*] [11]Then he saw them safely off; he embraced
Tobias[u] and said to him, "Farewell, my son; have a safe journey. The Lord
of heaven prosper you and your wife Sarah, and may I see children of yours

before I die." [12]Then he said to his daughter Sarah, "My daughter, go to your father-in-law and your mother-in-law,[v] since from now on they are as much your parents as those who gave you birth. Go in peace, daughter, and may I hear a good report about you as long as I live." Then he bade them farewell and let them go. Then Edna said to Tobias, "My child and dear brother, the Lord of heaven bring you back safely, and may I live long enough to see children from you and of my daughter Sarah before I die. In the sight of the Lord I entrust my daughter to you; do nothing to make her unhappy all the days of your life. Go in peace, my son. From now on I am your mother, and Sarah is your sister. May we all prosper together all the days of our lives." Then she kissed them both and saw them safely off.[*] [13]Tobias parted from Raguel with happiness and joy, praising the Lord of heaven and earth, King over all, because he had made his journey a success, and he blessed Raguel and his wife Edna and said,[w] "May it come to pass that I honor[x] them all the days of their lives."[y]

Tobit 11

HOMEWARD JOURNEY

1 When they came near to Kaserin, which is opposite Nineveh, Raphael
said,* [2]"You are aware of how we left your father. [3]Let us run ahead of your
wife and prepare the house while they are still on the way." [4]As they went
on together, Raphael[z] said to him, "Have the gall ready in your hand." And
the dog[a] went along behind them.*

5 Meanwhile Anna sat looking intently down the road by which her son
would come.* [6]When she caught sight of him coming, she said to his father,
"Look, your son is coming, and the man who went with him!"

TOBIT'S SIGHT RESTORED

7 Raphael said to Tobias before he had approached his father, "I know
that his eyes will be opened.* [8]Smear the gall of the fish on his eyes; the
medicine will make the white films shrink and peel off from his eyes, and
your father will regain his sight and see the light."*

9 Then Anna ran up to her son and threw her arms around her son,
saying, "Now that I have seen you, my son, I am ready to die." And she
wept.* [10]Then Tobit got up and came stumbling out through the courtyard
door. Tobias went up to him, [11]with the gall of the fish in his hand, and blew
it into his eyes, then took hold of him, saying, "Take courage, father." With
this he applied the medicine on his eyes,* [12]and it stung.[b] [13]Next, with both
his hands he peeled off the white films from the corners of his eyes. Then
Tobit[c] threw his arms around him,* [14]and he wept and said to him, "I see
you, my son, the light of my eyes!" Then he said,

"Blessed be God.
May his great name be upon us,
and blessed be all the angels[d]
throughout all the ages.*

[15]Though he afflicted me,[e]

now I see my son Tobias!”

So Tobit went in rejoicing and praising God at the top of his voice. Tobias reported to his father that his journey had been successful, that he had brought the money, that he had married Raguel’s daughter Sarah, and that she was, indeed, on her way there, very near to the gate of Nineveh.*

16 Then Tobit,[f] rejoicing and praising God, went out to meet his daughter-in-law at the gate of Nineveh. When the people of Nineveh saw him coming, walking along in full vigor and with no one leading him, they were amazed. 17Before them all, Tobit acknowledged that God had been merciful to him and had restored his sight. When Tobit met Sarah the wife of his son Tobias, he blessed her, saying, “Come in, my daughter, and be welcome. Blessed be your God who has brought you to us, my daughter. Blessed be your father and your mother, blessed be my son Tobias, and blessed be you, my daughter. Come in now to your home, and be welcome, with blessing and joy. Come in, my daughter.” So on that day there was rejoicing among all the Jews who were in Nineveh.* 18Ahikar and his nephew Nadab were also present to share Tobit’s joy.[g,*]

Tobit 12

RAPHAEL'S WAGES

1 When the wedding celebration was ended, Tobit called his son Tobias and
said to him, "My son, see to paying the wages of the man who went with
you, and give him a bonus as well."* [2]He replied, "Father, how much shall I
pay him? It would do me no harm to give him half of the possessions
brought back with me.* [3]For he has led me back safely, cured my wife,
brought the money back with me, and healed you. How much extra shall I
give him as a bonus?"* [4]Tobit replied, "He deserves, my son, to receive half
of all that he brought back." [5]So Tobias[h] called him and said, "Take for
your wages half of all that you brought back, and farewell."

RAPHAEL'S EXHORTATION

6 Then Raphael[i] called the two of them privately and said to them, "Bless
God and acknowledge him in the presence of all the living for the good
things he has done for you. Bless and sing praise to his name. With fitting
honor declare to all people the deeds[j] of God. Do not be slow to
acknowledge him.* [7]It is good to conceal the secret of a king and to
acknowledge and reveal the works of God with proper honor. Do good, and
evil will not overtake you.* [8]Prayer with fidelity is good, and almsgiving
with righteousness is better than wealth with injustice. It is better to give
alms than to lay up gold,* [9]for almsgiving saves from death and purges
away every sin. Those who give alms will enjoy a full life,* [10]but those who
commit sin and do wrong are their own enemies.*

RAPHAEL DISCLOSES HIS IDENTITY

11 "I will now declare the whole truth to you and will conceal nothing
from you. Already I have declared it to you when I said, 'It is good to
conceal the secret of a king but to reveal with due honor the works of
God.'* [12]So now when you and Sarah prayed, it was I who brought the
record of your prayers before the glory of the Lord, and likewise whenever

you would bury the dead.* 13And that time when you did not hesitate to get
up and leave your dinner to go and lay out that corpse,* 14I was sent to you
to test you. And at the same time God sent me to heal you and Sarah your
daughter-in-law.* 15I am Raphael, one of the seven angels who stand ready
and enter before the glory of the Lord."*

16 The two of them were shaken and threw themselves face down, for
they were afraid.* 17But he said to them, "Do not be afraid; peace be with
you. Bless God forevermore. 18As for me, when I was with you, I was not
acting on my own will but by the will of God. Bless him each and every
day; sing his praises. 19When you were watching me, I was not really
eating[k] anything, but what you saw was a vision.* 20So now bless the Lord
on the earth[l] and acknowledge God. See, I am ascending to him who sent
me. Write down all these things that have happened to you." And he
ascended.* 21Then they stood up and could see him no more. 22They kept
blessing God and singing his praises, and they acknowledged God for these
marvelous deeds of his, that an angel of God had appeared to them.

Tobit 13

TOBIT'S THANKSGIVING TO GOD

1 Then Tobit[m] said:

"Blessed be God who lives forever,
and blessed be his kingdom.
[2]For he afflicts, and he shows mercy;
he leads down to Hades in the lowest regions of the earth,
and he brings up from the great abyss,
and there is nothing that can escape his hand.*
[3]Acknowledge him before the nations, O children of Israel,
for he has scattered you among them.*
[4]He has shown you his greatness even there.
Exalt him in the presence of every living being,
because he is our[n] Lord, and he is our God;
he is our Father, and he is God forever.
[5]He will afflict[o] you for your iniquities,
but he will again show mercy on all of you.
He will gather you from all the nations
among whom you have been scattered.*
[6]If you turn to him with all your heart and with all your soul,
to do what is true before him,
then he will turn to you
and will no longer hide his face from you.
So now see what he has done for you;
acknowledge him at the top of your voice.
Bless the Lord of righteousness,
and exalt the King of the ages.[p]

In the land of my exile I acknowledge him
and show his power and majesty to a nation of sinners:
'Turn back, you sinners, and do what is right before him;
perhaps he may look with favor upon you and show you mercy.'*
7As for me, I exalt my God,
and my soul rejoices in the King of heaven.*
8Let all people speak of his majesty
and acknowledge him in Jerusalem.*
9O Jerusalem, the holy city,
he afflicted[q] you for the deeds of your hands[r]
but will again have mercy on the children of the righteous.*
10Acknowledge the Lord worthily,
and bless the King of the ages,
so that your tent[s] may be rebuilt for you[t] with joy.
May he cheer all those within you who are captives
and love all those within you who are distressed,
to all generations forever.*
11A bright light will shine to all the remotest parts of the earth;
many nations will come to you from far away,
the inhabitants of the ends of the earth to your holy name,
bearing gifts in their hands for the King of heaven.
Generation after generation will give joyful praise in you;
the name of the chosen city will endure forever.*
12Cursed are all who reject you
and all who blaspheme you;
cursed are all who hate you[u]
and all who speak a harsh word against you;
cursed are all who conquer you
and pull down your walls,

all who overthrow your towers
and set your homes on fire.
But blessed forever will be all who build you up.[v,*]
[13]Rejoice,[w] then, and exult over the children of the righteous,
for they will all be gathered together
and will bless the Lord of the ages.*
[14]Happy will be those who love you,
and happy are those who will rejoice in your peace.
Happy also all people who grieve with you
because of your afflictions,
for they will rejoice with you
and witness all your joy forever.*
[15]My soul blesses[x] the Lord, the great King,*
[16]for Jerusalem will be rebuilt as his house for all ages.
How happy I will be if a remnant of my descendants should survive
to see your glory and acknowledge the King of heaven.
The gates of Jerusalem will be built with sapphire and emerald
and all your walls with precious stones.
The towers of Jerusalem will be built with gold
and their battlements with pure gold.
[17]The streets of Jerusalem will be paved
with ruby and with stones of Ophir.*
[18]The gates of Jerusalem will sing hymns of joy,
and all her houses will cry, ‘Hallelujah!
Blessed be the God of Israel!’—
and the blessed will bless the holy name forever and ever.”*

Tobit 14

TOBIT'S FINAL COUNSEL

1 So ended Tobit's words of praise.

2 He died in peace when he was one hundred twelve years old and was buried with great honor in Nineveh. He was fifty-eight[y] years old when he lost his eyesight, and after regaining it he lived in prosperity, giving alms. He continued to bless God and to acknowledge God's greatness.

3 When he was about to die, he called his son Tobias and his seven children[z] and gave this command: "My son, take your children [4]and escape off to Media, for I believe the word of God that Nahum spoke about Nineveh, that all these things will occur and will happen to Assyria and Nineveh. Indeed, everything that was spoken by the prophets of Israel whom God sent will occur. None of all their words will fail, but all will come true at their appointed times. So it will be safer in Media than among the Assyrians or in Babylon. For I know and believe that whatever God has said will be fulfilled and will occur; not a single word of the prophecies will fail. All of our kindred, inhabitants of the land of Israel, will be counted and taken as captives from the good land, and the whole land of Israel will be desolate; even Samaria and Jerusalem will be desolate. And the temple of God in it will be burned to the ground and will be desolate for a while.[a,*]

5 "But God will again have mercy on them, and God will bring them back into the land of Israel, and they will rebuild the temple but not like the first one until the appointed time is completed. After this they all will return from their exile and will rebuild Jerusalem in splendor, and in it the temple of God will be rebuilt, just as the prophets of Israel have said concerning it.[*] [6]Then all the nations in the whole world will all be converted and will truly fear God. They will all abandon all their idols who deceitfully have led them into their error,[*] [7]and in righteousness they will praise the eternal God. All the Israelites who are saved in those days and are truly mindful of God will be gathered together; they will go to Jerusalem and live in safety forever in the land of Abraham, and it will be given over to them. Those who sincerely love God will rejoice, but those who commit sin and injustice will vanish from all the earth.

9 "So now, my children, I command you, serve God faithfully and do what is pleasing in his sight. Your children are also to be commanded to do what is right and to give alms and to be mindful of God and to bless his name at all times with sincerity and with all their strength. [8]So now, my son, leave Nineveh; do not remain here.[b] [10]On whatever day you bury your mother beside me, do not stay overnight within the confines of the city, for I see that there is much injustice within it and that much deceit is practiced within it, while the people are without shame. See, my son, what Nadab did to Ahikar, who had reared him. Was he not, while still alive, brought down into the earth? For God repaid him to his face for this shameful treatment. Ahikar came out into the light, but Nadab went into the eternal darkness because he tried to kill Ahikar. Because he gave alms, he escaped the fatal trap that Nadab had set for him, but Nadab fell into it himself and was destroyed.* [11]So now, my children, see what almsgiving accomplishes and what injustice does—it brings death! But now my breath fails me."

DEATH OF TOBIT AND ANNA

Then they laid him on his bed, and he died, and he received an honorable funeral.* [12]When Tobias's mother died, he buried her beside his father. Then he and his wife[c] returned to Media and settled in Ecbatana with Raguel his father-in-law.* [13]He looked after his parents-in-law[d] with great respect in their old age and buried them in Ecbatana of Media. He inherited both the property of Raguel and that of his father Tobit. [14]He died highly respected at the age of one hundred seventeen years. [15]Before he died he saw and heard[e] of the destruction of Nineveh, and he saw its prisoners being led into Media, those whom King Cyaxares[f] of Media had taken captive. Tobias[g] blessed God for all he had done to the people of Nineveh and Assyria; before he died he rejoiced over Nineveh, and he blessed the Lord God forever and ever. Amen.*

Tobit 1

a **1.1** Other ancient authorities lack *of Raphael son of Raguel of the descendants*
b **1.2** OL: Gk *Enemessaros*
* **1.2** 2 Kings 15.29; 1 Chr 5.26
* **1.3** Lev 25.35; Acts 9.36
* **1.4** 1 Kings 12.19, 20
* **1.5** 1 Kings 12.28, 30; Hos 13.2
* **1.6** Ex 22.30; Num 18.12; Deut 12.6
* **1.7** Num 18.21; Deut 14.25, 26
c **1.8** OL: Gk *Hananiel*
* **1.8** Deut 14.28, 29
d **1.9** Other ancient authorities add *Anna*
* **1.9** Num 36.7–9; Tob 2.1
* **1.10** v 2; Hos 9.3; Tob 6.12
* **1.11** Jdt 12.2
e **1.13** OL: Gk *Enemessaros*
* **1.14** Tob 4.1, 20; 5.5; 9.2
f **1.15** OL: Gk *Enemessaros*
* **1.15** v 2; 2 Kings 18.13; Jdt 1.5, 15
g **1.16** OL: Gk *Enemessaros*
* **1.16** v 3; Lev 25.35; Tob 4.16; Acts 9.36
* **1.17** Isa 58.7; Tob 2.7, 8; Sir 38.16; 2 Esd 2.23
* **1.18** 2 Kings 18.13; Tob 2.7, 8; Sir 48.18, 21; 2 Esd 2.23
* **1.20** Tob 2.1; 4.21
h **1.21** Gk *his*
i **1.21** Gk *Sacherdonos*
j **1.21** Other authorities read *Hananael*
* **1.21** 2 Kings 19.37; 2 Chr 32.21; Isa 37.38; Tob 14.10
k **1.22** Gk *Sacherdonos*
l **1.22** Q ms adds *a member of my father's household*
* **1.22** Gen 41.40, 42; Esth 8.2; Tob 11.18; 14.10

Tobit 2

m **2.1** Q ms: S *Then under*
n **2.1** Gk *Sacherdonos*
* **2.1** Ex 34.22; Lev 23.15; Tob 1.9, 20; Acts 2.1
o **2.2** OL: S lacks *of God*
p **2.6** OL mss: S reads *ways*
* **2.6** Am 8.10; 1 Macc 1.39

* **2.7** Tob 1.17
* **2.8** Tob 1.19
* **2.9** Num 19.11
* **2.10** Tob 1.22; 1 Macc 6.1
* **2.13** Ex 23.4; Deut 22.1
q **2.14** Or *to you*; Gk *with you*
* **2.14** Job 2.9; Tob 1.3

Tobit 3

r **3.2** Other ancient authorities read *you render true and righteous judgment forever*
* **3.2** Ezra 9.15; Ps 119.137
* **3.3** Sir 23.2; 1 Esd 8.72
* **3.4** Deut 28.15, 37; Ps 44.14; Jer 24.9; 2 Esd 4.23
* **3.6** Num 11.15; 1 Kings 19.4; 2 Chr 30.9; Jon 4.3; Tob 4.7
* **3.7** Ezra 6.2; Tob 5.6; 7.1; 14.12; Jdt 1.1, 2; 2 Macc 9.3
s **3.8** Other ancient authorities read *strangles*
t **3.8** Other ancient authorities read *have had no benefit from*
* **3.8** v 17; Tob 6.14, 15, 18; 8.3
u **3.10** Other ancient authorities lack *out of distress*
* **3.10** Gen 42.38; 44.31; Tob 6.14
v **3.11** Other ancient authorities add *holy and honorable*
* **3.11** Ps 145.10; Dan 6.10; Tob 8.5; 11.14
w **3.12** Other ancient authorities add *Lord*
* **3.12** Ps 123.1; 141.8
x **3.14** Q ms adds *in my bones*
y **3.17** Other ancient authorities lack *with his eyes*
* **3.17** v 8; Tob 6.12; 8.2; 11.13; Acts 9.18

Tobit 4

* **4.1** v 20; Tob 1.14
* **4.2** Tob 3.6
z **4.3** Other ancient authorities read *My son, when I die, give*
* **4.3** Ex 20.12; Prov 23.22; Sir 7.27
a **4.4** Q ms adds *and carried you*
* **4.4** Sir 7.27
* **4.5** Deut 8.11

b **4.6** S lacks 4.6–19, reading *To those who practice righteousness* [19]*the Lord will give good counsel*; 4.7–18 supplied here from another Gk ms
* **4.7** v 16; Deut 15.7, 8; Prov 22.9; Sir 4.1, 5; 31.13; 35.10; 2 Cor 9.7
* **4.8** Sir 35.10; 1 Cor 16.2; 2 Cor 8.12

* **4.9** 1 Tim 6.19
* **4.10** Tob 12.9; Sir 3.30; 29.12, 13
c **4.12** Other ancient authorities add *Noah, then*
* **4.12** Num 36.7–9; Ezra 10.2
* **4.13** Prov 11.2
* **4.14** Lev 19.13; Deut 24.15; Jas 5.4
d **4.15** Other ancient authorities read *Do not drink wine to excess, and may*
* **4.15** Prov 20.1; Mt 7.12; Eph 5.18
* **4.16** vv 7, 8; Tob 1.16, 17; 2 Cor 9.7
* **4.17** Jer 16.7; Sir 12.4; 30.18
* **4.19** Ps 119.5; Jas 1.17
* **4.20** Tob 1.14
* **4.21** Tob 1.20; Rom 8.17; 1 Tim 6.6–8

Tobit 5

e **5.2** Gk *it*
f **5.2** Gk *sign*
g **5.3** Other authorities read *He*
h **5.3** Gk *from him*
* **5.3** Tob 9.5
* **5.4** Tob 3.17
i **5.5** Gk *He*
j **5.5** Gk *he*
* **5.5** Tob 1.14
k **5.10** Gk *he*
l **5.11** Gk *he*
m **5.12** OL: S lacks *and lineage? Are you seeking an employee or a tribe and lineage?*
n **5.12** Gk *he*
o **5.14** Gk *he*
p **5.14** Other ancient authorities read *Shemaiah*
* **5.14** Tob 1.4–7; 7.7; Lk 8.15
* **5.15** Tob 12.1; Mt 20.2
q **5.16** Gk *He*
r **5.17** Gk *he*
s **5.17** Other ancient authorities read *So he made preparations for the journey and*
* **5.17** Gen 24.7
* **5.18** Num 27.17
t **5.21** Gk *He*
* **5.21** Tob 11.17
* **5.22** v 16

Tobit 6

* **6.2** Tob 11.4
u **6.6** Q ms: S lacks *for the journey*
* **6.6** Tob 3.7
* **6.8** Lk 7.21; Acts 19.15, 16
v **6.9** Gk *they*
* **6.9** Tob 11.4, 8, 11–13
* **6.10** Tob 1.14
w **6.11** Gk *he*
* **6.11** Tob 3.7
* **6.12** Num 27.8; 36.8; Tob 3.10, 15, 17; 7.10, 13
x **6.13** OL: S reads *Raguel*
* **6.13** Num 27.8; 36.8; Tob 3.17; 7.10, 13
y **6.14** Other ancient authorities lack *And I . . . kills them*
* **6.14** v 16; Tob 3.8; Mt 9.15; Mk 2.19; Lk 5.34
* **6.15** v 18; Tob 3.8, 10; 8.3
z **6.16** Gk *he*
* **6.16** Tob 4.12
* **6.17** v 14; Tob 8.2; Mt 9.15; Mk 2.19; Lk 5.34
* **6.18** v 14; Tob 3.8; 8.3

Tobit 7

a **7.1** Q ms OL: S *he*
b **7.1** Gk *he*
* **7.1** Tob 3.7
* **7.2** Tob 9.6; Sir 30.4
* **7.3** Tob 1.3, 4
* **7.4** Gen 43.27
* **7.5** Gen 43.28
* **7.7** Tob 5.14
c **7.9** Gk *he*
* **7.9** Tob 3.17
* **7.10** Tob 6.11
* **7.11** Gen 24.33; Neh 8.18
d **7.12** Gk *him*
* **7.12** Gen 24.59; Num 36.6
e **7.13** Other ancient authorities add *and put his seal to it*
* **7.13** Num 36.6; Tob 6.11; 2 Esd 15.2
* **7.15** Tob 5.21
f **7.16** Gk *her*

g **7.16** Gk *her*
* **7.16** Tob 11.11

Tobit 8

* **8.2** Tob 3.17; 6.16, 17
h **8.3** Or *fled through the air to the parts*
* **8.3** Tob 3.8; 6.14, 16, 18; Rev 12.9; 20.2
i **8.4** Gk *they*
j **8.4** Gk *her*
* **8.4** Tob 5.21
k **8.5** Gk *He*
* **8.5** vv 15–17; Tob 3.11; 11.14, 17
* **8.6** Gen 2.7, 18, 22; Sir 36.29
* **8.12** Tob 1.17
l **8.15** Gk *they*
m **8.15** Other ancient authorities lack this line
* **8.15** vv 16, 17; Ps 148.2; Tob 3.11; 11.14; Sir 17.10
* **8.16** vv 5, 15, 17
* **8.17** vv 5, 15, 16
* **8.19** Tob 11.18; 2 Esd 9.47; Mt 22.2
n **8.20** OL reads *swore on oath, saying*
* **8.20** Tob 9.3; 10.7; 11.18
* **8.21** Num 27.8; Tob 10.10

Tobit 9

* **9.1** Tob 3.17
* **9.2** Gen 24.10; Ezra 2.67; Job 1.3; Tob 1.14
* **9.4** Tob 10.1
o **9.3** In other ancient authorities 9.3 precedes 9.4
* **9.3** Tob 8.20
p **9.5** Gk *He*
q **9.5** Gk *he*
* **9.5** v 1; Tob 5.3
r **9.6** Gk *him*
* **9.6** Tob 7.2

Tobit 10

s **10.1** Gk *he*
* **10.1** Tob 9.4
* **10.5** Prov 15.30; Bar 3.14

t **10.7** Other ancient authorities read *would eat nothing*
* **10.7** Tob 8.20
* **10.10** Tob 8.21; 12.2; Rev 18.13
u **10.11** Gk *him*
v **10.12** Other ancient authorities lack parts of *Then . . . mother-in-law*
* **10.12** 1 Pet 4.19
w **10.13** OL: S *And he said to him*
x **10.13** Cn: S *May it go well for you to honor*
y **10.13** OL: Meaning of Gk uncertain

Tobit 11

* **11.1** Tob 9.1
z **11.4** Gk *he*
a **11.4** OL: S reads *And the Lord*
* **11.4** vv 8, 11; Tob 6.2, 8
* **11.5** Tob 10.7
* **11.7** Tob 3.17; 9.1
* **11.8** vv 4, 11; Tob 6.8
* **11.9** v 13; Gen 46.29, 30; Lk 15.20
* **11.11** vv 4, 8; Tob 7.16
b **11.12** Cn: S *and he applied*
c **11.13** Gk *he*
* **11.13** v 9; Tob 3.17; Acts 9.18
d **11.14** Other ancient authorities lack *May his great . . . angels*
* **11.14** Tob 3.11; 8.5; 12.15; Mt 25.31
e **11.15** OL adds *he has had mercy upon me*
* **11.15** Tob 13.2
f **11.16** Gk *he*
* **11.17** Tob 5.14; 8.5
g **11.18** Other ancient authorities add *With merriment they celebrated Tobias's wedding feast for seven days, and many gifts were given to him*
* **11.18** Gen 29.27; Judg 14.12; Tob 1.21; 2.10; 8.19

Tobit 12

* **12.1** Tob 5.15, 16
* **12.2** Tob 10.10
* **12.3** Tob 8.2; 9.5
h **12.5** Gk *he*
i **12.6** Gk *he*
j **12.6** Gk *words*; other ancient authorities read *words of the deeds*

* **12.6** Ps 92.1; 147.1
* **12.7** v 11; Prov 12.21; 1 Pet 3.13
* **12.8** Ps 37.16; Prov 16.8; Sir 29.11; Mt 6.1–18
* **12.9** Tob 4.10; 14.11; Sir 40.17; Mt 6.2–4
* **12.10** Rom 6.23
* **12.11** v 7
* **12.12** Tob 1.17; 3.1–6, 11–15; Acts 10.4
* **12.13** Tob 2.3, 4
* **12.14** v 3
* **12.15** Tob 3.17; Lk 1.19; Rev 8.2–4
* **12.16** Josh 5.14; Judg 13.20; Acts 9.4

k **12.19** Other ancient authorities add *and drinking*

* **12.19** Judg 13.16

l **12.20** Other ancient authorities read *get up from the ground*

* **12.20** Jn 16.5

Tobit 13

m **13.1** Gk *he*

* **13.2** Deut 32.39; 1 Sam 2.6; Tob 11.15
* **13.3** v 6; Tob 1.2

n **13.4** Q mss read *your*

o **13.5** Other ancient authorities read *He afflicted*

* **13.5** Deut 30.3; 32.39; Tob 11.15

p **13.6** S lacks 13.6b–10a and is filled in from other ancient authorities

* **13.6** vv 3, 10; Deut 6.5; Jon 3.9; 1 Tim 1.17
* **13.7** 1 Esd 4.46
* **13.8** Jn 4.20

q **13.9** Other ancient authorities read *will afflict*

r **13.9** Other ancient authorities read *your children*

* **13.9** v 13; Neh 11.1; Dan 9.24

s **13.10** Or *tabernacle*

t **13.10** Q ms: Gk reads *in you*

* **13.10** v 6; 1 Tim 1.17
* **13.11** Ps 86.9; Isa 60.5–10; Tob 14.6; Rev 21.24

u **13.12** Q ms: S lacks *reject . . . hate you*

v **13.12** OL: S *who fear you*

* **13.12** Gen 12.3; 27.29; Num 24.9; Ps 122.6, 7

w **13.13** Q mss: S *Go*

* **13.13** v 9
* **13.14** Ps 122.6; Isa 66.10; Tob 14.7

x **13.15** OL reads *O my soul, bless*

* **13.15** Ps 48.2; Mt 5.35
* **13.17** 1 Kings 9.28; Isa 54.11, 12; Rev 21.10–21
* **13.18** Isa 51.3; Rev 19.1, 3, 4, 6

Tobit 14

y **14.2** Q mss OL: S *sixty-two*
z **14.3** OL: S lacks *and his seven children*
a **14.4** OL: Other ancient authorities read *of God will be in distress and will be burned for a while*
* **14.4** 2 Kings 25.9–11; Nah 1.1; Tob 1.14
* **14.5** Ezra 6.14; Jer 31.1–14; Bar 5.5–9
* **14.6** Isa 2.18; Mic 5.13; Zech 13.2; Tob 13.11
b **14.8** In other ancient authorities 14.8 precedes 14.9
* **14.10** v 12; Tob 1.21; 12.9; Sir 38.16
* **14.11** v 10; Tob 4.10; 12.8, 9
c **14.12** Other ancient authorities add *and children*
* **14.12** v 10; Tob 3.7
d **14.13** Gk *them*
e **14.15** Other ancient authorities lack *saw and*
f **14.15** Cn: S *Ahikar*
g **14.15** Gk *He*
* **14.15** Nah 3.7

Judith

Judith 1

ARPHAXAD FORTIFIES ECBATANA

1 It was the twelfth year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, who ruled over the Assyrians in the great city of Nineveh. In those days Arphaxad ruled over the Medes in Ecbatana.* [2]He built walls around Ecbatana with hewn stones three cubits thick and six cubits long; he made the walls seventy cubits high and fifty cubits wide. [3]At its gates he raised towers one hundred cubits high and sixty cubits wide at the foundations. [4]He made its gates seventy cubits high and forty cubits wide to allow his armies to march out in force and his infantry to form their ranks. [5]Then King Nebuchadnezzar made war against King Arphaxad in the great plain that is on the borders of Ragau.* [6]There rallied to him all the people of the hill country and all those who lived along the Euphrates, the Tigris, and the Hydaspes, and, on the plain, Arioch, king of the Elymeans. Thus many nations joined the forces of the Cheleoudites.[a,*]

NEBUCHADNEZZAR ISSUES ULTIMATUM

7 Then Nebuchadnezzar, king of the Assyrians, sent messengers to all who lived in Persia and to all who lived in the west, those who lived in Cilicia and Damascus, Lebanon and Antilebanon, and all who lived along the seacoast,* [8]and those among the nations of Carmel and Gilead, and Upper Galilee and the great plain of Esdraelon,* [9]and all who were in Samaria and its towns, and beyond the Jordan as far as Jerusalem and Bethany and Chelous and Kadesh and the river of Egypt, and Tahpanhes and Raamses and the whole land of Goshen,* [10]even beyond Tanis and Memphis, and all who lived in Egypt as far as the borders of Ethiopia.* [11]But all who lived in the whole region showed contempt for the summons of Nebuchadnezzar, king of the Assyrians, and refused to join him in the

war, for they were not afraid of him but regarded him as only one man.[b] So they sent back his messengers empty-handed and in disgrace.*

12 Then Nebuchadnezzar became very angry with this whole region and swore by his throne and kingdom that he would take revenge on the whole territory of Cilicia and Damascus and Syria, that he would kill with his sword also all the inhabitants of the land of Moab, and the people of Ammon, and all Judea, and every one in Egypt, as far as the coasts of the two seas.*

ARPHAXAD IS DEFEATED

13 In the seventeenth year he led his forces against King Arphaxad and defeated him in battle, overthrowing the whole army of Arphaxad and all his cavalry and all his chariots. [14]Thus he took possession of his towns and came to Ecbatana, captured its towers, plundered its markets, and turned its glory into disgrace. [15]He captured Arphaxad in the mountains of Ragau and struck him down with his spears, thus destroying him once and for all.* [16]Then he returned to Nineveh, he and all his combined forces, a vast body of troops, and there he and his forces rested and feasted for one hundred twenty days.*

Judith 2

THE EXPEDITION AGAINST THE WEST

1 In the eighteenth year, on the twenty-second day of the first month, there was talk in the palace of Nebuchadnezzar, king of the Assyrians, about carrying out his revenge on the whole region, just as he had said.* [2]He summoned all his attendants and all his nobles and set before them his secret plan and recounted fully, with his own lips, all the wickedness of the region.[c] [3]They decided that all who had not obeyed his command should be destroyed.*

4 When he had completed his plan, Nebuchadnezzar, king of the Assyrians, called Holofernes, the chief general of his army, second only to himself, and said to him, [5]"Thus says the Great King, the lord of the whole earth: Leave my presence and take with you men confident in their strength, one hundred twenty thousand foot soldiers and twelve thousand cavalry.* [6]March out against all the land to the west, because they disobeyed my orders.* [7]Tell them to prepare earth and water, for I am coming against them in my anger and will cover the whole face of the earth with the feet of my troops, to whom I will hand them over to be plundered.* [8]Their wounded shall fill their ravines and gullies, and the swelling river shall be filled with their dead.* [9]I will lead them away captive to the ends of the whole earth. [10]You shall go and seize all their territory for me in advance. They must yield themselves to you, and you shall hold them for me until the day of their punishment. [11]But to those who resist, show no mercy but hand them over to slaughter and plunder throughout your whole region.* [12]For as I live and by the power of my kingdom, what I have spoken I will accomplish by my own hand.* [13]And you—take care not to transgress any of your lord's commands, but carry them out exactly as I have ordered you; do it without delay."

CAMPAIGN OF HOLOFERNES

14 So Holofernes left the presence of his lord and summoned all the commanders, generals, and officers of the Assyrian army. [15]He mustered

the picked troops by divisions as his lord had ordered him to do, one hundred twenty thousand of them, together with twelve thousand archers on horseback,* 16and he organized them as a great army is marshaled for a campaign. 17He took along a vast number of camels and donkeys and mules for transport and innumerable sheep and oxen and goats for food,* 18also ample rations for everyone and a huge amount of gold and silver from the royal palace.

19 Then he set out with his whole army to go ahead of King Nebuchadnezzar and to cover the whole face of the earth to the west with their chariots and cavalry and picked foot soldiers.* 20Along with them went a mixed crowd like a swarm of locusts, like the dust[d] of the earth, a multitude that could not be counted.*

21 They marched for three days from Nineveh to the plain of Bectileth and camped opposite Bectileth near the mountain that is to the north of Upper Cilicia.* 22From there Holofernes[e] took his whole army, the infantry, cavalry, and chariots, and went up into the hill country. 23He ravaged Put and Lud and plundered all the Rassisites and the Ishmaelites on the border of the desert, south of the country of the Chelleans.* 24Then he followed[f] the Euphrates and passed through Mesopotamia and destroyed all the fortified towns along the Wadi Abron, as far as the sea.* 25He also seized the territory of Cilicia and killed everyone who resisted him. Then he came to the southern borders of Japheth, facing Arabia.* 26He surrounded all the Midianites and burned their tents and plundered their sheepfolds.* 27Then he went down into the plain of Damascus during the wheat harvest and burned all their fields and destroyed their flocks and herds and sacked their towns and ravaged their lands and put all their young men to the sword.*

28 So fear and dread of him fell upon all the people who lived along the seacoast, at Sidon and Tyre, and those who lived in Sur and Ocina and all who lived in Jamnia. Those who lived in Azotus and Ascalon feared him greatly.*

Judith 3

ENTREATIES FOR PEACE

1 They therefore sent messengers to him to sue for peace in these words:
2"We, the servants of Nebuchadnezzar, the Great King, lie prostrate before
you. Do with us whatever you will.* 3See, our buildings and all our land
and all our wheat fields and our flocks and herds and all our encampments[g]
lie before you; do with them as you please.* 4Our towns and their
inhabitants are also your slaves; come and deal with them as you see fit."

5 The men came to Holofernes and told him all this. 6Then he went down
to the seacoast with his army and stationed garrisons in the fortified towns
and took picked men from them as auxiliaries.* 7These people and all in the
countryside welcomed him with garlands and dances and tambourines.*
8Yet he demolished all their shrines[h] and cut down their sacred groves, for
he had been commissioned to destroy all the gods of the land, so that all
nations should worship Nebuchadnezzar alone and that all their dialects and
tribes should call upon him as a god.*

9 Then he came toward Esdraelon, near Dothan, facing the great ridge of
Judea; 10he camped between Geba and Scythopolis and remained for a
whole month in order to collect all the supplies for his army.*

Judith 4

JUDEA ON THE ALERT

1 When the Israelites living in Judea heard of everything that Holofernes,
the general of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of the Assyrians, had done to the
nations and how he had plundered and destroyed all their temples, [2]they
were therefore greatly terrified at his approach; they were alarmed both for
Jerusalem and for the temple of the Lord their God. [3]For they had only
recently returned from exile, and all the people of Judea had just now
gathered together, and the sacred vessels and the altar and the temple had
been consecrated after their profanation.* [4]So they sent word to every
district of Samaria, and to Kona, Beth-horon, Belmain, and Jericho, and to
Choba and Aesora, and the valley of Salem.* [5]They immediately seized all
the high hilltops and fortified the villages on them and stored up food in
preparation for war, since their fields had recently been harvested.*

6 The high priest Joakim, who was in Jerusalem at the time, wrote to the
people of Bethulia and Betomesthaim, which faces Esdraelon opposite the
plain near Dothan,* [7]ordering them to seize the mountain passes, since by
them Judea could be invaded, and it would be easy to stop any who tried to
enter, for the approach was narrow, wide enough for only two at a time to
pass.*

PRAYER AND PENANCE

8 So the Israelites did as they had been ordered by the high priest Joakim
and the council of the whole people of Israel, in session at Jerusalem.* [9]And
every man of Israel cried out to God with great fervor, and they humbled
themselves with much fasting. [10]They and their wives and their children
and their cattle and every resident alien and hired laborer and purchased
slave—they all put sackcloth around their waists.* [11]And all the Israelite
men, women, and children living at Jerusalem prostrated themselves before
the temple and put ashes on their heads and spread out their sackcloth
before the Lord.* [12]They even draped the altar with sackcloth and cried out
in unison, praying fervently to the God of Israel not to allow their infants to

be carried off and their wives to be taken as plunder, and the towns they had inherited to be destroyed, and the sanctuary to be profaned and desecrated to the malicious joy of the nations.

13 The Lord heard their prayers and had regard for their distress, for the people fasted many days throughout Judea and in Jerusalem before the sanctuary of the Lord Almighty.* [14]The high priest Joakim and all the priests who stood before the Lord and ministered to the Lord, with sackcloth around their loins, offered the daily burnt offerings, the votive offerings, and freewill offerings of the people.* [15]With ashes on their turbans, they cried out to the Lord with all their might to look with favor on the whole house of Israel.*

Judith 5

COUNCIL AGAINST THE ISRAELITES

1 It was reported to Holofernes, the general of the Assyrian army, that the
people of Israel had prepared for war and had closed the mountain passes
and fortified all the high hilltops and set up barricades in the plains.* 2In
great anger he called together all the princes of Moab and the commanders
of Ammon and all the governors of the coastland* 3and said to them, "Tell
me, you Canaanites, what people is this that lives in the hill country? What
towns do they inhabit? How large is their army, and in what does their
power and strength consist? Who rules over them as king and leads their
army? 4And why have they alone, of all who live in the west, refused to
come out and meet me?"

ACHIOR'S REPORT

5 Then Achior, the leader of all the Ammonites, said to him, "May my
lord please listen to a report from the mouth of your servant, and I will tell
you the truth about this people that lives in the mountain district near you.
No falsehood shall come from your servant's mouth.* 6These people are
descended from the Chaldeans. 7At one time they lived in Mesopotamia
because they did not wish to follow the gods of their ancestors who were in
Chaldea.* 8Since they had abandoned the ways of their ancestors and
worshiped the God of heaven, the God they had come to know, their
ancestors[i] drove them out from the presence of their gods. So they fled to
Mesopotamia and lived there for a long time. 9Then their God commanded
them to leave the place where they were living and go to the land of
Canaan. There they settled and grew very prosperous in gold and silver and
very much livestock.* 10When a famine spread over the land of Canaan they
went down to Egypt and lived there as long as they had food. There they
became so great a multitude that their number could not be counted.* 11So
the king of Egypt became hostile to them; he exploited them and forced
them to make bricks, reducing them to slaves.* 12They cried out to their
God, and he afflicted the whole land of Egypt with incurable plagues. So

the Egyptians drove them out of their sight.* 13Then God dried up the Red Sea before them,* 14and he led them by the way of Sinai and Kadesh-barnea. They drove out all the people of the desert* 15and took up residence in the land of the Amorites and by their might destroyed all the inhabitants of Heshbon, and crossing over the Jordan they took possession of all the hill country.* 16They drove out before them the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Shechemites, and all the Gergesites and lived there a long time.*

17 "As long as they did not sin against their God they prospered, for the God who hates iniquity is with them. 18But when they departed from the way he had prescribed for them, they were utterly defeated in many battles and were led away captive to a foreign land. The temple of their God was razed to the ground, and their towns were occupied by their enemies.* 19But now they have returned to their God and have come back from the places where they were scattered and have occupied Jerusalem, where their sanctuary is, and have settled in the hill country, because it was uninhabited.*

20 "So now, my master and lord, if there is any oversight in this people and they sin against their God and we find out their offense, then we can go up and defeat them. 21But if they are not a guilty nation, then let my lord pass them by, for their Lord and God will defend them, and we shall become the laughingstock of the whole world."*

22 When Achior had finished saying these things, all the people standing around the tent began to complain; Holofernes's officers and all the inhabitants of the seacoast and Moab insisted that he should be cut to pieces.* 23They said, "We are not afraid of the Israelites; they are a people with no strength or power for making war.* 24Therefore let us go ahead, Lord Holofernes, and your vast army will swallow them up."*

Judith 6

ACHIOR HANDED OVER TO THE ISRAELITES

1 When the disturbance made by the people outside the council had died down, Holofernes, the commander of the Assyrian army, said to Achior[j] in the presence of all the foreign contingents:

2 "Who are you, Achior and you mercenaries of Ephraim, to prophesy among us as you have done today and tell us not to make war against the people of Israel because their God will defend them? What god is there except Nebuchadnezzar? He will send his forces and destroy them from the face of the earth. Their God will not save them;* [3]we the king's[k] servants will destroy them as one person. They cannot resist the might of our cavalry.* [4]We will overwhelm them;[l] their mountains will be drunk with their blood, and their fields will be full of their dead. Not even their footprints will survive our attack; they will utterly perish. So says King Nebuchadnezzar, lord of the whole earth. For he has spoken; none of his words shall be in vain.*

5 "As for you, Achior, you Ammonite mercenary, you have said these words in a moment of perversity; you shall not see my face again from this day until I take revenge on this people that came out of Egypt.* [6]Then at my return the sword of my army and the spear[m] of my servants shall pierce your sides, and you shall fall among their wounded. [7]Now my slaves are going to take you back into the hill country and put you in one of the towns beside the passes. [8]You will not die until you perish along with them. [9]If you really hope in your heart that they will not be taken, then do not look downcast! I have spoken, and none of my words shall fail to come true."

10 Then Holofernes ordered his slaves who waited on him in his tent to seize Achior and take him away to Bethulia and hand him over to the Israelites.* [11]So the slaves took him and led him out of the camp into the plain, and from the plain they went up into the hill country and came to the springs below Bethulia.* [12]When the men of the town saw them,[n] they seized their weapons and ran out of the town to the top of the hill, and all the slingers kept them from coming up by throwing stones at them. [13]So

having taken shelter below the hill, they bound Achior and left him lying at the foot of the hill and returned to their master.

14 Then the Israelites came down from their town and found him; they untied him and brought him into Bethulia and placed him before the magistrates of their town, [15]who in those days were Uzziah son of Micah, of the tribe of Simeon, and Chabris son of Gothoniel, and Charmis son of Melchiel. [16]They called together all the elders of the town, and all their young men and women ran to the assembly. They set Achior in the midst of all their people, and Uzziah questioned him about what had happened. [17]He answered and told them what had taken place at the council of Holofernes, and all that he had said in the presence of the Assyrian leaders, and all that Holofernes had boasted he would do against the house of Israel.* [18]Then the people fell down and worshiped God and cried out:

19 "O Lord God of heaven, see their arrogance, and have pity on our people in their humiliation, and look kindly today on the faces of those who are consecrated to you."*

20 Then they reassured Achior and praised him highly. [21]Uzziah took him from the assembly to his own house and gave a banquet for the elders, and all that night they called on the God of Israel for help.

Judith 7

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST BETHULIA

1 The next day Holofernes ordered his whole army and all the allies who had joined him to break camp and move against Bethulia and seize the passes up into the hill country and make war on the Israelites.* [2]So all their warriors marched off that day; their fighting forces numbered one hundred seventy thousand infantry and twelve thousand cavalry, not counting the baggage and the foot soldiers handling it, a very great multitude.* [3]They encamped in the valley near Bethulia, beside the spring, and they spread out in breadth over Dothan as far as Balbaim and in length from Bethulia to Cyamon, which faces Esdraelon.*

4 When the Israelites saw their vast numbers, they were greatly terrified and said to one another, "They will now strip clean the whole land; neither the high mountains nor the valleys nor the hills will bear their weight."* [5]Yet they all seized their weapons, and when they had kindled fires on their towers, they remained on guard all that night.

6 On the second day Holofernes led out all his cavalry in full view of the Israelites in Bethulia. [7]He reconnoitered the approaches to their town and visited the springs that supplied their water; he seized them and set guards of soldiers over them and then returned to his army.*

8 Then all the chieftains of the Edomites and all the leaders of the Moabites and the commanders of the coastland came to him and said,* [9]"Listen to what we have to say, my lord, and your army will suffer no losses. [10]This people, the Israelites, do not rely on their spears but on the height of the mountains where they live, for it is not easy to reach the tops of their mountains. [11]Therefore, my lord, do not fight against them in regular formation, and not a man of your army will fall. [12]Remain in your camp, and keep all the men in your forces with you; let your servants take possession of the spring of water that flows from the foot of the mountain,* [13]for this is where all the people of Bethulia get their water. So thirst will destroy them, and they will surrender their town. Meanwhile, we and our people will go up to the tops of the nearby mountains and camp there to

keep watch to see that no one gets out of the town. [14]They and their wives and children will waste away with famine, and before the sword reaches them they will be strewn about in the streets where they live. [15]Thus you will pay them back with evil because they rebelled and did not receive you peaceably."

16 These words pleased Holofernes and all his attendants, and he gave orders to do as they had said. [17]So the army of the Ammonites moved forward, together with five thousand Assyrians, and they encamped in the valley and seized the water supply and the springs of the Israelites.* [18]And the Edomites and Ammonites went up and encamped in the hill country opposite Dothan, and they sent some of their men toward the south and the east, toward Egrebeh, which is near Chusi beside the Wadi Mochmur. The rest of the Assyrian army encamped in the plain and covered the whole face of the land. Their tents and supply trains spread out in great number, and they formed a vast multitude.*

THE DISTRESS OF THE ISRAELITES

19 The Israelites then cried out to the Lord their God, for their courage failed, because all their enemies had surrounded them, and there was no way of escape from them. [20]The whole Assyrian army, their infantry, chariots, and cavalry, surrounded them for thirty-four days, until all the water containers of every inhabitant of Bethulia were empty;* [21]their cisterns were going dry, and on no day did they have enough water to drink, for their drinking water was rationed.* [22]Their children were listless, and the women and young men fainted from thirst and were collapsing in the streets of the town and in the gateways; they no longer had any strength.*

23 Then all the people, the young men, the women, and the children, gathered around Uzziah and the rulers of the town and cried out with a loud voice and said before all the elders, [24]"Let God judge between you and us! You have done us a great injury in not making peace with the Assyrians.* [25]For now we have no one to help us; God has sold us into their hands to be strewn before them in thirst and exhaustion.* [26]Now summon them and surrender the whole town as plunder to the army of Holofernes and to all his forces.* [27]For it would be better for us to be captured by them.o We shall indeed become slaves, but our lives will be spared, and we shall not witness

our little ones dying before our eyes and our wives and children drawing their last breath. [28]We call to witness against you heaven and earth and our God, the Lord of our ancestors, who punishes us for our sins and the sins of our ancestors; do today the things that we have described!"*

29 Then great and general lamentation arose throughout the assembly, and they cried out to the Lord God with a loud voice. [30]But Uzziah said to them, "Courage, my brothers and sisters! Let us hold out for five days more; by that time the Lord our God will turn his mercy to us again, for he will not forsake us utterly.* [31]But if these days pass by and no help comes for us, I will do as you say."*

32 Then he dismissed the people to their various posts, and they went up on the walls and towers of their town. The women and children he sent home. In the town they were in great misery.

Judith 8

THE CHARACTER OF JUDITH

1 Now in those days Judith heard about these things: she was the daughter of Merari son of Ox son of Joseph son of Oziel son of Elkiah son of Ananias son of Gideon son of Raphain son of Ahitub son of Elijah son of Hilkiah son of Eliab son of Nathanael son of Salamiel son of Sarasadai son of Israel. [2]Her husband Manasseh, who belonged to her tribe and family, had died during the barley harvest.* [3]For as he stood overseeing those who were binding sheaves in the field, he was overcome by the burning heat and took to his bed and died in his town Bethulia. So they buried him with his ancestors in the field between Dothan and Balamon.* [4]Judith remained as a widow for three years and four months* [5]at home, where she set up a tent for herself on the roof of her house. She put sackcloth around her waist and dressed in widow's clothing.* [6]She fasted all the days of her widowhood except the day before the Sabbath and the Sabbath itself, the day before the new moon and the day of the new moon, and the festivals and days of rejoicing of the house of Israel.* [7]She was beautiful in appearance and was very lovely to behold. Her husband Manasseh had left her gold and silver, male and female slaves, livestock, and fields, and she maintained this estate.* [8]No one spoke ill of her, for she feared God with great devotion.

JUDITH AND THE ELDERS

9 When Judith heard the harsh words spoken by the people against the ruler because they were faint for lack of water, and when she heard all that Uzziah said to them and how he promised them under oath to surrender the town to the Assyrians after five days,* [10]she sent her maid in charge of all she possessed to summon Uzziah and[p] Chabris and Charmis, the elders of her town.* [11]They came to her, and she said to them,

"Listen to me, rulers of the people of Bethulia! What you have said to the people today is not right; you have even sworn and pronounced this oath between God and you, promising to surrender the town to our enemies unless the Lord turns and helps us within so many days. [12]Who are you to

put God to the test today and to set yourselves up in the place of[q] God in human affairs?* 13You are putting the Lord Almighty to the test, but you will never learn anything! 14You cannot plumb the depths of the human heart or understand the workings of the human mind; how do you expect to search out God, who made all these things, and find out his mind or comprehend his thought? No, my brothers, do not anger the Lord our God.* 15For if he does not choose to help us within these five days, he has power to protect us within any time he pleases or even to destroy us in the presence of our enemies. 16Do not try to bind the purposes of the Lord our God, for God is not like a human being, to be threatened, or like a mere mortal, to be won over by pleading.* 17Therefore, while we wait for his deliverance, let us call upon him to help us, and he will hear our voice, if it pleases him.

18 "For never in our generation nor in these present days has there been any tribe or family or people or town of ours that worships gods made with hands, as was done in days gone by.* 19That was why our ancestors were handed over to the sword and to pillage, and so they suffered a great catastrophe before our enemies. 20But we know no other god but him, and so we hope that he will not disdain us or any of our people. 21For if we are captured, all Judea will fall, and our sanctuary will be plundered, and he will make us pay for its desecration with our blood. 22The slaughter of our kindred and the captivity of the land and the desolation of our inheritance—all this he will bring on our heads among the nations, wherever we serve as slaves, and we shall be an offense and a disgrace in the eyes of those who acquire us.* 23For our slavery will not bring us into favor, but the Lord our God will turn it to dishonor.

24 "Therefore, my brothers, let us set an example for our kindred, for their lives depend upon us, and the sanctuary—both the temple and the altar—rests upon us. 25In spite of everything, let us give thanks to the Lord our God, who is putting us to the test as he did our ancestors. 26Remember what he did with Abraham and how he tested Isaac and what happened to Jacob in Syrian Mesopotamia, while he was tending the sheep of Laban, his mother's brother.* 27For he has not tried us with fire, as he did them, to search their hearts, nor has he taken vengeance on us, but the Lord scourges those who are close to him in order to admonish them."*

28 Then Uzziah said to her, “All that you have said was spoken out of a
true heart, and there is no one who can deny your words. [29]Today is not the
first time your wisdom has been shown, but from the beginning of your life
all the people have recognized your understanding, for your heart’s
disposition is right. [30]But the people were so thirsty that they compelled us
to do for them what we have promised and made us take an oath that we
cannot break.* [31]Now since you are a God-fearing woman, pray for us, so
that the Lord may send us rain to fill our cisterns. Then we will no longer
feel faint from thirst.”*

32 Then Judith said to them, “Listen to me. I am about to do something
that will go down through all generations of our people. [33]Stand at the town
gate tonight so that I may go out with my maid, and within the days after
which you have promised to surrender the town to our enemies, the Lord
will deliver Israel by my hand.* [34]Only, do not try to find out what I am
doing, for I will not tell you until I have finished what I am about to do.”

35 Uzziah and the rulers said to her, “Go in peace, and may the Lord God
go before you, to take vengeance on our enemies.” [36]So they returned from
the tent and went to their posts.*

Judith 9

THE PRAYER OF JUDITH

1 Then Judith prostrated herself, put ashes on her head, and uncovered the sackcloth she was wearing. At the very time when the evening incense was being offered in the house of God in Jerusalem, Judith cried out to the Lord with a loud voice and said,*

2 "O Lord God of my ancestor Simeon, to whom you gave a sword to take revenge on those strangers who had torn off a virgin's clothing[r] to defile her and exposed her thighs to put her to shame and profaned her womb to disgrace her, for you said, 'It shall not be done'—yet they did it,* [3]so you gave up their rulers to be killed, and their bed, which was ashamed of the deceit they had practiced, was stained with blood, and you struck down slaves along with princes and princes on their thrones. [4]You gave up their wives for plunder and their daughters to captivity and all their spoils to be divided among your beloved children who burned with zeal for you and abhorred the pollution of their blood and called on you for help. O God, my God, hear me also, a widow.*

5 "For you have done these things and those that went before and those that followed. You have designed the things that are now and those that are to come. What you had in mind has happened;* [6]the things you decided on presented themselves and said, 'Here we are!' For all your ways are prepared in advance, and your judgment is with foreknowledge.*

7 "Here now are the Assyrians, a greatly increased force, priding themselves in their horses and riders, boasting in the strength of their foot soldiers, and trusting in shield and spear, in bow and sling. They do not know that you are the Lord who crushes wars; the Lord is your name.* [8]Break their strength by your might, and bring down their power in your anger, for they intend to profane your sanctuary and to pollute the tabernacle where your glorious name resides and to break off the horns[s] of your altar with the sword.* [9]Look at their pride, and send your wrath upon their heads. Give to me, a widow, the strong hand to do what I plan. [10]By

the deceit of my lips strike down the slave with the prince and the prince with his attendant; crush their arrogance by the hand of a woman.*

11 "For your strength does not depend on numbers nor your might on the powerful. But you are the God of the lowly, helper of the oppressed, upholder of the weak, protector of the forsaken, savior of those without hope.* [12]Please, please, God of my father, God of the heritage of Israel, Lord of heaven and earth, Creator of the waters, King of all your creation, hear my prayer!* [13]Make my deceitful words bring wound and bruise on those who have planned cruel things against your covenant and against your sacred house and against Mount Zion and against the house your children possess. [14]Let your whole nation and every tribe know and understand that you are God, the God of all power and might, and that there is no other who protects the people of Israel but you alone!"*

Judith 10

JUDITH PREPARES TO GO TO HOLOFERNES

1 When Judith[t] had stopped crying out to the God of Israel and had ended
all these words, [2]she rose from where she lay prostrate. She called her maid
and went down into the house where she lived on Sabbaths and on her festal
days.* [3]She removed the sackcloth she had been wearing, took off her
widow's garments, bathed her body with water, and anointed herself with
precious ointment. She combed her hair, put on a tiara, and dressed herself
in the festive attire that she used to wear while her husband Manasseh was
living.* [4]She put sandals on her feet and put on her anklets, bracelets, rings,
earrings, and all her other jewelry. Thus she made herself very beautiful, to
entice the eyes of all the men who might see her.* [5]She gave her maid a skin
of wine and a flask of oil and filled a bag with roasted grain, dried fig cakes,
and fine bread;[u] then she wrapped up all her dishes and gave them to her to
carry.*

6 Then they went out to the town gate of Bethulia and found Uzziah
standing there with the elders of the town, Chabris and Charmis.* [7]When
they saw her transformed in appearance and dressed differently, they were
very greatly astounded at her beauty and said to her,* [8]"May the God of our
ancestors grant you favor and fulfill your plans, so that the people of Israel
may glory and Jerusalem may be exalted." She bowed down to God.

9 Then she said to them, "Order the gate of the town to be opened for me
so that I may go out and accomplish the things you have just said to me."
So they ordered the young men to open the gate for her, as she requested.
[10]When they had done this, Judith went out, accompanied by her maid. The
men of the town watched her until she had gone down the mountain and
passed through the valley, where they lost sight of her.

JUDITH IS CAPTURED

11 As the women[v] were going straight on through the valley, an Assyrian
patrol met her* [12]and took her into custody. They asked her, "To what
people do you belong, and where are you coming from, and where are you

going?" She replied, "I am a daughter of the Hebrews, but I am fleeing from them, for they are about to be handed over to you to be devoured.* 13I am on my way to see Holofernes the commander of your army, to give him a true report; I will show him a way by which he can go and capture all the hill country without losing one of his men, captured or slain."

14 When the men heard her words and observed her face—she was in their eyes marvelously beautiful—they said to her,* 15"You have saved your life by hurrying down to see our lord. Go at once to his tent; some of us will escort you and hand you over to him. 16When you stand before him, have no fear in your heart, but tell him what you have just said, and he will treat you well."

17 They chose from their number a hundred men to accompany her and her maid, and they brought them to the tent of Holofernes. 18There was great excitement in the whole camp, for her arrival was reported from tent to tent. They came and gathered around her as she stood outside the tent of Holofernes, waiting until they told him about her. 19They marveled at her beauty and admired the Israelites, judging them by her. They said to one another, "Who can despise these people, who have women like this among them? It is not wise to leave one of their men alive, for if we let them go they will be able to beguile the whole world!"*

JUDITH IS BROUGHT BEFORE HOLOFERNES

20 Then the guards of Holofernes and all his attendants came out and led her into the tent.* 21Holofernes was resting on his bed under a canopy that was woven with purple, gold, emeralds, and other precious stones.* 22When they told him of her, he came to the front of the tent, with silver lamps carried before him. 23When Judith came into the presence of Holofernes[w] and his attendants, they all marveled at the beauty of her face. She prostrated herself and did obeisance to him, but his slaves raised her up.*

Judith 11

1 Then Holofernes said to her, “Take courage, woman, and do not be afraid
in your heart, for I have never hurt anyone who chose to serve
Nebuchadnezzar, king of all the earth.* 2Even now, if your people who live
in the hill country had not slighted me, I would never have lifted my spear
against them. They have brought this on themselves.* 3But now tell me why
you have fled from them and have come over to us. In any event, you have
come to safety. Take courage! You will live tonight and ever after.* 4No one
will hurt you. Rather, all will treat you well, as they do the servants of my
lord King Nebuchadnezzar.”

JUDITH EXPLAINS HER PRESENCE

5 Judith answered him, “Accept the words of your slave, and let your
servant speak in your presence. I will say nothing false to my lord this
night. 6If you follow the words of your servant, God will accomplish
something through you, and my lord will not fail to achieve his purposes.*
7By the life of Nebuchadnezzar, king of the whole earth, and by the power
of him who has sent you to direct every living being! Not only do humans
serve him because of you, but also the animals of the field and the cattle and
the birds of the air will live because of your power, under Nebuchadnezzar
and all his house.* 8For we have heard of your wisdom and skill, and it is
reported throughout the whole world that you alone are the best in the
whole kingdom, the most informed and the most astounding in military
strategy.

9 “Now as for Achior’s speech in your council, we have heard his words,
for the people of Bethulia spared him and he told them all he had said to
you.* 10Therefore, lord and master, do not disregard what he said, but keep
it in your mind, for it is true. Indeed, our people cannot be punished nor can
the sword prevail against them unless they sin against their God.*

11 “But now, in order that my lord may not be defeated and his purpose
frustrated, death will fall upon them, for a sin has overtaken them by which
they are about to provoke their God to anger when they do what is wrong.*

12 Since their food supply is exhausted and their water has almost given out,
they have planned to kill their livestock and have determined to use all that
God by his laws has forbidden them to eat.* 13 They have decided to
consume the first fruits of the grain and the tithes of the wine and oil, which
they had consecrated and set aside for the priests who minister in the
presence of our God in Jerusalem—things it is not lawful for any of the
people even to touch with their hands.* 14 Since even the people in
Jerusalem have been doing this, they have sent messengers there in order to
bring back permission from the council of the elders.* 15 When the response
reaches them and they act upon it, on that very day they will be handed over
to you to be destroyed.

16 "So when I, your slave, learned all this, I fled from them. God has sent
me to accomplish with you things that will astonish the whole world
wherever people shall hear about them. 17 Your servant is indeed God-
fearing and serves the God of heaven night and day. So, my lord, I will
remain with you, but every night your servant will go out into the valley
and pray to God. He will tell me when they have committed their sins.*
18 Then I will come and tell you, so that you may go out with your whole
army, and not one of them will be able to withstand you. 19 Then I will lead
you through Judea until you come to Jerusalem; there I will set your
throne.[x] You will drive them like sheep that have no shepherd, and no dog
will so much as growl at you. For this was told me to give me
foreknowledge; it was announced to me, and I was sent to tell you."*

20 Her words pleased Holofernes and all his attendants. They marveled
at her wisdom and said, 21 "No other woman from one end of the earth to the
other looks so beautiful or speaks so wisely!" 22 Then Holofernes said to
her, "God has done well to send you ahead of the people, to strengthen our
hands and bring destruction on those who have despised my lord.* 23 You
are not only beautiful in appearance but wise in speech. If you do as you
have said, your God shall be my God, and you shall live in the palace of
King Nebuchadnezzar and be renowned throughout the whole world."*

Judith 12

JUDITH AS A GUEST OF HOLOFERNES

1 Then he commanded them to bring her in where his silver dinnerware was
kept and ordered them to set a table for her with some of his own delicacies
and with some of his own wine to drink.* [2]But Judith said, "I cannot partake
of them, or it will be an offense, but I will have enough with the things I
brought with me."* [3]Holofernes said to her, "If your supply runs out, where
can we get you more of the same? For none of your people are here with
us." [4]Judith replied, "As surely as you live, my lord, your servant will not
use up the supplies I have with me before the Lord carries out by my hand
what he has determined."*

5 Then the attendants of Holofernes brought her into the tent, and she
slept until midnight. Toward the morning watch she got up* [6]and sent this
message to Holofernes: "Let my lord now give orders to allow your servant
to go out and pray."* [7]So Holofernes commanded his guards not to hinder
her. She remained in the camp three days. She went out each night to the
valley of Bethulia and bathed at the spring in the camp.[y],* [8]After bathing,
she prayed the Lord God of Israel to direct her way for the triumph of his[z]
people.* [9]Then she returned purified and stayed in the tent until she ate her
food toward evening.*

JUDITH ATTENDS HOLOFERNES'S BANQUET

10 On the fourth day Holofernes held a banquet for his slaves only and
did not invite any of his officers.* [11]He said to Bagoas, the eunuch who had
charge of his personal affairs, "Go and persuade the Hebrew woman who is
in your care to join us and to eat and drink with us.* [12]For it would be a
disgrace if we let such a woman go without being intimate with her. If we
do not seduce her, she will laugh at us."

13 So Bagoas left the presence of Holofernes and approached her and
said, "Let this pretty servant not hesitate to come to my lord to be honored
in his presence and to enjoy drinking wine with us and to become today like

one of the Assyrian women who serve in the palace of Nebuchadnezzar."* [14]Judith replied, "Who am I to refuse my lord? Whatever pleases him I will do at once, and it will be a joy to me until the day of my death." [15]So she proceeded to dress herself in all her woman's finery. Her maid went ahead and spread for her on the ground before Holofernes the lambskins she had received from Bagoas for her daily use in reclining.

16 Then Judith came in and lay down. Holofernes's heart was ravished with her and his passion was aroused, for he had been waiting for an opportunity to be with her from the day he first saw her.* [17]So Holofernes said to her, "Have a drink and be merry with us!" [18]Judith said, "I will gladly drink, my lord, because today is the greatest day in my whole life." [19]Then she took what her maid had prepared and ate and drank before him.* [20]Holofernes was greatly pleased with her and drank a great quantity of wine, much more than he had ever drunk in any one day since he was born.*

Judith 13

JUDITH BEHEADS HOLOFERNES

1 When evening came, his slaves quickly withdrew. Bagoas closed the tent
from outside and shut out the attendants from his master's presence. They
went to bed, for they all were weary because the banquet had lasted so
long.* 2But Judith was left alone in the tent, with Holofernes stretched out
on his bed, for he was dead drunk.*

3 Now Judith had told her maid to stand outside the bedchamber and to
wait for her to come out, as she did on the other days, for she said she
would be going out for her prayers. She had said the same thing to Bagoas.*
4So everyone went out, and no one, either small or great, was left in the
bedchamber. Then Judith, standing beside his bed, said in her heart,
"O Lord God of all might, look in this hour on the work of my hands for the
exaltation of Jerusalem.* 5Now indeed is the time to help your heritage and
to carry out my design to destroy the enemies who have risen up against
us."*

6 She went up to the bedpost near Holofernes's head and took down his
sword that hung there.* 7She came close to his bed, took hold of the hair of
his head, and said, "Give me strength today, O Lord God of Israel!" 8Then
she struck his neck twice with all her might and cut off his head.* 9Next she
rolled his body off the bed and pulled down the canopy from the posts.
Soon afterward she went out and gave Holofernes's head to her maid,*
10who placed it in her food bag.

JUDITH RETURNS TO BETHULIA

Then the two of them went out together, as they were accustomed to do
for prayer. They passed through the camp, circled around the valley, went
up the mountain to Bethulia, and came to its gates.* 11From a distance
Judith called out to the sentries at the gates, "Open, open the gate! God, our
God, is with us, still showing his power in Israel and his strength against
our enemies, as he has done today!"

12 When the people of her town heard her voice, they hurried down to the town gate and summoned the elders of the town.* [13]They all ran together, both small and great, for it seemed unbelievable that she had returned. They opened the gate and welcomed them. Then they lit a fire to give light and gathered around them. [14]Then she said to them with a loud voice, "Praise God, O praise him! Praise God, who has not withdrawn his mercy from the house of Israel but has destroyed our enemies by my hand this very night!"

15 Then she pulled the head out of the bag and showed it to them and said, "See here, the head of Holofernes, the commander of the Assyrian army, and here is the canopy beneath which he lay in his drunken stupor. The Lord has struck him down by the hand of a woman.* [16]As the Lord lives, who has protected me in the way I went, I swear that it was my face that seduced him to his destruction and that he committed no sin with me, to defile and shame me."

17 All the people were greatly astonished. They bowed down and worshiped God and said with one accord, "Blessed are you, our God, who have this day humiliated the enemies of your people."*

18 Then Uzziah said to her, "O daughter, you are blessed by the Most High God above all other women on earth, and blessed be the Lord God, who created the heavens and the earth, who has guided you to cut off the head of the leader of our enemies.* [19]Your hope[a] will never depart from the hearts of those who remember the power of God. [20]May God grant this to be a perpetual honor to you, and may he reward you with blessings because you risked your own life when our people was brought low, and you averted our ruin, walking in the straight path before our God." And all the people said, "Amen. Amen."*

Judith 14

JUDITH'S COUNSEL

1 Then Judith said to them, "Listen to me, my friends. Take this head and
hang it upon the parapet of your wall.* [2]As soon as day breaks and the sun
rises on the earth, each of you take up your weapons, and let every able-
bodied man go out of the town; set a captain over them, as if you were
going down to the plain against the Assyrian outpost; only do not go down.*
[3]Then they will seize their arms and go into the camp and rouse the officers
of the Assyrian army. They will rush into the tent of Holofernes and will not
find him. Then panic will come over them, and they will flee before you.*
[4]Then you and all who live within the borders of Israel will pursue them
and cut them down in their tracks. [5]But before you do all this, bring Achior
the Ammonite to me so that he may see and recognize the man who
despised the house of Israel and sent him to us as if to his death."*

6 So they summoned Achior from the house of Uzziah. When he came
and saw the head of Holofernes in the hand of one of the men in the
assembly of the people, he fell down on his face in a faint.* [7]When they
raised him up he threw himself at Judith's feet and did obeisance to her and
said, "Blessed are you in every tent of Judah! In every nation those who
hear your name will be alarmed.* [8]Now tell me what you have done during
these days."

So Judith told him in the presence of the people all that she had done
from the day she left until the moment she began speaking to them. [9]When
she had finished, the people raised a great shout and made a joyful noise in
their town. [10]When Achior saw all that the God of Israel had done, he
believed firmly in God. So he was circumcised and joined the house of
Israel, remaining so to this day.*

HOLOFERNES'S DEATH IS DISCOVERED

11 As soon as it was dawn, they hung the head of Holofernes on the wall.
Then they all took their weapons and went out in companies to the

mountain passes.* 12When the Assyrians saw them, they sent word to their commanders, who then went to the generals and the captains and to all their other officers.* 13They came to Holofernes's tent and said to the steward in charge of all his personal affairs, "Wake up our lord, for the slaves have been so bold as to come down against us to give battle, to their utter destruction."*

14 So Bagoas went in and knocked at the entry of the tent, for he supposed that he was sleeping with Judith.* 15But when no one answered, he opened it and went into the bedchamber and found him dead, sprawled over the footstool, with his head missing. 16He cried out with a loud voice and wept and groaned and shouted and tore his clothes.* 17Then he went to the tent where Judith had stayed, and when he did not find her, he rushed out to the people and shouted,* 18"The slaves have foiled us! One Hebrew woman has brought disgrace on the house of King Nebuchadnezzar. Look, Holofernes is lying on the ground, and his head is missing!"

19 When the leaders of the Assyrian army heard this, they tore their tunics and were greatly dismayed, and their loud cries and shouts rose up throughout the camp.*

Judith 15

THE ASSYRIANS FLEE IN PANIC

1 When the men in the tents heard it, they were amazed at what had happened. [2]Overcome with fear and trembling, they did not wait for one another, but with one impulse all rushed out and fled by every path across the plain and through the hill country.* [3]Those who had camped in the hills around Bethulia also took to flight. Then the Israelites, everyone who was a soldier, rushed out upon them.* [4]Uzziah sent men to Betomasthaim[b] and Choba and Kola and to all the frontiers of Israel to tell what had taken place and to urge all to rush out upon the enemy to destroy them. [5]When the Israelites heard it, with one accord they fell upon the enemy[c] and cut them down as far as Choba. Those in Jerusalem and all the hill country also came, for they were told what had happened in the camp of the enemy. The men in Gilead and in Galilee outflanked them with great slaughter, even beyond Damascus and its borders.* [6]The rest of the people of Bethulia fell upon the Assyrian camp and plundered it, acquiring great riches.* [7]And the Israelites, when they returned from the slaughter, took possession of what remained. Even the villages and towns in the hill country and in the plain got a great amount of plunder, since there was a vast quantity of it.

THE ISRAELITES CELEBRATE THEIR VICTORY

8 Then the high priest Joakim and the council of the Israelites who lived in Jerusalem came to witness the good things that the Lord had done for Israel and to see Judith and to wish her well.* [9]When they met her, they all blessed her with one accord and said to her, "You are the glory of Jerusalem, you are the great boast of Israel, you are the great pride of our people!* [10]You have done all this with your own hand; you have done great good to Israel, and God is well pleased with it. May the Almighty Lord bless you forever!" And all the people said, "Amen."*

11 All the people plundered the camp for thirty days. They gave Judith the tent of Holofernes and all his silver dinnerware, his beds, his bowls, and

all his furniture. She took them and loaded her mules and hitched up her carts and piled the things on them.*

12 All the women of Israel gathered to see her and blessed her, and some of them performed a dance in her honor. She took ivy-wreathed wands in her hands and distributed them to the women who were with her,* 13and she and those who were with her crowned themselves with olive wreaths. She went before all the people in the dance, leading all the women, while all the men of Israel followed, bearing their arms and wearing garlands and singing hymns.*

JUDITH OFFERS HER HYMN OF PRAISE

14 Judith began this thanksgiving before all Israel, and all the people loudly sang this song of praise.

Judith 16

1 And Judith said,

"Begin a song to my God with tambourines;
sing to my Lord with cymbals.
Raise to him a new psalm;[d]
exalt him and call upon his name.*
2For the Lord is a God who crushes wars;
he sets up his camp among his people;
he delivered me from the hands of my pursuers.*
3The Assyrian came down from the mountains of the north;
he came with myriads of his warriors;
their numbers blocked up the wadis,
and their cavalry covered the hills.*
4He boasted that he would burn up my territory
and kill my young men with the sword
and dash my infants to the ground
and seize my children as plunder
and take my virgins as spoil.*

5"But the Lord Almighty has foiled them
by the hand of a woman.[e,*]
6For their mighty one did not fall by the hands of the young men,
nor did the sons of the Titans strike him down,
nor did tall giants set upon him,
but Judith daughter of Merari
with the beauty of her countenance undid him.*

7"For she put away her widow's clothing

to exalt the oppressed in Israel.
She anointed her face with perfume;*
[8]she fastened her hair with a tiara
and put on a linen gown to beguile him.*
[9]Her sandal ravished his eyes,
her beauty captivated his mind,
and the sword severed his neck!*
[10]The Persians trembled at her boldness;
the Medes were daunted at her daring.*

[11]"Then my oppressed people shouted;
my weak people cried out,[f] and the enemy[g] trembled;
they lifted up their voices, and the enemy[h] were turned back.
[12]Sons of female slaves pierced them through
and wounded them like the children of fugitives;
they perished before the army of my Lord.*

[13]"I will sing to my God a new song:
O Lord, you are great and glorious,
wonderful in strength, invincible.*
[14]Let all your creatures serve you,
for you spoke, and they were made.
You sent forth your spirit,[i] and it formed them;[j]
there is none that can resist your voice.*
[15]For the mountains shall be shaken to their foundations with the waters;
before your glance the rocks shall melt like wax.
But to those who fear you
you show mercy.*
[16]For every sacrifice as a fragrant offering is a small thing,

and the fat of all whole burnt offerings to you is a very little thing,
but whoever fears the Lord is great forever.*

17"Woe to the nations that rise up against my people!
The Lord Almighty will take vengeance on them in the day of judgment;
he will send fire and worms into their flesh;
they shall weep in pain forever."*

18 When they arrived at Jerusalem, they worshiped God. As soon as the people were purified, they offered their burnt offerings, their freewill offerings, and their gifts. 19Judith also dedicated to God all the possessions of Holofernes that the people had given her, and the canopy that she had taken for herself from his bedchamber she gave as a votive offering.* 20For three months the people continued feasting in Jerusalem before the sanctuary, and Judith remained with them.*

THE RENOWN AND DEATH OF JUDITH

21 After this they all returned home to their own inheritances. Judith went to Bethulia and remained on her estate. For the rest of her life she was honored throughout the whole country.* 22Many desired to marry her, but she gave herself to no man all the days of her life after her husband Manasseh died and was gathered to his people.* 23She became more and more famous and grew old in her husband's house, reaching the age of one hundred five. She set her maid free. She died in Bethulia, and they buried her in the cave of her husband Manasseh,* 24and the house of Israel mourned her for seven days. Before she died she distributed her property to all those who were next of kin to her husband Manasseh and to her own nearest kindred.* 25No one ever again spread terror among the Israelites during the lifetime of Judith or for a long time after her death.

Judith 1

* **1.1** Jon 4.11; 2 Macc 9.3
* **1.5** v 15
a **1.6** Syr: Gk *Chaldeans*
* **1.6** Tob 6.2
* **1.7** 1 Esd 4.48; 5.53
* **1.8** 2 Kings 15.29; Isa 9.1; Jdt 4.6; 7.3
* **1.9** Gen 45.10; Jdt 4.4
* **1.10** 2 Kings 19.9
b **1.11** Or *a man*
* **1.11** Jdt 11.2, 22
* **1.12** Jdt 5.5, 22; 6.5; 7.8, 17, 18
* **1.15** vv 1, 5
* **1.16** Jdt 2.20

Judith 2

* **2.1** Jdt 1.12
c **2.2** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **2.3** Jdt 1.11, 12
* **2.5** v 15; 2 Kings 18.28; Isa 36.13; Jdt 6.4; 11.1, 7; Add Esth 13.2
* **2.6** Jdt 1.11, 12
* **2.7** Num 22.5, 11; Jdt 7.18
* **2.8** Ezek 35.8
* **2.11** 2 Kings 8.12; Isa 13.18; Ezek 9.5, 6
* **2.12** Jdt 11.7
* **2.15** v 5
* **2.17** Judg 18.21; Jdt 3.10; 7.18
* **2.19** Num 22.5, 11; Jdt 7.18
d **2.20** Gk *sand*
* **2.20** Gen 13.16; Josh 11.4; Judg 7.12; Nah 3.15
* **2.21** v 25
e **2.22** Gk *he*
* **2.23** Jer 46.9; Ezek 30.5
f **2.24** Or *crossed*
* **2.24** Jdt 5.7
* **2.25** v 21; Gen 10.5
* **2.26** Num 31.1–3; Judg 6.1
* **2.27** Jdt 4.5
* **2.28** 1 Sam 5.1; Jdt 3.6; 1 Macc 4.15

Judith 3

* **3.2** Jdt 2.5
g **3.3** Gk *all the sheepfolds of our tents*
* **3.3** Jdt 2.27; 4.5
* **3.6** Jdt 2.28; 5.2, 22; 7.8
* **3.7** Ex 15.20; Jdt 15.13; 16.1; Acts 14.13
h **3.8** Syr: Gk *borders*
* **3.8** Jdt 6.2
* **3.10** 1 Sam 13.16; Jdt 2.17

Judith 4

* **4.3** Ezra 3.8; Jdt 5.19
* **4.4** Josh 10.11; Jdt 15.4, 5; 1 Macc 9.50
* **4.5** Jdt 2.27; 3.3; 5.1
* **4.6** vv 8, 14; Jdt 11.14; 15.8
* **4.7** Jdt 5.1; 7.1; 14.11
* **4.8** vv 6, 14; Jdt 15.8; Acts 5.21
* **4.10** Gen 37.34; 2 Chr 20.13; Jdt 8.5
* **4.11** Josh 7.6; Ezra 10.1; Jdt 9.1
* **4.13** Ex 3.7; 2 Chr 20.9; Neh 9.9
* **4.14** vv 6, 8; Num 28.3; Jdt 8.5; 15.8
* **4.15** Ex 28.4; Jdt 9.1

Judith 5

* **5.1** Jdt 4.5, 7
* **5.2** Jdt 1.12; 3.6
* **5.5** v 22; Jdt 6.5; 14.5
* **5.7** Gen 11.31; Acts 7.4
i **5.8** Gk *they*
* **5.9** Gen 12.1; 24.35; Acts 7.3; Heb 11.8
* **5.10** Gen 42.5; Ex 1.7; Deut 26.5
* **5.11** Ex 1.8–14; 5.6, 7
* **5.12** Ex 7.1–10.29; 12.29–33; Ps 105.26–38
* **5.13** Ex 14.29; Isa 63.12
* **5.14** Ex 19.1; Num 13.26; 20.1
* **5.15** Num 21.25; Deut 20.16, 17; Josh 3.16, 17
* **5.16** Deut 7.1; Josh 12.8
* **5.18** Judg 2.11–15; 2 Kings 25.8–11
* **5.19** Ezra 1.1–3; Jdt 4.3
* **5.21** Lev 26.3, 7; Jdt 6.2; 11.10

* **5.22** vv 2, 5
* **5.23** Neh 4.2
* **5.24** Jdt 10.12

Judith 6

j **6.1** Other ancient authorities add *and to all the Moabites*
* **6.2** v 5; 2 Kings 18.33–35; Isa 10.10, 11; Jdt 3.8
k **6.3** Gk *his*
* **6.3** Num 14.15; Hab 1.8
l **6.4** Other ancient authorities add *with it*
* **6.4** Isa 34.7; Jdt 2.5
* **6.5** v 2
m **6.6** OL Syr: Gk *people*
* **6.10** Jdt 4.6
* **6.11** Jdt 7.3, 7, 12, 17; 12.7
n **6.12** Other ancient authorities add *on the top of the hill*
* **6.17** vv 1–9
* **6.19** Isa 13.3

Judith 7

* **7.1** Jdt 4.7; 15.3
* **7.2** Jdt 2.15
* **7.3** v 18; Jdt 3.9; 6.11; 12.7
* **7.4** Num 22.4
* **7.7** vv 17, 20
* **7.8** v 18; Jdt 1.12; 3.6; 5.2
* **7.12** Jdt 6.11; 12.7
* **7.17** v 7; Jdt 6.11
* **7.18** vv 3, 8; Jdt 2.17, 19
* **7.20** v 7
* **7.21** 2 Chr 26.10; Ezek 4.11, 16; Jdt 8.31
* **7.22** Lam 2.11, 19; 4.4; Am 8.13; Jdt 8.31
* **7.24** Gen 16.5; 1 Sam 24.12
* **7.25** Deut 32.30; Judg 2.14
* **7.26** 1 Esd 8.74
o **7.27** Other ancient authorities add *than to die of thirst*
* **7.28** Deut 4.26; Ps 106.6; 2 Esd 2.14
* **7.30** v 20; Jdt 8.9
* **7.31** v 26; 1 Sam 11.3

Judith 8

* **8.2** Ruth 1.22; 2.23; 2 Sam 21.9
* **8.3** 2 Kings 4.18–20
* **8.4** Jdt 4.5
* **8.5** 1 Sam 9.25; 2 Sam 3.31; Jdt 4.10, 14
* **8.6** Ex 12.16; 1 Chr 23.31; Isa 1.13, 14
* **8.7** Jdt 10.23
* **8.9** v 30; Jdt 7.19–31

p **8.10** Other ancient authorities lack *Uzziah and*

* **8.10** v 33; Jdt 10.6

q **8.12** Or *above*

* **8.12** Acts 15.10
* **8.14** Job 11.7, 8; Rom 11.33, 34; 1 Cor 2.11, 16
* **8.16** Num 23.19; 1 Sam 15.29
* **8.18** Judg 2.11; 10.6; Ps 115.4
* **8.22** Judg 9.57; Tob 3.4
* **8.26** Gen 22.12; 25.21; 28.2; 29.20; 31.7
* **8.27** Prov 3.12; Zech 13.9; Heb 12.5, 6
* **8.30** v 9; Jdt 7.19–23, 30, 31
* **8.31** Jdt 7.21, 22
* **8.33** v 10; Jdt 10.6
* **8.36** v 5

Judith 9

* **9.1** Ex 30.8; Jdt 4.11; 8.5; Lk 1.10

r **9.2** Cn: Gk *loosed her womb*

* **9.2** Gen 34.2, 7, 25
* **9.4** Gen 34.28, 29; Tob 3.4; Jdt 7.27; 1 Esd 8.74
* **9.5** Isa 41.22, 23; 44.7
* **9.6** Isa 46.10, 11
* **9.7** Ex 15.3; 1 Sam 17.45, 47; Jdt 2.5; 16.3

s **9.8** Syr: Gk *horn*

* **9.8** Ex 27.2
* **9.10** Judg 4.9, 21; Jdt 12.8; 16.5
* **9.11** 2 Chr 14.11; 16.8
* **9.12** Jdt 13.18
* **9.14** Jdt 13.4

Judith 10

t **10.1** Gk *she*

* **10.2** Jdt 8.5, 6; 9.1
* **10.3** Gen 38.14; 2 Sam 12.20; Jdt 8.5; 16.7, 8
* **10.4** Isa 3.21; Jdt 16.9; Sir 21.21
u **10.5** Other ancient authorities add *and cheese*
* **10.5** 1 Sam 25.18; Jdt 13.10
* **10.6** Jdt 8.10
* **10.7** vv 14, 19
v **10.11** Gk *they*
* **10.11** Jdt 14.2
* **10.12** Jdt 5.24
* **10.14** v 7
* **10.19** v 7
* **10.20** Jdt 12.5; 14.17
* **10.21** Esth 1.6; Jdt 13.9, 15
w **10.23** Gk *him*
* **10.23** Jdt 8.7; 14.7

Judith 11

* **11.1** Jdt 2.5
* **11.2** v 22; Jdt 1.11
* **11.3** Jdt 8.33; 10.20, 22; 12.5
* **11.6** Jdt 10.8
* **11.7** Dan 2.38; Jdt 2.5, 12; Bar 3.16
* **11.9** Jdt 5.5
* **11.10** Jdt 5.20, 21
* **11.11** Deut 31.29; Jdt 8.14
* **11.12** 1 Sam 14.32, 33; Jdt 7.20, 21
* **11.13** Ex 22.19; Num 18.12; Deut 18.4
* **11.14** Jdt 4.8
* **11.17** Jdt 5.8; Lk 2.37
x **11.19** Or *chariot*
* **11.19** Ex 11.7; Num 27.17; Lk 1.45
* **11.22** v 2
* **11.23** Ruth 1.16

Judith 12

* **12.1** Jdt 15.11
* **12.2** Dan 1.8; Add Esth 14.17; Acts 10.14
* **12.4** 1 Sam 1.26
* **12.5** v 9; Jdt 10.20; 11.3; 14.17

* **12.6** Ps 119.14, 147; Jdt 13.3
y **12.7** Other ancient authorities lack *in the camp*
* **12.7** Jdt 6.11; 7.3, 7, 12, 17
z **12.8** Other ancient authorities read *her*
* **12.8** Jdt 9.10
* **12.9** v 5
* **12.10** Jdt 6.21; 8.15, 33
* **12.11** v 5
* **12.13** Jdt 13.1
* **12.16** Sir 9.8; Mt 5.28
* **12.19** vv 2, 9
* **12.20** Jdt 13.2

Judith 13

* **13.1** Jdt 12.10, 13; 1 Esd 3.3
* **13.2** Jdt 12.20; Sir 31.25; 1 Esd 3.17
* **13.3** Jdt 12.6
* **13.4** Jdt 10.8; 12.8
* **13.5** Jdt 8.32; 10.8; Lk 1.54
* **13.6** Jdt 16.9
* **13.8** 1 Sam 17.51; 1 Macc 7.47
* **13.9** Jdt 10.21; 16.19
* **13.10** Jdt 10.5
* **13.12** Jdt 6.16; 8.10
* **13.15** Jdt 9.10; 10.21; 16.19
* **13.17** Ex 4.31
* **13.18** Judg 5.24; Jdt 9.12; 1 Esd 6.30
a **13.19** Other ancient authorities read *praise*
* **13.20** Jdt 15.10

Judith 14

* **14.1** 2 Macc 15.35
* **14.2** Jdt 10.11
* **14.3** Jdt 15.2
* **14.5** Jdt 5.5; 6.10
* **14.6** Jdt 6.21
* **14.7** v 19; Jdt 10.23; 16.10
* **14.10** Gen 17.23; Ex 12.48, 49; Gal 3.28
* **14.11** vv 1, 2; Jdt 4.7; 2 Macc 15.35
* **14.12** v 3

* **14.13** v 3; Jdt 12.11, 13
* **14.14** Jdt 12.11, 13
* **14.16** Gen 37.29, 34; 44.13
* **14.17** Jdt 12.5
* **14.19** v 7; Gen 37.34; Jdt 16.10

Judith 15

* **15.2** Jdt 14.3
* **15.3** Jdt 7.1, 7

b **15.4** Other ancient authorities add *and Bebai*

c **15.5** Gk *them*

* **15.5** 1 Macc 7.46
* **15.6** 1 Macc 4.23
* **15.8** Jdt 4.6, 8
* **15.9** Jdt 10.8
* **15.10** Jdt 13.20
* **15.11** Jdt 12.1; 16.19; 1 Macc 4.23
* **15.12** Judg 11.34; 2 Macc 10.7
* **15.13** Ex 15.20; Jdt 3.7

Judith 16

d **16.1** Other ancient authorities read *a psalm and praise*

* **16.1** 1 Chr 13.8; Ps 150.4, 5
* **16.2** Jdt 9.7
* **16.3** Jdt 2.19, 21–27
* **16.4** 2 Kings 8.12; Jdt 6.4

e **16.5** Other ancient authorities add *he has confounded them*

* **16.5** Jdt 9.10
* **16.6** Gen 6.4; Jdt 8.1; Bar 3.26
* **16.7** Jdt 10.3
* **16.8** Jdt 10.3
* **16.9** Song 7.1; Jdt 10.4; 13.6
* **16.10** Jdt 1.1, 7; 14.7

f **16.11** Other ancient authorities read *feared*

g **16.11** Gk *they*

h **16.11** Gk *they*

* **16.12** Jdt 5.23
* **16.13** Ex 15.11; Deut 3.24; Ps 96.1; 98.1

i **16.14** Or *breath*

j **16.14** Other ancient authorities read *they were created*

* **16.14** Gen 1.3; Ps 33.9; 104.30
* **16.15** Judg 5.4; 2 Sam 22.8, 16; Ps 68.2; Isa 64.3
* **16.16** Sir 10.24; 25.10; Eph 5.2
* **16.17** Isa 66.24; Sir 7.17; Mk 9.48; 2 Pet 3.7
* **16.19** Jdt 10.21; 13.9, 15; 15.11
* **16.20** Jdt 4.13
* **16.21** Jdt 8.7
* **16.22** Jdt 8.2
* **16.23** Gen 23.19; Jdt 8.33; Jn 11.38
* **16.24** Gen 50.10; 1 Sam 31.13; Sir 22.12

Esther (Greek)

(The Greek Version Containing the Additional Chapters)

Note: The deuterocanonical portions of the book of Esther are several additional passages found in the Greek translation of the Hebrew book of Esther, a translation that differs also in other respects from the Hebrew text (the latter is translated in the *NRSV* Old Testament). The disordered chapter numbers come from the displacement of the additions to the end of the canonical book of Esther by Jerome in his Latin translation and from the subsequent division of the Bible into chapters by Stephen Langton, who numbered the additions consecutively as though they formed a direct continuation of the Hebrew text. So that the additions may be read in their proper context, the whole of the Greek version is here translated, though certain familiar names are given according to their Hebrew rather than their Greek form, for example, Mordecai and Vashti instead of Mardocheus and Astin. The order followed is that of the Greek text, but the chapter and verse numbers conform to those of the King James, or Authorized, Version. The additions, conveniently indicated by the letters A–F, are located as follows: A before 1.1; B after 3.13; C and D after 4.17; E after 8.12; F after 10.3.

Addition A

Esther (Greek) 11

MORDECAI'S DREAM

2 [a]In the second year of the reign of Artaxerxes the Great, on the first day of Nisan, Mordecai son of Jair son of Shimei son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, had a dream.* [3]He was a Jew living in the city of Susa, a great man serving in the court of the king.* [4]He was one of the captives whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had taken captive from Jerusalem with King Jeconiah of Judea. And this was his dream:* [5]Noises[b] and confusion, thunder and earthquake, tumult on the earth! [6]Then two great dragons came forward, both ready to fight, and they roared terribly.* [7]At their roaring every nation prepared for war, to fight against a nation of righteous people.* [8]It was a day of darkness and gloom, of tribulation and distress, affliction and great tumult on the earth!* [9]And the whole righteous nation was troubled; they feared the evils that threatened them[c] and were ready to perish.* [10]Then they cried out to God, and at their outcry, as though from a tiny spring, there came a great river with abundant water;* [11]light came, and the sun rose, and the lowly were exalted and devoured those held in honor.*

12 Mordecai saw in this dream what God had determined to do, and after he awoke he had it on his mind, seeking all day to understand it in every detail.

Esther (Greek) 12

A PLOT AGAINST THE KING

1 Now Mordecai took his rest in the courtyard with Gabatha and Tharra, the
two eunuchs of the king who kept watch in the courtyard.* [2]He overheard
their conversation and inquired into their purposes and learned that they
were preparing to lay hands on King Artaxerxes, and he informed the king
concerning them.* [3]Then the king examined the two eunuchs, and after they
had confessed it, they were led away.* [4]The king wrote these things down
as a commemoration, and Mordecai wrote an account of them. [5]And the
king ordered Mordecai to serve in the court and rewarded him for these
things. [6]But Haman son of Hammedatha, a Bougean, who was in great
honor with the king, determined to injure Mordecai and his people because
of the two eunuchs of the king.*

End of Addition A

Esther (Greek) 1

ARTAXERXES' BANQUET

1 It was after this that the following things happened in the days of Artaxerxes, the same Artaxerxes who ruled over one hundred twenty-seven provinces from India to Ethiopia.[d,*] [2]In those days, when King Artaxerxes was enthroned in the city of Susa, [3]in the third year of his reign, he gave a banquet for his Friends and other persons of various nations, the Persians and Median nobles, and the governors of the satrapies.[*] [4]After this, when he had displayed to them the riches of his kingdom and the splendor of his bountiful celebration during the course of one hundred eighty days, [5]at the end of the wedding feast the king gave a drinking party for the people of various nations who lived in the city. This was held for six days in the courtyard of the royal palace, [6]which was adorned with curtains of fine linen and cotton, held by cords of linen and purple fabric attached to gold and silver blocks on pillars of marble and other stones. Gold and silver couches were placed on a mosaic floor of emerald, mother-of-pearl, and marble. There were coverings of gauze, embroidered in various colors, with roses scattered around them. [7]The cups were of gold and silver, and a miniature cup was displayed, made of ruby, worth thirty thousand talents. There was abundant sweet wine, such as the king himself drank.[*] [8]This drinking party was not in accordance with established custom, but the king wished to have it so, and he commanded his stewards to comply with his pleasure and with that of the guests.

9 Meanwhile, Queen Vashti gave a drinking party for the women in the palace where King Artaxerxes was.

DISMISSAL OF QUEEN VASHTI

10 On the seventh day, when the king was in good humor, he told Haman, Bazan, Tharra, Boraze, Zatholtha, Abataza, and Tharaba, the seven eunuchs who served King Artaxerxes,[*] [11]to escort the queen to him in order to proclaim her as queen and to place the diadem on her head and to have her display her beauty to all the governors and the people of various

nations, for she was indeed a beautiful woman.* 12But Queen Vashti refused
to obey him and would not come with the eunuchs. This offended the king,
and he became furious. 13He said to his Friends, “This is how Vashti has
answered me.[e] Give, therefore, your ruling and judgment on this matter.”
14Arkesaeus, Sarsathaeus, and Malesear, the governors of the Persians and
Medes who were closest to the king, who sat beside him in the chief seats,
came to him* 15and told him what, according to the law, was to be done to
Queen Vashti for not obeying the order that the king had sent her by the
eunuchs. 16Then Muchaeus said to the king and the governors, “Queen
Vashti has wronged not only the king but also all the king’s governors and
officials” 17(for he had reported to them what the queen had said and how
she had defied the king). “And just as she defied King Artaxerxes, 18so now
the other noble wives of the Persian and Median governors, on hearing what
she has said to the king, will likewise dare to dishonor their husbands. 19If,
therefore, it pleases the king, let him issue a royal decree, inscribed in
accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians so that it may not be
altered, that the queen may no longer come into his presence, and let the
king give her royal rank to a woman better than she.* 20Let whatever law
the king enacts be proclaimed in his kingdom, and thus all women will give
honor to their husbands, rich and poor alike.”* 21This speech pleased the
king and the governors, and the king did as Muchaeus had recommended.
22The king sent the decree[f] into all his kingdom, to every province in its
own language, so that men would be feared in their households.*

Esther (Greek) 2

ESTHER BECOMES QUEEN

1 After these things, the king's anger abated, and he no longer remembered
Vashti or remembered what he[g] had said and how he had condemned her.*
[2]Then the king's servants said, "Let beautiful and virtuous young women be
sought out for the king. [3]The king shall appoint officers in all the provinces
of his kingdom, and they shall select beautiful young virgins to be brought
to the harem in the city of Susa. Let them be entrusted to the king's eunuch
who is in charge of the women, and let ointments and whatever else they
need be given them.* [4]And the woman who pleases the king shall be queen
instead of Vashti." This pleased the king, and he did so.

5 Now there was a Jew in the city of Susa whose name was Mordecai son
of Jair son of Shimei son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin;* [6]he had been
taken captive from Jerusalem among those whom King Nebuchadnezzar of
Babylon had captured.* [7]And he had a foster child, the daughter of his
father's brother, Aminadab, and her name was Esther. When her parents
died, he brought her up as a wife for himself. The young woman was
beautiful in appearance.* [8]So when the decree of the king was proclaimed
and many young women were gathered in the city of Susa in custody of
Gai, Esther also was brought to Gai, who had custody of the women.* [9]The
young woman pleased him and won his favor, and he quickly provided her
with ointments and her portion of food,[h] as well as seven young women
chosen from the palace; he treated her and her maids with special favor in
the harem.* [10]Now Esther had not disclosed her people or country, for
Mordecai had commanded her not to make it known.* [11]And every day
Mordecai walked in the courtyard of the harem, to see what would happen
to Esther.

12 Now the period after which a young woman was to go to the king was
twelve months. During this time the days of cosmetic treatment are
completed: six months while they are anointing themselves with oil of
myrrh and six months with spices and ointments for women. [13]Then she
goes in to the king; she is handed to the person appointed and goes with him

from the harem to the king's palace.[i] 14In the evening she enters, and in the morning she departs to the second harem, where Gai the king's eunuch is in charge of the women, and she does not go in to the king again unless she is summoned by name.

15 When the time was fulfilled for Esther daughter of Aminadab, the brother of Mordecai's father, to go in to the king, she neglected none of the things that the eunuch in charge of the women had commanded. For Esther found favor in the eyes of all who saw her.* 16So Esther went in to King Artaxerxes in the twelfth month, which is Adar, in the seventh year of his reign. 17And the king loved Esther passionately, and she found favor beyond all the other virgins, and he put on her the queen's diadem.* 18Then the king gave a drinking party lasting seven days for all his Friends and the officers to celebrate his marriage to Esther, and he granted a remission of taxes to those who were under his rule.*

THE PLOT DISCOVERED

19 Meanwhile Mordecai was serving in the court.* 20Esther had not disclosed her country, for thus Mordecai had instructed her to fear God and keep his laws, just as she had done when she was with him. So Esther did not change her way of life.*

21 Now two of the king's eunuchs, who were chief bodyguards, were upset because of Mordecai's advancement, and they plotted to kill King Artaxerxes. 22The matter became known to Mordecai, and he warned Esther, who in turn revealed the plot to the king.* 23He investigated the two eunuchs and hanged them. Then the king ordered that a record commemorating Mordecai's goodwill be deposited in the royal archive.*

Esther (Greek) 3

MORDECAI REFUSES TO DO OBEISANCE

1 After these events King Artaxerxes honored Haman son of Hammedatha,
a Bougean, and exalted him, and would seat him first among all the king's[j]
Friends.* [2]So all who were at court used to do obeisance to Haman,[k] for so
the king had commanded to be done. Mordecai, however, did not do
obeisance.* [3]Then the king's courtiers said to Mordecai, "Mordecai, why do
you disobey the king's command?"* [4]Day after day they spoke to him, but
he would not listen to them. Then they informed Haman that Mordecai was
resisting the king's command. Mordecai had told them that he was a Jew.
[5]So when Haman learned that Mordecai was not doing obeisance to him, he
became furiously angry* [6]and resolved to destroy all the Jews under
Artaxerxes's rule.

7 In the twelfth year of the reign of Artaxerxes, Haman[l] came to a
decision and cast lots, taking the days and the months one by one, to fix on
one day to destroy the whole people of Mordecai. The lot fell on the
fourteenth[m] day of the month of Adar.*

DECREE AGAINST THE JEWS

8 Then Haman[n] said to King Artaxerxes, "There is a certain nation
scattered among the other nations in all your kingdom; their laws are
different from those of every other nation, and they do not keep the laws of
the king. It is not expedient for the king to tolerate them.* [9]If it pleases the
king, let him decree that they are to be destroyed, and I will pay ten
thousand talents of silver into the king's treasury." [10]So the king took off his
signet ring and gave it to Haman to seal the decree[o] that was to be written
against the Jews.* [11]The king told Haman, "Keep the money, and do
whatever you want with that nation."

12 So on the thirteenth day of the first month the king's secretaries were
summoned, and in accordance with Haman's instructions they wrote in the
name of King Artaxerxes to the magistrates and the governors in every

province from India to Ethiopia, one hundred twenty-seven provinces in all, and to the governors of the nations, each in his own language.* [13]Instructions were sent by couriers throughout all the empire of Artaxerxes to destroy the Jewish people in a single day of the twelfth month, which is Adar, and to plunder their goods.*

Addition B

Esther (Greek) 13

THE KING'S LETTER

1 [P]This is a copy of the letter: "The Great King, Artaxerxes, writes the following to the governors of the hundred twenty-seven provinces from India to Ethiopia and to the officials under them:[*]

2 "Having become ruler of many nations and master of the whole world (not elated with presumption of authority but always acting reasonably and with kindness), I have determined to settle the lives of my subjects in lasting tranquility and, in order to make my kingdom peaceable and open to travel throughout all its extent, to restore the peace desired by all people.[*]

3 "When I asked my counselors how this might be accomplished, Haman —who excels among us in sound judgment and is distinguished for his unchanging goodwill and steadfast fidelity and has attained the second place of honor in the kingdom[*]—[4]pointed out to us that among all the nations in the world there is scattered a certain hostile people who have laws contrary to those of every nation and continually disregard the ordinances of kings, so that the unifying of the kingdom that we honorably intend cannot be brought about.[*] [5]We understand that this people, and it alone, stands constantly in opposition to all humanity, perversely following a strange manner of life and laws, and is ill-disposed to our interests, doing all the harm they can so that our kingdom may not attain stability.

6 "Therefore we have decreed that those indicated to you in the letters written by Haman, who is in charge of affairs and is our second father, shall all—wives and children included—be utterly destroyed by the swords of their enemies, without pity or restraint, on the fourteenth day of the twelfth month, Adar, of this present year,[*] [7]so that those who have long been hostile and remain so may in a single day go down in violence to Hades and leave our interests secure and untroubled hereafter."

End of Addition B

Esther (Greek) 3

14 Copies of the letter were posted in every province, and all the nations were ordered to be prepared for that day.* 15The matter was expedited also in Susa. And while the king and Haman caroused together, the city was thrown into confusion.

Esther (Greek) 4

MORDECAI SEEKS ESTHER'S AID

1 When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put
on sackcloth, and sprinkled himself with ashes; then he rushed through the
street of the city, shouting loudly: "An innocent nation is being destroyed!"*
2He got as far as the king's gate, and there he stopped, because no one was
allowed to enter the courtyard clothed in sackcloth and ashes. 3And in every
province where the letter had been posted there was crying, lamentation,
and great mourning among the Jews, and they put on sackcloth and ashes.*
4When the queen's[q] maids and eunuchs came and told her, she was deeply
troubled by what she heard had happened and sent instructions to clothe
Mordecai and to remove his sackcloth, but he would not consent. 5Then
Esther summoned Hachratheus, the eunuch who attended her, and
dispatched him to get accurate information for her from Mordecai.[r]

7 So Mordecai told him what had happened and about the promise that
Haman had promised the king: ten thousands talents for the royal treasury
to bring about the destruction of the Jews.* 8He also gave him a copy of
what had been posted in Susa for their destruction, to show to Esther, and
he told him to charge her to go in to the king and plead for his favor in
behalf of the people. "Remember," he said, "the days when you were an
ordinary person, being brought up under my care, for Haman, who is
second to the king, has spoken against us and demands our death. Call upon
the Lord; then speak to the king in our behalf and save us from death."*

9 Hachratheus went in and told her all these things. 10And Esther said to
him, "Go to Mordecai and say: 11All nations of the realm know that if any
man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called,
there is no escape for that person. Only the one to whom the king stretches
out the golden scepter is safe—and it is now thirty days since I myself was
called to go to the king."*

12 So Hachratheus delivered Esther's entire message to Mordecai, 13and
then Mordecai said to Hachratheus, "Go and say to her: Esther, do not say
to yourself that you alone among all the Jews in the realm will escape alive.

[14]For if you take no heed at such a time as this, help and protection will
come to the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family
will perish. And who knows whether it was not for such a time as this that
you were made queen?" [15]Then Esther gave the messenger this answer to
take back to Mordecai: [16]"Go and gather the Jews who are in Susa and fast
on my behalf; for three days and nights do not eat or drink, and my maids
and I will also go without food. After that I will go to the king, contrary to
the law, even if I must die."* [17]So Mordecai went away and did what Esther
had told him to do.

Addition C

Esther (Greek) 13

MORDECAI'S PRAYER

8 [s]Then Mordecai[t] prayed to the Lord, calling to remembrance all the works of the Lord.

9 He said, "O Lord, Lord, King of all powers, for the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose you when it is your will to save Israel, [10]for you have made heaven and earth and every wonderful thing under heaven.[*] [11]You are Lord of all, and there is no one who can resist you, the Lord. [12]You know all things; you know, O Lord, that it was not in insolence or pride or for any love of glory that I did this and refused to bow down to this proud Haman,[*] [13]for I would have been willing to kiss the soles of his feet to save Israel![*] [14]But I did this so that I might not set human glory above the glory of God, and I will not bow down to anyone but you, who are my Lord, and I will not do these things in pride. [15]And now, O Lord God and King, God of Abraham, spare your people, for the eyes of our foes are upon us[u] to annihilate us, and they desire to destroy the inheritance that has been yours from the beginning.[*] [16]Do not neglect your portion, which you redeemed for yourself out of the land of Egypt.[*] [17]Hear my prayer and have mercy upon your inheritance; turn our mourning into feasting that we may live and sing praise to your name, O Lord; do not destroy the lips[v] of those who praise you."[*]

18 And all Israel cried out with all their might, for their death was before their eyes.

Esther (Greek) 14

ESTHER'S PRAYER

1 Then Queen Esther, seized with mortal anguish, fled to the Lord. [2]She took off the garments of her honor and put on the garments of distress and mourning, and instead of costly perfumes she covered her head with ashes and dung, and she utterly humbled her body; every part that she loved to adorn she covered with her tangled hair.* [3]She prayed to the Lord God of Israel and said: "O my Lord, you alone are our king; help me, who am alone and have no helper but you, [4]for my danger is in my hand.* [5]Ever since I was born I have heard in the tribe of my family that you, O Lord, took Israel out of all the nations and our ancestors from among all their forebears for an everlasting inheritance and that you did for them all that you said.* [6]And now we have sinned before you, and you have delivered us into the hands of our enemies* [7]because we glorified their gods. You are righteous, O Lord! [8]And now they are not satisfied that we are in bitter slavery, but they have set their hands on the hands of their idols [9]to abolish what your mouth has ordained and to destroy your inheritance, to stop the mouths of those who praise you and to quench your altar and the glory of your house,* [10]to open the mouths of the nations for the praise of vain idols and to magnify forever a mortal king.*

11 "O Lord, do not surrender your scepter to what has no being, and do not let them laugh at our downfall, but turn their plan against them and make an example of him who began this against us.* [12]Remember, O Lord; make yourself known in this time of our affliction and give me courage, O King of the gods and Master of all dominion!* [13]Put eloquent speech in my mouth before the lion and turn his heart to hate the man who is fighting against us, so that there may be an end of him and those who agree with him.* [14]But save us by your hand and help me, who am alone and have no helper but you, O Lord. You have knowledge of all things, [15]and you know that I hate the splendor of the lawless and abhor the bed of the uncircumcised and of any alien.* [16]You know my necessity, that I abhor the sign of my proud position that is upon my head on days when I appear in

public. I abhor it like a menstrual cloth, and I do not wear it on the days when I am at rest.* 17And your servant has not eaten at Haman's table, and I have not honored the king's feast or drunk the wine of libations.* 18Your servant has had no joy since the day that I was brought here until now, except in you, O Lord God of Abraham. 19O God, whose might is over all, hear the voice of the despairing and save us from the hands of evildoers. And save me from my fear!"

End of Addition C

Addition D

Esther (Greek) 15

ESTHER IS RECEIVED BY THE KING

1 On the third day, when she ended her prayer, she took off the garments in
which she had worshiped and arrayed herself in the garments of her honor.*
2Then, majestically adorned, after invoking the aid of the all-seeing God
and Savior, she took two maids with her;* 3on one she leaned gently for
support, 4while the other followed, carrying her train. 5She was radiant with
perfect beauty, and she looked happy, as if beloved, but her heart was frozen
with fear. 6When she had gone through all the doors, she stood before the
king. He was seated on his royal throne, clothed in the full array of his
majesty, all covered with gold and precious stones. He was most terrifying.

7 Lifting his face, ablaze with glory, he looked at her in fierce anger. The
queen faltered, turned pale and faint, and collapsed on the head of the maid
who went in front of her.* 8Then God changed the spirit of the king to
gentleness, and in alarm he sprang from his throne and took her in his arms
until she came to herself. He comforted her with soothing words and said to
her,* 9"What is it, Esther? I am your kin.[w] Take courage. 10You shall not
die, for our law applies only to our subjects.[x] Come near."

11 Then he raised the golden scepter and touched her neck with it;* 12he
embraced her and said, "Speak to me." 13She said to him, "I saw you, my
lord, like an angel of God, and my heart was shaken with fear at your
glory.* 14For you are wonderful, my lord, and your countenance is full of
grace." 15And while she was speaking, she fainted and fell. 16Then the king
was agitated, and all his attendants tried to comfort her.

End of Addition D

Esther (Greek) 5

3 [y]The king said to her, “What do you wish, Esther? What is your request?
It shall be yours, even to half of my kingdom.”* [4]And Esther said, “Today is
a special day for me. If it pleases the king, let him and Haman come to the
banquet that I shall prepare today.” [5]Then the king said, “Bring Haman
quickly, so that we may do as Esther desires.” So they both came to the
banquet that Esther had spoken about. [6]While they were drinking wine, the
king said to Esther, “What is it, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you.”*
[7]She said, “My petition and request is: [8]if I have found favor in the sight of
the king, let the king and Haman come again tomorrow to the banquet that I
shall prepare them, and tomorrow I will do the same.”*

HAMAN’S PLOT AGAINST MORDECAI

9 So Haman went out from the king joyful and glad of heart. But when
he saw Mordecai the Jew in the courtyard, he was filled with anger.*
[10]Nevertheless, he went home and summoned his friends and his wife
Zosara. [11]And he told them about his riches and the honor that the king had
bestowed on him and how he had advanced him to be the first in the
kingdom.* [12]And Haman said, “The queen did not invite anyone to the
banquet with the king except me, and I am invited again tomorrow. [13]But
these things give me no pleasure as long as I see Mordecai the Jew in the
courtyard.”* [14]His wife Zosara and his friends said to him, “Let a pole be
cut, fifty cubits high, and in the morning tell the king and have Mordecai
hung on it. Then, go with the king to the banquet and enjoy yourself.” This
advice pleased Haman, so the pole was prepared.*

Esther (Greek) 6

MORDECAI'S REWARD FROM THE KING

1 That night the Lord took sleep from the king, so he told his teacher to
bring the book of daily records and to read to him.* [2]He found the words
written about Mordecai, how he had told the king about the two royal
eunuchs who were on guard and sought to lay hands on Artaxerxes.* [3]The
king said, "What honor or favor did we bestow on Mordecai?" The king's
servants said, "You have not done anything for him." [4]While the king was
inquiring about the goodwill shown by Mordecai—Look! Haman was in the
courtyard. The king asked, "Who is in the courtyard?" Now Haman had
come to speak to the king about hanging Mordecai on the pole that he had
prepared.* [5]The servants of the king said, "Look! Haman is standing in the
courtyard." And the king said, "Summon him." [6]Then the king said to
Haman, "What shall I do for the person whom I wish to honor?" And
Haman said to himself, "Whom would the king wish to honor more than
me?"* [7]So he said to the king, "For a person whom the king wishes to
honor, [8]let the king's servants bring out the fine linen robe that the king
wears and the horse on which the king rides, [9]and let them be given to one
of the king's honored Friends, and let him robe the person whom the king
loves and mount him on the horse, and let him proclaim through the open
square of the city, saying, 'Thus shall it be done to everyone whom the king
honors.' "* [10]Then the king said to Haman, "You have spoken well! Do just
as you have said for Mordecai the Jew who serves at court. And let not a
word of what you have said be omitted."* [11]So Haman got the robe and the
horse; he put the robe on Mordecai, mounted him on the horse, and went
through the open square of the city, proclaiming, "Thus shall it be done to
everyone whom the king wishes to honor." [12]Then Mordecai returned to the
courtyard, but Haman returned home, mourning and with his head covered.*
[13]Haman told his wife Zosara and his friends what had befallen him. His
friends and his wife said to him, "If Mordecai is of the Jewish people and
you have begun to be humiliated before him, you will surely fall. You will
not be able to defend yourself, because a living god is with him."*

HAMAN AT ESTHER'S BANQUET

14 While they were still talking, the eunuchs arrived and hurriedly brought Haman to the drinking party that Esther had prepared.*

Esther (Greek) 7

1 So the king and Haman went in to drink with the queen. [2]And the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king said, “What is it, Queen Esther? What is your petition, and what is your request? It shall be granted to you, even to half of my kingdom.”* [3]She answered and said, “If I have found favor with the king, let my life be granted me at my petition and my people at my request.* [4]For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, plundered, and made slaves—we and our children—male and female slaves. I took no heed, but now our adversary brings shame on[z] the king’s court.”* [5]Then the king said, “Who is the person who would dare to do this thing?” [6]Esther said, “Our enemy is this evil man Haman!” At this, Haman was terrified in the presence of the king and queen.*

PUNISHMENT OF HAMAN

7 The king rose from the banquet and went into the garden, and Haman began to beg for his life from the queen, for he saw that he was in serious trouble. [8]When the king returned from the garden, Haman had thrown himself on the couch, pleading with the queen. The king said, “Will you dare even assault my wife in my own house?” Haman, when he heard, turned away his face. [9]Then Bugathan, one of the eunuchs, said to the king, “Look, Haman has even prepared a pole for Mordecai, who gave information of concern to the king; it is standing at Haman’s house, a pole fifty cubits high.” So the king said, “Let Haman be executed on that.”* [10]So Haman was hung on the pole that had been prepared for Mordecai. With that the anger of the king abated.*

Esther (Greek) 8

ROYAL FAVOR SHOWN THE JEWS

1 On that very day King Artaxerxes granted to Esther all the property of the
adversary Haman. Mordecai was summoned by the king, for Esther had told
the king[a] that he was related to her.* [2]The king took his ring, which he had
taken back from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai, and Esther set Mordecai
over everything that had been Haman's.*

3 Then she spoke once again to the king, and, falling at his feet, she
asked him to avert all the evil that Haman had planned against the Jews.*
[4]The king extended his golden scepter to Esther, and she rose and stood
before the king.* [5]Esther said, "If it pleases you, and if I have found favor,
let an order be sent rescinding the letters that Haman wrote and sent to
destroy the Jews in your kingdom.* [6]How can I look on the ruin of my
people? How can I be safe if my ancestral nation[b] is destroyed?"* [7]The king
said to Esther, "Now that I[c] have granted all of Haman's property to you
and have hung him on a pole because he laid hands on the Jews, what else
do you request?* [8]Write in my name what you think best and seal it with my
ring, for whatever is written at the king's command and sealed with my ring
cannot be contravened."*

9 The secretaries were summoned on the twenty-third day of the first
month, that is, Nisan, in the same year, and all that she commanded with
respect to the Jews was given in writing to the administrators and governors
of the satrapies from India to Ethiopia, one hundred twenty-seven satrapies,
to each province in its own language.* [10]The edict was written[d] with the
king's authority and sealed with his ring, and they sent out the letters by
couriers.* [11]He ordered the Jews[e] in every city to observe their laws, to
defend themselves, and to act as they wished against their opponents and
enemies* [12]on a single day, the thirteenth of the twelfth month, which is
Adar, throughout all the kingdom of Artaxerxes.*

Addition E

Esther (Greek) 16

THE DECREE OF ARTAXERXES

1 [f]The following is a copy of this letter:

"The Great King, Artaxerxes, to the governors of the provinces from India to Ethiopia, one hundred twenty-seven provinces, and to those who are loyal to our government, greetings.[*]

2 "Many people, the more they are honored with the most generous kindness of their benefactors, the more proud do they become,[*] [3]and not only seek to injure our subjects, but in their inability to stand prosperity, they even undertake to scheme against their own benefactors. [4]They not only take away thankfulness from others, but, carried away by the boasts of those who know nothing of goodness, they even assume that they will escape the evil-hating justice of God, who always sees everything. [5]And often many of those who are set in places of authority have been made in part responsible for the shedding of innocent blood and have been involved in irremediable calamities, by the persuasion of friends who have been entrusted with the administration of public affairs, [6]when these persons by the false trickery of their evil natures beguile the sincere goodwill of their sovereigns.

7 "What has been wickedly accomplished through the pestilent behavior of those who exercise authority unworthily can be seen not so much from the more ancient records that we hand on as from investigation of matters close at hand.[g] [8]In the future we will take care to render our kingdom quiet and peaceable for all,[*] [9]by changing our methods and always judging what comes before our eyes with more equitable consideration. [10]For Haman son of Hammedatha, a Macedonian (really an alien to the Persian blood and quite devoid of our kindliness), having become our guest,[*] [11]enjoyed so fully the goodwill that we have for every nation that he was called our father and was continually bowed down to by all as the person second to the

royal throne.* 12But, unable to restrain his arrogance, he undertook to deprive us of our kingdom and our life[h] 13and with intricate craft and deceit asked for the destruction of Mordecai, our savior and perpetual benefactor, and of Esther, the blameless partner of our kingdom, together with their whole nation. 14He thought that by these methods he would catch us undefended and would transfer the kingdom of the Persians to the Macedonians.

15 "But we find that the Jews, who were consigned to annihilation by this thrice-accursed man, are not evildoers but are governed by most righteous laws 16and are children of the living God, most high, most mighty,[i] who has directed the kingdom both for us and for our ancestors in the most excellent order.*

17 "You will therefore do well not to put in execution the letters sent by Haman son of Hammedatha,* 18since he, the one who did these things, has been executed at the gates of Susa with all his household—for God, who rules over all things, has speedily inflicted on him the punishment that he deserved.*

19 "Therefore post a copy of this letter publicly in every place and permit the Jews to live according to their own customs.* 20And lend them support, so that on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, Adar, on that very day, they may defend themselves against those who attack them at the time of affliction.* 21For God, who rules over all things, has made this day to be a joy for his chosen people instead of a day of destruction for them.

22 "Therefore you shall observe this with all good cheer as a notable day among your commemorative festivals,* 23so that both now and hereafter it may represent deliverance for us and for those loyal to the Persians but a reminder of destruction for those who plot against us.

24 "Every city and country, without exception, that does not act accordingly shall be destroyed in wrath with spear and fire. It shall be made not only impassable for humans but also most hateful to wild animals and birds for all time.*

End of Addition E

Esther (Greek) 8

13 “Let copies of the decree be posted conspicuously in all the kingdom,
and let all the Jews be ready on that day to fight against their enemies.”*

14 So the messengers on horseback set out with all speed to perform
what the king had commanded, and the decree was posted also in Susa.
15 Mordecai went out dressed in the royal robe and wearing a gold crown
and a turban of purple linen. The people in Susa rejoiced on seeing him.*
16 And the Jews had light and gladness 17 in every city and province
wherever the decree was published; wherever the proclamation was made,
the Jews had joy and gladness, a banquet and a holiday. And many of the
nations were circumcised and became Jews out of fear of the Jews.*

Esther (Greek) 9

VICTORY OF THE JEWS

1 Now on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is Adar, the letter written by the king arrived.* [2]On that same day the enemies of the Jews perished; no one resisted, because they feared them.* [3]The governors of the satrapies, the princes, and the royal secretaries were paying honor to the Jews, because fear of Mordecai weighed upon them.* [4]The king's decree required that Mordecai's name be held in honor throughout the kingdom.[j] [6]Now in the city of Susa the Jews killed five hundred men, [7]including Pharsannestain, Delphon, Phasga, [8]Pharadatha, Barea, Sarbacha, [9]Marmasima, Aruphaeus, Arsaeus, Zabutheus, [10]the ten sons of Haman son of Hammedatha, the Bougean, the enemy of the Jews—and they indulged themselves in plunder.*

11 That same day, the number of those killed in Susa was reported to the king. [12]The king said to Esther, "In the city of Susa, the Jews have destroyed five hundred people. What do you suppose they have done in the surrounding countryside? Whatever more you ask will be done for you."* [13]And Esther said to the king, "Let the Jews be allowed to do the same tomorrow. Also, hang up the bodies of Haman's ten sons."* [14]So he permitted this to be done and handed over to the Jews of the city the bodies of Haman's sons to hang up.* [15]The Jews who were in Susa gathered on the fourteenth and killed three hundred men but took no plunder.*

16 Now the other Jews in the kingdom gathered to defend themselves and got relief from their enemies. They destroyed fifteen thousand of them on the thirteenth of Adar but did not engage in plunder.* [17]On the fourteenth day of the same month they rested and kept it as a day of rest with joy and gladness.* [18]The Jews who were in the city of Susa came together also on the fourteenth but did not rest. They celebrated the fifteenth with joy and gladness.* [19]On this account, then, the Jews who are scattered around the countryside keep the fourteenth of Adar as a joyful holiday and send presents of food to one another, while those who live in the large cities keep

the fifteenth day of Adar as their joyful holiday, also sending presents to one another.*

THE FESTIVAL OF PURIM

20 Mordecai recorded these things in a book and sent it to the Jews in the kingdom of Artaxerxes both near and far, 21to institute these days as holidays and to keep the fourteenth and fifteenth days of Adar,* 22for on these days the Jews got relief from their enemies. The whole month (namely, Adar) in which their condition had been changed from sorrow into gladness and from a time of distress to a holiday was to be celebrated as a time for feasting[k] and gladness and for sending presents of food to their friends and to the poor.*

23 So the Jews accepted what Mordecai had written to them: 24how Haman son of Hammedatha, the Macedonian, fought against them, how he made a decree and cast lots[l] to destroy them,* 25and how he went in to the king, telling him to hang Mordecai, but the wicked plot he had devised against the Jews came back upon himself, and he and his sons were hanged.* 26Therefore these days were called "Purim," because of the lots (for in their language this is the word that means "lots"). And so, because of what was written in this letter and because of what they had experienced in this affair and what had befallen them, Mordecai established this festival,[m,*] 27and the Jews took upon themselves, upon their descendants, and upon all who would join them to observe it without fail.[n] These days of Purim should be a memorial and kept from generation to generation, in every city, family, and country.* 28These days of Purim shall be observed for all time, and the commemoration of them shall never cease among their descendants.

29 Then Queen Esther daughter of Aminadab along with Mordecai the Jew wrote down what they had done and gave full authority to the letter about Purim.[o,*] 31And Mordecai and Queen Esther established this decision on their own responsibility, pledging their own well-being to the plan.[p] 32Esther established it by a decree forever, and it was written for a memorial.

Esther (Greek) 10

1 The king levied a tax upon his kingdom both by land and sea. [2]And as for his power and bravery and the wealth and glory of his kingdom, they were recorded in the annals of the kings of the Persians and the Medes.* [3]Mordecai succeeded King Artaxerxes and was great in the kingdom, as well as honored by the Jews. His way of life was such as to make him beloved to his whole nation.

Addition F*

MORDECAI'S DREAM FULFILLED

4 [q]And Mordecai said, "These things have come from God, [5]for I remember the dream that I had concerning these matters, and none of them has failed to be fulfilled.* [6]There was the little spring that became a river, and there was light and sun and abundant water. The river is Esther, whom the king married and made queen. [7]The two dragons are Haman and myself. [8]The nations are those that gathered to destroy the name of the Jews.* [9]And my nation, this is Israel, who cried out to God and was saved. The Lord has saved his people; the Lord has rescued us from all these evils; God has done great signs and wonders, wonders that have never happened among the nations.* [10]For this purpose he made two lots, one for the people of God and one for all the nations,* [11]and these two lots came to the hour and moment and to the day of judgment before God and among all the nations. [12]And God remembered his people and vindicated his inheritance. [13]So they will observe these days in the month of Adar, on the fourteenth and fifteenth[r] of that month, with an assembly and joy and gladness before God, from generation to generation forever among his people Israel."*

Esther (Greek) 11

POSTSCRIPT

1 In the fourth year of the reign of Ptolemy and Cleopatra, Dositheus, who said that he was a priest and a Levite,[s] and his son Ptolemy brought to Egypt[t] the preceding letter about Purim, which they said was authentic and had been translated by Lysimachus son of Ptolemy, one of the residents of Jerusalem.

End of Addition F

Esther (Greek) 11 (Addition A)

a **11.2** 11.2–12.6 corresponds to A 1–17 in some translations.
* **11.2** Esth 3.7; Add Esth 2.5; 3.7; 9.20, 26; 10.5
* **11.3** Neh 1.1
* **11.4** Esth 2.6; Add Esth 2.6
b **11.5** Or *Voices*
* **11.6** Add Esth 10.7
* **11.7** Ex 19.6; Wis 10.15
* **11.8** Joel 2.2; Zeph 1.15
c **11.9** Gk *their own evils*
* **11.9** Ex 19.6; Wis 10.15
* **11.10** Add Esth 10.6
* **11.11** 1 Sam 2.8; Lk 1.52

Esther (Greek) 12 (Addition A)

* **12.1** Esth 2.21
* **12.2** Esth 2.22
* **12.3** Add Esth 2.23
* **12.6** Esth 3.1, 6; Add Esth 16.10

Esther (Greek) 1

d **1.1** Other ancient authorities lack *to Ethiopia*
* **1.1** Esth 8.9; 9.30; Add Esth 8.9
* **1.3** Esth 2.18; Add Esth 2.18
* **1.7** Esth 2.18
* **1.10** Esth 2.21; 7.9; Add Esth 7.9
* **1.11** Esth 2.17; 6.8; Add Esth 2.17
e **1.13** Gk *has said thus and so*
* **1.14** vv 16, 21; Ezra 7.14; Esth 1.14
* **1.19** Dan 6.8, 12, 15; Add Esth 8.8
* **1.20** Eph 5.22, 24, 33; Col 3.18
f **1.22** Gk lacks *the decree*
* **1.22** Esth 8.9; Add Esth 3.12; 8.9

Esther (Greek) 2

g **2.1** Or *she*
* **2.1** Esth 1.19, 20; Add Esth 7.10
* **2.3** vv 8, 9, 12, 15

* **2.5** 1 Sam 9.1; Ezra 2.2
* **2.6** 2 Kings 24.14, 15; Jer 24.1
* **2.7** v 15
* **2.8** v 3
h **2.9** Gk lacks *of food*
* **2.9** vv 3, 12
* **2.10** v 20
i **2.13** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **2.15** vv 3, 7, 8
* **2.17** Esth 1.11; Add Esth 1.11
* **2.18** Esth 1.7; 6.8
* **2.19** Add Esth 5.9, 13; 6.10, 12
* **2.20** vv 7, 10
* **2.22** Esth 6.2; Add Esth 6.2; 7.9
* **2.23** Add Esth 6.1; 10.2

Esther (Greek) 3

j **3.1** Gk *all his*
* **3.1** v 10; Esth 5.11; Add Esth 8.3, 5; 9.24
k **3.2** Gk *him*
* **3.2** Add Esth 5.9
* **3.3** v 2
* **3.5** Dan 3.19
l **3.7** Gk *he*
m **3.7** Other ancient witnesses read *thirteenth*
* **3.7** Esth 3.7; 9.24, 26
n **3.8** Gk *he*
* **3.8** Ezra 4.12, 13; Acts 16.20, 21
o **3.10** Gk lacks *the decree*
* **3.10** Gen 41.42; Add Esth 8.2
* **3.12** Esth 8.9; Add Esth 1.22; 8.8–10
* **3.13** Add Esth 7.4

Esther (Greek) 13 (Addition B)

p **13.1** 13.1–7 corresponds to B 1–7 in some translations.
* **13.1** Esth 1.1; Add Esth 3.12; 16.1
* **13.2** Add Esth 16.8
* **13.3** v 6; Add Esth 10.3; 16.11
* **13.4** Add Esth 3.8
* **13.6** Esth 3.13; Add Esth 3.13; 16.11

Esther (Greek) 3

* **3.14** Add Esth 8.13, 14

Esther (Greek) 4

* **4.1** 2 Sam 3.31; 1 Kings 20.31; Jdt 4.10
* **4.3** v 16; Esth 9.31; Isa 58.5; Dan 9.3

q **4.4** Gk *When her*

r **4.5** Other ancient witnesses add [6]*So Hachratheus went out to Mordecai in the street of the city opposite the city gate*.

* **4.7** Add Esth 3.9
* **4.8** Add Esth 3.14; 8.13
* **4.11** Esth 5.1, 2; Add Esth 8.4; 15.11
* **4.16** Add Esth 15.6

Esther (Greek) 13 (Addition C)

s **13.8** 13.8–15.16 corresponds to C 1–30 and D 1–16 in some translations.

t **13.8** Gk *he*

* **13.10** Gen 1.1–27; Jdt 16.13, 14
* **13.12** Add Esth 3.2, 5
* **13.13** Rom 9.3

u **13.15** Gk *for they are eying us*

* **13.15** Gen 31.42; Ps 47.9; Joel 2.17; 2 Esd 8.45
* **13.16** Deut 9.26

v **13.17** Gk *mouth*

* **13.17** Jer 31.13; Add Esth 14.9

Esther (Greek) 14 (Addition C)

* **14.2** 2 Esd 9.38
* **14.4** Judg 12.3
* **14.5** Deut 4.34; Josh 24.2, 3
* **14.6** Judg 2.13, 14; 2 Kings 21.11, 12
* **14.9** Add Esth 13.17
* **14.10** Jdt 3.8
* **14.11** Ps 35.8; 1 Cor 8.4
* **14.12** Ps 95.3
* **14.13** Prov 19.12; 2 Tim 4.17
* **14.15** Add Esth 13.12
* **14.16** Isa 30.22; Add Esth 2.17
* **14.17** Deut 32.38; Jdt 12.2

Esther (Greek) 15 (Addition D)

* **15.1** Esth 5.1; Add Esth 14.2
* **15.2** Add Esth 16.4
* **15.7** Add Esth 8.3
* **15.8** Prov 21.1
w **15.9** Gk *brother*
x **15.10** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **15.11** Add Esth 4.11; 8.4
* **15.13** 1 Sam 29.9; 2 Sam 14.17, 20; 19.27

Esther (Greek) 5

y **5.3** In Greek, Addition D replaces 5.1–2 in Hebrew.
* **5.3** Add Esth 7.2; Mk 6.23
* **5.6** v 3; Add Esth 7.2; 9.12; Mk 6.23
* **5.8** Add Esth 6.14; 7.3; 8.5
* **5.9** 1 Kings 8.66; Add Esth 2.19; 3.5
* **5.11** Add Esth 3.1
* **5.13** v 9; Add Esth 2.19; 3.5
* **5.14** Esth 9.13; Add Esth 6.4; 7.9, 10; 8.7; 9.25

Esther (Greek) 6

* **6.1** Dan 6.18; Add Esth 2.23; 10.2
* **6.2** Add Esth 2.22
* **6.4** Esth 5.1; Add Esth 4.11; 5.14
* **6.6** vv 7, 9, 11
* **6.9** Gen 41.43
* **6.10** Add Esth 2.19
* **6.12** 2 Sam 15.30
* **6.13** Add Esth 5.10, 14
* **6.14** Add Esth 5.8

Esther (Greek) 7

* **7.2** Add Esth 5.3, 6; 9.12
* **7.3** Add Esth 5.8
z **7.4** Gk *is not worthy of*
* **7.4** Add Esth 3.13; 4.7; 8.11
* **7.6** Esth 3.10
* **7.9** Add Esth 2.22; 5.14
* **7.10** Esth 2.1; Ps 7.16; Prov 11.5, 6; Dan 6.24

Esther (Greek) 8

a **8.1** Gk *him*
* **8.1** Add Esth 2.7, 15
* **8.2** Add Esth 3.10
* **8.3** Add Esth 9.24
* **8.4** Esth 5.2; Add Esth 4.11; 15.11
* **8.5** Add Esth 3.13
b **8.6** Gk *country*
* **8.6** Add Esth 7.4
c **8.7** Gk *If I*
* **8.7** v 1
* **8.8** v 10; Dan 6.8; Add Esth 1.19
* **8.9** Ezra 8.36; Add Esth 1.1; 3.12
d **8.10** Gk *It was written*
* **8.10** Add Esth 3.12, 13
e **8.11** Gk *them*
* **8.11** Esth 9.2; Add Esth 9.15, 16
* **8.12** Add Esth 3.13; 9.1

Esther (Greek) 16 (Addition E)

f **16.1** 16.1–24 corresponds to E 1–24 in some translations.
* **16.1** Add Esth 13.1
* **16.2** Lk 22.25
g **16.7** Gk *matters beside* (your) *feet*
* **16.8** Add Esth 13.2
* **16.10** Add Esth 12.6
* **16.11** Add Esth 13.3, 6
h **16.12** Gk *our spirit*
i **16.16** Gk *greatest*
* **16.16** Bel 5; 2 Macc 7.33; 15.4
* **16.17** Add Esth 3.13
* **16.18** Add Esth 7.10; 9.10
* **16.19** Add Esth 8.13
* **16.20** Add Esth 9.3; 13.6
* **16.22** Add Esth 9.27, 28
* **16.24** Jer 4.26; 32.43

Esther (Greek) 8

* **8.13** Add Esth 3.14; 4.8
* **8.15** Gen 41.42; Dan 5.29; Add Esth 3.15

* **8.17** Add Esth 9.2, 19, 22, 27

Esther (Greek) 9

* **9.1** Esth 3.13; 9.17
* **9.2** vv 15, 16; Add Esth 8.11
* **9.3** Ezra 8.36

j **9.4** Meaning of Gk uncertain. Some ancient authorities add 9.5, *So the Jews struck down all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them, and they did as they pleased to those who hated them*.

* **9.10** Esth 5.11; Add Esth 9.13, 14
* **9.12** Add Esth 5.6; 7.2
* **9.13** v 15; Add Esth 8.11
* **9.14** Esth 5.11; Add Esth 9.13
* **9.15** Add Esth 8.11
* **9.16** v 2; Add Esth 8.11
* **9.17** v 21
* **9.18** vv 1, 21; Add Esth 8.11
* **9.19** Neh 8.10, 12; Esth 8.17
* **9.21** 2 Macc 15.36

k **9.22** Gk *of weddings*

* **9.22** Neh 8.10, 12; Add Esth 8.17

l **9.24** Gk *a lot*

* **9.24** Esth 3.6, 7
* **9.25** Ps 7.16; Add Esth 7.9, 10; 8.3, 7

m **9.26** Gk *he established* (it)

* **9.26** v 20; Esth 3.7

n **9.27** Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **9.27** v 21; Zech 2.11

o **9.29** 9.30 in Heb is lacking in Gk: *Letters were sent to all the Jews, to the one hundred twenty-seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, in words of peace and truth*.

* **9.29** v 20; Add Esth 2.15; 8.10

p **9.31** Meaning of Gk uncertain

Esther (Greek) 10

* **10.2** Esth 2.23; 6.1
* **10.3** Gen 41.40; Neh 2.10

q **10.4** 10.4–13 and 11.1 correspond to F 1–11 in some translations.

* **10.5** Add Esth 11.5–11
* **10.8** Ps 83.4
* **10.9** Ex 7.3; Deut 4.32, 34
* **10.10** Add Esth 3.7; 9.24

r **10.13** Other ancient authorities lack *and fifteenth*
* **10.13** Add Esth 9.15, 21, 28

Esther (Greek) 11 (Addition F)

s **11.1** Or *priest, and Levitas*
t **11.1** Cn: Gk *brought in*

The Wisdom of Solomon

Wisdom of Solomon 1

EXHORTATION TO UPRIGHTNESS

[1]Love righteousness, you rulers of the earth;
think of the Lord in goodness
and seek him with sincerity of heart,*
[2]because he is found by those who do not put him to the test
and manifests himself to those who do not distrust him.*
[3]For perverse thoughts separate people from God,
and when his power is tested, it exposes the foolish,*
[4]because wisdom will not enter a deceitful soul
or dwell in a body enslaved to sin.
[5]For a holy and disciplined spirit will flee from deceit
and will leave foolish thoughts behind
and will be ashamed at the approach of unrighteousness.*

[6]For wisdom is a kindly spirit,
but it will not free blasphemers from the guilt of their words,
because God is witness of their inmost feelings
and a true observer of their hearts and a hearer of their tongues.*
[7]Because the spirit of the Lord has filled the world
and that which holds all things together knows what is said,*
[8]therefore those who utter unrighteous things will not escape notice,
and justice, when it punishes, will not pass them by.
[9]For inquiry will be made into the counsels of the ungodly,
and a report of their words will come to the Lord,

to convict them of their lawless deeds,
10because a jealous ear hears all things,
and the sound of grumbling does not go unheard.*
11Beware, then, of useless grumbling,
and keep your tongue from slander,
because no secret word is without result,[a]
and a lying mouth destroys the soul.*

12Do not court death by the error of your life
or bring on destruction by the works of your hands,*
13because God did not make death,
and he does not delight in the destruction of the living.*
14For he created all things so that they might exist;
the generative forces[b] of the world are wholesome,
and there is no destructive poison in them,
and the dominion[c] of Hades is not on earth.*
15For righteousness is immortal.[d]

LIFE AS THE UNGODLY SEE IT

16But the ungodly by their words and deeds summoned death;[e]
considering him a friend, they pined away
and made a covenant with him,
because they are fit to belong to his company.*

Wisdom of Solomon 2

[1]For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves,
"Short and sorrowful is our life,
and there is no remedy when a life comes to its end,
and no one has been known to return from Hades.
[2]For we were born by mere chance,
and hereafter we shall be as though we had never been,
for the breath in our nostrils is smoke,
and reason is a spark kindled by the beating of our hearts;*
[3]when it is extinguished, the body will turn to ashes,
and the spirit will dissolve like empty air.*
[4]Our name will be forgotten in time,
and no one will remember our works;
our life will pass away like the traces of a cloud
and be scattered like mist
that is chased by the rays of the sun
and overcome by its heat.*
[5]For our allotted time is the passing of a shadow,
and there is no return from our death,
because it is sealed up and no one turns back.*

[6]"Come, therefore, let us enjoy the good things that exist
and make use of the creation to the full as in youth.*
[7]Let us take our fill of costly wine and perfumes,
and let no flower of spring pass us by.
[8]Let us crown ourselves with rosebuds before they wither.
[9]Let no meadow be free from our revelry;
everywhere let us leave signs of enjoyment,

because this is our portion, and this our lot.*
10Let us oppress the righteous poor man;
let us not spare the widow
or regard the gray hairs of the aged.
11But let our might be our law of right,
for what is weak proves itself to be useless.

12"Let us lie in wait for the righteous man,
because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions;
he reproaches us for sins against the law
and accuses us of sins against our training.*
13He professes to have knowledge of God
and calls himself a child of the Lord.
14He became to us a reproof of our thoughts;
the very sight of him is a burden to us,
15because his manner of life is unlike that of others,
and his ways are strange.*
16We are considered by him as something base,
and he avoids our ways as unclean;
he calls the last end of the righteous happy
and boasts that God is his father.*
17Let us see if his words are true,
and let us test what will happen at the end of his life,
18for if the righteous man is God's child, he will help him
and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries.*
19Let us test him with insult and torture,
so that we may find out how reasonable he is
and make trial of his forbearance.*
20Let us condemn him to a shameful death,
for, according to what he says, he will be protected."

ERROR OF THE WICKED

[21]Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray,
for their wickedness blinded them,*
[22]and they did not know the secret purposes of God,
nor hoped for the wages of holiness,
nor discerned the prize for blameless souls,*
[23]for God created us for incorruption
and made us in the image of his own eternity,[f],*
[24]but through an adversary's[g] envy death entered the world,
and those who belong to his company experience it.*

Wisdom of Solomon 3

THE DESTINY OF THE RIGHTEOUS

[1]But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,
and no torment will ever touch them.
[2]In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died,
and their departure was thought to be a disaster[*]
[3]and their going from us to be their destruction,
but they are at peace.
[4]For though in the sight of others they were punished,
their hope is full of immortality.[*]
[5]Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good,
because God tested them and found them worthy of himself;[*]
[6]like gold in the furnace he tried them,
and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them.[*]
[7]In the time of their visitation they will shine forth
and will run like sparks through the stubble.[*]
[8]They will govern nations and rule over peoples,
and the Lord will reign over them forever.[*]
[9]Those who trust in him will understand truth,
and the faithful will abide with him in love,
because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones,
and he watches over his elect.[h,*]

THE DESTINY OF THE UNGODLY

[10]But the ungodly will be punished as their reasoning deserves,
those who disregarded the righteous[i]
and rebelled against the Lord,[*]

[11]for those who despise wisdom and instruction are miserable.
Their hope is vain, their labors are unprofitable,
and their works are useless.
[12]Their wives are foolish and their children evil;*
their offspring are accursed.

ON CHILDLESSNESS

[13]For blessed is the barren woman who is undefiled,
who has not entered into a sinful union;
she will have fruit when God examines souls.*
[14]Blessed also is the eunuch whose hands have done no lawless deed
and who has not devised wicked things against the Lord,
for special favor will be shown him for his faithfulness
and a place of great delight in the temple of the Lord.*
[15]For the fruit of good labors is renowned,
and the root of understanding does not fail.*
[16]But children of adulterers will not come to maturity,
and the offspring of an unlawful union will perish.*
[17]Even if they live long they will be held of no account,
and finally their old age will be without honor.
[18]If they die young, they will have no hope
and no consolation on the day of judgment.
[19]For the end of an unrighteous generation is grievous.

Wisdom of Solomon 4

[1]Better than this is childlessness with virtue,
for in the memory of virtue[j] is immortality,
because it is known both by God and by mortals.*
[2]When it is present, people imitate[k] it,
and they long for it when it has gone;
throughout all time it marches, crowned in triumph,
victor in the contest for prizes that are undefiled.*
[3]But the prolific brood of the ungodly will be of no use,
and none of their illegitimate seedlings will strike a deep root
or take a firm hold.*
[4]For even if they put forth boughs for a while,
standing insecurely they will be shaken by the wind,
and by the violence of the winds they will be uprooted.*
[5]The branches will be broken off before they come to maturity,
and their fruit will be useless,
not ripe enough to eat and good for nothing.*
[6]For children born of unlawful unions
are witnesses of evil against their parents when God examines them.[l],*
[7]But the righteous, even if they die early, will be at rest.
[8]For old age is not honored for length of time
or measured by number of years,
[9]but understanding is gray hair for anyone,
and a blameless life is ripe old age.

[10]There was one who pleased God and was loved by him
and while living among sinners was taken up.*

[11]He was caught up so that evil might not change his understanding
or guile deceive his soul.*
[12]For the fascination of wickedness obscures what is good,
and roving desire perverts the innocent mind.*
[13]Being perfected in a short time, he fulfilled long years,*
[14]for his soul was pleasing to the Lord;
therefore he hastened him from the midst of wickedness.*
Yet the peoples saw and did not understand
or take such a thing to heart,
[15]that God's grace and mercy are with his elect
and that he watches over his holy ones.*

THE TRIUMPH OF THE RIGHTEOUS

[16]The righteous who have died will condemn the ungodly who are living,
and youth that is quickly perfected[m] will condemn the prolonged old age of the unrighteous.*
[17]For they will see the end of the wise
and will not understand what the Lord purposed for them
and for what he kept them safe.*
[18]The unrighteous[n] will see and will have contempt for them,
but the Lord will laugh them to scorn.
[19]After this they will become dishonored corpses
and an outrage among the dead forever,
because he will dash them speechless to the ground
and shake them from the foundations;
they will be left utterly dry and barren,
and they will suffer anguish,
and the memory of them will perish.*

THE FINAL JUDGMENT

[20]They will come with dread when their sins are reckoned up,
and their lawless deeds will convict them to their face.*

Wisdom of Solomon 5

[1]Then the righteous will stand with great confidence
in the presence of those who have oppressed them
and those who make light of their labors.*
[2]When the unrighteous[o] see them, they will be shaken with dreadful fear,
and they will be amazed at the unexpected salvation of the righteous.*
[3]They will speak to one another in repentance,
and in anguish of spirit they will groan,*
[4]"These are persons whom we once held in derision
and made a byword of reproach—fools that we were!
We thought that their lives were madness
and that their end was without honor.*
[5]Why have they been numbered among the children of God?
And why is their lot among the holy ones?
[6]So it was we who strayed from the way of truth,
and the light of righteousness did not shine on us,
and the sun did not rise upon us.*
[7]We took our fill of the paths of lawlessness and destruction,
and we journeyed through trackless deserts,
but the way of the Lord we have not known.*
[8]What has our arrogance profited us?
And what good has our boasted wealth brought us?

[9]"All those things have vanished like a shadow
and like a rumor that passes by;*
[10]like a ship that sails through the billowy water,

and when it has passed no trace can be found,
no track of its keel in the waves;*
11or as, when a bird flies through the air,
no evidence of its passage is found;
the light air, lashed by the beat of its pinions
and pierced by the force of its rushing flight,
is traversed by the movement of its wings,
and afterward no sign of its coming is found there;*
12or as, when an arrow is shot at a target,
the air, thus divided, comes together at once,
so that no one knows its pathway.*
13So we also, as soon as we were born, ceased to be,
and we had no sign of virtue to show
but were consumed in our wickedness."
14Because the hope of the ungodly is like thistledown[p] carried by the wind
and like a light frost[q] driven away by a storm;
it is dispersed like smoke before the wind,
and it passes like the remembrance of a guest who stays but a day.*

THE REWARD OF THE RIGHTEOUS

15But the righteous live forever,
and their reward is with the Lord;
the Most High takes care of them.*
16Therefore they will receive a glorious crown
and a beautiful diadem from the hand of the Lord,
because with his right hand he will cover them,
and with his arm he will shield them.*
17The Lord[r] will take his zeal as his whole armor

and will arm all creation to repel[s] his enemies;*
18 he will put on righteousness as a breastplate
and wear impartial justice as a helmet;*
19 he will take holiness as an invincible shield*
20 and sharpen stern wrath for a sword,
and the world will join him to fight against the senseless.*
21 Shafts of lightning will fly with true aim
and will leap from the clouds to the target, as from a well-drawn bow,*
22 and hailstones full of wrath will be hurled as from a catapult;
the water of the sea will rage against them,
and rivers will relentlessly overwhelm them;*
23 a mighty wind will rise against them,
and like a tempest it will winnow them away.
Lawlessness will lay waste the whole earth,
and evildoing will overturn the thrones of rulers.*

Wisdom of Solomon 6

KINGS SHOULD SEEK WISDOM

[1]Listen therefore, O kings, and understand;
learn, O judges of the ends of the earth.*
[2]Give ear, you who rule over multitudes
and boast of many nations.
[3]For your dominion was given you from the Lord
and your sovereignty from the Most High;
he will search out your works and inquire into your plans.*
[4]Because as servants of his kingdom you did not rule rightly
or keep the law
or walk according to the purpose of God,*
[5]he will come upon you terribly and swiftly,
because severe judgment falls on those in high places.
[6]For the lowliest may be pardoned in mercy,
but the mighty will be mightily tested.*
[7]For the Lord of all will not stand in awe of anyone
or show deference to greatness,
because he himself made both small and great,
and he takes thought for all alike.*
[8]But a strict inquiry is in store for the mighty.
[9]To you then, O monarchs, my words are directed,
so that you may learn wisdom and not transgress.*
[10]For they will be made holy who observe holy things in holiness,
and those who have been taught them will find a defense.*
[11]Therefore set your desire on my words;
long for them, and you will be instructed.

DESCRIPTION OF WISDOM

12 Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her
and is found by those who seek her.*
13 She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.*
14 One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.*
15 To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,*
16 because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths
and meets them in every thought.

17 The beginning of wisdom[t] is the most sincere desire for instruction,
18 and concern for instruction is love of her,
and love of her is the keeping of her laws,
and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,*
19 and immortality brings one near to God,
20 so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.*

21 Therefore if you delight in thrones and scepters, O monarchs over the peoples,
honor wisdom, so that you may reign forever.*
22 I will tell you what wisdom is and how she came to be,
and I will hide no secrets from you,
but I will trace her course from the beginning of creation
and make knowledge of her clear,
and I will not pass by the truth,*
23 nor will I travel in the company of sickly envy,

for envy[u] does not associate with wisdom.*
24The multitude of the wise is the salvation of the world,
and a sensible king is the stability of any people.*
25Therefore be instructed by my words, and you will profit.

Wisdom of Solomon 7

THE KING IS LIKE OTHER MORTALS

[1]I also am mortal like everyone else,
a descendant of the first-formed child of earth,
and in the womb of a mother I was molded into flesh,*
[2]within the period of ten months, compacted with blood,
from the seed of a man and the pleasure of marriage.
[3]And when I was born, I began to breathe the common air
and fell upon the kindred earth;
my first sound was a cry, as is true of all.*
[4]I was nursed with care in swaddling cloths.*
[5]For no king has had a different beginning of existence;
[6]there is for all one entrance into life and one way out.*

RESPECT FOR WISDOM

[7]Therefore I prayed, and understanding was given me;
I called on God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me.*
[8]I preferred her to scepters and thrones,
and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her.*
[9]Neither did I liken to her any priceless gem,
because all gold is but a little sand in her sight,
and silver will be accounted as clay before her.*
[10]I loved her more than health and beauty,
and I chose to have her rather than light
because her radiance never ceases.*
[11]All good things came to me along with her,
and in her hands uncounted wealth.*

12 I rejoiced in them all because wisdom leads them,
but I did not know that she was their mother.
13 I learned without guile, and I impart without grudging;
I do not hide her wealth,*
14 for it is an unfailing treasure for mortals;
those who get it obtain friendship with God,
commended for the gifts that come from instruction.*

PRAYER FOR WISDOM

15 May God grant me to speak with judgment
and to have thoughts worthy of what I have received,
for he is the guide even of wisdom
and the corrector of the wise.*
16 For both we and our words are in his hand,
as are all understanding and skill in crafts.*
17 For it is he who gave me unerring knowledge of what exists,
to know the structure of the world and the activity of the elements,*
18 the beginning and end and middle of times,
the alternations of the solstices and the changes of the seasons,
19 the cycles of the year and the constellations of the stars,*
20 the natures of animals and the tempers of wild animals,
the powers of spirits[v] and the thoughts of human beings,
the varieties of plants and the virtues of roots;*
21 I learned both what is secret and what is manifest,
22 for wisdom, the fashioner of all things, taught me.

THE NATURE OF WISDOM

There is in her a spirit that is intelligent, holy,

unique, manifold, subtle,
agile, clear, unpolluted,
distinct, invulnerable, loving the good, keen,
[23]irresistible, beneficent, humane,
steadfast, sure, free from anxiety,
all-powerful, overseeing all,
and penetrating through all spirits
that are intelligent, pure, and altogether subtle.*
[24]For wisdom is more mobile than any motion;
because of her pureness she pervades and penetrates all things.*
[25]For she is a breath of the power of God
and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty;
therefore nothing defiled gains entrance into her.*
[26]For she is a reflection of eternal light,
a spotless mirror of the working of God,
and an image of his goodness.*
[27]Although she is but one, she can do all things,
and while remaining in herself, she renews all things;
in every generation she passes into holy souls
and makes them friends of God and prophets,*
[28]for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom.
[29]She is more beautiful than the sun
and excels every constellation of the stars.
Compared with the light she is found to be more radiant,*
[30]for it is succeeded by the night,
but against wisdom evil does not prevail.

Wisdom of Solomon 8

[1]She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other,
and she orders all things well.*

LOVE FOR WISDOM

[2]I loved her and sought her from my youth;
I desired to take her for my bride
and became enamored of her beauty.*
[3]She glorifies her noble birth by living with God,
and the Lord of all loves her.*
[4]For she is an initiate in the knowledge of God
and an associate in his works.
[5]If riches are a desirable possession in life,
what is richer than wisdom, the active cause of all things?*
[6]And if understanding is effective,
who more than she is fashioner of what exists?*
[7]And if anyone loves righteousness,
her labors are virtues,
for she teaches self-control and prudence,
justice and courage;
nothing in life is more profitable for mortals than these.
[8]And if anyone longs for wide experience,
she knows the things of old and infers the things to come;
she understands turns of speech and the solutions of riddles;
she has foreknowledge of signs and wonders
and of the outcome of seasons and times.*

WISDOM INDISPENSABLE TO RULERS

[9]Therefore I determined to take her to live with me,
knowing that she would give me good counsel
and encouragement in cares and grief.*
[10]Because of her I shall have glory among the multitudes
and honor in the presence of the elders, though I am young.*
[11]I shall be found keen in judgment,
and in the sight of rulers I shall be admired.*
[12]When I am silent they will wait for me,
and when I speak they will give heed;
if I speak at greater length,
they will put their hands on their mouths.*
[13]Because of her I shall have immortality
and leave an everlasting remembrance to those who come after me.*
[14]I shall govern peoples,
and nations will be subject to me;*
[15]dread monarchs will be afraid of me when they hear of me;
among the people I shall show myself capable and courageous in war.
[16]When I enter my house, I shall find rest with her,
for companionship with her has no bitterness,
and life with her has no pain but gladness and joy.*
[17]When I considered these things inwardly
and pondered in my heart
that in kinship with wisdom there is immortality,*
[18]and in friendship with her, pure delight,
and in the labors of her hands, unfailing wealth,
and in the experience of her company, understanding,

and renown in sharing her words,
I went about seeking how to get her for myself.*
19As a child I was naturally gifted,
and a good soul fell to my lot,
20or rather, being good, I entered an undefiled body.
21But I perceived that I would not possess wisdom unless God gave her to me—
and it was a mark of insight to know whose gift she was—
so I appealed to the Lord and implored him,
and with my whole heart I said,*

Wisdom of Solomon 9

PRAYER FOR WISDOM

[1]"O God of my ancestors and Lord of mercy,
who have made all things by your word*
[2]and by your wisdom have formed humankind
to have dominion over the creatures you have made*
[3]and rule the world in holiness and righteousness
and pronounce judgment in uprightness of soul,*
[4]give me the wisdom that sits by your throne,
and do not reject me from among your children.*
[5]For I am your servant, the son of your female servant,
a man who is weak and short-lived,
with little understanding of judgment and laws,*
[6]for even one who is perfect among humans
will be regarded as nothing without the wisdom that comes from you.
[7]You have chosen me to be king of your people
and to be judge over your sons and daughters.*
[8]You have given command to build a temple on your holy mountain
and an altar in the city of your habitation,
a copy of the holy tent that you prepared from the beginning.*
[9]With you is wisdom, she who knows your works
and was present when you made the world;
she understands what is pleasing in your sight
and what is right according to your commandments.*
[10]Send her forth from the holy heavens,

and from the throne of your glory send her,
that she may labor at my side
and that I may learn what is pleasing to you.*
11For she knows and understands all things,
and she will guide me wisely in my actions
and guard me with her glory.
12Then my works will be acceptable,
and I shall judge your people justly
and shall be worthy of the throne[w] of my father.
13For who can learn the counsel of God?
Or who can discern what the Lord wills?*
14For the reasoning of mortals is worthless,
and our designs are likely to fail,
15for a perishable body weighs down the soul,
and this earthy tent burdens the thoughtful[x] mind.*
16We can hardly guess at what is on earth,
and what is at hand we find with labor,
but who has traced out what is in the heavens?
17Who has learned your counsel
unless you have given wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from on high?*
18And thus the paths of those on earth were set right,
and people were taught what pleases you
and were saved by wisdom."*

Wisdom of Solomon 10

THE WORK OF WISDOM

[1]Wisdom[y] protected the first-formed father of the world,
when he alone had been created;
she delivered him from his transgression*
[2]and gave him strength to rule all things.*
[3]But when an unrighteous man departed from her in his anger,
he perished because in rage he killed his brother.*
[4]When the earth was flooded because of him, wisdom again saved it,
steering the righteous man by a paltry piece of wood.*

[5]Wisdom[z] also, when the nations in wicked agreement had been put to confusion,
recognized the righteous man and preserved him blameless before God
and kept him strong in the face of his compassion for his child.*

[6]Wisdom[a] rescued a righteous man when the ungodly were perishing;
he escaped the fire that descended on the Five Cities.[b],*
[7]Evidence of their wickedness still remains:
a continually smoking wasteland,
plants bearing fruit that does not ripen,
and a pillar of salt standing as a monument to an unbelieving soul.*
[8]For because they passed wisdom by,
they not only were hindered from recognizing the good
but also left for humankind a reminder of their folly,

so that their failures could never go unnoticed.

9 Wisdom rescued from troubles those who served her.
10 When a righteous man fled from his brother's wrath,
she guided him on straight paths;
she showed him the kingdom of God
and gave him knowledge of holy things;
she prospered him in his labors
and increased the fruit of his toil.*
11 When his oppressors were covetous,
she stood by him and made him rich.*
12 She protected him from his enemies
and kept him safe from those who lay in wait for him;
in his arduous contest she declared him victorious,
so that he might learn that godliness is more powerful than anything else.*

13 When a righteous man was sold, wisdom[c] did not desert him
but delivered him from sin.
14 She descended with him into the dungeon,
and when he was in prison she did not leave him,
until she brought him the scepter of a kingdom
and authority over his masters.
Those who accused him she showed to be false,
and she gave him everlasting honor.*

WISDOM LED THE ISRAELITES OUT OF EGYPT

15 Holy people and blameless offspring
wisdom[d] delivered from a nation of oppressors.*
16 She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord
and withstood dread kings with wonders and signs.*

[17]She gave to holy people the reward of their labors;
she guided them along a marvelous way
and became a shelter to them by day
and a starry flame through the night.*
[18]She brought them over the Red Sea
and led them through deep waters,*
[19]but she drowned their enemies
and cast them up from the depth of the sea.*
[20]Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly;
they sang hymns, O Lord, to your holy name
and praised with one accord your defending hand,*
[21]for wisdom opened the mouths of those who were mute
and made the tongues of infants speak clearly.*

Wisdom of Solomon 11

WISDOM LED THE ISRAELITES THROUGH THE DESERT

[1]Wisdom[e] prospered their works by the hand of a holy prophet.[*]
[2]They journeyed through an uninhabited wilderness
and pitched their tents in untrodden places.[*]
[3]They withstood their enemies and fought off their foes.[*]
[4]When they were thirsty, they called upon you,
and water was given them out of flinty rock
and from hard stone a remedy for their thirst.[*]
[5]For through the very things by which their enemies were punished,
they themselves received benefit in their need.
[6]Instead of the fountain of an ever-flowing river,
stirred up and defiled with blood[*]
[7]in rebuke for the decree to kill the infants,
you gave them abundant water unexpectedly,[*]
[8]showing by their thirst at that time
how you punished their enemies.[*]
[9]For when they were tried, though they were being disciplined in mercy,
they learned how the ungodly were tormented when judged in wrath.[*]
[10]For you tested them as a parent[f] does in warning,
but you examined the ungodly[g] as a stern king does in condemnation.[*]
[11]Whether absent or present, they were equally distressed,
[12]for a twofold grief possessed them

and a groaning at the memory of what had occurred.

13 For when they heard that through their own punishments
the righteous[h] had received benefit, they perceived it was the Lord's doing.*

14 For though they had mockingly rejected him who long before had been cast out and exposed,
at the end of the events they marveled at him,
when they felt thirst in a different way from the righteous.*

PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED

15 In return for their foolish and wicked thoughts,
which led them astray to worship irrational serpents and worthless animals,
you sent upon them a multitude of irrational creatures to punish them,*

16 so that they might learn that one is punished by the very things by which one sins.*

17 For your all-powerful hand,
which created the world out of formless matter,
did not lack the means to send upon them a multitude of bears or bold lions*

18 or newly created unknown beasts full of rage
or such as breathe out fiery breath
or belch forth a thick pall of smoke
or flash terrible sparks from their eyes;*

19 not only could the harm they did destroy people,[i]
but the mere sight of them could kill by fright.

20 Even apart from these, people[j] could fall at a single breath
when pursued by justice
and scattered by the breath of your power.

But you have arranged all things by measure and number and weight.*

GOD IS POWERFUL AND MERCIFUL

[21]For it is always in your power to show great strength,
and who can withstand the might of your arm?*
[22]Because the whole world before you is like a speck that tips the scales
and like a drop of morning dew that falls on the ground.*
[23]But you are merciful to all, for you can do all things,
and you overlook people's sins, so that they may repent.*
[24]For you love all things that exist
and detest none of the things that you have made,
for you would not have formed anything if you had hated it.*
[25]How would anything have endured if you had not willed it?
Or how would anything not called forth by you have been preserved?*
[26]You spare all things, for they are yours, O Lord, you who love the living.*

Wisdom of Solomon 12

[1]For your immortal spirit is in all things.*
[2]Therefore you correct little by little those who trespass,
and you remind and warn them of the things through which they sin,
so that they may be freed from wickedness and put their trust in you, O Lord.*

THE SINS OF THE CANAANITES

[3]Those who lived long ago in your holy land
[4]you hated for their detestable practices,
their works of sorcery and unholy rites,*
[5]their merciless slaughter[k] of children,
and their sacrificial feasting on human flesh and blood.
These initiates from the midst of a bloody revelry,[l,*]
[6]these parents who murder helpless lives,
you willed to destroy by the hands of our ancestors,*
[7]so that the land most precious of all to you
might receive a worthy colony of the children of God.*
[8]But even these you spared, since they were but mortals,
and sent wasps[m] as forerunners of your army
to destroy them little by little,*
[9]though you were not unable to give the ungodly into the hands of the righteous in battle
or to destroy them at one blow by dread wild animals or your stern word.*
[10]But judging them little by little you gave them an opportunity to repent,

though you were not unaware that their origin[n] was evil
and their wickedness inborn
and that their way of thinking would never change.*
11For their offspring were accursed from the beginning,
and it was not through fear of anyone that you left them unpunished for their sins.*

GOD IS SOVEREIGN

12For who will say, "What have you done?"
or will resist your judgment?
Who will accuse you for the destruction of nations that you made?
Or who will come before you to plead as an advocate for the unrighteous?*
13For neither is there any god besides you whose care is for all people,[o]
to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly,*
14nor can any king or monarch confront you about those whom you have punished.
15You are righteous, and you rule all things righteously,
deeming it alien to your power
to condemn anyone who does not deserve to be punished.*
16For your strength is the source of righteousness,
and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.*
17For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power,
and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it.[p,*]
18Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge fairly,
and with great forbearance you govern us,
for you have power to act whenever you choose.*

GOD'S LESSONS FOR ISRAEL

[19]Through such works you have taught your people
that the righteous must be kind,
and you have filled your children with good hope,
because you give repentance for sins.*
[20]For if you punished with such great care and indulgence[q]
the enemies of your children and those deserving of death,
granting them time and opportunity to give up their wickedness,*
[21]with what strictness you have judged your children,[r]
to whose ancestors you gave oaths and covenants full of good promises!*
[22]So while chastening us you scourge our enemies ten thousand times more,
so that when we judge we may meditate upon your goodness,
and when we are judged we may expect mercy.*

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE EGYPTIANS

[23]Therefore those who lived unrighteously, in a life of folly,
you tormented through their own abominations.*
[24]For they went far astray on the paths of error,
accepting as gods those animals that even their enemies[s] despised;
they were deceived like foolish infants.*
[25]Therefore, as though to children who cannot reason,
you sent your judgment to mock them.
[26]But those who have not heeded the warning of mild rebukes
will experience the deserved judgment of God.
[27]For when in their suffering they became incensed
at those creatures that they had thought to be gods, being punished by means of them,

they saw and recognized as the true God the one whom they had before refused to know.

Therefore the utmost condemnation came upon them.*

Wisdom of Solomon 13

THE FOOLISHNESS OF NATURE WORSHIP

[1]For all people who were ignorant of God were foolish by nature,
and they were unable from the good things that are seen to know the one who exists,
nor did they recognize the artisan while paying heed to his works;*
[2]but they supposed that either fire or wind or swift air
or the circle of the stars or turbulent water
or the luminaries of heaven were the gods that rule the world.*
[3]If through delight in the beauty of these things people assumed them to be gods,
let them know how much better than these is their Lord,
for the author of beauty created them.*
[4]And if people[t] were amazed at their power and working,
let them perceive from them
how much more powerful is the one who formed them.*
[5]For from the greatness and beauty of created things
comes a corresponding perception of their Creator.*
[6]Yet these people are little to be blamed,
for perhaps they go astray
while seeking God and desiring to find him.*
[7]For while they live among his works, they keep searching
and trust in what they see because the things that are seen are beautiful.*
[8]Yet again, not even they are to be excused,*
[9]for if they had the power to know so much
that they could investigate the world,

how did they not more quickly find the Lord of these things?

THE FOOLISHNESS OF IDOLATRY

[10]But miserable, with their hopes set on dead things, are those
who give the name “gods” to the works of human hands,
gold and silver fashioned with skill
and likenesses of animals
or a useless stone, the work of an ancient hand.*
[11]A skilled woodcutter may saw down a tree easy to handle
and skillfully strip off all its bark
and then with pleasing workmanship
make a useful vessel that serves life’s needs*
[12]and burn the cast-off pieces of his work
to prepare his food and eat his fill.*
[13]But a cast-off piece from among them, useful for nothing,
a stick crooked and full of knots,
he takes and carves with care in his leisure
and shapes it with skill gained in idleness;[u]
he forms it in the likeness of a human being
[14]or makes it like some worthless animal,
giving it a coat of red paint and coloring its surface red
and covering every blemish in it with paint;*
[15]then he makes a suitable niche for it
and sets it in the wall and fastens it there with iron.*
[16]He takes thought for it so that it may not fall,
because he knows that it cannot help itself,
for it is only an image and has need of help.*
[17]When he prays about possessions and his marriage and children,
he is not ashamed to address a lifeless thing.*

For health he appeals to a thing that is weak;
[18]for life he prays to a thing that is dead;
for aid he entreats a thing that is utterly inexperienced;
for a prosperous journey, a thing that cannot take a step;*
[19]for money-making and work and success with his hands,
he asks strength of a thing whose hands have no strength.

Wisdom of Solomon 14

FOLLY OF A NAVIGATOR PRAYING TO AN IDOL

[1]Again, one preparing to sail and about to voyage over raging waves
calls upon a piece of wood more fragile than the ship that carries him.*
[2]For it was desire for gain that planned that vessel,
and wisdom was the artisan who built it,
[3]but it is your providence, O Father, that steers its course,
because you have given it a path in the sea
and a safe way through the waves,*
[4]showing that you can save from every danger,
so that even a person who lacks skill may put to sea.
[5]It is your will that works of your wisdom should not be without effect;
therefore people trust their lives even to the smallest piece of wood,
and passing through the billows on a raft they come safely to land.*
[6]For even in the beginning, when arrogant giants were perishing,
the hope of the world took refuge on a raft
and guided by your hand left to the world the seed of a new generation.*
[7]For blessed is the wood by which righteousness comes.

[8]But the idol made with hands is accursed, and so is the one who made it—
he for having made it, and the perishable thing because it was named a god.*

[9]For equally hateful to God are the ungodly and their
ungodliness,*
[10]for what was done will be punished together with the one who
did it.
[11]Therefore there will be a visitation also upon the idols of the
nations,
because, though part of what God created, they became an
abomination,
stumbling blocks for human souls
and a trap for the feet of the foolish.*

THE ORIGIN AND EVILS OF IDOLATRY

[12]For the idea of making idols was the beginning of sexual
immorality,
and the invention of them was the corruption of life,*
[13]for they did not exist from the beginning,
nor will they last forever.*
[14]For through human vanity they entered the world,
and therefore their speedy end has been planned.

[15]For a father, consumed with grief at an untimely bereavement,
made an image of his child, who had been suddenly taken from
him;
he now honored as a god what was once a dead human being
and handed on to his dependents secret rites and initiations.*
[16]Then the ungodly custom, grown strong with time, was kept as
a law,
and at the command of monarchs carved images were worshiped.*
[17]When people could not honor monarchs[v] in their presence,
since they lived at a distance,
they imagined their appearance far away

and made a visible image of the king whom they honored,
so that by their zeal they might flatter the absent one as though present.*

18Then the ambition of the artisan impelled
even those who did not know the king[w] to intensify their worship.
19For he, perhaps wishing to please his ruler,
skillfully forced the likeness to take more beautiful form,*
20and the multitude, attracted by the charm of his work,
now regarded as an object of worship the one whom shortly before they had honored as a human.*
21And this became a hidden trap for humankind,
because people, in bondage to misfortune or to royal authority,
bestowed on objects of stone or wood the name that ought not to be shared.*

22Then it was not enough for them to err about the knowledge of God,
but though living in great strife due to ignorance,
they call such great evils peace.*
23For whether they kill children in their initiations or celebrate secret mysteries
or hold frenzied revels with strange customs,*
24they no longer keep either their lives or their marriages pure,
but they either treacherously kill one another or grieve one another by adultery,
25and all is a raging riot of blood and murder, theft and deceit, corruption, faithlessness, tumult, perjury,*
26confusion over what is good, forgetfulness of favors,
defiling of souls, sexual perversion,
disorder in marriages, adultery, and debauchery.*

[27]For the worship of idols not to be named
is the beginning and cause and end of every evil.*
[28]For their worshipers[x] either rave in exultation
or prophesy lies or live unrighteously or readily commit perjury,*
[29]for because they trust in lifeless idols
they swear wicked oaths and expect to suffer no harm.*
[30]But just penalties will overtake them on two counts:
because they thought wrongly about God in devoting themselves to idols
and because in deceit they swore unrighteously through contempt for holiness.*
[31]For it is not the power of the things by which people swear[y]
but the just penalty for those who sin
that always pursues the transgression of the unrighteous.*

Wisdom of Solomon 15

BENEFITS OF WORSHIPING THE TRUE GOD

[1]But you, our God, are kind and true,
patient, and ruling all things[z] in mercy.*
[2]For even if we sin we are yours, knowing your power;
but we will not sin because we know that you acknowledge us as yours.
[3]For to know you is complete righteousness,
and to know your power is the root of immortality.*
[4]For neither has the evil intent of human art misled us,
nor the fruitless toil of painters,
a figure stained with varied colors,*
[5]whose appearance arouses yearning in fools,
so that they desire[a] the lifeless form of a dead image.*
[6]Lovers of evil things and fit for such objects of hope[b]
are those who either make or desire or worship them.*

THE FOOLISHNESS OF WORSHIPING CLAY IDOLS

[7]A potter kneads the soft earth
and laboriously molds each vessel for our service,
fashioning out of the same clay
both the vessels that serve clean uses
and those for contrary uses, making all alike,
but which shall be the use of each of them
the worker in clay decides.*
[8]With misspent toil, these workers form a futile god from the same clay—

these mortals who were made of earth a short time before
and after a little while go to the earth from which all mortals are taken,
when the time comes to return the souls that were borrowed.*
9But the workers are not concerned that mortals are destined to die
or that their life is brief,
but they compete with workers in gold and silver
and imitate workers in copper,
and they count it a glorious thing to mold counterfeit gods.*
10Their heart is ashes, their hope is cheaper than dirt,
and their lives are of less worth than clay,*
11because they failed to know the one who formed them
and inspired them with active souls
and breathed a living spirit into them.*
12But they considered our existence an idle game
and life a festival held for profit,
for they say one must get money however one can, even by base means.*
13For these persons, more than all others, know that they sin
when they make from earthy matter fragile vessels and carved images.*

14But most foolish and more miserable than an infant
are all the enemies who oppressed your people.
15For they thought that all the idols of the nations were gods,
though these have neither the use of their eyes to see with,
nor nostrils with which to draw breath,
nor ears with which to hear,
nor fingers to feel with,
and their feet are of no use for walking.*

16For a human made them,
and one whose spirit is borrowed formed them,
for none can form gods that are like themselves.*
17People are mortal, and what they make with lawless hands is dead,
for they are better than the objects they worship,
since[c] they have life, but the idols[d] never had.*

SERPENTS IN THE DESERT

18Moreover, they worship even the most hateful animals,
which are worse than all others when judged by their lack of intelligence,*
19and even as animals they are not so beautiful in appearance that one would desire them,
but they have escaped both the praise of God and his blessing.*

Wisdom of Solomon 16

[1]Therefore those people[e] were deservedly punished through such creatures
and were tormented by a multitude of animals.*
[2]Instead of this punishment you showed kindness to your people,
and you prepared quails to eat,
a delicacy to satisfy the desire of appetite,*
[3]in order that those people, when they desired food,
might lose the least remnant of appetite[f]
because of the odious creatures sent to them,
while your people,[g] after suffering want a short time,
might partake of delicacies.*
[4]For it was necessary that upon those oppressors inescapable want should come,
while to these others it was merely shown how their enemies were being tormented.*

[5]For when the terrible rage of wild animals came upon your people[h]
and they were being destroyed by the bites of writhing serpents,
your wrath did not continue to the end;*
[6]they were troubled for a little while as a warning
and received a symbol of deliverance to remind them of your law's command.*

[7]For the one who turned toward it was saved not by the thing that was beheld
but by you, the Savior of all.*
[8]And by this also you convinced our enemies

that it is you who deliver from every evil.
9For they were killed by the bites of locusts and flies,
and no healing was found for them
because they deserved to be punished by such things.*
10But your children were not conquered even by the fangs of venomous serpents,
for your mercy came to their help and healed them.*
11To remind them of your oracles they were bitten
and then were quickly delivered,
so that they would not fall into deep forgetfulness
and become unresponsive[i] to your kindness.*
12For neither herb nor poultice cured them,
but it was your word, O Lord, that heals all people.*
13For you have power over life and death;
you lead mortals down to the gates of Hades and back again.*
14A person in wickedness kills another
but cannot bring back the departed spirit
or set free the imprisoned soul.*

DISASTROUS STORMS STRIKE EGYPT

15To escape from your hand is impossible,
16for the ungodly, refusing to know you,
were flogged by the strength of your arm,
pursued by unusual rains and hail and relentless storms
and utterly consumed by fire.*
17For—most incredible of all—in water, which quenches all things,
the fire had still greater effect,
for the universe defends the righteous.*
18At one time the flame was restrained,

so that it might not consume the creatures sent against the ungodly,
but that seeing this they might know
that they were being pursued by the judgment of God,*
19and at another time even in the midst of water it burned more intensely than fire,
to destroy the crops of the unrighteous land.*

THE ISRAELITES RECEIVE MANNA

20Instead of these things you gave your people food of angels,
and without their toil you supplied them from heaven with bread ready to eat,
providing every pleasure and suited to every taste.*
21For your sustenance manifested your sweetness toward your children,
and the bread, ministering[j] to the desire of the one who took it,
was changed to suit everyone's liking.*
22Snow and ice withstood fire without melting,
so that they might know that the crops of their enemies
were being destroyed by the fire that blazed in the hail
and flashed in the showers of rain;*
23whereas the fire,[k] in order that the righteous might be fed,
even forgot its native power.

24For creation, serving you who made it,
exerts itself to punish the unrighteous
and in kindness relaxes on behalf of those who trust in you.*
25Therefore at that time also, changed into all forms,
it served your all-nourishing bounty,
according to the desire of those who had need,[l],*
26so that your children, whom you loved, O Lord, might learn

that it is not the production of crops that feeds humankind
but that your word sustains those who trust in you.*
27For what was not destroyed by fire
was melted when simply warmed by a fleeting ray of the sun,*
28to make it known that one must rise before the sun to give you thanks
and must pray to you at the dawning of the light,*
29for the hope of an ungrateful person will melt like wintry frost
and flow away like wastewater.

Wisdom of Solomon 17

TERROR STRIKES THE EGYPTIANS AT NIGHT

[1]Great are your judgments and hard to describe;
therefore uninstructed souls have gone astray.*
[2]For when lawless people supposed that they held the holy nation in their power,
they themselves lay as captives of darkness and prisoners of long night,
shut in under their roofs, exiles from eternal providence.*
[3]For thinking that in their secret sins they were unobserved
behind a dark curtain of forgetfulness,
they were scattered, terribly[m] alarmed
and appalled by specters.*
[4]For not even the inner chamber that held them protected them from fear,
but terrifying sounds rang out around them,
and dismal phantoms with gloomy faces appeared.*
[5]And no power of fire was able to give light,
nor did the brilliant flames of the stars
avail to illumine that hateful night.*
[6]Nothing was shining through to them
except a dreadful, self-kindled fire,
and in terror they deemed the things that they saw
to be worse than that unseen appearance.*
[7]The delusions of their magic art lay humbled,
and their boasted wisdom was scornfully rebuked.*
[8]For those who promised to drive off the fears and disorders of a sick soul

were sick themselves with ridiculous fear.

[9]For even if nothing disturbing frightened them,

yet, scared by the passing of wild animals and the hissing of snakes*

[10]they perished in trembling fear,

refusing to look even at the air, though it nowhere could be avoided.

[11]For wickedness is a cowardly thing, condemned by its own testimony;[n]

distressed by conscience, it has always exaggerated[o] the difficulties.*

[12]For fear is nothing but a giving up of the helps that come from reason,

[13]and hope, being weaker, prefers ignorance of what causes the torment.

[14]But throughout the night, which was really powerless

and which came upon them from the recesses of powerless Hades,

they all slept the same sleep*

[15]and now were driven by monstrous specters

and now were paralyzed by their souls' surrender,

for sudden and unexpected fear overwhelmed them.*

[16]And whoever was there fell down

and thus was kept shut up in a prison not made of iron;*

[17]for whether they were farmers or shepherds

or workers who toiled in the wilderness,

they were seized and endured the inescapable fate,

for with one chain of darkness they all were bound.*

[18]Whether there came a whistling wind,

or a melodious sound of birds in wide-spreading branches,

or the rhythm of violently rushing water,*

[19]or the harsh crash of rocks hurled down,
or the unseen running of leaping animals,
or the sound of the most savage roaring beasts,
or an echo thrown back from a hollow of the mountains,
it paralyzed them with terror.*
[20]For the whole world was illumined with brilliant light
and went about its work unhindered,*
[21]while over those people alone heavy night was spread,
an image of the darkness that was destined to receive them,
but still heavier than darkness were they to themselves.*

Wisdom of Solomon 18

LIGHT SHINES ON THE ISRAELITES

[1]But for your holy ones there was very great light.
Their enemies[p] heard their voices but did not see their forms
and counted them happy for not having suffered[*]
[2]and were thankful that your holy ones,[q] though previously wronged, were doing them no injury,
and they begged their pardon for having been at variance with them.[r,*]
[3]Therefore you provided a flaming pillar of fire
as a guide for your people's[s] unknown journey
and a harmless sun for their glorious wandering.[*]
[4]For their enemies[t] deserved to be deprived of light and imprisoned in darkness,
those who had kept your children imprisoned,
through whom the imperishable light of the law was to be given to the world.[*]

THE DEATH OF THE EGYPTIAN FIRSTBORN

[5]When they had resolved to kill the infants of your holy ones,
and one child had been abandoned and rescued,
you in punishment took away a multitude of their children,
and you destroyed them all together by a mighty flood.[*]
[6]That night was made known beforehand to our ancestors
so that they might rejoice in sure knowledge of the oaths in which they trusted.[*]
[7]The deliverance of the righteous and the destruction of their enemies

were expected by your people.*
8For by the same means by which you punished our enemies
you called us to yourself and glorified us.
9For in secret the holy children of good people offered sacrifices
and with one accord agreed to the divine law,
so that the holy ones would share alike the same things,
both blessings and dangers,
and already they were singing the praises of the ancestors.u,*
10But the discordant cry of their enemies echoed back,
and their piteous lament for their children was spread abroad.*
11The slave was punished with the same penalty as the master,
and the commoner suffered the same loss as the king,*
12and they all together by the one formv of death
had corpses too many to count.
For the living were not sufficient even to bury them,
since in one instant their most valued children had been destroyed.*
13For though they had disbelieved everything because of their magic arts,
yet when their firstborn were destroyed they acknowledged your people to be God's child.*
14For while gentle silence enveloped all things
and night in its swift course was now half-gone,*
15your all-powerful word leaped from heaven, from the royal throne,
into the midst of the land that was doomed,
a stern warrior*
16carrying the sharp sword of your authentic command,
and stood and filled all things with death
and touched heaven while standing on the earth.*

17 Then at once apparitions in dreadful dreams greatly troubled
them,
and unexpected fears assailed them,*
18 and one here and another there, hurled down half-dead,
made known why they were dying,
19 for the dreams that disturbed them forewarned them of this,
so that they might not perish without knowing why they suffered.

THREAT OF ANNIHILATION IN THE DESERT

20 The experience of death touched also the righteous,
and a plague came upon the multitude in the desert,
but the wrath did not long continue.*
21 For a blameless man was quick to act as their champion;
he brought forward the shield of his ministry,
prayer and propitiation by incense;
he withstood the anger and put an end to the disaster,
showing that he was your servant.*
22 He conquered the wrath[w] not by strength of body,
not by force of arms,
but by his word he subdued the avenger,
appealing to the oaths and covenants given to our ancestors.*
23 For when the dead had already fallen on one another in heaps,
he intervened and held back the assault
and cut off its way to the living.*
24 For on his long robe the whole world was depicted,
and the glories of the ancestors were engraved on the four rows of
stones,
and your majesty was on the diadem upon his head.*
25 To these the destroyer yielded, these he[x] feared,
for merely to test the wrath was enough.*

Wisdom of Solomon 19

THE RED SEA

[1]But the ungodly were assailed to the end by pitiless anger,
for God[y] knew in advance even their future actions:*
[2]how, though they themselves had permitted[z] your people to depart
and hastily sent them out,
they would change their minds and pursue them.*
[3]For while they were still engaged in mourning
and were lamenting at the graves of their dead,
they reached another foolish decision
and pursued as fugitives those whom they had begged and compelled to leave.
[4]For the fate they deserved drew them on to this end
and made them forget what had happened,
in order that they might fill up the punishment that their torments still lacked*
[5]and that your people might experience[a] an incredible journey,
but they themselves might meet a strange death.*

GOD GUIDES AND PROTECTS HIS PEOPLE

[6]For the whole creation in its nature was fashioned anew,
complying with your commands,
so that your children might be kept unharmed.*
[7]The cloud was seen overshadowing the camp
and dry land emerging where water had stood before,
an unhindered way out of the Red Sea
and a grassy plain out of the raging waves,*

[8]where those protected by your hand passed through as one nation,
after gazing on marvelous wonders.*
[9]For they ranged like horses
and leaped like lambs,
praising you, O Lord, who delivered them.*
[10]For they still recalled the events of their sojourn,
how instead of producing animals the earth brought forth gnats,
and instead of fish the river spewed out vast numbers of frogs.*
[11]Afterward they saw also a new kind of bird,
when desire led them to ask for luxurious food,*
[12]for, to give them relief, quails came up from the sea.*

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE EGYPTIANS

[13]The punishments did not come upon the sinners
without prior signs in the violence of thunder,
for they justly suffered because of their wicked acts,
for they practiced a more bitter hatred of strangers.*
[14]Others had refused to receive strangers when they came to them,
but these made slaves of guests who were their benefactors.*
[15]And not only so, but while punishment of some sort will come upon the former
for having received strangers with hostility,
[16]the latter, having first received them with festal celebrations,
afterward afflicted with terrible sufferings
those who had already shared the same rights.*
[17]They were stricken also with loss of sight—
just as were those at the door of the righteous man—
when, surrounded by yawning darkness,

all of them tried to find the way through their own doors.*

A NEW HARMONY IN NATURE

18For the elements changed[b] places with one another,
as on a harp the notes vary the nature of the rhythm,
while each note remains the same.[c]
This may be clearly inferred from the sight of what took place.
19For land animals were transformed into water creatures,
and creatures that swim moved over to the land.
20Fire even in water retained its normal power,
and water forgot its fire-quenching nature.*
21Flames, on the contrary, failed to consume
the flesh of perishable creatures that walked among them,
nor did they melt[d] the crystalline, quick-melting kind of heavenly food.*

CONCLUSION

22For in everything, O Lord, you have exalted and glorified your people,
and you have not neglected to help them at all times and in all places.

Wisdom of Solomon 1

* **1.1** Deut 1.16; 1 Kings 3.3, 9; Isa 56.1
* **1.2** Deut 4.29
* **1.3** Ps 125.5
* **1.5** Jer 4.22
* **1.6** Ps 139.4; Jer 17.10; Heb 4.12
* **1.7** Isa 6.3; Jer 23.24
* **1.10** Wis 5.17; Phil 2.14

a **1.11** Or *will go unpunished*

* **1.11** Prov 19.9; Mt 12.36; 2 Cor 12.20; Phil 2.14
* **1.12** Ex 20.4, 5
* **1.13** Ezek 33.11; Wis 2.24; 2 Esd 8.59

b **1.14** Or *the creatures*

c **1.14** Or *palace*

* **1.14** Gen 1.31

d **1.15** OL adds *but unrighteousness is the acquisition of death*

e **1.16** Gk *him*

* **1.16** Isa 28.15, 18; Wis 2.24

Wisdom of Solomon 2

* **2.2** Job 10.19; Ps 102.3; Ob 16; Sir 44.9
* **2.3** Sir 17.1
* **2.4** Job 7.9; Eccl 2.16; 9.5; Jas 4.14
* **2.5** 1 Chr 29.15; Job 8.9; Wis 5.9
* **2.6** Eccl 11.9; Isa 22.13; 1 Cor 15.32
* **2.9** Eccl 3.22
* **2.12** Prov 1.11
* **2.15** Isa 53.3
* **2.16** Jer 6.30; Mt 27.43
* **2.18** Ps 22.8, 9; Mt 27.43; Jn 5.18
* **2.19** Isa 53.7; Jer 11.19; 18.18
* **2.21** Wis 4.12; Rom 1.21; Eph 4.18
* **2.22** Mt 13.11

f **2.23** Other ancient authorities read *nature*

* **2.23** Gen 1.26; Wis 1.13; Sir 17.3

g **2.24** Or *a devil's*

* **2.24** Gen 3.13; Wis 1.16; Jn 8.44

Wisdom of Solomon 3

* **3.2** Wis 4.17; 5.4; Lk 9.31
* **3.4** Rom 8.24; 2 Cor 5.1
* **3.5** Ex 15.25; Heb 12.11
* **3.6** Prov 17.3; 2 Esd 16.73; Rom 12.1; 1 Pet 1.7
* **3.7** Isa 5.24; Dan 12.3; Ob 18; Mt 13.43
* **3.8** Dan 7.18, 22; 1 Cor 6.2, 3

h **3.9** Text of this line uncertain; omitted by some ancient authorities

* **3.9** Wis 2.20; 4.15; Jn 15.10

i **3.10** Or *what is right*

* **3.10** Prov 1.24–31
* **3.12** Sir 41.5
* **3.13** Isa 54.1; Wis 12.11
* **3.14** Isa 56.3–5
* **3.15** Sir 1.6, 20
* **3.16** 2 Sam 12.14; Wis 4.5

Wisdom of Solomon 4

j **4.1** Gk *it*

* **4.1** Ps 112.6; Prov 10.7; Sir 16.3

k **4.2** Other ancient authorities read *honor*

* **4.2** Wis 5.16; 1 Cor 9.24, 25; Jas 1.12
* **4.3** Job 18.16; Sir 23.25
* **4.4** Ps 37.35, 36; Mt 7.19, 27; Jude 12
* **4.5** Wis 3.16; Jn 15.2, 6; Rom 11.17, 19, 20

l **4.6** Gk *at their examination*

* **4.6** Sir 41.7
* **4.10** v 14; Gen 5.24
* **4.11** Isa 57.1
* **4.12** Wis 2.21
* **4.13** Heb 5.9
* **4.14** v 10
* **4.15** Isa 6.9; Wis 3.9

m **4.16** Or *ended*

* **4.16** Isa 65.20; Mt 12.41, 42
* **4.17** Wis 3.2

n **4.18** Gk *They*

* **4.19** Ps 2.4; 9.6; 37.13; Isa 14.19
* **4.20** Jer 2.19

Wisdom of Solomon 5

* **5.1** Lk 21.36
o **5.2** Gk *they*
* **5.2** 2 Esd 9.9; Lk 13.28
* **5.3** 2 Esd 16.19; Rom 8.35
* **5.4** Ps 69.11; Jer 24.9; Wis 3.2; 4.17; Acts 26.24
* **5.6** Jn 3.19; 12.35
* **5.7** Job 12.24; Ps 107.40
* **5.9** Wis 2.5
* **5.10** Job 9.26
* **5.11** Job 9.26; Prov 30.19
* **5.12** v 21
p **5.14** Other ancient authorities read *dust*
q **5.14** Other ancient authorities read *spider's web*
* **5.14** Job 21.18; Ps 68.2; Jas 1.10, 11
* **5.15** Gen 15.1; Rev 22.12
* **5.16** Isa 28.5; 62.3; Wis 19.8; 1 Pet 5.4
r **5.17** Gk *He*
s **5.17** Or *punish*
* **5.17** v 20; Eph 6.13–17
* **5.18** Isa 59.17, 18; Eph 6.14; 1 Thess 5.8
* **5.19** Eph 6.16
* **5.20** Sir 39.23–30; Heb 4.12
* **5.21** v 12; Ps 7.12, 13; 2 Esd 16.13
* **5.22** Gen 6.17; Josh 10.11; Judg 5.21
* **5.23** Isa 41.16; Lk 1.52

Wisdom of Solomon 6

* **6.1** Ps 2.10; Wis 1.1
* **6.3** Prov 8.15; Dan 2.21; Jn 19.11; Rom 13.1, 2
* **6.4** Jer 22.15–17
* **6.6** Lk 12.47, 48
* **6.7** Deut 10.17; Job 34.19; Prov 22.2
* **6.9** v 1; Wis 12.2
* **6.10** 1 Jn 3.7; Rev 22.11
* **6.12** Deut 30.11–14; Prov 14.6; Wis 7.10
* **6.13** Deut 30.11–14
* **6.14** Prov 8.17
* **6.15** Wis 7.23
t **6.17** Gk *Her beginning*

* **6.18** Wis 3.11; 7.14; Jn 14.15, 21; Rom 13.10; 1 Jn 5.3
* **6.20** Rom 5.17
* **6.21** Rom 5.17
* **6.22** Prov 8.22–31
u **6.23** Gk *this*
* **6.23** Jas 3.14, 15
* **6.24** Prov 11.14

Wisdom of Solomon 7

* **7.1** Gen 2.7; Sir 17.1; 40.1; 2 Esd 10.10
* **7.3** v 1; Acts 14.15
* **7.4** Lk 2.7, 12
* **7.6** Job 1.21; Sir 40.1
* **7.7** 1 Kings 3.9, 12; Sir 51.13
* **7.8** 1 Kings 3.11; Job 28.15–19; Prov 3.13–15; Wis 6.21
* **7.9** Job 28.16–19; Prov 3.15; Bar 3.30
* **7.10** v 26; Wis 6.12
* **7.11** 1 Kings 3.13; Prov 3.16; Sir 51.28; Mt 6.33
* **7.13** Sir 20.30; Jas 1.5
* **7.14** v 27; Wis 6.17
* **7.15** Eph 6.19, 20
* **7.16** Ex 4.12; 35.31, 35
* **7.17** 1 Kings 4.29; Eccl 1.13
* **7.19** v 29
v **7.20** Or *winds*
* **7.20** 1 Kings 4.33
* **7.23** v 24; Prov 8.30; Wis 6.15; 1 Cor 12.4–11; Jas 3.17
* **7.24** v 22; Wis 8.1; Sir 1.9
* **7.25** Wis 1.4; Jas 3.17
* **7.26** 2 Cor 4.4; Col 1.15; Heb 1.3
* **7.27** v 14; Ps 104.30; Rev 21.5
* **7.29** v 19

Wisdom of Solomon 8

* **8.1** Wis 7.24
* **8.2** vv 9, 18; 1 Kings 3.7, 9; Sir 15.2
* **8.3** v 9
* **8.5** Prov 8.18; Wis 7.8, 9
* **8.6** Wis 7.22
* **8.8** Prov 1.6; Wis 10.16; Sir 39.2, 3; 47.15, 17

* **8.9** vv 2, 16, 18
* **8.10** 1 Kings 3.7; Sir 47.14, 16
* **8.11** 1 Kings 3.28
* **8.12** Job 29.8–10; Sir 5.12
* **8.13** v 17
* **8.14** 1 Kings 4.21, 24
* **8.16** vv 3, 9, 18; Prov 3.17; Bel 2
* **8.17** v 13
* **8.18** vv 2, 5, 9, 16
* **8.21** 1 Kings 3.9; 4.29; Prov 3.17; Sir 1.1

Wisdom of Solomon 9

* **9.1** Gen 1.31; Ps 33.6; Jn 1.3
* **9.2** Gen 1.26, 28; Ps 8.6; 2 Esd 6.54
* **9.3** Wis 5.19
* **9.4** v 10; 1 Kings 3.9; Prov 8.30; Jn 1.1
* **9.5** 1 Kings 3.7; Ps 86.16; 116.16
* **9.7** 1 Chr 28.5; 2 Chr 1.9
* **9.8** 2 Sam 7.13; Ps 99.9; Mt 25.24; Heb 8.5
* **9.9** Prov 8.22–30; Wis 15.18; Jn 1.1–3
* **9.10** v 4; Ps 20.6

w **9.12** Gk *thrones*

* **9.13** v 17; Isa 40.13

x **9.15** Or *anxious*

* **9.15** 2 Cor 5.1, 4
* **9.17** v 13; Sir 1.6; 1 Cor 2.10, 11
* **9.18** Wis 10.4; Bar 4.4

Wisdom of Solomon 10

y **10.1** Gk *She*

* **10.1** Gen 2.18; Wis 7.1
* **10.2** Gen 1.28; 2.20
* **10.3** Gen 4.5, 8–13
* **10.4** Gen 7.1, 19, 21–23; Wis 14.5, 6

z **10.5** Gk *She*

* **10.5** Gen 11.9; 12.1; 22.9, 10; Sir 44.20

a **10.6** Gk *She*

b **10.6** Or *on Pentapolis*

* **10.6** Gen 10.19; 19.16, 17; Deut 29.23; Wis 19.17
* **10.7** Gen 19.26

* **10.10** Gen 27.42–45; 28.5, 10, 12–17; 30.43
* **10.11** Gen 31.1–16
* **10.12** Gen 32.24–30
c **10.13** Gk *she*
* **10.14** Gen 37.24, 28; 39.7–10, 17, 20–23; 41.14, 40, 41
d **10.15** Gk *she*
* **10.15** Ex 1.11–14; 12.41, 42
* **10.16** Ex 3.12; 7.16; 14.31; Ps 105.26, 27; Wis 8.8
* **10.17** Ex 13.21
* **10.18** Ex 14.21, 22, 29
* **10.19** Ex 14.27, 28; Wis 18.5
* **10.20** Ex 15.1–18
* **10.21** Ex 4.10; Ps 8.2; Mt 21.16

Wisdom of Solomon 11

e **11.1** Gk *She*
* **11.1** Deut 18.18; 34.10
* **11.2** Ex 16.1; Deut 32.10
* **11.3** Ex 17.10–13
* **11.4** Ex 17.6; Num 20.11; Deut 8.15; Ps 114.8
* **11.6** Ex 7.17
* **11.7** Ex 1.16, 22; Wis 18.5
* **11.8** Ex 7.20
* **11.9** v 6; Wis 16.3, 4
f **11.10** Gk *a father*
g **11.10** Gk *those*
* **11.10** Deut 8.5; Wis 16.6; Heb 12.7
h **11.13** Gk *they*
* **11.13** Ex 8.8–19
* **11.14** Ex 2.3
* **11.15** Ex 8.2, 17, 24; Wis 16.1; 17.9
* **11.16** Wis 12.23, 24, 27; 16.1
* **11.17** Gen 1.2; Wis 12.9; Sir 39.30
* **11.18** Job 41.19, 20; Wis 16.5
i **11.19** Gk *them*
j **11.20** Gk *they*
* **11.20** 2 Esd 4.36, 37
* **11.21** 2 Chr 20.6
* **11.22** Isa 40.15; Hos 6.4; 13.3
* **11.23** Sir 18.13; Acts 17.30; 2 Pet 3.9
* **11.24** Ps 145.9

* **11.25** Rom 4.17
* **11.26** Wis 12.8, 16, 18

Wisdom of Solomon 12

* **12.1** Num 16.22; Wis 1.7
* **12.2** v 10; Wis 6.9; 11.16
* **12.4** Deut 18.10–12; Gal 5.20; Rev 9.21; 18.23
k **12.5** Gk *slaughterers*
l **12.5** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **12.5** Lev 18.21; Wis 14.23
* **12.6** Lev 18.21; Wis 14.23
* **12.7** Deut 11.12
m **12.8** Or *hornets*
* **12.8** Ex 23.30; Deut 7.22; Josh 24.12
* **12.9** Wis 11.17
n **12.10** Or *nature*
* **12.10** Ex 23.30; Deut 7.22; Wis 3.12
* **12.11** Gen 9.25
* **12.12** Job 36.23; Rom 8.33; 9.20
o **12.13** Or *all things*
* **12.13** Deut 32.39; Wis 6.7; 1 Pet 5.7
* **12.15** Gen 18.25; Job 10.2, 3
* **12.16** Wis 11.23, 26
p **12.17** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **12.17** Ex 5.2; 2 Kings 18.35
* **12.18** Ps 135.6; Wis 2.19; 11.26
* **12.19** Lk 6.35, 36
q **12.20** Other ancient authorities lack *and indulgence*; others read *and entreaty*
* **12.20** Rom 9.22–24
r **12.21** Gk *sons*
* **12.21** Deut 7.8, 13, 17; Rom 9.4, 5
* **12.22** Mt 5.7; 7.2
* **12.23** 1 Kings 11.5, 7; 2 Kings 23.13; Wis 11.15, 16
s **12.24** Gk *they*
* **12.24** Wis 11.15, 16; 16.1; Rom 1.22, 23
* **12.27** v 23; Ex 5.2; 9.27; 10.16; Wis 16.1, 16

Wisdom of Solomon 13

* **13.1** 2 Kings 17.15; Sir 38.27; Acts 14.17; Rom 1.25
* **13.2** Deut 4.19; 17.3; Job 31.26–28

* **13.3** Wis 12.24
t **13.4** Gk *they*
* **13.4** Rom 1.20
* **13.5** Rom 1.20
* **13.6** Acts 17.27
* **13.7** Rom 1.21
* **13.8** Rom 1.20
* **13.10** Deut 4.16–18; Ps 115.4; Let Jer 3, 49; Acts 17.29
* **13.11** Isa 40.19, 20; Jer 10.3; Let Jer 58
* **13.12** v 13; Isa 44.15, 16
u **13.13** Other ancient authorities read *with intelligent skill*
* **13.14** Jer 22.14; Ezek 23.14
* **13.15** Isa 41.7; 46.7; Let Jer 25, 26
* **13.16** 1 Sam 5.3, 4; Let Jer 26
* **13.17** Isa 44.17, 19; Jer 2.27
* **13.18** v 10; Ps 115.7; Jer 10.5; Wis 15.15

Wisdom of Solomon 14

* **14.1** Jon 1.5
* **14.3** Ps 77.19; 107.23–30
* **14.5** Wis 10.4
* **14.6** Gen 6.4; 7.1, 10, 17, 18, 21, 22; Bar 3.26–28
* **14.8** Deut 27.15; Ps 115.8; Wis 15.6
* **14.9** Ps 5.5; 11.5
* **14.11** Ex 12.12; Num 33.4; Jer 10.11–15; 46.25
* **14.12** v 27; Deut 31.16; Wis 15.4, 5
* **14.13** Isa 2.18; Hos 2.17
* **14.15** v 23
* **14.16** Dan 3.4–6
v **14.17** Gk *them*
* **14.17** Wis 15.19
w **14.18** Gk lacks *the king*
* **14.19** Sir 38.27
* **14.20** Wis 13.4; 15.17; 2 Thess 2.4
* **14.21** vv 11, 15, 16; Isa 42.8
* **14.22** Jer 6.14
* **14.23** v 15; Lev 18.21; Isa 57.5; Wis 12.5; 2 Macc 6.4
* **14.25** Rom 1.28–31
* **14.26** Mk 7.22; Acts 15.20; Rom 1.26, 27
* **14.27** vv 12, 21; Ex 23.13; Ps 16.4; Rom 1.25
x **14.28** Gk *they*

* **14.28** Jer 5.31
* **14.29** Let Jer 34
* **14.30** Ezek 17.18
y **14.31** Or *of the oaths people swear*
* **14.31** Acts 28.4

Wisdom of Solomon 15

z **15.1** Or *ruling the universe*
* **15.1** Ex 34.6
* **15.3** Jn 17.3
* **15.4** Wis 14.12; Acts 8.22; 17.29
a **15.5** Gk *and he desires*
* **15.5** v 15; Wis 13.10
b **15.6** Gk *such hopes*
* **15.6** Ps 115.8; 135.18; Isa 44.9–11; Wis 14.8, 9
* **15.7** Isa 45.9; 64.8; Jer 18.3, 4; Sir 33.13; Rom 9.21
* **15.8** vv 13, 16; Gen 3.19; Lk 12.20
* **15.9** Wis 16.1; Acts 19.24
* **15.10** Isa 44.20
* **15.11** Gen 2.7
* **15.12** Jas 4.13
* **15.13** v 8
* **15.15** v 5; Ps 115.5–7; 135.16, 17; Hab 2.19
* **15.16** v 8
c **15.17** Other ancient authorities read *of which*
d **15.17** Gk *but they*
* **15.17** Wis 13.10, 18; 14.20; 1 Cor 8.4; 2 Thess 2.4
* **15.18** Wis 11.15
* **15.19** Gen 3.14; Wis 14.17

Wisdom of Solomon 16

e **16.1** Gk *they*
* **16.1** v 9; Ex 8.2, 17, 24; Wis 11.15, 16; 12.23, 27
* **16.2** Ex 16.13; Num 11.31; Wis 19.11, 12
f **16.3** Gk *loathed the necessary appetite*
g **16.3** Gk *they*
* **16.3** Ex 8.3, 5, 24, 28; 16.3
* **16.4** Wis 11.8, 9
h **16.5** Gk *them*
* **16.5** Num 21.6; Wis 11.18

* **16.6** Num 21.8, 9; Wis 11.10; Jn 3.14, 15
* **16.7** 2 Kings 18.4; Jn 3.14; 1 Tim 4.10
* **16.9** Ex 8.24; 10.14–17; Ps 78.45; Rev 16.6
* **16.10** Num 21.6, 8, 9; Jn 3.14, 15
i **16.11** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **16.11** Acts 7.38; Rom 3.2; Heb 5.12
* **16.12** Ex 15.26; Ps 107.20
* **16.13** Deut 32.39; Tob 13.2; Rev 1.18
* **16.14** Mt 10.28
* **16.16** Ex 5.2; 9.23, 24; Deut 4.34; Wis 12.27
* **16.17** v 24; Ex 9.24; Wis 19.20
* **16.18** Wis 19.21
* **16.19** v 22; Ex 9.24; Wis 19.20
* **16.20** Ex 16.13, 14; Ps 78.25; 2 Esd 1.19; Jn 6.31
j **16.21** Gk *and it, ministering*
* **16.21** Ps 34.8
* **16.22** v 19; Ex 9.23, 24; Wis 19.20, 21
k **16.23** Gk *this*
* **16.24** v 17; Wis 19.6
l **16.25** Or *who made supplication*
* **16.25** Wis 19.6
* **16.26** Deut 8.3
* **16.27** v 22; Ex 16.21
* **16.28** Ps 5.3; 57.8; 88.13; 119.62

Wisdom of Solomon 17

* **17.1** Ex 6.6; 7.4
* **17.2** vv 16, 17; Ex 10.22, 23; Wis 18.4
m **17.3** Other ancient authorities read *unobserved, they were darkened behind a dark curtain of forgetfulness, terribly*
* **17.3** Isa 29.15
* **17.4** Job 15.21; Ps 78.49
* **17.5** Ezek 32.7, 8
* **17.6** Deut 28.65–67
* **17.7** Ex 7.11, 12; 8.7, 18, 19; Wis 18.13
* **17.9** Wis 11.15
n **17.11** Meaning of Gk uncertain
o **17.11** Other ancient authorities read *anticipated*
* **17.11** Rom 2.15
* **17.14** Eccl 9.10
* **17.15** vv 3, 8; Mt 14.26; Lk 21.26

* **17.16** Ex 10.23
* **17.17** Wis 18.4; 19.17
* **17.18** Song of Thr 27
* **17.19** Ps 53.5
* **17.20** v 17; Ex 10.23
* **17.21** Ex 10.22; Job 18.18; Mt 8.12; 2 Pet 2.17; Jude 13

Wisdom of Solomon 18

p **18.1** Gk *They*
* **18.1** Ex 10.23
q **18.2** Meaning of Gk uncertain
r **18.2** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **18.2** Ex 11.8; 12.33, 36
s **18.3** Gk *their*
* **18.3** Ex 13.21
t **18.4** Gk *those persons*
* **18.4** Ex 6.5; Ps 119.105; Isa 2.3; Mic 4.2; Wis 17.17
* **18.5** Ex 1.22; 2.5; 12.29; 14.28; Wis 11.7
* **18.6** Ex 11.4; 13.5; 32.13; 33.1; Acts 2.36
* **18.7** Ex 14.13
u **18.9** Other ancient authorities read *dangers, the ancestors already leading the songs of praise*
* **18.9** Ex 12.21–28; 2 Chr 30.21
* **18.10** Ex 12.30
* **18.11** Ex 11.5; 12.29
v **18.12** Gk *name*
* **18.12** Ex 12.30; Num 33.4; Ps 105.36
* **18.13** Ex 4.22; 7.11; 12.33; Hos 11.1; Wis 17.7
* **18.14** Ex 12.29
* **18.15** Ex 15.3
* **18.16** 1 Chr 21.16
* **18.17** Wis 17.3, 4
* **18.20** v 25; Num 16.45, 48, 49
* **18.21** Num 16.46, 47; Ps 99.6; Wis 10.5
w **18.22** Cn: Gk *multitude*
* **18.22** Ex 32.13
* **18.23** Num 16.48
* **18.24** Ex 28.2, 6, 17, 36–38; Sir 45.7, 10–12; 50.11
x **18.25** Other ancient authorities read *they*
* **18.25** v 20; Heb 11.28

Wisdom of Solomon 19

y **19.1** Gk *he*

* **19.1** Ex 14.4

z **19.2** Other ancient authorities read *had changed their minds to permit*

* **19.2** Ex 12.33, 39; 14.5, 6, 8

* **19.4** 2 Macc 6.14; Mt 23.32

a **19.5** Other ancient authorities read *accomplish*

* **19.5** Ex 14.28–30

* **19.6** Ps 148.8; Wis 16.24, 25

* **19.7** Ex 13.21, 22; 14.28, 29; Ps 106.9

* **19.8** Wis 5.16

* **19.9** Ex 15.1–18; Ps 78.52; Isa 63.11, 13

* **19.10** Ex 8.3, 6, 16

* **19.11** Ex 16.13; Wis 16.2

* **19.12** Ex 16.13; Wis 16.2

* **19.13** Ex 1.11–14, 16, 22; 5.6–9; Ps 77.18

* **19.14** Gen 19.4–8; Ex 1.8, 11

* **19.16** Gen 41.55–57; 45.17–20; 47.5, 6; Ex 1.8

* **19.17** Gen 19.11; Ex 10.23; Wis 10.6; 17.2, 17; 18.4

b **19.18** Gk *changing*

c **19.18** Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **19.20** Wis 16.17, 22, 23

d **19.21** Cn: Gk *nor could be melted*

* **19.21** Ex 16.14; Wis 16.18, 22, 23

Ecclesiasticus, or the Wisdom of Jesus Son of

Sirach

The Prologue

1 Many great teachings have been given to us through the Law and the
Prophets [2]and the others[a] that followed them, [3]and for these we should
praise Israel for instruction and wisdom. [4]Now those who read them must
not only themselves understand them [5]but must also as lovers of learning be
able through [6]both speaking and writing to help the outsiders. [7]So my
grandfather Jesus, who had devoted himself especially [8]to the reading of the
Law [9]and the Prophets [10]and the other books of our ancestors [11]and had
acquired considerable proficiency in them, [12]was himself also led to write
something pertaining to instruction and wisdom, [13]so that by becoming
familiar also with his book[b] those who love learning [14]might make even
greater progress in living according to the law.

15 You are invited, therefore, [17]to read it [16]with goodwill and attention
[18]and to be indulgent [19]in cases where we may seem [20]to have rendered
some phrases imperfectly, despite our diligent labor in translating. [21–22]For
what was originally expressed in Hebrew does not have exactly the same
effect when translated into another language. [23]Not only this book, [24]but
even the Law itself, the Prophets,[c] [25]and the rest of the books [26]differ not a
little when read in the original.

27 In the thirty-eighth year of the reign of Euergetes, [28]when I came to
Egypt and stayed for some time, [29]I found a copy affording[d] no little
instruction. [30]It seemed highly necessary that I should myself devote some
diligence and labor to the translation of this book. [31–32]During that time I
have applied my skill day and night [33]to complete and publish the book
[34]for those living abroad who wish to gain learning and are [35]preparing [36]to
live according to the law.[*]

Sirach 1

IN PRAISE OF WISDOM

[1]All wisdom is from the Lord,
and with him it remains forever.*
[2]The sand of the sea, the drops of rain,
and the days of eternity—who can count them?*
[3]The height of heaven, the breadth of the earth,
the abyss, and wisdom[e]—who can search them out?*
[4]Wisdom was created before all things
and prudent understanding from eternity.[f,*]
[6]The root of wisdom—to whom has it been revealed?
Her subtleties—who knows them?[g,*]
[8]There is but one who is wise, greatly to be feared,
seated upon his throne: the Lord.
[9]It is he who created her;
he saw her and took her measure;
he poured her out upon all his works,
[10]upon all the living according to his gift;
he lavished her upon those who love him.[h,*]

FEAR OF THE LORD IS TRUE WISDOM

[11]The fear of the Lord is glory and exultation
and gladness and a crown of rejoicing.*
[12]The fear of the Lord delights the heart
and gives gladness and joy and long life.[i,*]
[13]Those who fear the Lord will have a happy end;
on the day of their death they will be blessed.*

14 To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
she is created with the faithful in the womb.*
15 She made[j] among humans an eternal foundation,
and among their descendants she will abide faithfully.
16 To fear the Lord is fullness of wisdom;
she inebriates mortals with her fruits;*
17 she fills their[k] whole house with desirable goods
and their[l] storehouses with her produce.
18 The fear of the Lord is the crown of wisdom,
making peace and perfect health to flourish.[m,*]
19 She rained down knowledge and discerning comprehension,
and she heightened the glory of those who held her fast.*
20 To fear the Lord is the root of wisdom,
and her branches are long life.[n,*]

22 Unjust anger cannot be justified,
for anger tips the scale to one's ruin.*
23 Those who are patient stay calm until the right moment,
and then cheerfulness comes back to them.*
24 They hold back their words until the right moment,
and then the lips of many tell of their good sense.*

25 In the treasuries of wisdom is insightful analogy,
but godliness is an abomination to a sinner.
26 If you desire wisdom, keep the commandments,
and the Lord will lavish her upon you.*
27 For the fear of the Lord is wisdom and discipline;
fidelity and humility are his delight.*

28 Do not disobey the fear of the Lord;

do not approach him with a divided mind.*
29 Do not be a hypocrite before others,
and keep watch over your lips.*
30 Do not exalt yourself, or you may fall
and bring dishonor upon yourself.
The Lord will reveal your secrets
and overthrow you before the whole congregation,
because you did not come in the fear of the Lord,
and your heart was full of deceit.*

Sirach 2

DUTIES TOWARD GOD

[1]My child, when you come to serve the Lord,
prepare yourself for testing.[o,*]
[2]Set your heart right and be steadfast,
and do not be impetuous in time of calamity.
[3]Cling to him and do not depart,
so that your last days may be prosperous.
[4]Accept whatever befalls you,
and in times of humiliation be patient.
[5]For gold is tested in the fire,
and those found acceptable, in the furnace of humiliation.[p,*]
[6]Trust in him, and he will help you;
make your ways straight and hope in him.[*]

[7]You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy;
do not stray, or else you may fall.[*]
[8]You who fear the Lord, trust in him,
and your reward will not be lost.[*]
[9]You who fear the Lord, hope for good things,
for lasting joy and mercy.[q]
[10]Consider the generations of old and see:
Has anyone trusted in the Lord and been disappointed?
Or has anyone persevered in the fear of the Lord[r] and been forsaken?
Or has anyone called upon him and been neglected?[*]
[11]For the Lord is compassionate and merciful;

he forgives sins and saves in time of distress.*

12 Woe to timid hearts and to slack hands
and to the sinner who walks a double path!*
13 Woe to the fainthearted who have no trust!
Therefore they will have no shelter.
14 Woe to you who have lost patience!
What will you do when the Lord's reckoning comes?*

15 Those who fear the Lord will not disobey his words,
and those who love him will keep his ways.*
16 Those who fear the Lord will seek his favor,
and those who love him will be filled with his law.*
17 Those who fear the Lord will prepare their hearts
and will humble themselves before him.*
18 Let us fall into the hands of the Lord
but not into the hands of mortals,
for equal to his majesty is his mercy.s

Sirach 3

DUTIES TOWARD PARENTS

[1]Listen to me your father, O children;
act accordingly, that you may be safe.
[2]For the Lord honors a father above his children,
and he confirms a mother's judgment over her sons.*
[3]Those who honor their father atone for sins,*
[4]and those who respect their mother are like those who lay up treasure.*
[5]Those who honor their father will have joy in their children,
and when they pray they will be heard.
[6]Those who respect their father will have long life,
and those who honor[t] their mother obey the Lord;[u],*
[7]they will serve their parents as their masters.[v],*
[8]Honor your father by word and deed,
that his blessing may come upon you.*
[9]For a father's blessing strengthens the houses of the children,
but a mother's curse uproots their foundations.*
[10]Do not glorify yourself by your father's dishonor,
for your father's dishonor is no glory to you.
[11]The honor of one's father is one's own glory,
and a mother dishonored is a disgrace to her children.*

[12]My child, help your father in his old age,
and do not grieve him as long as he lives;*
[13]even if his mind fails, be patient with him;
do not despise him because you have all your faculties.

14 For kindness to a father will not be forgotten
and will be credited to you against your sins;*
15 in the day of your distress it will be remembered in your favor;
like frost in fair weather, your sins will melt away.
16 Whoever forsakes a father is like a blasphemer,
and whoever angers a mother is cursed by the Lord.*

HUMILITY

17 My child, perform your tasks with humility;
then you will be loved more than a giver of gifts.[w]
18 The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself;
so you will find favor in the sight of the Lord.[x],*
20 For great is the might of the Lord,
but by the humble he is glorified.
21 Neither seek what is too difficult for you
nor investigate what is beyond your power.*
22 Reflect upon what you have been commanded,
for what is hidden is not your concern.*
23 In matters greater than your own affairs, do not meddle,
for things beyond human understanding have been shown you.*
24 For their conceit has led many astray,
and wrong opinion has impaired their judgment.*

25 Without eyes there is no light;
without knowledge there is no wisdom.[y]
26 A stubborn mind will fare badly at the end,
and whoever loves danger will perish in it.
27 A stubborn mind will be burdened by troubles,
and the sinner adds sin to sins.*

[28]When calamity befalls the proud, there is no healing,
for an evil plant has taken root in him.*
[29]The mind of the intelligent appreciates proverbs,
and an attentive ear is the desire of the wise.*

ALMS FOR THE POOR

[30]As water extinguishes a blazing fire,
so almsgiving atones for sin.*
[31]Those who repay favors give thought to the future;
when they fall they will find support.*

Sirach 4

DUTIES TOWARD THE POOR AND THE OPPRESSED

[1]My child, do not cheat the poor of their living,
and do not keep needy eyes waiting.*
[2]Do not grieve the hungry
or anger one in need.
[3]Do not add to the troubles of the angry
or delay giving to the needy.*
[4]Do not reject a suppliant in distress
or turn your face away from the poor.*
[5]Do not avert your eye from the needy,
and give no one reason to curse you,*
[6]for if in bitterness of soul some should curse you,
their Creator will hear their prayer.*

[7]Endear yourself to the congregation;
bow your head low to the great.
[8]Give a hearing to the poor,
and return their greeting kindly.
[9]Rescue the oppressed from the oppressor,
and do not be hesitant in giving a verdict.*
[10]Be a father to orphans,
and be like a husband to their mother;
you will then be like a son of the Most High,
and he will love you more than does your mother.*

THE REWARDS OF WISDOM

11 Wisdom teaches[z] her children
and takes hold of those who seek her.*
12 Whoever loves her loves life,
and those who seek her from early morning will be filled with joy.*
13 Whoever holds her fast inherits glory,
and the Lord blesses the place she[a] enters.*
14 Those who serve her minister to the Holy One;
the Lord loves those who love her.
15 Whoever obeys her will judge the nations,
and whoever listens to her will live securely.
16 If they remain faithful, they will inherit her;
their descendants will also obtain her.
17 For at first she will walk with them in disguise;
she will bring fear and dread upon them
and will torment them by her discipline
until she trusts them,[b]
and she will test them with her ordinances.*
18 Then she will come straight back to them again and gladden them
and will reveal her secrets to them.
19 If they go astray, she will forsake them
and hand them over to their ruin.

20 Watch for the opportune time, and beware of evil,
and do not be ashamed to be yourself.*
21 For there is a shame that leads to sin,
and there is a shame that is glory and favor.*
22 Do not show partiality to your own harm
or deference to your downfall.*

[23]Do not refrain from speaking at the proper moment,[c]
and do not hide your wisdom.[d,*]
[24]For wisdom becomes known through speech
and education through the words of the tongue.
[25]Never speak against the truth,
but be ashamed of your ignorance.
[26]Do not be ashamed to confess your sins,
and do not try to stop the current of a river.[*]
[27]Do not subject yourself to a fool
or show partiality to a ruler.[*]
[28]Fight to the death for truth,
and the Lord God will fight for you.

[29]Do not be reckless in your speech
or sluggish and remiss in your deeds.[*]
[30]Do not be like a lion in your home
or suspicious of your slaves.[*]
[31]Do not let your hand be stretched out to receive
and closed when it is time to give back.[*]

Sirach 5

PRECEPTS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

[1]Do not rely on your wealth
or say, “I have enough.”*
[2]Do not follow your inclination and strength
in pursuing the desires of your heart.*
[3]Do not say, “Who can have power over me?”
for the Lord will surely punish you.*

[4]Do not say, “I sinned, yet what has happened to me?”
for the Lord is slow to anger.*
[5]Do not be so confident of forgiveness[e]
that you add sin to sins.*
[6]Do not say, “His mercy is great;
he will forgive[f] the multitude of my sins,”
for both mercy and wrath are with him,
and his anger will rest on sinners.*
[7]Do not delay to turn back to the Lord,
and do not postpone it from day to day,
for suddenly the wrath of the Lord will come forth,
and at the time of punishment you will perish.*
[8]Do not rely on dishonest wealth,
for it will not benefit you on the day of calamity.*

[9]Do not winnow in every wind
or follow every path.[g]
[10]Stand firm in what you know,
and let your speech be consistent.

[11]Be quick to hear,
and utter a reply patiently.*
[12]If you understand, answer your neighbor,
but if not, put your hand over your mouth.*

[13]Honor and dishonor come from speaking,
and the tongue of mortals may be their downfall.*
[14]Do not be called double-tongued[h]
and do not lay traps with your tongue,
for shame comes to the thief
and severe condemnation to the double-tongued.*
[15]In great and small matters cause no harm,[i]

Sirach 6

[1]and do not become an enemy instead of a friend,
for a bad name incurs shame and reproach;
so it is with the double-tongued sinner.*

[2]Do not fall into the grip of passion,[j]
or you may be torn apart as by a bull.[k]
[3]Your leaves will be devoured and your fruit destroyed,
and you will be left like a withered tree.*
[4]Strong passion[l] destroys those who have it
and makes them the laughingstock of their enemies.*

FRIENDSHIP, FALSE AND TRUE

[5]Pleasant speech multiplies friends,
and a gracious tongue multiplies courtesies.*
[6]Let those who are at peace with you be many,
but let your advisers be one in a thousand.*
[7]When you gain friends, gain them through testing,
and do not trust them hastily.*
[8]For there are friends who are such when it suits them,
but they will not stand by you in time of trouble.*
[9]And there are friends who turn to enmity
and tell of the quarrel to your disgrace.
[10]And there are friends who are companions at the table,
but they will not stand by you in time of trouble.*
[11]When you are prosperous, they become your second self
and boldly command your slaves,

12 but if you are brought low, they turn against you
and hide themselves from you.
13 Keep away from your enemies,
and be on guard with your friends.

14 Faithful friends are a sturdy shelter;
whoever finds one has found a treasure.*
15 Faithful friends are beyond price;
no amount can balance their worth.
16 Faithful friends are life-saving medicine,
and those who fear the Lord will find them.
17 Those who fear the Lord direct their friendship aright,
for as they are, so are their neighbors also.

BLESSINGS OF WISDOM

18 My child, from your youth choose discipline,
and when you have gray hair you will find wisdom.
19 Come to her like one who plows and sows,
and wait for her good harvest.
For when you cultivate her you will toil but little,
and soon you will eat of her produce.*
20 She seems very harsh to the undisciplined;
fools will not remain with her.*
21 She will be like a heavy stone to test them,
and they will not delay in casting her aside.*
22 For wisdom is like her name;
she is not readily perceived by many.

23 Listen, my child, and accept my judgment;
do not reject my counsel.*

[24]Put your feet into her fetters
and your neck into her collar.*
[25]Bend your shoulder and carry her,
and do not become angry with her bonds.*
[26]Come to her with all your soul,
and keep her ways with all your might.
[27]Search out and seek, and she will become known to you,
and when you get hold of her, do not let her go.*
[28]For at last you will find her rest,
and she will be changed into joy for you.
[29]Then her fetters will become for you a strong defense,
and her collar a glorious robe.*
[30]Her yoke[m] is a golden ornament
and her bonds a purple cord.*
[31]You will wear her like a glorious robe
and put her on like a splendid crown.[n],*

[32]If you are willing, my child, you can be disciplined,
and if you apply yourself you will become clever.
[33]If you love to listen you will accept discipline,
and if you pay attention you will become wise.
[34]Stand in the company of the elders.
Who is wise? Attach yourself to such a one.
[35]Be ready to listen to every godly discourse,
and let no wise proverbs escape you.*
[36]If you see an intelligent person, rise early to visit him;
let your foot wear out his doorstep.*
[37]Reflect on the statutes of the Lord,
and meditate at all times on his commandments.

It is he who will give insight to[o] your mind,
and your desire for wisdom will be granted.[*]

Sirach 7

MISCELLANEOUS ADVICE

[1]Do no evil, and evil will never overtake you.*
[2]Stay away from wrong, and it will turn away from you.
[3]Do[p] not sow in the furrows of injustice,
and you will not reap a sevenfold crop.*

[4]Do not seek from the Lord high office
or the seat of honor from the king.
[5]Do not assert your righteousness before the Lord
or display your wisdom before the king.*
[6]Do not seek to become a judge,
or you may be unable to root out injustice;
perhaps you will fear the powerful
and so mar your integrity.*
[7]Commit no offense against the public,
and do not disgrace yourself among the people.

[8]Do not commit a sin twice;
even for one you will not go unpunished.*
[9]Do not say, "He will consider the great number of my gifts,
and when I make an offering to the Most High God, he will accept it."
[10]Do not grow weary when you pray;
do not neglect to give alms.*
[11]Do not ridicule a person who is embittered in spirit,
for there is one who humbles and exalts.*
[12]Do not devise[q] a lie against your brother

or do the same to a friend.
13 Refuse to utter any lie,
for it is a habit that results in no good.
14 Do not babble in the company of the elders,
and do not repeat yourself when you pray.*

15 Do not hate hard labor
or farm work, which was created by the Most High.*
16 Do not enroll in the ranks of sinners;
remember that retribution will not delay.
17 Humble yourself to the utmost,
for the punishment of the ungodly is fire and worms.[r,*]

RELATIONS WITH OTHERS

18 Do not exchange a friend for money
or a real brother for the gold of Ophir.*
19 Do not dismiss[s] a wise and good wife,
for her charm is worth more than gold.*
20 Do not abuse slaves who work faithfully
or hired laborers who give of themselves.*
21 Let your soul love intelligent slaves;[t]
do not withhold from them their freedom.*

22 Do you have cattle? Look after them;
if they are profitable to you, keep them.
23 Do you have children? Discipline them,
and make them obedient[u] from their youth.*
24 Do you have daughters? Be concerned for their chastity,[v]
and do not show yourself too indulgent with them.[w,*]
25 Give a daughter in marriage, and you complete a great task,

but give her to a sensible man.
[26]Do you have a wife who pleases you?[x] Do not divorce her,
but do not trust yourself to one whom you detest.

[27]With all your heart honor your father,
and do not forget the birth pangs of your mother.*
[28]Remember that it was of your parents[y] you were born;
how will you repay what they have given to you?

[29]With all your soul fear the Lord
and revere his priests.
[30]With all your might love your Maker,
and do not neglect his ministers.*
[31]Fear the Lord and honor the priest,
and give him his portion, as you have been commanded:
the first fruits, the purification offering, the gift of the shoulders,
the sacrifice of sanctification, and the first fruits of the holy things.*

[32]Stretch out your hand to the poor,
so that your blessing may be complete.
[33]Give graciously to all the living;
do not withhold kindness even from the dead.*
[34]Do not lag behind those who weep,
but mourn with those who mourn.*
[35]Do not hesitate to visit the sick,
because for such deeds you will be loved.*
[36]In all you do, remember the end of your life,
and then you will never sin.*

Sirach 8

PRUDENCE AND COMMON SENSE

[1]Do not contend with the powerful,
or you may fall into their hands.
[2]Do not quarrel with the rich,
in case their resources outweigh yours,
for gold has ruined many
and has perverted the minds of kings.*
[3]Do not argue with the loud of mouth,
and do not heap wood on their fire.*

[4]Do not make fun of one who is uneducated,
or your ancestors may be insulted.
[5]Do not reproach one who is turning away from sin;
remember that we all deserve punishment.*
[6]Do not disdain one who is old,
for some of us are also growing old.*
[7]Do not rejoice over anyone's death;
remember that we must all die.

[8]Do not slight the discourse of the sages,
but turn to their maxims,
because from them you will learn discipline
and how to serve the great.*
[9]Do not ignore the discourse of the aged,
for they themselves learned from their parents;[z]
from them you learn how to understand
and to give an answer when the need arises.*

[10]Do not kindle the coals of sinners,
or you may be burned[a] in their flaming fire.*
[11]Do not let the insolent bring you to your feet,
or they may lie in ambush against your words.
[12]Do not lend to one who is stronger than you,
but if you do lend anything, count it as a loss.*
[13]Do not give surety beyond your means,
but if you give surety be prepared to pay.*

[14]Do not go to law against a judge,
for the decision will favor him because of his standing.
[15]Do not travel on the road with the reckless,
or your troubles may become burdensome,
for they will act as they please,
and through their folly you will perish with them.
[16]Do not pick a fight with the quick-tempered,
and do not journey with them through a deserted region,
because bloodshed means nothing to them,
and where no help is at hand they will strike you down.*
[17]Do not consult with fools,
for they cannot keep a secret.*
[18]In the presence of strangers do nothing that is to be kept secret,
for you do not know what they will divulge.[b]
[19]Do not reveal your thoughts to anyone,
or you may drive away your happiness.[c]

Sirach 9

ADVICE CONCERNING WOMEN

[1]Do not be jealous of the wife whom you embrace,
or you will teach her an evil lesson to your own hurt.*
[2]Do not give yourself to a woman
and let her trample down your strength.*
[3]Do not go near a loose woman,[d]
or you may fall into her snares.*
[4]Do not dally with a female singer,
or you may be caught in her activities.
[5]Do not look intently at a virgin,
or you may stumble and incur penalties for her.*
[6]Do not give yourself to prostitutes,
or you may lose your inheritance.*
[7]Do not look around in the streets of a city
or wander about in its deserted sections.*
[8]Turn away your eyes from a shapely woman,
and do not gaze at beauty belonging to another;
many have been seduced by a woman's beauty,
and by it passion is kindled like a fire.*
[9]Never dine[e] with another man's wife
or revel with her at wine,
or your heart may turn aside to her,
and in blood[f] you may plunge into destruction.*

CHOICE OF FRIENDS

[10]Do not abandon old friends,

for new ones cannot equal them.
A new friend is like new wine;
when it has aged, you will drink it with pleasure.*

11 Do not envy the notoriety of sinners,
for you do not know what their end will be like.*
12 Do not delight in what pleases the ungodly;g
remember that they will not be held guiltless until Hades.*

13 Keep far from those who have power to kill,
and you will not be haunted by the fear of death.
But if you approach them, make no misstep,
or they may rob you of your life.
Know that you are stepping among snares
and that you are walking on the city battlements.

14 As much as you can, aim to know your neighbors,
and consult with the wise.*
15 Let your conversation be with intelligent people,
and let all your discussion be about the law of the Most High.*
16 Let the righteous be your dinner companions,
and let your boast be in the fear of the Lord.*

CONCERNING RULERS

17 A work is praised for the skill of the artisan,
so a people's leader is proved wise by his words.
18 The loud of mouth are feared in their city,
and the one who is reckless in speech is hated.*

Sirach 10

[1]A wise magistrate educates his people,
and the rule of an intelligent person is well ordered.
[2]As the people's judge is, so are his officials;
as the ruler of the city is, so are all its inhabitants.*
[3]An undisciplined king ruins his people,
but a city becomes fit to live in through the understanding of its rulers.*
[4]The government of the earth is in the hand of the Lord,
and over it he will raise up the right leader for the time.*
[5]Human success is in the hand of the Lord,
and it is he who confers honor upon the lawgiver.[h,*]

THE SIN OF PRIDE

[6]Do not get angry with your neighbor for every injury,
and do not resort to acts of insolence.*
[7]Arrogance is hateful to the Lord and to mortals,
and injustice is outrageous to both.*
[8]Sovereignty passes from nation to nation
on account of injustice and insolence and wealth.[i,*]
[9]How can dust and ashes be proud?
Even in life the human body is infested with worms.[j,*]
[10]A long illness mocks the physician;
the king of today will die tomorrow.*
[11]For when humans die
they inherit maggots and vermin[k] and worms.*
[12]The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord;

the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.*
13For the beginning of pride is sin,
and the one who clings to it pours out abominations.
Therefore the Lord brought upon them unheard-of calamities
and destroyed them completely.[l]
14The Lord overthrew the thrones of rulers
and enthroned the lowly in their place.*
15The Lord plucked up the roots of the nations[m]
and planted the humble in their place.
16The Lord laid waste the lands of the nations
and destroyed them to the foundations of the earth.*
17He removed some of them and destroyed them
and erased the memory of them from the earth.*
18Pride was not created for human beings
or violent anger for those born of women.

PERSONS DESERVING HONOR

19Whose offspring are worthy of honor?
Human offspring.
Whose offspring are worthy of honor?
Those who fear the Lord.
Whose offspring are unworthy of honor?
Human offspring.
Whose offspring are unworthy of honor?
Those who break the commandments.*
20Among family members their leader is worthy of honor,
but those who fear the Lord are worthy of honor in his eyes.[n]
22The guest and the stranger[o] and the poor—
their boast is the fear of the Lord.*

[23]It is not right to despise one who is intelligent but poor,
and it is not proper to honor one who is sinful.*
[24]The prince and the judge and the ruler are honored,
but none of them is greater than the one who fears the Lord.*
[25]Free people will serve a wise slave,
and an intelligent person will not complain.*

CONCERNING HUMILITY

[26]Do not make a display of your wisdom when you do your work,
and do not extol yourself when you are in difficulty.
[27]Better those who work and have plenty
than those who boast and lack bread.*

[28]My child, honor yourself with humility,
and give yourself the esteem you deserve.*
[29]Who will acquit those who condemn[p] themselves,
and who will honor those who dishonor themselves?[q]
[30]The poor are honored for their knowledge,
while the rich are honored for their wealth.
[31]One who is honored in poverty, how much more in wealth!
And one dishonored in wealth, how much more in poverty!

Sirach 11

THE DECEPTIVENESS OF APPEARANCES

[1]The wisdom of the humble lifts their heads high
and seats them among the great.*
[2]Do not praise individuals for their good looks
or loathe anyone because of appearance alone.*
[3]The bee is small among flying creatures,
but what it produces is the origin of sweet things.*
[4]Do not mock those wearing only a loincloth
or make fun of those whose day is bitter,[r]
for the works of the Lord are wonderful
and his works are concealed from humans.*
[5]Many oppressed have sat upon a throne,[s]
and one whom no one expected has worn a crown.*
[6]Many rulers have been utterly disgraced,
and the honored have been handed over to others.*

DELIBERATION AND CAUTION

[7]Do not find fault before you investigate;
examine first and then criticize.*
[8]Do not answer before you listen,
and do not interrupt when another is speaking.*
[9]Do not argue about a matter that does not concern you,
and do not sit with sinners when they judge a case.

[10]My child, do not busy yourself with many matters;
if you multiply activities, you will not be held blameless.

If you pursue, you will not overtake,
and by fleeing you will not escape.
11 There are those who work and struggle and hurry
but are so much the more in want.*
12 There are others who are slow and need help,
who lack strength and abound in poverty,
but the eyes of the Lord look kindly upon them;
he lifts them out of their lowly condition*
13 and raises up their heads
to the amazement of the many.

14 Good things and bad, life and death,
poverty and wealth, come from the Lord.t,*
17 The Lord's gift remains with the devout,
and his favor brings lasting success.
18 A person becomes rich through diligence and self-denial,
and the reward allotted to him is this:*
19 when he says, "I have found rest,
and now I shall feast on my goods!"
he does not realize how time passes by;
he will leave them to others and will die.*

20 Stand by your agreement and attend to it,
and grow old in your work.
21 Do not wonder at the works of a sinner,
but trust in the Lord and keep at your job,
for it is easy in the sight of the Lord
to make the poor person suddenly rich, in an instant.*
22 The blessing of the Lord isu the reward of the pious,
and quickly his blessing flourishes.

[23]Do not say, “What do I need,
and what further benefit can be mine?”*
[24]Do not say, “I have enough,
and what harm can come to me now?”*
[25]In the day of prosperity, adversity is forgotten,
and in the day of adversity, prosperity is not remembered.*
[26]For it is easy for the Lord on the day of death
to reward individuals according to their conduct.*
[27]An hour’s misery makes one forget delights,
and at the close of one’s life one’s deeds are revealed.*
[28]Call no one happy before his death;
by how he ends, a person becomes known.[v]

CARE IN CHOOSING FRIENDS

[29]Do not invite everyone into your home,
for many are the tricks of the crafty.
[30]Like a decoy partridge in a cage, so is the mind of the proud,
and like spies they observe your weakness,[w],*
[31]for they lie in wait, turning good into evil,
and to worthy actions they attach blame.*
[32]From a spark many coals are kindled,
and a sinner lies in wait to shed blood.*
[33]Beware of scoundrels, for they devise evil,
and they may ruin your reputation forever.*
[34]Receive strangers into your home, and they will stir up trouble
for you
and will make you a stranger to your own family.

Sirach 12

[1]If you do good, know to whom you do it,
and you will be thanked for your good deeds.*
[2]Do good to the devout, and you will be repaid—
if not by them, certainly by the Most High.*
[3]No good comes to one who persists in evil
or to one who does not give alms.*
[4]Give to the devout, but do not help the sinner.*
[5]Do good to the humble, but do not give to the ungodly;
hold back their bread, and do not give it to them,
for by means of it they might subdue you;
then you will receive twice as much evil
for all the good you have done to them.
[6]For the Most High also hates sinners
and will inflict punishment on the ungodly.[x],*
[7]Give to the one who is good, but do not help the sinner.
[8]A friend is not known[y] in prosperity,
nor is an enemy hidden in adversity.*
[9]One's enemies are friendly[z] when one prospers,
but in adversity even one's friend disappears.*
[10]Never trust your enemy,
for like corrosion in copper, so is his wickedness.
[11]Even if he humbles himself and walks bowed down,
take care to be on your guard against him.
Be to him like one who polishes a mirror,
to be sure it does not become completely tarnished.*
[12]Do not put him next to you,

or he may overthrow you and take your place.
Do not let him sit at your right hand,
or else he may try to take your own seat,
and at last you will acknowledge my words
and be stung by what I have said.

13 Who pities a snake charmer when he is bitten
or all those who go near wild animals?*
14 So no one pities people who associate with sinners
and become involved in their sins.*
15 They stand by you for a while,
but if you falter, they will not be there.
16 Enemies speak sweetly with their lips,
but in their hearts they plan to throw you into a pit;
enemies may have tears in their eyes,
but if they find an opportunity they will never have enough of your blood.*
17 If evil comes upon you, you will find them there ahead of you;
pretending to help, they will trip you up.*
18 Then they will shake their heads and clap their hands
and whisper much and show their true faces.*

Sirach 13

CAUTION REGARDING ASSOCIATES

[1]Whoever touches pitch gets dirty,
and whoever associates with the proud will become like them.*
[2]Do not lift a weight too heavy for you
or associate with one mightier and richer than you.
How can the clay pot associate with the iron kettle?
The pot will strike against it and be smashed.
[3]A rich person does wrong and even adds insults;
a poor person suffers wrong and must add apologies.*
[4]Rich people[a] will exploit you[b] if you can be of use to them,
but if you are in need they will abandon you.
[5]If you own something, they will live with you;
they will drain your resources without a qualm.
[6]When they need you, they will deceive you
and will smile at you and encourage you;
they will speak to you kindly and say, "What do you need?"
[7]They will embarrass you with their delicacies,
until they have drained you two or three times,
and finally they will laugh at you.
Should they see you afterwards, they will pass you by
and shake their heads at you.*

[8]Take care not to be led astray
and humiliated when you are enjoying yourself.[c]
[9]When the influential invite you, be reserved,
and they will invite you more insistently.
[10]Do not be forward, or you may be rebuffed;

do not stand aloof, or you will be forgotten.*
11 Do not try to treat them as equals
or trust their lengthy conversations,
for they will test you by prolonged talk,
and while they smile they will be examining you.*
12 Cruel are those who do not keep your secrets;
they will not spare you harm or imprisonment.
13 Be on your guard and very careful,
for you are walking about with your own downfall.[d]

15 Every creature loves its like
and every person a neighbor.*
16 All living beings associate with their own kind,
and people stick close to those like themselves.*
17 What does a wolf have in common with a lamb?
No more has a sinner with the devout.*
18 What peace is there between a hyena and a dog,
and what peace between the rich and the poor?
19 Wild asses in the wilderness are the prey of lions;
likewise the poor are feeding grounds for the rich.*
20 Humility is an abomination to the proud;
likewise the poor are an abomination to the rich.

21 When the rich person totters, he is supported by friends,
but when the humble[e] falls, he is pushed away by friends.*
22 If the rich person slips, many come to the rescue;
he speaks unseemly words, but they justify him.
If the humble person slips, they even criticize him;
he talks sense but is not given a hearing.*
23 The rich person speaks, and all are silent;

they extol to the clouds what he says.
The poor person speaks, and they say, “Who is this fellow?”
And should he stumble, they push him down.
24 Riches are good if they are free from sin;
poverty is evil only in the opinion of the ungodly.*

25 The heart changes the countenance
either for good or for evil.f,*
26 The sign of a happy heart is a cheerful face,
but to devise proverbs requires strenuous thinking.*

Sirach 14

[1]Happy are those who do not blunder with their lips
and are not stricken with grief for sin.*
[2]Happy are those whose hearts do not condemn them
and who have not given up their hope.*

RESPONSIBLE USE OF WEALTH

[3]Riches are inappropriate for the small-minded,
and of what use is wealth to misers?*
[4]What they deny themselves they collect for others,
and others will live in luxury on their goods.*
[5]If they are mean to themselves, to whom will they be generous?
They will not enjoy their own riches.
[6]No one is worse than those who are grudging to themselves;
this is the repayment for their meanness.
[7]If ever they do good, it is by mistake,[g]
and in the end they reveal their meanness.
[8]Misers are evil people;
they turn away and disregard people.*
[9]The eyes of the greedy are not satisfied with their share;
greedy injustice withers the soul.*
[10]Misers begrudge bread,
and it is lacking at their tables.*

[11]My child, treat yourself well, according to your means,
and present worthy offerings to the Lord.*
[12]Remember that death does not tarry,

and the decree[h] of Hades has not been shown to you.
13 Do good to friends before you die,
and reach out and give to them as much as you can.
14 Do not deprive yourself of a day's enjoyment;
do not let your share of desired good pass by you.*
15 Will you not leave the fruit of your labors to another,
and what you acquired by toil to be divided by lot?*
16 Give and take and indulge yourself,
because in Hades one cannot look for luxury.
17 All living beings become old like a garment,
for the decree[i] from of old is, "You must die!"*
18 Like abundant leaves on a spreading tree
that sheds some and puts forth others,
so are the generations of flesh and blood:
one dies, and another is born.*
19 Every work decays and ceases to exist,
and the one who made it will pass away with it.

THE HAPPINESS OF SEEKING WISDOM

20 Happy are those who meditate on[j] wisdom
and who reason intelligently,*
21 who reflect in their hearts on her ways
and ponder her secrets,*
22 pursuing her like a hunter
and lying in wait on her paths;
23 who peer through her windows
and listen at her doors;*
24 who camp near her house
and fasten their tent pegs to her walls;

[25]who pitch their tents near her
and so occupy an excellent lodging place;
[26]who place their children under her shelter
and lodge under her boughs;
[27]who are sheltered by her from the heat
and dwell in the midst of her glory.*

Sirach 15

[1]Whoever fears the Lord will do this,
and whoever holds to the law will obtain wisdom.[k]
[2]She will come to meet him like a mother,
and like a young bride she will welcome him.*
[3]She will feed him with the bread of understanding
and give him the water of wisdom to drink.*
[4]He will lean on her and not fall,
and he will rely on her and not be put to shame.
[5]She will exalt him above his neighbors
and will open his mouth in the midst of the assembly.*
[6]Gladness[l] and a crown of rejoicing
and an everlasting name he will inherit.*
[7]The foolish will not obtain her,
and sinners will not see her.*
[8]She is far from arrogance,
and liars will never think of her.
[9]Praise is unseemly on the lips of a sinner,
for it has not been sent from the Lord.*
[10]For in wisdom must praise be uttered,
and the Lord will make it prosper.

FREEDOM OF CHOICE

[11]Do not say, "It was the Lord's doing that I fell away,"
for he does not do[m] what he hates.*
[12]Do not say, "It was he who led me astray,"
for he has no need of the sinful.*

13 The Lord hates all abominations;
such things are not loved by those who fear him.
14 It was he who created humans in the beginning,
and he left them in the power of their own inclinations.[n,*]
15 If you choose, you can keep the commandments,
and to act faithfully is a matter of your choice.
16 He has placed before you fire and water;
stretch out your hand for whichever you choose.
17 Before each person are life and death,
and whichever one chooses will be given.[*]
18 For great is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is mighty in power and sees everything;[*]
19 his eyes are on those who fear him,
and he knows every human action.[*]
20 He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly,
and he has not given anyone permission to sin.[*]

Sirach 16

GOD'S PUNISHMENT OF SINNERS

[1]Do not desire a multitude of worthless[o] children,
and do not rejoice in ungodly offspring.
[2]If they multiply, do not rejoice in them,
unless the fear of the Lord is in them.
[3]Do not trust in their survival
or rely on their numbers,[p]
for one can be better than a thousand,
and to die childless is better than to have ungodly children.*
[4]For through one intelligent person a city can be filled with people,
but through a clan of outlaws it becomes desolate.

[5]Many such things my eye has seen,
and my ear has heard things more striking than these.
[6]In an assembly of sinners a fire is kindled,
and in a disobedient nation wrath has blazed up.*
[7]He did not forgive the ancient giants[q]
who revolted in their might.*
[8]He did not spare the neighbors of Lot,
whom he loathed on account of their arrogance.*
[9]He showed no pity on the doomed nation,
on those dispossessed because of their sins,[r]
[10]or on the six hundred thousand foot soldiers
who assembled in their stubbornness.[s,*]
[11]Even if there were only one stiff-necked person,
it would be a wonder if he remained unpunished.

For mercy and wrath are with the Lord;[t]
he acquits and forgives,[u] but he also pours out wrath.*
12 Great as is his mercy, so also is his chastisement;
he judges people according to their deeds.*
13 The sinner will not escape with plunder,
and the patience of the godly will not be frustrated.
14 He makes room for every act of almsgiving;
everyone receives in accordance with his or her deeds.[v],*

17 Do not say, "I am hidden from the Lord,
and who from on high has me in mind?
Among so many people I am unknown,
for what am I in a boundless creation?*
18 Look, heaven and the highest heaven,
the abyss and the earth tremble at his visitation![w],*
19 Together the mountains and the foundations of the earth
shake and tremble when he looks upon them.*
20 But no human mind can grasp this,
and who can comprehend his ways?*
21 Like a tempest that no one can see,
so most of his works are concealed.[x],*
22 Who is to announce his acts of justice?
Or who can await them? For his decree[y] is far off."[z]
23 Such are the thoughts of one devoid of understanding;
a senseless and misguided person thinks foolishly.

GOD'S WISDOM SEEN IN CREATION

24 Listen to me, my child, and acquire knowledge,
and pay close attention to my words.*

25 I will impart discipline precisely[a]
and declare knowledge accurately.*

26 When the Lord created[b] his works from the beginning
and, in making them, determined their boundaries,
27 he arranged their works in an eternal order
and their dominion[c] for all generations.
They neither hunger nor grow weary,
and they do not abandon their tasks.*
28 They do not crowd one another,
and they never disobey his word.
29 Then the Lord looked upon the earth
and filled it with his good things.*
30 With all kinds of living beings he covered its surface,
and into it they must return.*

Sirach 17

[1]The Lord created humans out of earth
and makes them return to it again.*
[2]He gave them a fixed number of days
but granted them authority over everything on the earth.[d,*]
[3]He endowed them with strength like his own[e]
and made them in his own image.*
[4]He put the fear of them[f] in all living beings
and gave them dominion over beasts and birds.[g,*]
[6]Discretion and tongue and eyes,
ears and a mind for thinking he gave them.
[7]He filled them with knowledge and understanding
and showed them good and evil.*
[8]He put the fear of him into[h] their hearts
to show them the majesty of his works.[i]
[10]And they will praise his holy name,*
[9]to proclaim the grandeur of his works.
[11]He bestowed knowledge upon them
and allotted to them the law of life.[j,*]
[12]He established with them an eternal covenant
and revealed to them his decrees.*
[13]Their eyes saw his glorious majesty,
and their ears heard the glory of his voice.*
[14]He said to them, “Beware of all iniquity.”
And he gave commandment to each of them concerning the neighbor.*
[15]Their ways are always before him;

they will not be hidden from his eyes.[k,*]

17 He appointed a ruler for every nation,
but Israel is the Lord's own portion.[l,*]

19 All their works are as the sun before him,
and his eyes are ever upon their ways.[*]

20 Their iniquities are not hidden from him,
and all their sins are before the Lord.[m]

22 One's almsgiving is like a signet ring with the Lord,[n]
and he will keep a person's kindness like the apple of his eye.[o,*]

23 Afterward he will rise up and repay them,
and he will bring their recompense on their heads.[*]

24 Yet to those who repent he grants a return,
and he encourages those who are losing hope.[*]

A CALL TO REPENTANCE

25 Turn back to the Lord and forsake your sins;
pray in his presence and lessen your offense.[*]

26 Return to the Most High and turn away from iniquity[p]
and hate intensely what is abhorrent.

27 Who will sing praises to the Most High in Hades
in place of the living who give thanks?[*]

28 From the dead, as from one who does not exist, thanksgiving has ceased;
those who are alive and well sing the Lord's praises.[*]

29 How great is the mercy of the Lord
and his forgiveness for those who return to him![*]

30 For not everything is within human capability,
since human beings are not immortal.

[31]What is brighter than the sun? Yet it can be eclipsed.
So flesh and blood devise evil.
[32]He marshals the host of the height of heaven,
but all humans are dust and ashes.*

Sirach 18

THE MAJESTY OF GOD

[1]He who lives forever created the whole universe;*
[2]the Lord alone will be justified.[q],*
[4]To none has he given power to proclaim his works,
and who can search out his mighty deeds?*
[5]Who can measure his majestic power,
and who can fully recount his mercies?*
[6]It is not possible to diminish or increase them,
nor is it possible to fathom the wonders of the Lord.*
[7]When humans have finished, they are just beginning,
and when they stop, they are still perplexed.
[8]What are humans, and of what use are they?
What is good in them, and what is evil?*
[9]The number of days in their life is great if they reach one hundred years.[r],*
[10]Like a drop of water from the sea and a grain of sand,
so are a few years among the days of eternity.*
[11]That is why the Lord is patient with them
and pours out his mercy upon them.
[12]He sees and recognizes that their end is miserable;
therefore he grants his forgiveness all the more.*
[13]The compassion of humans is for their neighbors,
but the compassion of the Lord is for every living thing.
He rebukes and trains and teaches them
and turns them back, as a shepherd his flock.*
[14]He has compassion on those who accept his discipline

and who are eager for his decrees.*

THE RIGHT SPIRIT IN GIVING ALMS

15 My child, do not mix reproach with your good deeds
or harsh words with any gift.*
16 Does not the dew give relief from the scorching heat?
So a word is better than a gift.*
17 Indeed, does not a word surpass a good gift?
Both are to be found in a gracious person.
18 A fool will rebuke ungraciously,
and the gift of a grudging giver makes the eyes weary.*

THE NEED OF REFLECTION AND SELF-CONTROL

19 Before you speak, learn,
and before you fall ill, take care of yourself.*
20 Before judgment comes, examine yourself,
and at the time of scrutiny you will find forgiveness.*
21 Before falling ill, humble yourself,
and when you have sinned, repent.*
22 Let nothing hinder you from paying a vow promptly,
and do not wait until death to be released from it.*
23 Before making a vow, prepare yourself;
do not be like one who puts the Lord to the test.*
24 Think of his wrath on the day of death
and of the moment of vengeance when he turns away his face.*
25 In the time of plenty think of the time of hunger;
in days of wealth think of poverty and need.*
26 From morning to evening conditions change;
all things move swiftly before the Lord.*

27 One who is wise is cautious in everything;
when sin is all around, one guards against wrongdoing.
28 Every intelligent person knows wisdom
and praises the one who finds her.
29 Those who are skilled in words become wise themselves
and pour forth apt proverbs.[s,*]

Self-Control[t]

30 Do not follow your base desires
but restrain your appetites.[*]
31 If you allow your soul to take pleasure in base desire,
it will make you the laughingstock of your enemies.[*]
32 Do not revel in great luxury,
or you may become impoverished by contact with it.[*]
33 Do not become a beggar by feasting with borrowed money,
when you have nothing in your purse.[u]

Sirach 19

[1]The one who does this[v] will not become rich;
one who despises small things will fail little by little.*
[2]Wine and women lead intelligent men astray,
and the man who consorts with prostitutes is reckless.*
[3]Decay and worms will take possession of him,
and the reckless person will be snatched away.*

AGAINST LOOSE TALK

[4]One who trusts quickly has a shallow mind,
and one who sins does wrong to himself.
[5]One who rejoices in wickedness[w] will be condemned,[x]
[6]but one who hates discussion lacks understanding.*
[7]Never repeat a conversation,
and you will lose nothing at all.
[8]With friend or foe do not report it,
and unless it would be a sin for you do not reveal it,
[9]for someone may have heard you and watched you
and in time will hate you.
[10]Have you heard something? Let it die with you.
Be brave; it will not make you burst!*
[11]Having heard something, the fool suffers birth pangs
like a woman in labor with a child.
[12]Like an arrow stuck in a person's thigh,
so is gossip in the belly of a fool.*

[13]Question a friend; perhaps he did not do it;

or if he did, so that he may not do it again.*
14 Question a neighbor; perhaps he did not say it;
or if he said it, so that he may not repeat it.
15 Question a friend, for often it is slander;
so do not believe every word.
16 A person may make a slip without intending it.
Who has not sinned with his tongue?*
17 Question your neighbor before you threaten him,
and make room for the law of the Most High.y,*

TRUE AND FALSE WISDOM

20 The whole of wisdom is fear of the Lord,
and in all wisdom there is the fulfillment of the law.z,*
22 The knowledge of wickedness is not wisdom,
nor is there prudence in the counsel of sinners.*
23 There is a cleverness that is detestable,
and there is a fool who merely lacks wisdom.
24 Better are the God-fearing who lack understanding
than the highly intelligent who transgress the law.*
25 There is a cleverness that is exact but unjust,
and there are people who abuse favors to gain a verdict.a
26 There are villains bowed down in mourning,
but inwardly they are full of deceit.*
27 They hide their faces and pretend not to hear,
but when no one notices, they will take advantage of you.
28 Even if lack of strength keeps them from sinning,
they will nevertheless do evil when they find the opportunity.
29 People will be known by their appearances,
and sensible people will be known when first met face to face.*

[30]People's attire and hearty laughter
and the way they walk proclaim things about them.*

Sirach 20

SILENCE AND SPEECH

[1]There is a rebuke that is untimely,
and there is the person who is wise enough to keep silent.*
[2]How much better it is to rebuke than to fume!*
[3]And the one who admits his fault will be kept from ridicule.*
[4]Like a eunuch lusting to violate a young woman
is the person who makes decisions under compulsion.*
[5]Some people keep silent and are found[b] to be wise,
while others are detested for being talkative.*
[6]Some people keep silent because they have nothing to say,
while others keep silent because they know when to speak.*
[7]The wise remain silent until the right moment,
but the arrogant and the fool miss the right moment.*
[8]Whoever talks too much is detested,
and whoever pretends to authority is hated.[c,*]

PARADOXES

[9]There may be good fortune for a person in adversity,
and a windfall may result in a loss.
[10]There is the gift that profits you nothing
and the gift to be paid back double.
[11]There are losses for the sake of glory,
and there are some who have raised their heads from humble circumstances.*
[12]Some buy much for little
but pay for it seven times over.

[13]The wise make themselves beloved by only few words,[d]
but the courtesies of fools are wasted.*
[14]A fool's gift will profit you nothing,[e]
for he looks for recompense sevenfold.[f]
[15]He gives little and insults much;
he opens his mouth like a town crier.
Today he lends, and tomorrow he asks it back;
such a one is hateful.[g,*]
[16]The fool says, "I have no friends,
and I get no thanks for my good deeds."
Those who eat his bread are evil-tongued.
[17]How many will ridicule him, and how often![h]

INAPPROPRIATE SPEECH

[18]A slip on the pavement is better than a slip of the tongue;
the downfall of the wicked will occur just as speedily.*
[19]A coarse person is like an inappropriate story,
continually on the lips of the ignorant.*
[20]A proverb from a fool's lips will be rejected,
for he does not tell it at the proper time.*

[21]One may be prevented from sinning by poverty,
so when he rests he feels no remorse.*
[22]One may lose his life through shame
or lose it because of a foolish person.[i,*]
[23]One may make promises to a friend out of shame
and so make an enemy for nothing.

LYING

[24]A lie is an ugly blot on a person;
it is continually on the lips of the ignorant.*
[25]A thief is preferable to a habitual liar,
but both will inherit ruin.
[26]The character of liars leads to disgrace,
and their shame is ever with them.

Proverbial Sayings[j]

[27]Wise persons advance themselves by their words,
and those who are sensible please the great.*
[28]Those who cultivate the soil heap up their harvest,
and those who please the great atone for injustice.*
[29]Favors and gifts blind the eyes of the wise;
like a muzzle on the mouth they stop reproofs.*
[30]Hidden wisdom and unseen treasure—
of what value is either?*
[31]Better are those who hide their folly
than those who hide their wisdom.[k],*

Sirach 21

VARIOUS SINS

[1]Have you sinned, my child? Do so no more,
but ask forgiveness for your past sins.*
[2]Flee from sin as from a snake,
for if you approach sin it will bite you.
Its teeth are lion's teeth
and can destroy human lives.*
[3]All lawlessness is like a two-edged sword;
there is no healing for the wound it inflicts.

[4]Panic and insolence will waste away riches;
thus the house of the proud will be uprooted.[l]
[5]The prayer of the poor goes from their lips to the ears of God,[m]
and his judgment comes speedily.*
[6]Those who hate reproof walk in the sinner's steps,
but those who fear the Lord repent in their heart.*
[7]The mighty in speech are widely known;
when they slip, the sensible person knows it.

[8]Those who build their houses with other people's money
are like those who gather stones for their own burial mounds.*
[9]An assembly of the lawless is like a bundle of tinder,
and their end is a blazing fire.*
[10]The way of sinners is paved with smooth stones,
but at its end is the pit of Hades.*

WISDOM AND FOOLISHNESS

[11]Those who keep the law control their thoughts,
and the fulfillment of the fear of the Lord is wisdom.*
[12]Those who are not clever cannot be taught,
but there is a cleverness that increases bitterness.*
[13]The knowledge of the wise will increase like a flood
and their counsel like a life-giving spring.*
[14]The mind[n] of a fool is like a broken jar;
it can hold no knowledge.*

[15]When intelligent people hear a wise saying,
they praise it and add to it;
when fools[o] hear it, they laugh at[p] it
and throw it behind their backs.*
[16]The chatter[q] of fools is like a burden on a journey,
but delight is found in the speech of the intelligent.*
[17]The utterance of sensible people is sought in the assembly,
and they ponder their words in their minds.

[18]Like a house in ruins is wisdom to a fool,
and the knowledge of the ignorant is meaningless talk.*
[19]To the senseless, education is fetters on their feet
and like manacles on their right hands.
[20]Fools raise their voices when they laugh,
but the wise[r] smile quietly.*
[21]To the sensible, education is like a golden ornament
and like a bracelet on the right arm.

[22]The foot of a fool rushes into a house,
but an experienced person waits respectfully outside.*
[23]A boor peers into the house from the door,

but a cultivated person remains outside.
24 It is ill-mannered for a person to listen at a door;
the discreet would be grieved by the disgrace.

25 The lips of babblers speak of what is not their concern,[s]
but the words of the prudent are weighed in the balance.*
26 The mind of fools is in their mouth,
but the mouth of the wise is in[t] their mind.*
27 When ungodly people curse an adversary,
they curse themselves.*
28 Whisperers degrade themselves
and are hated in their neighborhoods.

Sirach 22

THE IDLER

[1]The idler is like a filthy stone,
and every one hisses at his disgrace.
[2]The idler is like a lump of dung;
anyone who picks it up will shake it off his hand.

DEGENERATE CHILDREN

[3]It is a disgrace to be the father of an undisciplined son,
and the birth of a daughter is a loss.*
[4]A sensible daughter obtains a husband of her own,
but one who acts shamefully is a grief to her father.*
[5]An impudent daughter disgraces father and husband
and is despised by both.*
[6]Like music in time of mourning is ill-timed conversation,
but a thrashing and discipline are at all times wisdom.u,*

WISDOM AND FOLLY

[9]Whoever teaches a fool is like one who glues potsherds together
or who rouses a sleeper from deep slumber.
[10]Whoever tells a story to a fool tells it to a drowsy man,
and at the end he will say, "What is it?"
[11]Weep for the dead, for they have left the light behind,
and weep for the fool, for they have left intelligence behind.
Weep less bitterly for the dead, for they are at rest,
but the life of the fool is worse than death.*
[12]Mourning for the dead lasts seven days,

but for the foolish or the ungodly it lasts all the days of their lives.*

13 Do not talk much with senseless people
or visit unintelligent people.[v]
Stay clear of them, or you may have trouble
and be spattered when they shake themselves off.
Avoid them and you will find rest,
and you will never be wearied by their lack of sense.
14 What is heavier than lead?
And what is its name except "Fool"?
15 Sand, salt, and a piece of iron
are easier to bear than a stupid person.*

16 A wooden beam firmly bonded into a building
is not loosened by an earthquake;
so the mind firmly resolved after due reflection
will not be afraid in a crisis.*
17 A mind settled on an intelligent thought
is like plaster decoration that makes a wall smooth.
18 Fences[w] set on a high place
will not stand firm against the wind;
so a timid mind with a fool's resolve
will not stand firm against any fear.*

THE PRESERVATION OF FRIENDSHIP

19 One who pricks the eye brings tears,
and one who pricks the heart makes clear its feelings.
20 One who throws a stone at birds scares them away,
and one who reviles a friend destroys a friendship.*
21 Even if you draw your sword against a friend,

do not despair, for there is a way back.
22 If you open your mouth against your friend,
do not worry, for reconciliation is possible.
But as for reviling, arrogance, disclosure of secrets, or a treacherous blow—
in these cases any friend will take to flight.*

23 Gain the trust of your neighbor in his poverty,
so that you may rejoice[x] with him in his prosperity.
Stand by him in time of distress,
so that you may share with him in his inheritance.[y,*]
24 The vapor and smoke of the furnace precede the fire;
so insults precede bloodshed.*
25 I am not ashamed to shelter a friend,
and I will not hide from him,
26 but if harm should come to me because of him,
whoever hears of it will beware of him.

A PRAYER FOR HELP AGAINST SINNING

27 Who will set a guard over my mouth
and an effective seal upon my lips,
so that I may not fall because of them
and my tongue may not destroy me?*

Sirach 23

[1]O Lord, Father and Master of my life,
do not abandon me to their designs,
and do not let me fall among them![*]
[2]Who will set whips over my thoughts
and the discipline of wisdom over my mind,
so as not to spare me in my errors
and not overlook my[z] sins?[*]
[3]Otherwise my mistakes may be multiplied,
and my sins may abound,
and I may fall before my adversaries,
and my enemy may rejoice over me.[a,*]
[4]O Lord, Father and God of my life,
do not give me haughty eyes,[*]
[5]and remove desire from me.
[6]Let neither gluttony nor lust overcome me,
and do not give me over to shameless passion.[*]

Discipline of the Tongue[b]

[7]Listen, my children, to instruction concerning the mouth;
the one who observes it will never be caught.
[8]Sinners are overtaken through their lips;
by them the reviler and the arrogant are tripped up.[*]
[9]Do not accustom your mouth to oaths
nor habitually utter the name of the Holy One,[*]
[10]for as a slave who is constantly under scrutiny
will not lack bruises,

so also the person who always swears and utters the Name
will never be cleansed[c] from sin.*
11 The one who swears many oaths is full of iniquity,
and the scourge will not leave his house.
If he swears in error, his sin remains on him,
and if he disregards it, he sins doubly;
if he swears a false oath, he will not be justified,
for his house will be filled with calamities.*

FOUL LANGUAGE

12 There is a manner of speaking comparable to death;[d]
may it never be found in the inheritance of Jacob!
Such conduct will be far from the godly,
and they will not wallow in sins.*
13 Do not accustom your mouth to lewd ignorance,
for it involves sinful speech.
14 Remember your father and mother
when you sit among the great,
or you may forget yourself in their presence,
and behave like a fool through habit;
then you will wish that you had never been born,
and you will curse the day of your birth.*
15 Those who are accustomed to using abusive language
will never become disciplined as long as they live.

CONCERNING SEXUAL SINS

16 Two kinds of individuals multiply sins,
and a third incurs wrath.
Hot passion that blazes like a fire
will not be quenched until it burns itself out;

those who commit incest with their near of kin
will never cease until the fire burns them up.*
17To the sexually immoral all bread is sweet;
he will never weary until he dies.*
18The one who sins against his marriage bed
says to himself, "Who can see me?
Darkness surrounds me, the walls hide me,
and no one sees me. Why should I worry?
The Most High will not remember my sins."*
19His fear is confined to human eyes,
and he does not realize that the eyes of the Lord
are ten thousand times brighter than the sun;
they look upon every aspect of human behavior
and see into hidden corners.*
20Before the universe was created, it was known to him,
and so it is since its completion.*
21This man will be punished in the streets of the city,
and where he least suspects it he will be seized.*

22So it is with a woman who leaves her husband
and presents him with an heir by another man.
23For, first of all, she has disobeyed the law of the Most High;
second, she has committed an offense against her husband;
and third, through sexual immorality she has committed adultery
and brought forth children by another man.*
24She herself will be brought before the assembly,
and her punishment will extend to her children.*
25Her children will not take root,
and her branches will not bear fruit.*
26She will leave behind an accursed memory,

and her disgrace will never be blotted out.

27 Those who survive her will recognize
that nothing is better than the fear of the Lord
and nothing sweeter than to heed the commandments of the Lord.[e,*]

Sirach 24

The Praise of Wisdom[f]

1 Wisdom praises herself
and tells of her glory in the midst of her people.*
2 In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth,
and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory:
3 "I came forth from the mouth of the Most High
and covered the earth like a mist.*
4 I encamped in the heights,
and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.*
5 Alone I compassed the vault of heaven
and traversed the depths of the abyss.*
6 Over waves of the sea, over all the earth,
and over every people and nation I have held sway.[g,*]
7 Among all these I sought a resting place;
in whose inheritance should I abide?

8 "Then the Creator of all things gave me a command,
and my Creator pitched my tent.
He said, 'Encamp in Jacob,
and in Israel receive your inheritance.'*
9 Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me,
and for all the ages I shall not cease to be.*
10 In the holy tent I ministered before him,
and so I was established in Zion.*
11 Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place,
and in Jerusalem was my domain.*

12 I took root in an honored people;
in the portion of the Lord is my inheritance.*

13 "I grew tall like a cedar in Lebanon
and like a cypress on the heights of Hermon.*
14 I grew tall like a palm tree in En-gedi[h]
and like rosebushes in Jericho;
like a fair olive tree in the field
and like a plane tree beside water[i] I grew tall.*
15 Like cassia and camel's thorn I gave forth perfume,
and like choice myrrh I spread my fragrance,
like galbanum, onycha, and stacte,
and like the odor of incense in the tent.*
16 Like a terebinth I spread out my branches,
and my branches are glorious and graceful.
17 Like the vine I bud forth delights,
and my blossoms become glorious and abundant fruit.[j,*]

19 "Come to me, you who desire me,
and eat your fill of my fruits.*
20 For the memory of me is sweeter than honey
and the possession of me sweeter than the honeycomb.*
21 Those who eat of me will hunger for more,
and those who drink of me will thirst for more.
22 Whoever obeys me will not be put to shame,
and those who work with me will not sin."

WISDOM AND THE LAW

23 All this is the book of the covenant of the Most High God,
the law that Moses commanded us

as an inheritance for the congregations of Jacob.[k,*]
25 It becomes full, like the Pishon, with wisdom
and like the Tigris at the time of the spring harvest.[*]
26 It fills up, like the Euphrates, with understanding,
and like the Jordan at harvest time.[*]
27 It pours forth instruction like the Nile,[l]
like the Gihon at the time of vintage.[*]
28 The first man did not know wisdom[m] fully,
nor will the last one fathom her.
29 For her thoughts are more abundant than the sea
and her counsel deeper than the great abyss.

30 I came forth like a canal from a river,
like a water channel into a garden.
31 I said, "I will water my garden
and drench my flower beds."
And look, my canal became a river
and my river a sea.[*]
32 I will again make instruction shine forth like the dawn,
and I will make it clear from far away.
33 I will again pour out teaching like prophecy
and leave it to all future generations.[*]
34 Observe that I have not labored for myself alone
but for all who seek wisdom.[n,*]

Sirach 25

THOSE WHO ARE WORTHY OF PRAISE

[1]I take pleasure in three things,
and they are beautiful in the sight of God and of mortals:[o]
agreement among brothers and sisters, friendship among neighbors,
and a wife and a husband who live in harmony.*
[2]I hate three kinds of people,
and I loathe their manner of life:
a pauper who boasts, a rich person who lies,
and an old adulterer who lacks sense.*

[3]If you gathered nothing in your youth,
how can you find anything in your old age?*
[4]How attractive is sound judgment in gray-haired women
and for aged men to possess good counsel!*
[5]How attractive is wisdom in the aged
and understanding and counsel in the venerable!
[6]Rich experience is the crown of the aged,
and their boast is the fear of the Lord.*

[7]I can think of nine whom I would call happy,
and a tenth my tongue proclaims:
a man who can rejoice in his children,
who lives to see the downfall of his foes.*
[8]Happy the man who lives with a sensible wife
and who does not plow with ox and ass together,[p]
who does not slip with the tongue

and who has not become enslaved to an inferior.*
9 Happy is the one who finds good sense
and the one who speaks to attentive listeners.*
10 How great is the one who finds wisdom!
But none is superior to the one who fears the Lord.*
11 Fear of the Lord surpasses everything;
to whom can we compare the one who has it?[q],*

SOME EXTREME FORMS OF EVIL

13 Any wound, but not a wound of the heart!
Any wickedness, but not the wickedness of a woman!*
14 Any suffering, but not suffering from those who hate!
And any vengeance, but not the vengeance of enemies!
15 There is no venom[r] worse than a snake's venom[s]
and no anger worse than a woman's[t] wrath.

THE EVIL OF A WICKED WOMAN

16 I would rather live with a lion and a dragon
than live with an evil woman.*
17 A woman's wickedness changes her appearance
and darkens her face like that of a bear.*
18 Her husband sits[u] among the neighbors,
and he cannot help sighing[v] bitterly.
19 Any iniquity is small compared to a woman's iniquity;
may a sinner's lot befall her!*
20 A sandy ascent for the feet of the aged—
such is a garrulous wife to a quiet husband.*
21 Do not be ensnared by a woman's beauty,
and do not desire a woman for her possessions.[w],*

[22]There is wrath and impudence and great disgrace
when a wife supports her husband.
[23]Dejected mind, gloomy face,
and wounded heart come from an evil wife.
Drooping hands and weak knees
come from the wife who does not make her husband happy.*
[24]From a woman sin had its beginning,
and because of her we all die.*
[25]Allow no outlet to water
and no boldness of speech to an evil wife.*
[26]If she does not go as you direct,
separate her from yourself.*

Sirach 26

THE JOY OF A GOOD WIFE

[1]Happy is the husband of a good wife;
the number of his days will be doubled.*
[2]A courageous wife brings joy to her husband,
and he will complete his years in peace.
[3]A good wife is a good portion;
she will be granted as a portion to the man who fears the Lord.*
[4]Whether rich or poor, his heart is content,
and at all times his face is cheerful.*

THE WORST OF EVILS: A WICKED WIFE

[5]Of three things my heart is frightened,
and of a fourth I am in great fear:[x]
slander in the city, the gathering of a mob,
and false accusation—all these are worse than death.
[6]But it is heartache and sorrow when a wife has a rival,
and a tongue-lashing makes it known to all.*
[7]A bad wife is a chafing yoke;
taking hold of her is like grasping a scorpion.
[8]A drunken wife arouses great anger;
she cannot hide her shame.
[9]The haughty stare betrays a sexually immoral wife;
her eyelids give her away.*

[10]Keep strict watch over a headstrong daughter,
or else, when she finds liberty, she will make use of it.*

[11]Be on guard against her impudent eye,
and do not be surprised if she sins against you.
[12]As a thirsty traveler opens his mouth
and drinks from any water near him,
so she will sit in front of every tent peg
and open her quiver to the arrow.*

THE BLESSING OF A GOOD WIFE

[13]A wife's charm delights her husband,
and her skill puts flesh on his bones.*
[14]A silent wife is a gift from the Lord,
and nothing is so precious as her self-discipline.
[15]A modest wife adds charm to charm,
and no scales can weigh the value of her self-control.
[16]Like the sun rising in the heights of the Lord,
so is the beauty of a good wife in her well-ordered home.*
[17]Like the shining lamp on the holy lampstand,
so is a beautiful face on a stately figure.*
[18]Like golden pillars on silver bases,
so are shapely legs upon steadfast feet.

OTHER ANCIENT AUTHORITIES ADD VERSES 19–27:

[19]*My child, keep sound the bloom of your youth,*
*and do not give your strength to strangers.**
[20]*Seek a fertile field within the whole plain,*
and sow it with your own seed, trusting in your fine stock.
[21]*So your offspring will prosper,*
and, having confidence in their good descent, will grow great.
[22]*A prostitute is regarded as spittle*

and a married woman as a tower of death to her lovers.[*]

[23]*A godless wife is given as a portion to a lawless man,*
but a pious wife is given to the man who fears the Lord.

[24]*A shameless woman constantly acts disgracefully,*
but a modest daughter will even be embarrassed before her husband.

[25]*A headstrong wife is regarded as a dog,*
but one who has a sense of shame will fear the Lord.

[26]*A wife honoring her husband will seem wise to all,*
but if she dishonors him in her pride she will be known to all as ungodly.
Happy is the husband of a good wife,
for the number of his years will be doubled.[*]

[27]*A loud-voiced and garrulous wife is like a trumpet sounding the charge,*
and every person like this lives in the anarchy of war.[*]

THREE DEPRESSING THINGS

[28]At two things my heart is grieved,
and because of a third anger comes over me:
a warrior in want through poverty,
intelligent men who are treated contemptuously,
and a man who turns back from righteousness to sin—
the Lord will prepare him for the sword![*]

THE TEMPTATIONS OF COMMERCE

[29]A merchant can hardly keep from wrongdoing,
nor is a tradesman innocent of sin.[*]

Sirach 27

[1]Many have committed sin for gain,[y]
and those who seek to get rich will avert their eyes.[*]
[2]As a stake is driven firmly into a fissure between stones,
so sin is wedged in between selling and buying.[*]
[3]If a person is not steadfast in the fear of the Lord,
his house will be quickly overthrown.[*]

TESTS IN LIFE

[4]When a sieve is shaken, the refuse appears;
so does a person's waste when he speaks.
[5]The kiln tests the potter's vessels,
and the test of a person is in his conversation.[*]
[6]Its fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree;
so does speech[z] the thoughts of the human mind.[*]
[7]Do not praise anyone before he speaks,
for this is the way people are tested.

REWARD AND RETRIBUTION

[8]If you pursue justice, you will attain it
and wear it like a glorious robe.[*]
[9]Birds roost with their own kind,
so honesty comes home to those who practice it.[*]
[10]A lion lies in wait for prey;
so does sin for evildoers.[*]

VARIETIES OF SPEECH

[11]The conversation of the godly is always wise,
but the fool changes like the moon.
[12]Among stupid people limit your time,
but among thoughtful people linger on.*
[13]The talk of fools is offensive,
and their laughter is wantonly sinful.*
[14]Their cursing and swearing make one's hair stand on end,
and their quarrels make others stop their ears.*
[15]The strife of the proud leads to bloodshed,
and their abuse is grievous to hear.

BETRAYING SECRETS

[16]Whoever betrays secrets destroys confidence
and will never find a congenial friend.*
[17]Love your friends and keep faith with them,
but if you betray their secrets, do not follow after them.*
[18]For as a person destroys an enemy,[a]
so you have destroyed the friendship of your neighbor.
[19]And as you allow a bird to escape from your hand,
so you have let your neighbor go and will not catch him again.*
[20]Do not go after him, for he is too far off
and has escaped like a gazelle from a snare.*
[21]For a wound may be bandaged,
and there is reconciliation after abuse,
but whoever has betrayed secrets is without hope.*

HYPOCRISY AND RETRIBUTION

[22]Whoever winks the eye plots harm,
and those who know such a one will keep their distance.*

[23]In your presence their mouths are all sweetness,
and they admire your words,
but later they will twist their speech
and with your own words they will cause a scandal.*
[24]I have hated many things but them above all;
even the Lord hates them.*
[25]Those who throw a stone straight up throw it on their own heads,
and a treacherous blow opens up many wounds.
[26]Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
and whoever sets a snare will be caught in it.*
[27]If people do evil, it will roll back upon them,
and they will not know where it came from.
[28]Mockery and abuse issue from the proud,
but vengeance lies in wait for them like a lion.*
[29]Those who rejoice in the fall of the godly will be caught in a snare,
and pain will consume them before their death.*

ANGER AND VENGEANCE

[30]Anger and wrath, these also are abominations,
yet a sinner holds on to them.

Sirach 28

[1]The vengeful will face the Lord's vengeance,
for he keeps a strict account of[b] their sins.*
[2]Forgive your neighbor the wrong he has done,
and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.*
[3]Does anyone harbor anger against another
and expect healing from the Lord?*
[4]If people have no mercy toward those like themselves,
can they then seek pardon for their own sins?
[5]If mere mortals harbor wrath,
who will make an atoning sacrifice for their sins?
[6]Remember the end of your life and set enmity aside;
remember corruption and death and be true to the commandments.*
[7]Remember the commandments and do not be angry with your neighbor;
remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook faults.*

[8]Refrain from strife, and your sins will be fewer,
for the hot-tempered kindle strife*
[9]and the sinner disrupts friendships
and sows discord among those who are at peace.*
[10]In proportion to the fuel, so will the fire burn,
and in proportion to the obstinacy, so will strife increase;[c]
in proportion to people's strength will be their anger,
and in proportion to their wealth they will increase their wrath.
[11]A hasty quarrel kindles a fire,
and a hasty dispute sheds blood.

THE EVIL TONGUE

12 If you blow on a spark, it will glow;
if you spit on it, it will be put out,
yet both come out of your mouth.*

13 Curse the gossips and the double-tongued,
for they destroy the peace of many.*
14 Slander[d] has shaken many
and scattered them from nation to nation;
it has destroyed strong cities
and overturned the houses of the great.
15 Slander[e] has driven courageous women from their homes
and deprived them of the fruit of their toil.
16 Those who pay heed to slander[f] will not find rest,
nor will they settle down in peace.
17 The blow of a whip raises a welt,
but a blow of the tongue crushes the bones.*
18 Many have fallen by the edge of the sword,
but not as many as have fallen because of the tongue.*
19 Happy is the one who is protected from it,
who has not been exposed to its anger,
who has not borne its yoke,
and who has not been bound with its fetters.
20 For its yoke is a yoke of iron,
and its fetters are fetters of bronze;*
21 its death is an evil death,
and Hades is preferable to it.
22 It has no power over the godly;
they will not be burned in its flame.*
23 Those who forsake the Lord will fall into its power;

it will burn among them and will not be put out.
It will be sent out against them like a lion;
like a leopard it will mangle them.*
[24a]Look! Fence in your property with thorns,*
[25b]and make a door and a bolt for your mouth.
[24b]Lock up your silver and gold,
[25a]and make balances and scales for your words.*
[26]Take care not to err with your tongue[g]
and fall victim to one lying in wait.

Sirach 29

ON LENDING AND BORROWING

[1]The merciful lend to their neighbors;
by holding out a helping hand they keep the commandments.*
[2]Lend to your neighbor in his time of need;
repay your neighbor when a loan falls due.*
[3]Keep your word and be honest with him,
and on every occasion you will find what you need.
[4]Many regard a loan as a windfall
and cause trouble to those who help them.*
[5]One kisses another's hands until he gets a loan
and is deferential in speaking of his neighbor's money,
but at the time for repayment he delays
and pays back with empty promises
and finds fault with the time.
[6]If he can pay, his creditor[h] will hardly get back half
and will regard that as a windfall.
If he cannot pay, the borrower[i] has robbed the other of his money,
and he has needlessly made him an enemy;
he will repay him with curses and reproaches
and instead of glory will repay him with dishonor.*
[7]Many refuse to lend, not because of meanness,
but from fear[j] of being defrauded needlessly.*

[8]Nevertheless, be patient with someone in humble circumstances,
and do not keep him waiting for your alms.*
[9]Help the poor for the commandment's sake,

and in their need do not send them away empty-handed.*
10 Lose your silver for the sake of a brother or a friend,
and do not let it rust under a stone and be lost.
11 Lay up your treasure according to the commandments of the Most High,
and it will profit you more than gold.*
12 Store up almsgiving in your treasury,
and it will rescue you from every disaster;*
13 better than a stout shield and a sturdy spear,
it will fight for you against the enemy.

ON GUARANTEEING DEBTS

14 A good person will be surety for his neighbor,
but the one who has lost all sense of shame will fail him.
15 Do not forget the kindness of your guarantor,
for he has given his life for you.
16 A sinner wastes the property of his guarantor,
17 and the ungrateful person abandons his rescuer.
18 Being surety has ruined many who were prosperous
and has tossed them about like waves of the sea;
it has driven the influential into exile,
and they have wandered among foreign nations.*
19 The sinner comes to grief through surety;
his pursuit of gain involves him in lawsuits.
20 Assist your neighbor to the best of your ability,
but be careful not to fall yourself.

HOME AND HOSPITALITY

21 The necessities of life are water, bread, and clothing,

and also a house to assure privacy.*
22Better is the life of the poor under their own crude roof
than sumptuous food in the house of strangers.*
23Be content with little or much,
and you will hear no reproach for being a guest.k,*
24It is a miserable life to go from house to house;
as a guest you should not open your mouth;*
25you will play the host and provide drink without being thanked,
and besides this you will hear rude words like these:
26"Come here, stranger, prepare the table;
let me eat what you have there."
27"Be off, stranger, for an honored guest is here;
my brother has come for a visit, and I need the house."*
28It is hard for a sensible person to bear
scolding about lodgingl and the insults of the moneylender.*

Sirach 30

Concerning Children[m]

[1]He who loves his son will whip him often,
so that he may rejoice at the way he turns out.*
[2]He who disciplines his son will profit by him
and will boast of him among acquaintances.
[3]He who teaches his son will make his enemies envious
and will glory in him among his friends.*
[4]When the father dies, he will not seem to be dead,
for he has left behind him one like himself,*
[5]whom in his life he looked upon with joy
and at death, without grief.
[6]He has left behind him an avenger against his enemies
and one to repay the kindness of his friends.*

[7]Whoever cherishes his son will bind up his wounds,
and at every cry his heart will be troubled.
[8]An unbroken horse turns out stubborn,
and an unchecked son turns out headstrong.*
[9]Pamper a child, and he will terrorize you;
play with him, and he will grieve you.
[10]Do not laugh with him, or you will have sorrow with him,
and in the end you will gnash your teeth.
[11]Give him no freedom in his youth;[n]
[12]beat his sides while he is young,
or else he will become stubborn and disobey you.[o,*]
[13]Discipline your son and make his yoke heavy,[p]

so that you may not be offended by his shamelessness.*

14Better off poor, healthy, and fit
than rich and afflicted in body.*
15Health and fitness are better than any gold
and a robust body[q] than countless riches.
16There is no wealth better than health of body
and no gladness above joy of heart.
17Death is better than a life of misery
and eternal sleep[r] than chronic sickness.*

Concerning Foods[s]

18Good things poured out upon a mouth that is closed
are like offerings of food placed upon a grave.*
19Of what use to an idol is a sacrifice?
For it can neither eat nor smell.
So is the one punished by the Lord;*
20he sees with his eyes and groans
as a eunuch groans when embracing a young woman.[t],*

21Do not give yourself over to sorrow,
and do not distress yourself deliberately.*
22A joyful heart is life itself,
and rejoicing lengthens one's life span.*
23Indulge yourself[u] and take comfort,
and remove sorrow far from you,
for sorrow has destroyed many,
and no advantage ever comes from it.*
24Jealousy and anger shorten life,
and anxiety brings on premature old age.*

[25]Those who are cheerful and merry at table
will benefit from their food.*

Sirach 31

RIGHT ATTITUDE TOWARD RICHES

[1]Wakefulness over wealth wastes away one's flesh,
and anxiety about it drives away sleep.*
[2]Wakeful anxiety prevents slumber,
and a severe illness carries off sleep.[v]
[3]Rich people toil to amass possessions,
and when they rest, they fill themselves with their delicacies.*
[4]Poor people toil to make a meager living,
and if ever they rest, they become needy.*

[5]Those who love gold will not be justified;
those who pursue money will be led astray[w] by it.*
[6]Many have come to ruin because of gold,
and their destruction has met them face to face.*
[7]It is a stumbling block to those who are avid for it,
and every fool will be taken captive by it.
[8]Blessed are the rich who are found blameless
and who do not go after gold.*
[9]Who are they, that we may call them happy?
For they have done wonders among their people.
[10]Who has been tested by it and been found perfect?
Let it be for them a ground for boasting.
Who has had the power to transgress and did not transgress
and to do evil and did not do it?
[11]Their prosperity will be established,[x]
and the assembly will proclaim their acts of charity.*

TABLE ETIQUETTE

12 [y] Are you seated at the table of the great? [z]
Do not be greedy at it,
and do not say, "How much food there is here!" *
13 Remember that a greedy eye is a bad thing.
What has been created more greedy than the eye?
Therefore it covers the face with tears. *
14 Do not reach out your hand for everything you see,
and do not crowd your neighbor [a] at the dish. *
15 Judge your neighbor's feelings by your own,
and in every matter be thoughtful. *
16 Eat what is set before you like a well brought-up person, [b]
and do not chew greedily, or you will be despised. *
17 Be the first to stop, as befits good manners,
and do not be insatiable, or you will give offense.
18 If you are seated among many persons,
do not help yourself [c] before they do. *

19 How ample a little is for the well-disciplined!
They do not breathe heavily when in bed.
20 Healthy sleep depends on moderate eating;
they rise early and feel fit.
The distress of sleeplessness and of nausea
and colic are with the glutton. *
21 If you are overstuffed with food,
get up to vomit, and you will have relief.
22 Listen to me, my child, and do not disregard me,
and in the end you will appreciate my words.
In everything you do be moderate, [d]

and no sickness will overtake you.
23 People bless those who are liberal with food,
and the testimony to their generosity is trustworthy.*
24 The city complains of those who are stingy with food,
and the testimony to their stinginess is accurate.*

TEMPERANCE IN DRINKING WINE

25 Do not try to prove your strength by wine-drinking,
for wine has destroyed many.*
26 As the furnace tests the work of the smith,[e]
so wine tests hearts when the insolent quarrel.*
27 Wine is very life to humans
if taken in moderation.
What is life to one who is without wine?
It has been created to make people happy.*
28 Wine drunk at the proper time and in moderation
is rejoicing of heart and gladness of soul.*
29 Wine drunk to excess leads to bitterness of spirit,
to quarrels and stumbling.*
30 Drunkenness increases the anger of fools to their own hurt,
reducing their strength and adding wounds.*
31 Do not reprove your neighbors at a banquet of wine,
and do not despise them in their merrymaking;
speak no word of reproach to them,
and do not distress them by making demands of them.*

Sirach 32

ETIQUETTE AT A BANQUET

[1]If they make you master of the feast, do not exalt yourself;
be among them as one of their number.
Take care of them first and then sit down;*
[2]when you have fulfilled all your duties, take your place,
so that you may be merry along with them
and receive a wreath for your excellent leadership.

[3]Speak, you who are older, for it is your right,
but with accurate knowledge, and do not interrupt the music.*
[4]Where there is entertainment, do not pour out talk;
do not display your cleverness at the wrong time.*
[5]A ruby seal in a setting of gold
is a concert of music at a banquet of wine.*
[6]A seal of emerald in a rich setting of gold
is the melody of music with good wine.

[7]Speak, you who are young, if you are obliged to,
but no more than twice and only if asked.*
[8]Be brief; say much in few words;
be as one who knows and can still hold his tongue.*
[9]Among the great do not act as their equal;
and when another is speaking, do not babble.*

[10]Lightning travels ahead of the thunder,
and approval goes before one who is modest.
[11]Leave in good time and do not be the last;

go home quickly and do not linger.
12 Amuse yourself there to your heart's content,
but do not sin through proud speech.
13 But above all bless your Maker,
who intoxicates you with his good gifts.*

THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

14 The one who seeks God[f] will accept his discipline,
and those who rise early to seek him[g] will find favor.*
15 The one who seeks the law will be filled with it,
but the hypocrite will stumble at it.*
16 Those who fear the Lord will form true judgments,
and they will kindle righteous deeds like a light.*
17 Sinners will shun reproof
and will find a decision according to their liking.*

18 A sensible person will not overlook a thoughtful suggestion;
an insolent[h] and proud person will not be deterred by fear.[i,*]
19 Do nothing without deliberation,
but when you have acted do not regret it.*
20 Do not go on a path full of hazards,
and do not stumble at an obstacle twice.[j]
21 Do not be overconfident on a smooth[k] road,*
22 and give good heed to your paths.[l]
23 Guard[m] yourself in every act,
for this is the keeping of the commandments.*

24 The one who keeps the law preserves himself,[n]
and the one who trusts the Lord will not suffer loss.*

Sirach 33

[1]No evil will befall the one who fears the Lord,
but in trials such a one will be rescued again and again.*
[2]The wise will not hate the law,
but the one who is hypocritical about it is like a boat in a storm.*
[3]The sensible person will trust in the law,[o]
for such a one the law is as dependable as a divine oracle.*

[4]Prepare what to say, and then you will be listened to;
draw upon your training and give your answer.
[5]The heart of a fool is like a cart wheel
and his thoughts like a turning axle.*
[6]A mocking friend is like a stallion
that neighs no matter who the rider is.

DIFFERENCES IN NATURE AND IN HUMANKIND

[7]Why is one day more important than another,
when all the daylight in the year is from the sun?*
[8]By the Lord's wisdom they were distinguished,
and he appointed the different seasons and festivals.*
[9]Some days he exalted and hallowed,
and some he made ordinary days.*
[10]All humans come from the ground,
and humankind[p] was created out of the dust.*
[11]In the fullness of his knowledge the Lord distinguished them
and appointed their different ways.*

12 Some he blessed and exalted,
and some he made holy and brought near to himself,
but some he cursed and brought low
and turned them out of their place.*
13 Like clay in the hand of the potter,
to be molded as he pleases,
so are humans in the hand of their Maker,
to be given whatever he decides.*

14 Good is the opposite of evil
and life the opposite of death;
so the sinner is the opposite of the godly.*
15 Look at all the works of the Most High;
they come in pairs, one the opposite of the other.*

16 Now I was the last to keep vigil;
I was like a gleaner following the grape-pickers;*
17 by the blessing of the Lord I arrived first,
and like a grape-picker I filled my winepress.*
18 Consider that I have not labored for myself alone
but for all who seek instruction.*
19 Hear me, you who are great among the people,
and you leaders of the congregation, pay heed!

THE ADVANTAGE OF INDEPENDENCE

20 To son or wife, to brother or friend,
do not give power over yourself, as long as you live,
and do not give your property to another,
in case you change your mind and must ask for it.
21 While you are still alive and have breath in you,

do not let anyone take your place.
22For it is better that your children should ask from you
than that you should look to the hand of your children.
23Excel in all that you do;
bring no stain upon your honor.
24At the time when you end the days of your life,
in the hour of death, distribute your inheritance.*

THE TREATMENT OF SLAVES

25q Fodder and a stick and burdens for a donkey;
bread and discipline and work for a slave.*
26Set your slaves to work,r and you will find rest;
leave their hands idle, and they will seek liberty.
27Yoke and strap will bow the neck,
and for wicked slaves there are racks and tortures.*
28Put them to work in order that they may not be idle,
29for idleness teaches much evil.*
30Set them to work as is fitting for them,
and if they do not obey make their fetters heavy.
Do not be overbearing toward anyone,
and do nothing without deliberation.*

31If you have but one slave, treat him like yourself,
because you have bought him with blood.
If you have but one slave, treat him like a brother,
for you will need him as you need your life.*
32If you ill-treat him and he leaves you and runs away,
33which way will you go to seek him?

Sirach 34

DREAMS MEAN NOTHING

[1]The senseless have vain and false hopes,
and dreams give wings to fools.
[2]As one who catches at a shadow and pursues the wind,
so is anyone who pays attention to dreams.*
[3]What is seen in dreams is but a reflection,
the likeness of a face looking at itself.*
[4]From an unclean thing, what can be clean?
And from something false, what can be true?*
[5]Divinations and omens and dreams are unreal,
and like a woman in labor the mind has fantasies.*
[6]Unless they are sent by intervention from the Most High,
pay no attention to them.*
[7]For dreams have deceived many,
and those who put their hope in them have perished.
[8]Without such deceptions the law will be fulfilled,
and wisdom is complete in a trustworthy mouth.

EXPERIENCE AS A TEACHER

[9]People who have traveled[s] know many things,
and those with much experience know what they are talking about.*
[10]The inexperienced know few things,
[11]but those who have traveled acquire much cleverness.*
[12]I have seen many things in my travels,
and I understand more than I can express.

13 I have often been in danger of death
but have escaped because of these experiences.*

FEAR THE LORD

14 The spirit of those who fear the Lord will live,*
15 for their hope is in him who saves them.
16 Those who fear the Lord will not be timid
or play the coward, for he is their hope.*
17 Happy are souls that fear the Lord!
18 To whom do they look? And who is their support?
19 The eyes of the Lord are on those who love him,
a mighty shield and strong support,
a shelter from scorching heat and a shade from noonday sun,
a guard against stumbling and a help against falling.*
20 He lifts up the soul and makes the eyes sparkle;
he gives health and life and blessing.*

OFFERING SACRIFICES

21 If one sacrifices ill-gotten goods, the offering is blemished;[t],*
22 the gifts[u] of the lawless are not acceptable.
23 The Most High is not pleased with the offerings of the ungodly,
nor for a multitude of sacrifices does he forgive sins.*
24 Like one who kills a son before his father's eyes
is the person who offers a sacrifice from the property of the poor.*
25 The bread of the needy is the life of the poor;
whoever deprives them of it is a murderer.
26 To take away a neighbor's living is to commit murder;*
27 to deprive an employee of wages is to shed blood.*

[28]When one builds and another tears down,
what do they gain but hard work?
[29]When one prays and another curses,
to whose voice will the Lord listen?
[30]If one washes after touching a corpse and touches it again,
what has been gained by washing?*
[31]So if one fasts for his sins
and goes again and does the same things,
who will listen to his prayer?
And what has he gained by humbling himself?*

Sirach 35

THE LAW AND SACRIFICES

[1]The one who keeps the law makes many offerings;*
[2]one who heeds the commandments makes an offering of well-being.*
[3]The one who returns a kindness offers choice flour,*
[4]and one who gives alms sacrifices a thank offering.
[5]To keep from wickedness is pleasing to the Lord,
and to forsake unrighteousness is an atonement.*
[6]Do not appear before the Lord empty-handed,*
[7]for all that you offer is in fulfillment of the commandment.
[8]The offering of the righteous enriches the altar,
and its pleasing odor rises before the Most High.*
[9]The sacrifice of the righteous is acceptable,
and it will never be forgotten.*
[10]Be generous when you worship the Lord,
and do not skimp the first fruits of your hands.*
[11]With every gift show a cheerful face
and dedicate your tithe with gladness.*
[12]Give to the Most High as he has given to you
and as generously as you can afford.*
[13]For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.*

DIVINE JUSTICE

[14]Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it,
[15]and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice,

for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.*
16He will not show partiality to the poor,
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.*
17He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.*
18Do not the tears of the widow run down her cheek
19as she cries out against the one who causes them to fall?
20Those whose service is pleasing to the Lord will be accepted,
and their prayers will reach to the clouds.
21The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds,
and it will not rest until it reaches its goal;
it will not desist until the Most High responds*
22and does justice for the righteous and executes judgment.
Indeed, the Lord will not delay,
and like a warrior[v] he will not be patient
until he crushes the loins of the unmerciful*
23and repays vengeance on the nations,
until he destroys the multitude of the insolent
and breaks the scepters of the unrighteous,*
24until he repays mortals according to their deeds
and the works of all according to their thoughts,*
25until he judges the case of his people
and makes them rejoice in his mercy.
26His mercy is as welcome in time of distress
as clouds of rain in time of drought.*

Sirach 36

A PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

[1]Have mercy upon us, O God[w] of all,
[2]and put all the nations in fear of you.
[3]Lift up your hand against foreign nations
and let them see your might.*
[4]As you have used us to show your holiness to them,
so use them to show your glory to us.*
[5]Then they will know,[x] as we have known,
that there is no God but you, O Lord.*
[6]Give new signs and work other wonders;
[7]make your hand and right arm glorious.
[8]Rouse your anger and pour out your wrath;*
[9]destroy the adversary and wipe out the enemy.
[10]Hasten the day, and remember the appointed time,[y]
and let people recount your mighty deeds.
[11]Let survivors be consumed in the fiery wrath,
and may those who harm your people meet destruction.
[12]Crush the heads of hostile rulers
who say, "There is no one but ourselves."*
[13]Gather all the tribes of Jacob,[z,*]
[16]and give them their inheritance, as at the beginning.
[17]Have mercy, O Lord, on the people called by your name,
on Israel, whom you have named[a] your firstborn.*
[18]Have pity on the city of your sanctuary,[b]
Jerusalem, the place of your dwelling.[c,*]
[19]Fill Zion with your majesty[d]

and your temple[e] with your glory.*

[20]Bear witness to those whom you created in the beginning,
and fulfill the prophecies spoken in your name.

[21]Reward those who wait for you,
and let your prophets be found trustworthy.*

[22]Hear, O Lord, the prayer of your servants, according to your goodwill toward[f] your people,
and all who are on the earth will know
that you are the Lord, the God of the ages.*

CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION

[23]The stomach will take any food,
yet one food is better than another.

[24]As the palate tastes the kinds of game,
so an intelligent mind detects false words.*

[25]A perverse mind will cause grief,
but a person with experience will pay him back.*

[26]A woman will accept any man as a husband,
but one daughter is preferable to another.

[27]A woman's beauty lights up a man's face,
and there is nothing he desires more.*

[28]If kindness and humility mark her speech,
her husband is more fortunate than other men.*

[29]He who acquires a wife gets his best possession,[g]
a helper fit for him and a pillar of support.[h,*]

[30]Where there is no fence, the property will be plundered,
and where there is no wife, a man will become a fugitive and a wanderer.[i,*]

[31]For who will trust a nimble robber

who skips from city to city?
So who will trust a man who has no nest
but lodges wherever nighttime finds him?*

Sirach 37

FALSE FRIENDS

[1]Every friend says, "I, too, am a friend,"
but some friends are friends only in name.*
[2]Does not sorrow draw near to death
when a companion and friend[j] turns into an enemy?*
[3]O inclination to evil, why were you formed
to cover the land with deceit?
[4]Some companions rejoice in the happiness of friends,
but in time of trouble they are against them.*
[5]Some companions help a friend for their stomachs' sake,
yet in battle they will carry his shield.*
[6]Do not forget friends during the battle,[k]
and do not be unmindful of them when you distribute your spoils.[l,*]

CAUTION IN TAKING ADVICE

[7]All counselors praise the counsel they give,
but some give counsel in their own interest.
[8]Be wary of counselors
and learn first what is their interest,
for they will take thought for themselves.
They may cast the lot against you*
[9]and tell you, "Your way is good,"
and then stand aside to see what happens to you.
[10]Do not consult the one who regards you with suspicion;
hide your intentions from those who are jealous of you.

[11]Do not consult with a woman about her rival
or with a coward about war,
with a merchant about business
or with a buyer about selling,
with a miser about generosity[m]
or with the merciless about kindness,
with an idler about any work
or with a seasonal laborer about finishing the job,
with a lazy slave about a big task—
pay no attention to any advice they give.*
[12]But associate with a godly person
whom you know to be a keeper of the commandments,
who is like-minded with yourself,
and who will grieve with you if you fail.*
[13]And heed[n] the counsel of your own heart,
for no one is more faithful to you than it is.
[14]For our own mind sometimes keeps us better informed
than seven sentinels sitting high on a watchtower.*
[15]But above all pray to the Most High
that he may direct your way in truth.

TRUE AND FALSE WISDOM

[16]Discussion is the beginning of every work,
and counsel precedes every undertaking.*
[17]The mind is the root of all counsel;[o]
[18]it sprouts four branches,[p]
good and evil, life and death,
and it is the tongue that continually rules them.*
[19]Some people may be clever enough to teach many

and yet be useless to themselves.*
20Skillful speakers may be hated;
they will be destitute of all food,
21for the Lord has withheld the gift of charm,
since they are lacking in all wisdom.
22If people are wise to their own advantage,
the fruits of their good sense will be praiseworthy.q
23The wise instruct their own people,
and the fruits of their good sense are trustworthy.*
24The wise will have praise heaped upon them,
and all who see them will call them happy.
25The days of a person's life are numbered,
but the days of Israel are without number.*
26Those who are wise among their people will inherit honor,r
and their names will live forever.*

CONCERNING MODERATION

27My child, test yourself while you live;
see what is bad for you, and do not give in to it.
28For not everything is good for everyone,
and no one enjoys everything.*
29Do not be greedy for every delicacy,
and do not eat without restraint,*
30for overeating brings sickness,
and gluttony leads to nausea.*
31Many have died of gluttony,
but those who guard against it prolong their lives.

Sirach 38

CONCERNING PHYSICIANS AND HEALTH

[1]Honor physicians for their services,
for the Lord created them,*
[2]for their gift of healing comes from the Most High,
and they are rewarded by the king.
[3]The skill of physicians makes them distinguished,
and in the presence of the great they are admired.
[4]The Lord created medicines out of the earth,
and the sensible will not despise them.*
[5]Was not water made sweet with a tree
in order that its[s] power might be known?*
[6]And he gave skill to human beings
that he[t] might be glorified in his marvelous works.
[7]By them the physician[u] heals and takes away pain;*
[8]the pharmacist makes a mixture from them.
God's[v] works will never be finished,
and from him health spreads over all the earth.

[9]My child, when you are ill, do not delay,
but pray to the Lord, and he will heal you.*
[10]Give up your faults and direct your hands rightly,
and cleanse your heart from all sin.*
[11]Offer a sweet-smelling sacrifice and a memorial portion of choice flour,
and pour oil on your offering, as much as you can afford.[w],*
[12]Then give physicians their place, for the Lord created them;

do not let them leave you, for you need them.*
13There may come a time when recovery lies in the hands of
physicians,x
14for they, too, pray to the Lord
that he grant them success in diagnosisy
and in healing, for the sake of preserving life.
15Those who sin against their Maker
will be defiant toward the physician.z,*

ON MOURNING FOR THE DEAD

16My child, let your tears fall for the dead,
and as one in great pain begin the lament.
Lay out the body according to custom,
and do not neglect the burial.*
17Let your weeping be bitter and your wailing fervent;
make your mourning worthy of the departed,
for one day or two, to avoid criticism;
then be comforted for your grief.*
18For grief may result in death,
and a sorrowful heart saps one's strength.*
19In calamity, grief continues,
but the life of the poor is a curse to the heart.
20Do not give your heart to grief;
drive it away and remember your own end.*
21Do not forget, there is no coming back;
you do the deada no good, and you injure yourself.*
22Remember hisb fate, for yours is like it;
yesterday it was his,c and today it is yours.*
23When the dead are at rest, let their remembrance rest, too,

and be comforted for them when their spirits have departed.*

TRADES AND CRAFTS

[24]The wisdom of the scribe depends on the opportunity of leisure;
only the one who has little business can become wise.*
[25]How can one become wise who handles the plow
and who glories in the shaft of a goad,
who drives oxen and is occupied with their work,
and whose talk is about the offspring of bulls?
[26]He sets his heart on plowing furrows,
and he loses sleep over fodder for the heifers.
[27]So it is with every artisan and master artisan
who labors by night as well as by day;
those who carve the signets of seals—
each is diligent in making a great variety;
they set their heart on painting a lifelike image,
and they lose sleep in order to finish their work.*
[28]So it is with the smith sitting by the anvil,
intent on his ironwork;
the breath of the fire melts his flesh,
and he struggles with the heat of the furnace;
the sound of the hammer deafens his ears,[d]
and his eyes are on the pattern of the object.
He sets his heart on finishing his handiwork,
and he loses sleep to complete its decoration.*
[29]So it is with the potter sitting at his work
and turning the wheel with his feet;
he always lies down anxious about his work,
and his every work is taken into account.*
[30]He molds the clay with his arm

and makes it pliable with his feet;
he sets his heart to finish the glazing,
and he takes care in firing[e] the kiln.

31 All these rely on their hands,
and all are skillful in their own work.
32 Without them no city can be inhabited,
and wherever they live they will not go hungry.[f]
Yet they are not sought out for the council of the people,[g]
33 nor do they attain eminence in the public assembly.
They do not sit in the judge's seat,
nor do they understand the decisions of the courts;
they cannot expound discipline or judgment,
and they are not found among the rulers.[h]
34 But they maintain the fabric of the world,
and their concern is for[i] the exercise of their trade.

THE ACTIVITY OF THE SCRIBE

How different the one who devotes himself
to the study of the law of the Most High!

Sirach 39

[1]They seek out the wisdom of all the ancients
and are concerned with prophecies;*
[2]they preserve the sayings of the famous
and penetrate the subtleties of parables;
[3]they seek out the hidden meanings of proverbs
and are at home with the obscurities of parables.*
[4]They serve among the great
and appear before rulers;
they travel in foreign nations
and learn what is good and evil in the human lot.*
[5]They set their hearts to rise early
to seek the Lord who made them
and to petition the Most High;
they open their mouths in prayer
and ask pardon for their sins.*

[6]If the great Lord is willing,
they will be filled with the spirit of understanding;
they will pour forth words of wisdom of their own
and give thanks to the Lord in prayer.*
[7]The Lord[j] will direct their counsel and knowledge
as they meditate on his mysteries.*
[8]They will show the discipline of their training
and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant.
[9]Many will praise their understanding;
it will never be blotted out.
Their memory will not disappear,

and their names will live through all generations.*
10 Nations will speak of their wisdom,
and the congregation will proclaim their praise.*
11 If they live long, they will leave a name greater than a thousand,
and if they go to rest, it is enough for them.

A HYMN OF PRAISE TO GOD

12 I have more on my mind to express;
I am full like the full moon.
13 Listen to me, my faithful children, and blossom
like a rose growing by a stream of water.*
14 Send out fragrance like incense
and put forth blossoms like a lily.
Raise your voice[k] and sing a hymn of praise;
bless the Lord for all his works.*
15 Ascribe majesty to his name
and give thanks to him with praise,
with songs on your lips and with harps;
this is what you shall say in thanksgiving:*

16 "All the works of the Lord are very good,
and whatever he commands will be done at the appointed time.*
17 No one can say, 'What is this?' or 'Why is that?' —
for at the appointed time everything will be made known.
At his word the waters stood in a heap
and the reservoirs of water at the word of his mouth.*
18 At his command, his purpose is fulfilled,
and none can limit his saving power.*
19 The works of all are before him,

and nothing can be hidden from his eyes.*
20 From age to age he observes all,
and nothing is too marvelous for him.
21 No one can say, 'What is this?' or 'Why is that?'—
for everything has been created for its own purpose.*

22 "His blessing covers the dry land like a river
and drenches it like a flood.
23 The nations will inherit his wrath,
as when he turned a watered land into salt.
24 To the faithful his ways are straight
but full of pitfalls for the lawless.*
25 From the beginning good things were created for the good
but for sinners good things and bad.[l,*]
26 The basic necessities of human life
are water and fire and iron and salt
and wheat flour and milk and honey,
the blood of the grape and oil and clothing.*
27 All these are good for the godly,
but for sinners they turn into evils.*

28 "There are winds created for vengeance,
and in their anger they can dislodge mountains;[m]
on the day of reckoning they will pour out their strength
and calm the anger of their Maker.*
29 Fire and hail and famine and pestilence—
all these have been created for vengeance;*
30 the fangs of wild animals and scorpions and vipers
and the sword that punishes the ungodly with destruction.*
31 They take delight in doing his bidding,

always ready for his service on earth,
and when their time comes they never disobey his command."*

[32]So from the beginning I have been steadfast
and have thought it out and left it in writing:
[33]All the works of the Lord are good,
and he will supply every need in its time.*
[34]No one can say, "This is not as good as that,"
for everything proves good in its appointed time.*
[35]So now sing praise with all your heart and voice,
and bless the name of the Lord.

Sirach 40

HUMAN WRETCHEDNESS

[1]Hard work was created for everyone,
and a heavy yoke is laid on the children of Adam,
from the day they come forth from their mother's womb
until the day they return to[n] the mother of all the living.[o,*]
[2]Perplexities and fear of heart are theirs
and anxious thought of the day of their death.[*]
[3]From the one who sits on a splendid throne
to the one who grovels in dust and ashes,[*]
[4]from the one who wears purple and a crown
to the one who is clothed in burlap,
[5]there is anger and envy and trouble and unrest
and fear of death and fury and strife.
And when one rests upon his bed,
his sleep at night confuses his mind.
[6]He gets little or no rest;
he struggles in his sleep as he did by day.[p]
He is troubled by the visions of his mind
like one who has escaped from the battlefield.[*]
[7]At the moment he reaches safety[q] he wakes up,
astonished that his fears were groundless.[*]
[8]To all creatures, human and animal,
but to sinners seven times more,
[9]come death and bloodshed and strife and sword,
calamities and famine and ruin and plague.
[10]All these were created for the lawless,

and on their account the flood came.[*]
[11]All that is of earth returns to earth,
and what is from above returns above.[r,*]

INJUSTICE WILL NOT PROSPER

[12]All bribery and injustice will be blotted out,
but good faith will last forever.
[13]The wealth of the unjust will dry up like a river
and crash like a loud clap of thunder in a storm.[*]
[14]As a generous person has cause to rejoice,
so lawbreakers will utterly fail.
[15]The children of the ungodly put out few branches;
they are unhealthy roots on sheer rock.[*]
[16]The reeds by any water or river bank
are plucked up before any grass,[*]
[17]but kindness is like a garden of blessings,
and almsgiving endures forever.[*]

THE JOYS OF LIFE

[18]A life of abundance and wages make life sweet,[s]
but better than either is finding a treasure.
[19]Children and the building of a city establish one's name,
but better than either is the one who finds wisdom.
Cattle and orchards make one prosperous,[t]
but a blameless wife is accounted better than either.[*]
[20]Wine and music gladden the heart,
but the love of friends[u] is better than either.[*]
[21]The flute and the harp make sweet melody,
but a pleasant voice is better than either.[*]

22 The eye desires grace and beauty,
but the green shoots of grain more than either.
23 A friend or companion is always welcome,
but a sensible wife[v] is better than either.*
24 Kindred and helpers are for a time of trouble,
but almsgiving rescues better than either.*
25 Gold and silver make one stand firm,
but good counsel is esteemed more than either.
26 Riches and strength build up confidence,
but the fear of the Lord is better than either.
There is no want in the fear of the Lord,
and with it there is no need to seek for help.*
27 The fear of the Lord is like a garden of blessing
and covers a person better than any glory.*

THE DISGRACE OF BEGGING

28 My child, do not lead the life of a beggar;
it is better to die than to beg.*
29 When one looks to the table of another,
one's way of life cannot be considered a life.
One loses self-respect with another person's food,
but one who is intelligent and well instructed guards against that.*
30 In the mouth of the shameless begging is sweet,
but it kindles a fire inside them.

Sirach 41

CONCERNING DEATH

[1]O death, how bitter is the thought of you
to the one at peace among possessions,
who has nothing to worry about and is prosperous in everything
and still is vigorous enough to enjoy pleasure![w,*]
[2]O death, how welcome is your sentence
to one who is needy and failing in strength,
worn down by age and anxious about everything,
to one who is contrary and has lost all patience![*]
[3]Do not fear death's decree for you;
remember those who went before you and those who will come after.[*]
[4]This is the Lord's decree for all flesh;
why, then, should you reject the will of the Most High?
Whether life lasts for ten years or a hundred or a thousand,
there are no questions asked in Hades.

THE FATE OF THE WICKED

[5]The children of sinners are abominable children,
and they frequent the haunts of the ungodly.
[6]The inheritance of the children of sinners will perish,
and on their offspring will be a perpetual disgrace.[*]
[7]Children will blame an ungodly father,
for they suffer disgrace because of him.
[8]Woe to you, the ungodly,
who have forsaken the law of the Most High![x]

9 You[y] will beget them only for groaning.
When you stumble, there is lasting joy,[z]
and when you die, a curse is your lot.*
10 Whatever comes from earth returns to earth,
so the ungodly go from curse to destruction.*

11 The breath[a] of humans is in their bodies,
but a virtuous name will never be blotted out.[b,*]
12 Have regard for your name, since it will outlive you
longer than a thousand hoards of gold.*
13 The days of a good life are numbered,
but a good name lasts forever.*

14 My children, be true to your training and be at peace;
hidden wisdom and unseen treasure—
of what value is either?*

A SERIES OF CONTRASTS

15 Better are those who hide their folly
than those who hide their wisdom.*
16 Therefore show respect for my words,
for it is not good to feel shame in every circumstance,
nor is every kind of shaming to be approved.[c,*]

17 Be ashamed of sexual immorality before your father or mother
and of a lie before a prince or a ruler,
18 of a crime before a judge or magistrate
and of a breach of the law before the congregation and the people,
of unjust dealing before your partner or your friend
19 and of theft in the place where you live.

Be ashamed of breaking an oath or agreement[d]
and of leaning on your elbow at meals,
of surliness in receiving or giving*
[20]and of silence before those who greet you,
of looking at a prostitute
[21]and of rejecting the appeal of a relative,
of taking away someone's portion or gift
and of gazing at another man's wife,*
[22]of meddling with his female servant—
and do not approach her bed;
of abusive words, before friends—
and do not be insulting after making a gift.*

Sirach 42

[1]Be ashamed of repeating what you hear
and of betraying secrets.
Then you will show proper shame
and will find favor with everyone.

Of the following things do not be ashamed,
and do not sin by showing partiality:*
[2]Do not be ashamed of the law of the Most High and his covenant
and of rendering judgment to acquit the ungodly;*
[3]of keeping accounts with a partner or with traveling companions
and of dividing the inheritance of friends;
[4]of accuracy with scales and weights
and of acquiring much or little;*
[5]of profit from dealing with merchants
and of frequent disciplining of children
and of drawing blood from the back of a wicked slave.*
[6]Where there is an untrustworthy wife, a seal is a good thing,
and where there are many hands, lock things up.
[7]When you make a deposit, be sure it is counted and weighed,
and when you give or receive, put it all in writing.
[8]Do not be ashamed to correct the stupid or foolish
or the aged who are guilty of sexual immorality.
Then you will show your sound training
and will be approved by all.

DAUGHTERS AND FATHERS

[9]A daughter is a secret anxiety to her father,

and worry over her robs him of sleep;
when she is young, for fear she may not marry,
or if married, for fear she may be disliked;*
10 while a virgin, for fear she may be seduced
and become pregnant in her father's house;
or having a husband, for fear she may go astray,
or, though married, for fear she may be barren.*
11 Keep strict watch over a headstrong daughter,
or she may make you a laughingstock to your enemies,
a byword in the city and the assembly of[e] the people,
and put you to shame in public gatherings.[f]
See that there is no lattice in her room,
no spot that overlooks the approaches to the house.[g,*]
12 Do not let her parade her beauty before any man
or spend her time among married women,[h,*]
13 for from garments comes the moth
and from a woman comes woman's wickedness.*
14 Better is the wickedness of a man than a woman who does good;
it is a woman who brings shame and disgrace.*

THE WORKS OF GOD IN NATURE

15 I will now call to mind the works of the Lord
and will declare what I have seen.
By the word of the Lord his works are made,
and all his creatures do his will.[i,*]
16 The sun looks down on everything with its light,
and the work of the Lord is full of his glory.
17 The Lord has not empowered even his holy ones

to recount all his marvelous works,
which the Lord the Almighty has established
so that the universe may stand firm in his glory.*
18 He searches out the abyss and the human heart;
he understands their subtleties.j
For the Most High knows all that may be known;
he sees from of old the things that are to come.k,*
19 He discloses what has been and what is to be,
and he reveals the traces of hidden things.*
20 No thought escapes him,
and not a single word is hidden from him.*
21 He has set in order the splendors of his wisdom;
he is from all eternity one and the same.
Nothing can be added or taken away,
and he needs no one to be his counselor.*
22 How desirable are all his works,
and how sparkling they are to see!l,*
23 All these things live and remain forever;
each creature is preserved to meet a particular need.m
24 All things come in pairs, one opposite the other,
and he has made nothing incomplete.*
25 Each supplements the virtues of the other.
Who could ever tire of seeing his glory?

Sirach 43

THE SPLENDOR OF THE SUN

[1]The pride of the higher realms is the clear vault of the sky,
as glorious to behold as the sight of the heavens.*
[2]The sun, when it appears, proclaims as it rises
what a marvelous instrument it is, the work of the Most High.*
[3]At noon it parches the land,
and who can withstand its burning heat?*
[4]A man tending[n] a furnace works in burning heat,
but three times as hot is the sun scorching the mountains;
when it breathes out fiery vapors
and when it shines forth its rays, it blinds the eyes.*
[5]Great is the Lord who made it;
at his orders it hurries on its course.*

THE SPLENDOR OF THE MOON

[6]It is the moon that marks the changing seasons,[o]
governing the times, an everlasting sign.*
[7]From the moon comes the sign for festal days,
a light that wanes when it completes its course.*
[8]The new moon, as its name suggests, renews itself;[p]
how marvelous it is in this change,
a beacon to the hosts on high
shining in the vault of the heavens!

THE GLORY OF THE STARS AND THE RAINBOW

[9]The glory of the stars is the beauty of heaven,

a glittering array in the heights of the Lord.*
10 On the orders of the Holy One they stand in their appointed places;
they never relax in their watches.*
11 Look at the rainbow and praise him who made it;
it is exceedingly beautiful in its brightness.*
12 It encircles the sky with its glorious arc;
the hands of the Most High have stretched it out.

THE MARVELS OF NATURE

13 By his command he sends the driving snow
and speeds the lightnings of his judgment.*
14 Therefore the storehouses are opened,
and the clouds fly out like birds.*
15 In his majesty he gives the clouds their strength,
and the hailstones are broken in pieces.
17a The voice of his thunder causes the earth to tremble;
16 when he appears, the mountains shake.
At his will the south wind blows,*
17b so do the storm from the north and the whirlwind.
He scatters the snow like birds flying down,
and its descent is like locusts alighting.*
18 The eye is dazzled by the beauty of its whiteness,
and the mind is amazed as it falls.
19 He pours frost over the earth like salt,
and icicles form like pointed thorns.*
20 The cold north wind blows,
and ice freezes on the water;
it settles on every pool of water,

and the water puts it on like a breastplate.
21 He consumes the mountains and burns up the wilderness
and withers the tender grass like fire.
22 A mist quickly heals all things;
the falling dew gives refreshment from the heat.*

23 By his plan he stilled the deep
and planted islands in it.*
24 Those who sail the sea tell of its dangers,
and we marvel at what we hear.*
25 In it are strange and marvelous creatures,
all kinds of living things, and mighty[q] sea monsters.*
26 Because of him each of his messengers succeeds,
and by his word all things hold together.*

27 We could say more but could never say enough;
let the final word be: "He is the all."*
28 Where can we find the strength to praise him?
For he is greater than all his works.*
29 Awesome is the Lord and very great,
and marvelous is his power.*
30 Glorify the Lord and exalt him as much as you can,
for he surpasses even that.
When you exalt him, summon all your strength,
and do not grow weary, for you cannot praise him enough.
31 Who has seen him and can describe him?
Or who can extol him as he is?*
32 Many things greater than these lie hidden,
for I[r] have seen but few of his works.*
33 For the Lord has made all things,

and to the godly he has given wisdom.

Sirach 44

Hymn in Honor of Our Ancestors[s]

[1]Let us now sing the praises of famous men,
our ancestors in their generations.
[2]The Lord apportioned to them[t] great glory,
his majesty from the beginning.
[3]There were those who ruled in their kingdoms
and made a name for themselves by their strength;
those who gave counsel because they were intelligent;
those who spoke in prophetic oracles;*
[4]those who led the people by their counsels
and by their knowledge of the people's lore;
they were wise in their words of instruction;
[5]those who composed musical tunes
or put verses in writing;*
[6]rich men endowed with resources,
living peacefully in their homes—
[7]all these were honored in their generations
and were the pride of their times.
[8]Some of them have left behind a name,
so that others declare their praise.
[9]But of others there is no memory;
they have perished as though they had never existed;
they have become as though they had never been born,
they and their children after them.*
[10]But these also were men of compassion
whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten;

[11]their wealth will remain with their descendants
and their inheritance with their children's children.[u,*]
[12]Their descendants stand by the covenants;
their children also, for their sake.
[13]Their offspring will continue forever,
and their glory will never be blotted out.[*]
[14]Their bodies are buried in peace,
but their name lives on generation after generation.[*]
[15]The assembly declares[v] their wisdom,
and the congregation proclaims their praise.[*]

ENOCH

[16]Enoch pleased the Lord and was taken up,
an example of repentance to all generations.[*]

NOAH

[17]Noah was found perfect and righteous;
in the time of wrath he kept humanity alive;[w]
because of him[x] a remnant was left on the earth
when the flood came.[*]
[18]Everlasting covenants were made with him
that all flesh should never again be blotted out by a flood.[*]

ABRAHAM

[19]Abraham was the great father of a multitude of nations,
and no one has been found like him in glory.[*]
[20]He kept the law of the Most High
and entered into a covenant with him;
he certified the covenant in his flesh,

and when he was tested he proved faithful.*
21 Therefore the Lord[y] assured him with an oath
that the nations would be blessed through his offspring,
that he would make him as numerous as the dust of the earth
and exalt his offspring like the stars
and give them an inheritance from sea to sea
and from the Euphrates[z] to the ends of the earth.*

ISAAC AND JACOB

22 To Isaac also he gave the same assurance
for the sake of his father Abraham.
The blessing of all people and a covenant*
23 he made to rest on the head of Jacob;
he acknowledged him with his blessings
and gave him his inheritance;
he divided his portions
and distributed them among twelve tribes.

MOSES

From his descendants the Lord[a] brought forth a man of compassion
who found favor in the sight of all*

Sirach 45

[1]and was beloved by God and people,
Moses, whose memory is blessed.*
[2]He made him equal in glory to the holy ones
and made him great, to the terror of his enemies.
[3]By his words he performed swift miracles;[b]
the Lord[c] glorified him in the presence of kings.
He gave him commandments for his people
and revealed to him his glory.*
[4]For his faithfulness and meekness he consecrated him,
choosing him out of all humankind.*
[5]He allowed him to hear his voice
and led him into the dark cloud
and gave him the commandments face to face,
the law of life and knowledge,
so that he might teach Jacob the covenant
and Israel his decrees.*

AARON

[6]He exalted Aaron, a holy man like Moses,[d]
who was his brother, of the tribe of Levi.*
[7]He made an everlasting covenant with him
and gave him the priesthood of the people.
He blessed him with stateliness
and put a glorious robe on him.*
[8]He clothed him in perfect splendor[e]
and strengthened him with the apparel of authority,

the linen undergarments, the long robe, and the ephod.*
9And he encircled him with pomegranates,
with many golden bells all around,
to send forth a sound as he walked,
to make their ringing heard in the temple
as a reminder to his people;*
10with the sacred vestment, of gold and violet
and purple, the work of an embroiderer;
with the oracle of judgment, the manifestations of truth;*
11with twisted crimson, the work of an artisan;
with precious stones engraved like seals,
in a setting of gold, the work of a jeweler,
to commemorate in engraved letters
each of the tribes of Israel;*
12with a gold crown upon his turban,
inscribed like a holy seal,
majestic and glorious, a work of power,
a delight to the eyes, richly adorned.*
13Before him such beautiful things did not exist.
No outsider ever put them on,
but only his sons
and his descendants in perpetuity.*
14His sacrifices shall be wholly burned
twice every day continually.*
15Moses ordained him
and anointed him with holy oil;
it was an everlasting covenant for him
and for his descendants as long as the heavens endure,
to minister to the Lord[f] and serve as priest

and bless his people in his name.*
16He chose him out of all the living
to offer sacrifice to the Lord,
incense and a pleasing odor as a memorial,
to make atonement for theg people.*
17In his commandments he gave him
authority, by means of a decree, andh judgments,
to teach Jacob the testimonies
and to enlighten Israel with his law.*
18Outsiders conspired against him
and envied him in the wilderness,
Dathan and Abiram and their followers
and the company of Korah, in wrath and anger.*
19The Lord saw it and was not pleased,
and in the heat of his anger they were destroyed;
he performed wonders against them
to consume them in flaming fire.*
20He added glory to Aaron
and gave him a heritage;
he allotted to him the best of the first fruits
and prepared bread of first fruits in abundance,*
21for they eat the sacrifices of the Lord,
which he gave to him and his descendants.*
22But in the land of the people he has no inheritance,
and he has no portion among the people,
for the Lordi himself is hisj portion and inheritance.*

PHINEHAS

23Phinehas son of Eleazar ranks third in glory

for being zealous in the fear of the Lord
and standing firm, when the people turned away,
in the noble courage of his soul,
and he made atonement for Israel.*
24 Therefore a covenant of peace was established with him,
that he should be leader of the sanctuary and of his people,
that he and his descendants should have
the dignity of the priesthood forever.
25 Just as a covenant was established with David
son of Jesse of the tribe of Judah,
that the king's heritage passes only from son to son,
so the heritage of Aaron is for his descendants alone.*

26 And now bless the Lord
who has crowned you with glory.[k]
May the Lord[l] grant you wisdom of mind
to judge his people with justice,
so that their prosperity may not vanish
and that their glory may endure through all their generations.

Sirach 46

JOSHUA AND CALEB

[1]Joshua son of Nun was mighty in war
and was the successor of Moses in the prophetic office.
He became, as his name implies,
a great savior of God's[m] elect,
to take vengeance on the enemies who rose against them,
so that he might give Israel its inheritance.*
[2]How glorious he was when he lifted his hands
and brandished his sword against the cities!*
[3]Who before him ever stood so firm?
For he waged the wars of the Lord.
[4]Was it not through him that the sun stood still
and one day became as long as two?*
[5]He called upon the Most High, the Mighty One,
when enemies pressed him on every side,
and the great Lord answered him
with hailstones of mighty power.*
[6]He overwhelmed that nation in battle,
and on the slope he destroyed his opponents,
so that the nations might know his armament,
because their battle was against[n] the Lord,
for he was a devoted follower of the Mighty One.*
[7]And in the days of Moses he showed compassion,
he and Caleb son of Jephunneh:
they opposed the congregation,[o]
restrained the people from sin,

and stilled their wicked grumbling.*
8 And these two alone were spared
out of six hundred thousand infantry,
to lead the people[p] into their inheritance,
the land flowing with milk and honey.*
9 The Lord gave Caleb strength,
which remained with him in his old age,
so that he went up to the hill country,
and his children obtained it for an inheritance,*
10 so that all the Israelites might see
how good it is to follow the Lord.

THE JUDGES

11 The judges also, with their respective names,
whose hearts did not fall into idolatry
and who did not turn away from the Lord—
may their memory be blessed!*
12 May their bones send forth new life from where they lie,
and may the names of those who have been honored
live again in their children![q,*]

13 Samuel was beloved by his Lord;
a prophet of the Lord, he established the kingdom
and anointed rulers over his people.*
14 By the law of the Lord he judged the congregation,
and the Lord watched over Jacob.
15 By his faithfulness he was proved to be a prophet,
and by his words he became known as a trustworthy seer.*
16 He called upon the Lord, the Mighty One,
when his enemies pressed him on every side,

and he offered in sacrifice a suckling lamb.*
17Then the Lord thundered from heaven
and made his voice heard with a mighty sound;
18he subdued the leaders of the enemy[r]
and all the rulers of the Philistines.
19Before the time of his eternal sleep,
Samuel[s] bore witness before the Lord and his anointed:
"No property, not so much as a pair of shoes,
have I taken from anyone!"
And no one accused him.*
20Even after he had fallen asleep, he prophesied
and made known to the king his death
and lifted up his voice from the ground
in prophecy, to blot out the lawlessness of the people.*

Sirach 47

NATHAN

[1]After him Nathan rose up
to prophesy in the days of David.*

DAVID

[2]As the fat is set apart from the offering of well-being,
so David was set apart from the Israelites.*
[3]He played with lions as though they were young goats
and with bears as though they were lambs of the flock.*
[4]In his youth did he not kill a giant
and take away the people's disgrace,
when he whirled the stone in the sling
and struck down the boasting Goliath?*
[5]For he called on the Lord, the Most High,
and he gave strength to his right arm
to strike down a mighty warrior
and to exalt the power[t] of his people.*
[6]So they glorified him for the tens of thousands
and praised him for the blessings bestowed by the Lord,
when the glorious diadem was given to him.*
[7]For he wiped out his enemies on every side
and scorned his adversaries the Philistines;
he crushed their power[u] to our own day.*
[8]In all that he did he gave thanks
to the Holy One, the Most High, proclaiming his glory;
he sang praise with all his heart,

and he loved his Maker.*
9He placed singers before the altar,
to make sweet melody with their voices.v,*
10He gave beauty to the festivals
and arranged their times throughout the year,w
while they praised God's[x] holy name
and the sanctuary resounded from early morning.
11The Lord took away his sins
and exalted his power[y] forever;
he gave him a covenant of kingship
and a glorious throne in Israel.*

SOLOMON

12After him a wise son rose up
who because of him lived in security:z
13Solomon reigned in an age of peace,
because God gave him rest all around,
so that he might build a house in his name
and provide a sanctuary to stand forever.*
14How wise you were when you were young!
You overflowed like the Nile[a] with understanding.*
15Your influence spread throughout the earth,
and you filled it with proverbs having deep meaning.*
16Your fame reached to far-off islands,
and you were loved for your peaceful reign.*
17For your songs, proverbs, parables,
and understanding the nations marveled at you.*
18In the name of the Lord God,
who is called the God of Israel,

you gathered gold like tin
and amassed silver like lead.*
19But you brought in women to lie at your side,
and through your body you were brought into subjection.*
20You stained your honor
and defiled your family line,
so that you brought wrath upon your children,
and they were grieved[b] at your folly,
21because the sovereignty was divided
and a rebel kingdom arose out of Ephraim.*
22But the Lord will never give up his mercy
or cause any of his words[c] to perish;
he will never blot out the descendants of his chosen one
or destroy the family line of him who loved him.
So he gave a remnant to Jacob
and to David a root from his own family.*

REHOBOAM AND JEROBOAM

23Solomon rested with his ancestors
and left behind him one of his sons
broad in[d] folly and lacking in sense,
Rehoboam, whose policy drove the people to revolt.
Then Jeroboam son of Nebat led Israel into sin
and started Ephraim on its sinful ways.*
24Their sins increased more and more
until they were exiled from their land.*
25For they sought out every kind of wickedness
until vengeance came upon them.

Sirach 48

ELIJAH

[1]Then Elijah arose, a prophet like fire,
and his word burned like a torch.*
[2]He brought a famine upon them,
and by his zeal he made them few in number.
[3]By the word of the Lord he shut up the heavens
and also three times brought down fire.*
[4]How glorious you were, Elijah, in your wondrous deeds!
Who can boast[e] as you can?
[5]You who raised a corpse from death
and from Hades, by the word of the Most High,*
[6]who sent kings down to destruction
and famous men from their sickbeds,*
[7]who heard rebuke at Sinai
and judgments of vengeance at Horeb,*
[8]who anointed kings to inflict retribution
and prophets to succeed you,[f,*]
[9]who were taken up by a whirlwind of fire
in a chariot with horses of fire,*
[10]who were prepared at the appointed time[g]
to calm wrath before it breaks out in fury,
to turn the hearts of parents to their children
and to restore the tribes of Jacob.*
[11]Happy are those who saw you
and were adorned[h] in love!
For we also shall surely live.[i]

ELISHA

[12]When Elijah was enveloped in the whirlwind,
Elisha was filled with his spirit.
He performed twice as many signs
and marvels with every utterance of his mouth.[j]
Never in his lifetime did he tremble before any ruler,
nor could anyone intimidate him at all.*
[13]Nothing was too hard for him,[k]
and when he was dead his body prophesied.*
[14]In his life he did wonders,
and in death his deeds were marvelous.

[15]Despite all this the people did not repent,
nor did they forsake their sins,
until they were carried off as plunder from their land
and were scattered over all the earth.
The people were left very few in number
but with a ruler from the house of David.*
[16]Some of them did what was right,
but others sinned more and more.

HEZEKIAH

[17]Hezekiah fortified his city
and brought water into its midst;
he tunneled the rock with iron tools
and built cisterns for the water.*
[18]In his days Sennacherib invaded the country;
he sent his commander[l] and departed;
he shook his fist against Zion
and made great boasts in his arrogance.*

[19]Then their hearts and hands were shaken,
and they were in anguish, like women in labor.
[20]But they called upon the Lord who is merciful,
spreading out their hands toward him.
The Holy One quickly heard them from heaven
and delivered them through Isaiah.*
[21]The Lord[m] struck down the camp of the Assyrians,
and his angel wiped them out.*
[22]For Hezekiah did what was pleasing to the Lord,
and he kept firmly to the ways of his ancestor David,
as he was commanded by the prophet Isaiah,
who was great and trustworthy in his visions.*

ISAIAH

[23]In Isaiah's[n] days the sun went backward,
and he prolonged the life of the king.*
[24]By his dauntless spirit he saw the future
and comforted the mourners in Zion.*
[25]He revealed what was to occur to the end of time
and the hidden things before they happened.*

Sirach 49

JOSIAH AND OTHER WORTHIES

[1]The name[o] of Josiah is like blended incense
prepared by the skill of the perfumer;
his memory[p] is as sweet as honey to every mouth
and like music at a banquet of wine.*
[2]He did what was right by reforming the people
and removing the lawless abominations.*
[3]He kept his heart fixed on the Lord;
in lawless times he made godliness prevail.*

[4]Except for David and Hezekiah and Josiah,
all of them were great sinners,
for they abandoned the law of the Most High;
the kings of Judah came to an end.*
[5]They[q] gave their power to others
and their glory to a foreign nation,*
[6]who set fire to the chosen city of the sanctuary
and made its streets desolate,
as Jeremiah had foretold.[r],*
[7]For they had mistreated him,
who even in the womb had been consecrated a prophet,
to pluck up and ruin and destroy
and likewise to build and to plant.*

[8]It was Ezekiel who saw the vision of glory,
which God[s] showed him above the chariot of the cherubim.*
[9]For he also mentioned Job,

who held fast to all the ways of justice.[t]
[10]May the bones of the Twelve Prophets
send forth new life from where they lie,
for they comforted the people of Jacob
and delivered them with confident hope.*

[11]How shall we magnify Zerubbabel?
He was like a signet ring on the right hand,*
[12]and so was Jeshua son of Jozadak;
in their days they built the house
and raised a temple[u] holy to the Lord,
prepared for everlasting glory.*
[13]The memory of Nehemiah also is lasting;
he raised our fallen walls
and set up gates and bars
and rebuilt our ruined houses.*

RETROSPECT

[14]Few have[v] ever been created on earth like Enoch,
for he was taken up from the earth.*
[15]Nor was anyone ever born like Joseph;[w]
even his bones were cared for.*
[16]Shem and Seth and Enosh were honored,[x]
but above every other created living being was Adam.*

Sirach 50

SIMON SON OF ONIAS

[1]The leader of his brothers and the pride of his people[y]
was the high priest, Simon son of Onias,
who in his life repaired the house
and in his time fortified the temple.
[2]He laid the foundations for the high double walls,
the high retaining walls for the temple enclosure.
[3]In his days a water cistern was dug,[z]
a reservoir like the sea in circumference.
[4]He considered how to save his people from ruin
and fortified the city against siege.
[5]How glorious he was as he gazed from the tent,[a]
as he came out of the house of the curtain,[*]
[6]like the morning star among the clouds,
like the full moon at the festal season,[b,*]
[7]like the sun shining on the temple of the Most High,
like the rainbow gleaming in splendid clouds,[*]
[8]like roses in the days of the spring harvest,
like lilies by springs of water,
like a green shoot on Lebanon on a summer day,[*]
[9]like fire and incense in the censer,
like a vessel of hammered gold
studded with all kinds of precious stones,[*]
[10]like an olive tree laden with fruit,
and like a cypress towering in the clouds.[*]
[11]When he put on his glorious robe

and clothed himself in perfect splendor,
when he went up to the holy altar,
he made the court of the sanctuary glorious.*

12When he received the portions from the hands of the priests,
as he stood by the hearth of the altar
with a garland of brothers around him,
he was like a young cedar on Lebanon
surrounded by the trunks of palm trees.*
13All the sons of Aaron in their splendor
held the Lord's offering in their hands
before the whole congregation of Israel.
14Finishing the service at the altars[c]
and arranging the offering to the Most High, the Almighty,
15he held out his hand for the cup
and poured a drink offering of the blood of the grape;
he poured it out at the foot of the altar,
a pleasing odor to the Most High, the king of all.*
16Then the sons of Aaron shouted;
they blew their trumpets of hammered metal;
they sounded a mighty fanfare
as a reminder before the Most High.*
17Then all the people together quickly
fell to the ground on their faces
to worship their Lord,
the Almighty, God Most High.

18Then the singers praised him with their voices
in sweet and full-toned melody.[d,*]
19And the people of the Lord Most High offered
their prayer before the Merciful One,

until the order of worship of the Lord was ended
and they completed his ritual.
[20]Then Simon[e] came down and raised his hands
over the whole congregation of Israelites,
to pronounce the blessing of the Lord with his lips
and to glory in his name,
[21]and they bowed down in worship a second time
to receive the blessing from the Most High.*

A BENEDICTION

[22]And now bless the God of all,
who everywhere works great wonders,
who exalts our days from birth[f]
and deals with us according to his mercy.*
[23]May he give us[g] gladness of heart,
and may there be peace in our[h] days
in Israel, as in the days of old.
[24]May he entrust to us his mercy,
and may he deliver us in our[i] days!

EPILOGUE

[25]Two nations my soul detests,
and the third is not even a nation:
[26]those who live in Seir[j] and the Philistines
and the foolish people who live in Shechem.*

[27]Instruction in understanding and knowledge
I have written in this book,
Jesus son of Eleazar son of Sirach[k] of Jerusalem,
whose mind poured forth wisdom.*

[28]Happy are those who concern themselves with these things,
and those who lay them to heart will become wise.[*]
[29]For if they put them into practice, they will be equal to anything,
for the fear[l] of the Lord is their path.[m,*]

Sirach 51

Prayer of Jesus Son of Sirach[n]

[1]I give you thanks, O Lord and King,
and praise you, O God my Savior.
I give thanks to your name,*
[2]for you have been my protector and helper
and have delivered my body from destruction
and from the trap laid by a slanderous tongue,
from lips that fabricate lies.
In the face of my adversaries,
you have been my helper* [3]and delivered me,
in the greatness of your mercy and of your name,
from grinding teeth about to devour me,
from the hand of those seeking my life,
from the many troubles I endured,*
[4]from choking fire on every side,
and from the midst of fire that I had not kindled,*
[5]from the deep belly of Hades,
from an unclean tongue and lying words,*
[6]the slander of an unrighteous tongue to the king.
My soul drew near to death,
and my life was on the brink of Hades below.*
[7]They surrounded me on every side,
and there was no one to help me.
I looked for human assistance,
and there was none.*
[8]Then I remembered your mercy, O Lord,

and your kindness[o] from of old,
for you rescue those who wait for you
and save them from the hand of their enemies.
9And I sent up my prayer from the earth
and begged for rescue from death.
10I cried out, "Lord, you are my Father;[p]
do not forsake me in the days of trouble,
when there is no help against the proud.[*]
11I will praise your name continually
and will sing hymns of thanksgiving."
My prayer was heard,
12for you saved me from destruction
and rescued me in time of trouble.
For this reason I thank you and praise you,
and I bless the name of the Lord.

HEB ADDS:

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of praises,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the guardian of Israel,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who formed all things,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the redeemer of Israel,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who gathers the dispersed of Israel,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who rebuilt his city and his sanctuary,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who makes a horn to sprout for the house of David,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who has chosen the sons of Zadok to be priests,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the shield of Abraham,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the rock of Isaac,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the mighty one of Jacob,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who has chosen Zion,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the King of the kings of kings,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his loyal ones.

For the children of Israel, the people close to him.
Praise the LORD![*]

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL POEM ON WISDOM

13 While I was still young, before I went on my travels,
I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.*
14 Before the temple I asked for her,
and I will search for her until the end.

15 From the first blossom to the ripening grape,
my heart delighted in her;
my foot walked on the straight path;
from my youth I followed her steps.*

16 I inclined my ear a little and received her,
and I found for myself much instruction.
17 I made progress in her;
to him who gives wisdom I will give glory.

18 For I resolved to practice wisdom,[q]
and I was zealous for the good,
and I shall never be disappointed.
19 My soul grappled with wisdom,[r]
and in my conduct I was strict.[s]

I spread out my hands to the heavens
and lamented my ignorance of her.
20 I directed my soul to her,
and in purity I found her.

With her I gained understanding from the first;
therefore I will never be forsaken.*
21 My heart was stirred to seek her;
therefore I have gained a prize possession.
22 The Lord gave me my tongue as a reward,

and I will praise him with it.*

23 Draw near to me, you who are uneducated,
and lodge in the house of instruction.*
24 Why do you say you are lacking in these things,[t]
and why do you endure such great thirst?
25 I opened my mouth and said,
"Acquire wisdom[u] for yourselves without money.*

26 "Put your neck under her[v] yoke,
and let your souls receive instruction;
it is to be found close by."*

27 See with your own eyes that I have labored but little
and found for myself much serenity.
28 Hear but a little of my instruction,
and through me you will acquire silver and gold.[w],*

29 May your soul rejoice in God's[x] mercy,
and may you never be ashamed to praise him.
30 Do your work in good time,
and in his own time God[y] will give you your reward.*

Sirach Prologue

a **P.2** Or *other books*

b **P.13** Gk *with these things*

c **P.24** Gk *prophecies*

d **P.29** Other ancient authorities read *found opportunity for*

* **P.36** Lk 24.44; Acts 21.40; 22.2

Sirach 1

* **1.1** Prov 8.22; Wis 8.21; Jn 1.1

* **1.2** Ps 139.18; Sir 18.10; 2 Esd 5.36

e **1.3** Other ancient authorities read *the depth of the abyss*

* **1.3** Prov 30.4

f **1.4** Other ancient authorities add as 1.5: *The source of wisdom is God's word in the highest heaven, and her ways are the eternal commandments.*

* **1.4** Prov 3.19; 8.23; Col 1.15, 16

g **1.6** Other ancient authorities add as 1.7: *The knowledge of wisdom—to whom was it manifested? And her abundant experience—who has understood it?*

* **1.6** v 20

h **1.10** Other ancient authorities add *Love of the Lord is glorious wisdom; to those to whom he appears he apportions her, that they may see him.*

* **1.10** Eccl 2.26

* **1.11** Sir 6.31; 9.16; 15.6

i **1.12** Other ancient authorities add *The fear of the Lord is a gift from the Lord; also for love he makes firm paths.*

* **1.12** Prov 9.11

* **1.13** Ps 37.37

* **1.14** Ps 111.10; Prov 1.7; Sir 19.20

j **1.15** Gk *made as a nest*

* **1.16** Ps 111.10; Prov 1.7; 8.18, 19

k **1.17** Other ancient authorities read *her*

l **1.17** Other ancient authorities read *her*

m **1.18** Other ancient authorities add *Both are gifts of God for peace; exultation opens out for those who love him. He saw her and took her measure.*

* **1.18** Sir 21.11

* **1.19** Prov 4.8

n **1.20** Other ancient authorities add as 1.21: *The fear of the Lord drives away sins, and where it abides, it will turn away all anger.*

* **1.20** v 6; Ps 111.10; Prov 1.7

* **1.22** Prov 29.22; Mt 5.22

* **1.23** Ps 37.7–9

* **1.24** Prov 10.19
* **1.26** Eccl 2.26; Sir 21.11
* **1.27** Job 28.28; Isa 57.15; 66.2; Mt 5.5
* **1.28** Jas 1.8; 4.8
* **1.29** Sir 4.29; 5.13
* **1.30** Prov 5.14; 26.26; Lk 14.11; 18.14

Sirach 2

o **2.1** Or *trials*
* **2.1** 2 Tim 3.12; 1 Pet 4.12
p **2.5** Other ancient authorities add *in sickness and poverty put your trust in him*
* **2.5** Sir 3.17; 2 Esd 16.73
* **2.6** Ps 27.3, 5
* **2.7** Ps 37.7–9
* **2.8** Sir 51.30
q **2.9** Other ancient authorities add *for his reward is an everlasting gift with joy*
r **2.10** Gk *of him*
* **2.10** Ps 37.25; 145.18; 1 Macc 2.61
* **2.11** Ps 86.15; Sir 51.12
* **2.12** Prov 28.6, 18
* **2.14** Sir 41.2; Heb 10.36
* **2.15** Jn 14.23; 1 Jn 2.5
* **2.16** Ps 119.97
* **2.17** 2 Sam 24.14; Sir 18.5; 2 Macc 10.4
s **2.18** Syr adds *and equal to his name are his works*

Sirach 3

* **3.2** Ex 20.12; Sir 7.27
* **3.3** vv 14, 15
* **3.4** 1 Tim 6.19
t **3.6** Heb: Other ancient authorities read *comfort*
u **3.6** Heb: Gk *and those who obey the Lord honor their mother*
* **3.6** Ex 20.12
v **3.7** In other ancient authorities this line is preceded by *Those who fear the Lord honor their father,*
* **3.7** Lk 2.51; Eph 6.1; Col 3.20
* **3.8** Ex 20.12; Sir 7.27
* **3.9** Gen 27.27–29; 49.2–27
* **3.11** Prov 17.6
* **3.12** Mt 15.4–6; Mk 7.10–13; 1 Tim 5.4
* **3.14** v 3; Prov 23.22

* **3.16** Prov 30.17

w **3.17** Heb Syr: Gk *more than an acceptable person*

x **3.18** Other ancient authorities add as 3.19, *Many are lofty and renowned, but to the humble he reveals his secrets*.

* **3.18** Prov 3.34; Phil 2.3; 1 Pet 5.5

* **3.21** Ps 131.1; Rom 12.3

* **3.22** Deut 29.29

* **3.23** 2 Thess 3.11

* **3.24** Prov 26.12; Rom 12.16

y **3.25** Heb: Other ancient authorities lack 3.25

* **3.27** Isa 30.1; Sir 5.5; 7.8

* **3.28** Prov 28.14

* **3.29** Prov 1.6

* **3.30** Ps 41.1, 2; Dan 4.27; Tob 4.10

* **3.31** Mt 5.7

Sirach 4

* **4.1** Lev 19.13

* **4.3** Prov 3.27, 28

* **4.4** Tob 4.7

* **4.5** Prov 28.27

* **4.6** Deut 15.9; Job 34.28; Prov 28.27; Jas 5.4

* **4.9** Isa 1.17; Jer 22.3

* **4.10** Job 31.18; Isa 49.15; Lk 6.35; Jas 1.27

z **4.11** Heb Syr: Gk *exalts*

* **4.11** Prov 4.8; Sir 6.27

* **4.12** Prov 3.18; 8.17; Sir 32.14

a **4.13** Or *he*

* **4.13** Prov 3.35

b **4.17** Or *until they remain faithful in their heart*

* **4.17** Heb 12.13

* **4.20** Sir 41.16; Col 4.5

* **4.21** Sir 20.22; 42.1–8

* **4.22** v 27; Sir 42.1

c **4.23** Heb: Gk *at a time of salvation*

d **4.23** Other ancient authorities lack *and do not hide your wisdom*

* **4.23** Lev 19.17

* **4.26** Prov 28.13; Jas 5.16; 1 Jn 1.8, 9

* **4.27** v 22; Jas 2.9

* **4.29** Prov 29.20; Sir 1.29; 5.13; Jas 1.19

* **4.30** Prov 28.15; Eph 6.9

* **4.31** Sir 29.2; Acts 20.35

Sirach 5

* **5.1** Job 31.24; Ps 62.10; Lk 12.15, 19; 1 Tim 6.17
* **5.2** Prov 3.5
* **5.3** Ps 12.4
* **5.4** Eccl 8.11; 2 Pet 3.9
e **5.5** Heb: Gk *atonement*
* **5.5** Sir 3.27
f **5.6** Heb: Gk *he* (or *it*) *will atone for*
* **5.6** Ex 34.7; Sir 16.11, 12
* **5.7** Isa 55.6; 1 Thess 5.3
* **5.8** Prov 10.2; 11.4; Ezek 7.19
g **5.9** Gk adds *so it is with the double-tongued sinner*
* **5.11** Jas 1.19
* **5.12** Wis 8.12; Sir 18.19
* **5.13** Prov 18.21; Sir 1.29; Mt 12.37
h **5.14** Heb: Gk *a slanderer*
* **5.14** Sir 6.1; 28.13; 2 Cor 12.20
i **5.15** Heb Syr: Gk *be ignorant*

Sirach 6

* **6.1** Sir 5.14; Jas 1.8
j **6.2** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
k **6.2** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **6.3** Dan 4.14, 15; Mt 3.10
l **6.4** Heb: Gk *An evil soul*
* **6.4** Sir 18.31
* **6.5** Sir 20.13
* **6.6** Eccl 7.28
* **6.7** Sir 12.8, 9
* **6.8** Prov 14.20; 19.4, 7
* **6.10** Prov 14.20; 19.4, 7; Sir 37.4, 5
* **6.14** Prov 17.17; 18.24
* **6.19** Jas 5.7
* **6.20** Prov 1.22; 17.16
* **6.21** Prov 1.7; Zech 12.3
* **6.23** Prov 3.1; 5.1
* **6.24** v 29; Prov 1.9
* **6.25** Sir 51.26; Mt 11.29

* **6.27** Prov 2.4, 5; 4.13; Sir 4.11
* **6.29** v 24
m **6.30** Heb: Gk *Upon her*
* **6.30** Num 15.38; Sir 51.26; Mt 11.29
n **6.31** Heb: Gk *crown of gladness*
* **6.31** Sir 1.11; 15.6
* **6.35** Sir 8.9; 39.3
* **6.36** Prov 8.34; Sir 37.12
o **6.37** Heb: Gk *will confirm*
* **6.37** Ps 1.2

Sirach 7

* **7.1** 1 Pet 3.13
p **7.3** Gk *My child, do*
* **7.3** Job 4.8; Ps 79.12; Sir 40.8
* **7.5** Job 9.2; Ps 143.2; Lk 18.11
* **7.6** Lev 19.15
* **7.8** Sir 3.27
* **7.10** Tob 4.7; Lk 18.1
* **7.11** 1 Sam 2.7; Prov 17.5
q **7.12** Heb: Gk *plow*
* **7.14** Eccl 5.2; Sir 32.9; Mt 6.7
* **7.15** Gen 3.19, 23
r **7.17** Heb *for the expectation of mortals is worms*
* **7.17** Isa 66.24; Jdt 16.17; Sir 18.21; Mk 9.48
* **7.18** 1 Kings 9.28; 1 Chr 29.4; Sir 27.1
s **7.19** Heb: Gk *deprive yourself of*
* **7.19** Prov 12.4; 31.10; Sir 26.1–3
* **7.20** Sir 33.31; 34.27
t **7.21** Heb *Love a wise slave as yourself*
* **7.21** Ex 21.2; Deut 15.12; Jer 34.8–16
u **7.23** Gk *bend their necks*
* **7.23** Prov 29.15, 17; Sir 30.12, 13
v **7.24** Gk *body*
w **7.24** Gk *do not brighten your face toward them*
* **7.24** Sir 42.9–11
x **7.26** Heb Syr lack *who pleases you*
* **7.27** Ex 20.12; Tob 4.3, 4; Sir 3.2, 8
y **7.28** Gk *them*
* **7.30** Deut 6.5; 12.19; Mt 22.37; Lk 10.27
* **7.31** Lev 2.3, 10; 6.16; 7.1–7, 34; Prov 3.9

* **7.33** Tob 4.17
* **7.34** Sir 37.12; Rom 12.15
* **7.35** Mt 25.36, 39, 43
* **7.36** Deut 32.29; Sir 28.6; 38.20, 21

Sirach 8

* **8.2** Prov 10.15; Sir 31.6
* **8.3** Prov 26.20, 21; Sir 9.18; Jas 3.5, 6
* **8.5** 2 Cor 2.6, 7; Gal 6.1, 2
* **8.6** Lev 19.32
* **8.8** Sir 6.35; 9.14

z **8.9** Or *ancestors*

* **8.9** Sir 6.34; 37.12; Col 4.6; 1 Pet 3.15

a **8.10** Heb: Gk *do not get burned*

* **8.10** Prov 26.20, 21; Sir 28.9, 10; Jas 3.5, 6
* **8.12** Sir 29.4
* **8.13** Prov 6.1, 2; 11.15
* **8.16** Prov 22.24; Sir 28.8
* **8.17** Prov 14.33; Sir 9.14; 21.26

b **8.18** Or *it will bring forth*

c **8.19** Heb: Gk *and let him not return a favor to you*

Sirach 9

* **9.1** Deut 13.6
* **9.2** Prov 31.3

d **9.3** Heb *strange woman*

* **9.3** Prov 7.10, 23
* **9.5** Deut 22.29; Job 31.1
* **9.6** Prov 6.26; 29.3
* **9.7** Prov 7.8, 12
* **9.8** 2 Sam 11.2; Job 31.9, 12; Sir 25.21

e **9.9** Heb: Gk *sit down*

f **9.9** Heb: Gk *by your spirit*

* **9.9** Sir 41.21
* **9.10** Prov 27.10; Lk 5.39
* **9.11** Ps 37.1

g **9.12** Gk: Heb *the success of the arrogant*

* **9.12** Prov 11.21
* **9.14** Tob 4.18
* **9.15** Ps 1.2; Sir 27.12

* **9.16** Sir 1.11, 12; 10.22
* **9.18** Prov 18.7; Sir 8.3

Sirach 10

* **10.2** Prov 29.12
* **10.3** Sir 47.23
* **10.4** Ps 47.7; 75.7
h **10.5** Heb: Gk *scribe*
* **10.5** 1 Chr 29.12; Ezra 7.6
* **10.6** Mt 5.22; 18.21, 22
* **10.7** Add Esth 16.2–4
i **10.8** Other ancient authorities add here or after 10.9a: *Nothing is more wicked than one who loves money, for such a person puts his own soul up for sale*.
* **10.8** Job 12.23; Jer 18.7–10; 27.5–8
j **10.9** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **10.9** Sir 17.32
* **10.10** 1 Macc 2.62
k **10.11** Heb: Gk *wild animals*
* **10.11** Isa 14.11; 1 Macc 2.63
* **10.12** Deut 8.14; Ps 106.21
l **10.13** Gk: Heb *brings upon them . . . destroys them*
* **10.14** 1 Sam 2.8; Lk 1.52
m **10.15** Other ancient authorities read *proud nations*
* **10.16** Deut 31.3, 4
* **10.17** Ps 9.6
* **10.19** 1 Sam 2.30; Job 15.14; Ps 8.5, 6
n **10.20** Other ancient authorities add as 10.21: *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of acceptance; obduracy and pride are the beginning of rejection*.
o **10.22** Heb: Gk *The rich and the eminent*
* **10.22** Jer 9.23, 24; Sir 9.16
* **10.23** Sir 13.22
* **10.24** Jdt 16.16; Sir 25.10
* **10.25** Prov 17.2
* **10.27** Prov 12.9
* **10.28** Rom 12.3
p **10.29** Heb: Gk *sin against*
q **10.29** Heb Lat: Gk *their own life*

Sirach 11

* **11.1** Gen 41.40; Dan 6.3; Sir 39.4

* **11.2** 1 Sam 16.7
* **11.3** Judg 14.18; Ps 119.103; Prov 16.24; 24.13
r **11.4** Heb: Gk *Do not boast about wearing fine clothes, and do not exalt yourself when you are honored*
* **11.4** Ps 139.14; Dan 4.30; Acts 12.21
s **11.5** Heb: Gk *Many sovereigns have sat on the ground*
* **11.5** Ps 78.70, 71
* **11.6** 1 Sam 15.28; Esth 7.10
* **11.7** Deut 13.14; 17.6; Jn 7.51
* **11.8** Prov 18.13
* **11.11** Ps 127.2; 1 Tim 6.9
* **11.12** Job 42.10
t **11.14** Other ancient authorities add as 11.15–16: *15Wisdom, understanding, and knowledge of the law come from the Lord; affection and the ways of good works come from him. 16Error and darkness were created with sinners; evil grows old with those who take pride in malice.*
* **11.14** 1 Sam 2.7; Job 1.21; 2.10
* **11.18** Eccl 4.8; Sir 31.3
* **11.19** Ps 49.10; Sir 14.4, 15; 31.3; Lk 12.19
* **11.21** Prov 23.17; Eccl 5.8
u **11.22** Heb: Gk *is in*
* **11.23** Mal 3.14; Tob 2.14
* **11.24** v 19
* **11.25** Eccl 11.8; Sir 18.25
* **11.26** Sir 18.24; Lk 16.25
* **11.27** Job 42.12; Sir 1.13
v **11.28** Heb: Gk *and through his children a person becomes known*
w **11.30** Heb: Gk *downfall*
* **11.30** Jer 5.26, 27
* **11.31** Isa 5.20, 23
* **11.32** Prov 1.11; Jas 3.5
* **11.33** Prov 6.12–14

Sirach 12

* **12.1** Mt 7.6
* **12.2** Mt 10.41; Lk 6.35
* **12.3** Tob 4.7
* **12.4** Tob 4.17; Mt 5.43–48
x **12.6** Other ancient authorities add *and he is keeping them for the day of their punishment*
* **12.6** Ps 11.5, 6
y **12.8** Other ancient authorities read *punished*
* **12.8** Sir 6.7

z **12.9** Heb: Gk *grieved*
* **12.9** Prov 19.4, 7
* **12.11** Ps 10.10; Sir 19.26
* **12.13** Ps 58.5; Eccl 10.11; Jer 8.17
* **12.14** Sir 21.2
* **12.16** Ps 28.3; 55.21; Prov 26.24, 25; Jer 41.6, 7
* **12.17** Ps 41.9
* **12.18** Sir 13.7, 25

Sirach 13

* **13.1** Isa 52.11; 2 Cor 6.17
* **13.3** Prov 18.23
a **13.4** Gk *He*
b **13.4** Heb: Gk *work with you*
* **13.7** Prov 23.3; Sir 12.18
c **13.8** Other ancient authorities read *in your folly*
* **13.10** Prov 25.6, 7
* **13.11** Sir 32.9
d **13.13** Other ancient authorities add as 13.14: *When you hear these things in your sleep, wake up! During all your life love the Lord, and call on him for your salvation.*
* **13.15** Sir 18.13
* **13.16** Sir 27.9
* **13.17** Prov 29.27; 2 Cor 6.14, 15
* **13.19** Isa 3.14, 15; Jer 2.24; Am 8.4
e **13.21** Other ancient authorities read *poor*
* **13.21** Prov 14.20; 19.7
* **13.22** Eccl 9.15, 16; Sir 10.23; 26.28
* **13.24** Jer 17.11
f **13.25** Other ancient authorities add *and a glad heart makes a cheerful countenance*
* **13.25** Sir 12.18
* **13.26** Prov 15.13; Eccl 12.12

Sirach 14

* **14.1** Sir 19.6, 16; 25.8; Acts 2.37; Jas 3.2
* **14.2** Rom 14.22; 1 Jn 3.21
* **14.3** Eccl 4.8
* **14.4** v 15; Ps 39.6; Sir 11.19
g **14.7** Syr: Gk *through forgetfulness*
* **14.8** Tob 4.7
* **14.9** Prov 27.20; Sir 31.13

* **14.10** Prov 23.6, 7; Sir 31.24
* **14.11** Prov 3.9; Sir 35.10–12
h **14.12** Heb Syr: Gk *covenant*
* **14.14** Eccl 2.24; 5.18
* **14.15** v 4
i **14.17** Heb: Gk *covenant*
* **14.17** Gen 2.17; 3.19; Ps 102.26; Heb 1.11
* **14.18** Eccl 1.4; Isa 40.6–8; Jas 1.10; 1 Pet 1.24
j **14.20** Other ancient authorities read *die in*
* **14.20** Ps 1.2; 119.35
* **14.21** Wis 6.12; Sir 4.18
* **14.23** Prov 8.34
* **14.27** Wis 10.17

Sirach 15

k **15.1** Gk *her*
* **15.2** Prov 7.4; Wis 8.2, 9; 2 Esd 13.55
* **15.3** Jn 4.10, 14; 7.38
* **15.5** Wis 8.10
l **15.6** Other ancient authorities read *He will find gladness*
* **15.6** Sir 1.11; 6.31
* **15.7** Wis 1.4
* **15.9** Ps 33.1
m **15.11** Heb: Gk *you ought not to do*
* **15.11** Jas 1.13, 14
* **15.12** v 20
n **15.14** Heb: Gk *deliberation*
* **15.14** Gen 1.26, 27; 2.16, 17
* **15.17** Deut 30.15, 19; Josh 24.15; Jer 21.8
* **15.18** Ps 147.5
* **15.19** Ps 33.18; Sir 17.1; 23.19; 39.19
* **15.20** v 12

Sirach 16

o **16.1** Heb: Gk *unprofitable*
p **16.3** Other ancient authorities add *for you will groan in untimely mourning, and will know of their sudden end*
* **16.3** Wis 4.1
* **16.6** Num 11.1; Ps 78.21; Sir 21.9
q **16.7** Gk: Heb *princes*

* **16.7** Wis 14.6

* **16.8** Gen 19.24, 25; Ezek 16.49, 50

r **16.9** Other ancient authorities add *all these things he did to the hard-hearted nations, and by the multitude of his holy ones he was not appeased*

s **16.10** Other ancient authorities add *chastising, showing mercy, striking, healing, the Lord persisted in mercy and discipline*

* **16.10** Ex 12.37; Num 14.35; 26.51

t **16.11** Gk *him*

u **16.11** Heb: Gk *a master of propitiations*

* **16.11** Sir 5.4

* **16.12** Job 34.11

v **16.14** Other ancient authorities add 16.15–16: *[15]The Lord hardened Pharaoh so that he did not recognize him, in order that his works might be known under heaven. [16]His mercy is manifest to the whole of creation, and he apportioned his light and darkness to Adam.*

* **16.14** Job 34.11; Sir 51.30

* **16.17** Ps 138.7

w **16.18** Other ancient authorities add *The whole world past and present is in his will.*

* **16.18** 1 Kings 8.27; Mic 1.3, 4; 2 Pet 3.7, 10

* **16.19** Ps 18.7; 104.32; Isa 24.18

* **16.20** Rom 11.33

x **16.21** Meaning of Gk uncertain: Heb Syr *If I sin, no eye can see me, and if I am disloyal all in secret, who is to know?*

* **16.21** Ps 97.2; Prov 25.2; Sir 43.32

y **16.22** Heb: Gk *the covenant*

z **16.22** Other ancient authorities add *and a scrutiny for all comes at the end*

* **16.24** Prov 4.20

a **16.25** Gk *by weight*

* **16.25** Wis 11.20

b **16.26** Heb: Gk *judged*

c **16.27** Or *elements*

* **16.27** Sir 42.21

* **16.29** Gen 1.29–31

* **16.30** Gen 1.25; Eccl 3.20

Sirach 17

* **17.1** Gen 3.19; Wis 7.1

d **17.2** Lat: Gk *it*

* **17.2** Gen 1.26, 28; Job 14.1, 5

e **17.3** Lat: Gk *proper to them*

* **17.3** Gen 1.26; Wis 2.23

f **17.4** Syr: Gk *him*

g **17.4** Other ancient authorities add as 17.5: *They obtained the use of the five faculties of the Lord; as sixth he distributed to them the gift of mind, and as seventh, reason, the interpreter of one's faculties.*

* **17.4** Gen 9.2; Ps 8.6–8

* **17.7** Sir 1.10

h **17.8** Other ancient authorities read *He set his eye upon*

i **17.8** Other ancient authorities add *and he gave them to boast of his marvels forever*

* **17.10** Ps 107.8, 15, 21, 31

j **17.11** Other ancient authorities add *so that they may know that they who are alive now are mortal*

* **17.11** Lev 18.5

* **17.12** Deut 5.2, 3; Ps 147.19

* **17.13** Deut 4.11, 12

* **17.14** Ex 20.12–17

k **17.15** Other ancient authorities add *[16]Their ways from youth tend toward evil, and they are unable to make for themselves hearts of flesh in place of their stony hearts. [17]For in the division of the nations of the whole earth,*

* **17.15** Job 34.21; Sir 15.19

l **17.17** Other ancient authorities add as 17.18: *whom, being his firstborn, he brings up with discipline, and allotting to him the light of his love, he does not neglect him.*

* **17.17** Deut 32.9; Rom 13.1

* **17.19** Job 34.21; Sir 15.19

m **17.20** Other ancient authorities add as 17.21: *But the Lord, who is gracious and knows how they are formed, has neither left them nor abandoned them but has spared them.*

n **17.22** Gk *him*

o **17.22** Other ancient authorities add *apportioning repentance to his sons and daughters*

* **17.22** Deut 32.10; Jer 22.24; Sir 29.12, 13

* **17.23** Prov 11.31; Joel 3.7; Mt 25.34, 35

* **17.24** Acts 3.19; 2 Pet 3.9

* **17.25** Jer 3.12

p **17.26** Other ancient authorities add *for he will lead you out of darkness to the light of health.*

* **17.27** Ps 6.5; Bar 2.17

* **17.28** Ps 118.17; Isa 38.19

* **17.29** Ps 103.11; 117.2

* **17.32** Sir 10.9

Sirach 18

* **18.1** Gen 1.1

q **18.2** Other ancient authorities add *and there is no other beside him; [3]he steers the world with the span of his hand, and all things obey his will, for he is king of all things by his power, separating among them the holy things from the profane.*

* **18.2** Ps 51.4; Rom 3.4

* **18.4** Ps 106.2; Sir 42.17
* **18.5** Sir 2.18
* **18.6** Job 5.9; Ps 40.5; Sir 42.21
* **18.8** Job 7.17; Ps 8.4; 144.3

r **18.9** Other ancient authorities add *but the death of each one is beyond the calculation of all*

* **18.9** Ps 90.10
* **18.10** Ps 90.4; Sir 1.2; 2 Pet 3.8
* **18.12** Gen 8.21
* **18.13** Ps 145.9; Jer 31.10; Wis 11.23; Sir 13.15
* **18.14** Sir 32.14
* **18.15** Sir 41.22
* **18.16** Deut 32.2; Isa 55.10, 11
* **18.18** Sir 20.15, 16
* **18.19** Sir 5.12
* **18.20** 1 Cor 11.31
* **18.21** Sir 7.17
* **18.22** Deut 23.21; Eccl 5.4
* **18.23** Prov 20.25; Eccl 5.5
* **18.24** Sir 7.36
* **18.25** Sir 11.25
* **18.26** Ps 90.4

s **18.29** Other ancient authorities add *Better is confidence in a single master than clinging with a dead heart to a dead one*.

* **18.29** Prov 1.5, 6; Sir 39.6; 50.27

t **18.30** This heading is included in the Gk text.

* **18.30** Rom 13.14; 1 Pet 2.11
* **18.31** Sir 6.4
* **18.32** Prov 23.20, 21

u **18.33** Other ancient authorities add *for you will be plotting against your own life*

Sirach 19

v **19.1** Heb: Gk *A worker who is a drunkard*

* **19.1** Prov 21.17
* **19.2** 1 Kings 11.1–4; Prov 31.3–5; Hos 4.11
* **19.3** Isa 51.8

w **19.5** Other ancient authorities read *heart*

x **19.5** Other ancient authorities add *but one who withstands pleasures crowns his life*. [6]*One who controls the tongue will live without strife,*

* **19.6** Prov 21.23; Jas 3.2
* **19.10** Job 32.19
* **19.12** Sir 21.14; 33.5

* **19.13** Lev 19.17

* **19.16** Sir 14.1

y **19.17** Other ancient authorities add *and do not be angry.* [18]*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of acceptance, and wisdom obtains his love.* [19]*The knowledge of the Lord's commandments is life-giving discipline, and those who do what is pleasing to him enjoy the fruit of the tree of immortality.*

* **19.17** Lev 19.17

z **19.20** Other ancient authorities add *and the knowledge of his omnipotence.* [21]*When a slave says to his master, "I will not act as you wish," even if later he does it, he angers the one who supports him.*

* **19.20** Sir 1.14

* **19.22** Jer 4.22

* **19.24** Sir 25.10, 11

a **19.25** Other ancient authorities add *and the one who justifies is wise in judgment.*

* **19.26** Sir 12.11

* **19.29** Isa 3.9

* **19.30** Eccl 7.6; Isa 3.16; Sir 21.20

Sirach 20

* **20.1** vv 5–7, 19, 20; Eccl 3.7; Am 5.13

* **20.2** Prov 28.13

* **20.3** Prov 28.13

* **20.4** Sir 30.20

b **20.5** Gk: Heb *thought*

* **20.5** v 1; Job 13.5; Prov 10.19; 17.28

* **20.6** vv 5–7, 19, 20; Eccl 3.7; Am 5.13

* **20.7** Sir 32.4

c **20.8** Other ancient authorities add *How good it is to show repentance when you are reproved, for so you will escape deliberate sin!*

* **20.8** Prov 10.19

* **20.11** Mt 23.12; Lk 14.11; 18.14

d **20.13** Heb: Gk *by words*

* **20.13** v 14; Sir 6.5; 18.18; 21.16

e **20.14** Other ancient authorities add *so it is with the envious who give under compulsion*

f **20.14** Syr: Gk *he has many eyes instead of one*

g **20.15** Other ancient authorities add *to God and humans*

* **20.15** Sir 18.18; Mt 6.2

h **20.17** Other ancient authorities add *for he has not honestly received what he has, and what he does not have is unimportant to him*

* **20.18** Prov 12.13; 18.7

* **20.19** Sir 22.6

* **20.20** v 7; Prov 15.23
* **20.21** Deut 8.11–17
i **20.22** Other ancient authorities read *human respect*
* **20.22** Sir 4.21
* **20.24** Sir 25.2
j **20.27** This heading is included in the Gk text.
* **20.27** Gen 41.39, 40
* **20.28** Prov 12.11; 28.19
* **20.29** Ex 23.8; Deut 16.19
* **20.30** Wis 7.13; Sir 41.14
k **20.31** Other ancient authorities add 20.32: *Unwearied endurance in seeking the Lord is better than a masterless charioteer of one's own life*.
* **20.31** Sir 41.15

Sirach 21

* **21.1** Sir 5.5
* **21.2** Prov 23.32
l **21.4** Other ancient authorities read *laid waste*
m **21.5** Gk *his ears*
* **21.5** Ex 3.9; Job 34.28; Ps 34.6
* **21.6** Prov 12.1; 15.10
* **21.8** Hab 2.6
* **21.9** Isa 1.31; Sir 16.6
* **21.10** Prov 7.27
* **21.11** Sir 1.18, 26
* **21.12** Sir 19.25
* **21.13** Prov 13.14; 18.4; Sir 24.25, 26
n **21.14** Syr Lat: Gk *entrails*
* **21.14** Jer 2.13; Sir 19.12
o **21.15** Syr: Gk *revelers*
p **21.15** Syr: Gk *dislike*
* **21.15** Prov 1.5; 9.9
q **21.16** Syr: Gk *explanation*
* **21.16** Eccl 10.12; Sir 20.13; 22.15
* **21.18** Prov 15.2
r **21.20** Syr Lat: Gk *clever*
* **21.20** Eccl 7.4, 6; Sir 19.30
* **21.22** Prov 25.17; 1 Tim 5.13
s **21.25** Other ancient authorities read *The lips of strangers speak of these things*
* **21.25** Sir 28.25
t **21.26** Other ancient authorities omit *in*

* **21.26** Prov 14.33; 29.11; Sir 8.17
* **21.27** Ps 109.6, 7; Jn 8.44

Sirach 22

* **22.3** Prov 10.1
* **22.4** Sir 42.10
* **22.5** Prov 12.4

u **22.6** Other ancient authorities add 22.7–8: [7]*Children who are brought up in a good life conceal the lowly birth of their parents*. [8]*Children who glory in contempt and ignorance stain the nobility of their kindred*.

* **22.6** Prov 25.20; 29.15; Sir 20.20
* **22.11** Jer 22.10; Sir 38.16
* **22.12** Jdt 16.24

v **22.13** Other ancient authorities add *For being without sense he will despise everything about you*

* **22.15** Prov 27.3; Sir 21.16
* **22.16** Ps 112.7; Prov 1.33

w **22.18** Other ancient authorities read *Pebbles*

* **22.18** Prov 28.1
* **22.20** Deut 28.26; Jer 7.33
* **22.22** Prov 20.19; Sir 27.16, 17, 21

x **22.23** Other ancient authorities read *you also may be filled*

y **22.23** Other ancient authorities add *For one should not always despise restricted circumstances or admire a rich person who has no resolve*.

* **22.23** Prov 17.17
* **22.24** Prov 15.18; 26.21
* **22.27** Ps 39.1; 141.3; Sir 28.25

Sirach 23

* **23.1** v 4

z **23.2** Gk *their*

* **23.2** Tob 3.3

a **23.3** Other ancient authorities add *From them the hope of your mercy is remote*

* **23.3** Ps 13.4; Tob 3.3
* **23.4** v 1; Ps 101.5
* **23.6** Rom 13.13; Gal 5.21; Eph 5.18

b **23.7** This heading is included in the Gk text.

* **23.8** Ps 59.12; Prov 12.13
* **23.9** Ex 20.7; Sir 27.14

c **23.10** Syr *be free*

* **23.10** Sir 27.14; 28.17

* **23.11** Lev 5.1; 19.12; Mt 5.33; 23.16

d **23.12** Other ancient authorities read *clothed about with death*

* **23.12** Lev 24.16; 1 Kings 21.10, 13; Mk 3.28, 29

* **23.14** Ex 20.12; Job 3.3; Sir 7.27

* **23.16** v 18; Sir 25.2; 26.28

* **23.17** Prov 9.17; 20.17

* **23.18** Job 24.15; Ps 10.11; Prov 7.9; Isa 29.15

* **23.19** Prov 5.21; Sir 15.19; Heb 4.13

* **23.20** Gen 1.31

* **23.21** Lev 20.10; Prov 6.32–35

* **23.23** Ex 20.14; Mt 19.18

* **23.24** Gen 38.24; Lev 21.9; Deut 22.21

* **23.25** Job 18.16; Mal 4.1; Wis 4.3

e **23.27** Other ancient authorities add as 23.28: *It is a great honor to follow God, and to be received by him is long life*.

* **23.27** Ps 119.103, 104; Sir 25.11; 40.26

Sirach 24

f **24.1** This heading is included in the Gk text.

* **24.1** Prov 8.1–21

* **24.3** Prov 2.6; Wis 7.25

* **24.4** Bar 3.29

* **24.5** Job 22.14; Prov 8.27

g **24.6** Other ancient authorities read *I have acquired a possession*

* **24.6** Prov 8.31; Sir 1.10

* **24.8** Bar 3.37

* **24.9** Prov 8.22, 25

* **24.10** Ex 31.3; 35.31

* **24.11** Ps 78.67, 68; 87.2

* **24.12** Deut 32.9; 1 Kings 8.53; Jer 10.16

* **24.13** Ps 92.12; 104.16; Hos 14.5; Sir 50.10, 12

h **24.14** Other ancient authorities read *on the beaches*

i **24.14** Other ancient authorities omit *beside water*

* **24.14** Ps 92.12; Hos 14.6; Sir 39.13; 50.8, 12

* **24.15** Ex 30.23, 34, 36; Jn 19.39

j **24.17** Other ancient authorities add as 24.18: *I am the mother of beautiful love, of fear, of knowledge, and of holy hope; I give to all my children; these things are eternal for those who are named by him*.

* **24.17** Prov 8.19; Jn 15.1

* **24.19** Isa 55.1

* **24.20** Ps 19.10; 119.103

k **24.23** Other ancient authorities add as 24.24: *Do not cease to be strong in the Lord, cling to him so that he may strengthen you; the Lord Almighty alone is God, and besides him there is no savior.*

* **24.23** Ex 24.3; Deut 4.1; 29.1, 2; 33.4; Jn 1.17

* **24.25** Gen 2.11, 14; Sir 21.13

* **24.26** Gen 2.14; Josh 3.15

l **24.27** Syr: Gk *It makes instruction shine forth like light*

* **24.27** Gen 2.13

m **24.28** Gk *her*

* **24.31** Ezek 47.1–8

* **24.33** Joel 2.28; Acts 2.18

n **24.34** Gk *her*

* **24.34** Sir 33.18

Sirach 25

o **25.1** Syr Lat: Gk *In three things I was beautiful, and I stood in beauty before the Lord and mortals*

* **25.1** Lev 19.18; Ps 133.1; Sir 26.1–3; Rom 12.10

* **25.2** Prov 17.7; Sir 20.24; 23.16

* **25.3** Prov 6.6–11

* **25.4** Job 32.7

* **25.6** Prov 16.31; Wis 8.8

* **25.7** Prov 10.1; 23.24

p **25.8** Heb Syr: Gk lacks *and the one who does not plow with ox and ass together*

* **25.8** Deut 22.10; Sir 14.1

* **25.9** Prov 3.13

* **25.10** Prov 3.13; Sir 10.24

q **25.11** Other ancient authorities add as 25.12: *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of love for him, and faith is the beginning of clinging to him.*

* **25.11** Sir 23.27; 40.26

* **25.13** v 19; Prov 18.14; Eccl 7.26; Sir 42.13

r **25.15** Syr: Gk *head*

s **25.15** Syr: Gk *head*

t **25.15** Other ancient authorities read *an enemy's*

* **25.16** Prov 21.9, 19; 25.24

* **25.17** Prov 17.12; Eccl 7.26; Sir 42.13

u **25.18** Heb Syr: Gk *loses heart*

v **25.18** Other ancient authorities read *and listening he sighs*

* **25.19** v 13

* **25.20** Prov 21.19; Sir 26.27

w **25.21** Heb Syr: Gk lacks *for her possessions*

* **25.21** Prov 6.25; Sir 9.8; 42.12

* **25.23** Job 4.3, 4; Isa 35.3; Heb 12.12

* **25.24** Gen 3.6; Rom 5.12; 1 Tim 2.14
* **25.25** Prov 17.14
* **25.26** Deut 24.1; Mt 19.7

Sirach 26

* **26.1** v 26; Prov 31.10–31
* **26.3** Prov 18.22; 19.14
* **26.4** Prov 15.13; 17.22
x **26.5** Syr: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **26.6** Sir 37.11
* **26.9** Prov 6.25
* **26.10** Sir 42.11
* **26.12** Prov 5.15; Ezek 16.25
* **26.13** Prov 15.30; 31.28, 29
* **26.16** Prov 31.27
* **26.17** Lev 24.2, 4
* **26.19** Prov 5.17, 18
* **26.22** Sir 9.9
* **26.26** v 1
* **26.27** Sir 25.20
* **26.28** Ezek 18.24; Sir 13.22; 23.16
* **26.29** Prov 20.14; Sir 27.2; 37.11

Sirach 27

y **27.1** Other ancient authorities read *a trifle*
* **27.1** Prov 23.4; Sir 7.18; 1 Tim 6.9, 10
* **27.2** Sir 26.29
* **27.3** Ezek 33.13
* **27.5** Prov 17.3; 27.21
z **27.6** Other ancient authorities read *reasoning*
* **27.6** Mt 7.16, 17; 12.33, 34; Lk 6.45
* **27.8** Ex 28.2; Job 29.14; Sir 45.8
* **27.9** Sir 13.16
* **27.10** v 28; Sir 28.23
* **27.12** Sir 9.15
* **27.13** Eccl 7.5, 6
* **27.14** Sir 23.9
* **27.16** Sir 22.22
* **27.17** Sir 22.22
a **27.18** Other ancient authorities read *corpse*

* **27.19** Ps 91.3; 124.7
* **27.20** Prov 6.5
* **27.21** Sir 22.22
* **27.22** Prov 6.13, 14; 10.10
* **27.23** Ps 28.3; 55.21
* **27.24** Ps 12.2, 3
* **27.26** Ps 7.15; 9.15; 35.8
* **27.28** v 10; Sir 28.23
* **27.29** Ps 112.10

Sirach 28

b **28.1** Other ancient authorities read *for he firmly establishes*
* **28.1** Deut 32.35; Job 14.16; Rom 12.19
* **28.2** Mt 6.14; Mk 11.25
* **28.3** Mt 18.23–35
* **28.6** Sir 7.36
* **28.7** Lev 19.18; Mk 12.33
* **28.8** Sir 8.16
* **28.9** Prov 6.12, 14, 19
c **28.10** Other ancient authorities read *burn*
* **28.12** Jas 3.10
* **28.13** Sir 5.14
d **28.14** Gk *A third tongue*
e **28.15** Gk *A third tongue*
f **28.16** Gk *it*
* **28.17** Sir 23.10
* **28.18** Jas 3.8
* **28.20** Mt 11.30
* **28.22** Sir 8.10; Jas 3.6
* **28.23** Hos 13.7; Sir 27.10, 28
* **28.24a** Sir 36.30
* **28.25** Sir 21.25; 22.27
g **28.26** Gk *with it*

Sirach 29

* **29.1** Lev 25.35; Ps 37.26
* **29.2** Deut 15.8; Sir 4.31
* **29.4** v 6; Sir 8.12
h **29.6** Gk *he*
i **29.6** Gk *he*

* **29.6** v 4

j **29.7** Other ancient authorities read *many refuse to lend, therefore, because of such meanness; they are afraid*

* **29.7** Sir 4.31

* **29.8** Prov 19.17

* **29.9** Deut 15.7; 1 Jn 3.17

* **29.11** v 1; Dan 4.27; Tob 4.7; Mt 19.21; 1 Tim 6.17–19

* **29.12** Tob 4.9; Sir 40.24

* **29.18** Prov 6.1, 2; 11.15

* **29.21** Sir 39.26

* **29.22** Sir 40.29

k **29.23** Lat: Gk *reproach from your family*; other ancient authorities lack this line

* **29.23** 1 Tim 6.6, 8

* **29.24** Sir 36.31

* **29.27** Lk 14.9

l **29.28** Or *scolding from the household*

* **29.28** Prov 22.7; Sir 31.31

Sirach 30

m **30.1** This heading is included in the Gk text.

* **30.1** Prov 13.24; 29.17; Sir 42.5

* **30.3** Deut 4.9; 6.7

* **30.4** 1 Kings 1.48

* **30.6** 1 Kings 2.5, 7, 8

* **30.8** Prov 29.15

n **30.11** Other ancient authorities add *and do not ignore his errors. Bow down his neck in his youth,*

o **30.12** Other ancient authorities add *and you will have sorrow of soul from him*

* **30.12** Prov 17.21; Sir 7.23

p **30.13** Heb: Gk *take pains with him*

* **30.13** Prov 22.6; Eph 6.4

* **30.14** Eccl 5.12

q **30.15** Gk: Syr Heb read *spirit*

r **30.17** Other ancient authorities lack *eternal sleep*

* **30.17** Sir 41.2

s **30.18** This heading is included in the Gk text; other ancient authorities place the heading before 30.16

* **30.18** Tob 4.17

* **30.19** Ps 115.6; Bel 7

t **30.20** Other ancient authorities add *So is the person who does right under compulsion*

* **30.20** Sir 20.4

* **30.21** Prov 12.25; 15.13; 17.22

* **30.22** Prov 17.22
u **30.23** Other ancient authorities read *Beguile yourself*
* **30.23** Sir 38.18; 2 Cor 7.10
* **30.24** Prov 14.30
* **30.25** Eccl 8.15; 9.7

Sirach 31

* **31.1** Eccl 5.12; 1 Tim 6.9, 10
v **31.2** Other ancient authorities read *sleep carries off a severe illness*
* **31.3** Sir 11.18, 19; Lk 12.19
* **31.4** Prov 16.26
w **31.5** Heb Syr: Gk *pursues destruction will be filled*
* **31.5** Prov 28.20; 1 Tim 6.10
* **31.6** Sir 8.2
* **31.8** Job 31.24; Ps 62.10
x **31.11** Other ancient authorities add *because of this*
* **31.11** 2 Cor 9.12, 13
y **31.12** Some ancient authorities add the title *Concerning Food*
z **31.12** Heb Syr: Gk *at a great table*
* **31.12** Prov 23.1–3; Sir 37.29
* **31.13** Sir 14.8–10
a **31.14** Gk *him*
* **31.14** v 18
* **31.15** Tob 4.15
b **31.16** Heb: Gk *like a human being*
* **31.16** Prov 23.1–3; Sir 37.29
c **31.18** Gk *reach out your hand*
* **31.18** v 14
* **31.20** Eccl 5.12; Sir 37.30
d **31.22** Heb Syr: Gk *industrious*
* **31.23** Prov 22.9
* **31.24** Job 31.17; Sir 14.10
* **31.25** Isa 5.22; Jdt 13.2, 8; Sir 19.2
e **31.26** Heb: Gk *tests the hardening of steel by dipping*
* **31.26** Prov 23.29, 30
* **31.27** Ps 104.15; Sir 40.20; 1 Esd 3.19; 1 Tim 5.23
* **31.28** Eccl 10.17
* **31.29** Prov 20.1
* **31.30** Prov 20.1
* **31.31** Sir 29.28

Sirach 32

* **32.1** 2 Macc 2.27; Jn 2.8, 9
* **32.3** v 7
* **32.4** Eccl 3.7; Sir 20.7
* **32.5** Isa 5.12; Sir 40.20; 49.1
* **32.7** v 3; Job 32.6
* **32.8** Prov 17.27
* **32.9** Sir 7.14; 13.11
* **32.13** 1 Tim 4.3, 4

f **32.14** Heb: Gk *who fears the Lord*

g **32.14** Other ancient authorities lack *to seek him*

* **32.14** Sir 4.12; 18.14; 39.5
* **32.15** Sir 33.2
* **32.16** Ps 37.6; Prov 4.18; Mt 5.16
* **32.17** Prov 12.15

h **32.18** Heb: Gk *alien*

i **32.18** Or *cower in fear*; other ancient authorities add *and after acting, with him, without deliberation*

* **32.18** Prov 12.25
* **32.19** Sir 37.16

j **32.20** Heb: Gk *stumble on stony ground*

k **32.21** Or *an unexplored*

* **32.21** Prov 16.17

l **32.22** Heb Syr: Gk *and beware of your children*

m **32.23** Heb Syr: Gk *Trust*

* **32.23** Rom 14.5; 1 Cor 7.19

n **32.24** Heb: Gk *who believes the law heeds the commandments*

* **32.24** Ps 37.3, 5; Sir 35.1–4

Sirach 33

* **33.1** Prov 12.21; 2 Pet 2.9
* **33.2** Sir 32.15

o **33.3** Heb *a word*

* **33.3** Ex 28.30; Sir 45.10
* **33.5** Sir 21.14; 27.11
* **33.7** Rom 14.5
* **33.8** Ex 12.14; 20.8; 23.14; Lev 23.44
* **33.9** Gen 2.3; Ex 20.11

p **33.10** Heb: Gk *Adam*

* **33.10** Gen 1.27; 2.7; Wis 7.1

* **33.11** Deut 32.8; Acts 17.26
* **33.12** Num 8.14; 16.9
* **33.13** Wis 15.7
* **33.14** Isa 45.7
* **33.15** Sir 42.24
* **33.16** Isa 24.13; 2 Esd 12.42; Mt 21.33
* **33.17** Isa 5.2; 63.3
* **33.18** Sir 24.34
* **33.24** 2 Kings 20.1

q **33.25** Some ancient authorities add the title *Concerning Slaves*

* **33.25** Prov 26.3

r **33.26** Heb: Gk *Work with instruction*

* **33.27** Sir 42.5
* **33.29** Ezek 16.49; 2 Thess 3.11
* **33.30** Lev 25.43; Prov 29.19
* **33.31** Sir 7.20; Eph 6.9; Col 4.1

Sirach 34

* **34.2** Job 20.8; Eccl 5.7; 2 Esd 10.36
* **34.3** Prov 27.19
* **34.4** Job 14.4; Jn 3.6
* **34.5** Jer 14.14; 23.25
* **34.6** Gen 46.2; Num 12.6

s **34.9** Other ancient authorities read *are educated*

* **34.9** Sir 36.25
* **34.11** Sir 39.4; 51.13
* **34.13** Sir 51.2–12
* **34.14** Isa 38.16
* **34.16** Ps 71.5; 112.1, 7; 1 Pet 3.14
* **34.19** Ps 33.18; 59.16; Prov 3.26
* **34.20** Ezra 9.8; Ps 13.3

t **34.21** Other ancient authorities read *is made in mockery*

* **34.21** Prov 21.27

u **34.22** Other ancient authorities read *mockeries*

* **34.23** 1 Sam 15.22; Isa 1.11–13
* **34.24** 2 Sam 12.3, 4
* **34.26** Sir 4.1
* **34.27** Lev 19.13; Tob 4.14; Sir 7.20
* **34.30** Num 19.11, 12
* **34.31** Isa 58.3; 2 Pet 2.21

Sirach 35

* **35.1** 1 Sam 15.22
* **35.2** Lev 3.1; Sir 47.2
* **35.3** Sir 38.11
* **35.5** Dan 4.27
* **35.6** Ex 23.15
* **35.8** Gen 8.21; Sir 38.11; 50.15
* **35.9** Sir 39.9; Heb 11.4
* **35.10** v 12; Prov 3.9
* **35.11** 2 Cor 9.7
* **35.12** v 10; Tob 4.8; Sir 14.11
* **35.13** Prov 19.17; 2 Cor 9.8
* **35.15** Deut 10.17; Ps 50.6; 58.11
* **35.16** Ex 22.23; Lk 18.7
* **35.17** Ex 22.22; Deut 24.17
* **35.21** Gen 32.26; Lam 3.44; Lk 18.7

v **35.22** Heb: Gk *and with them*

* **35.22** Deut 33.11; 2 Pet 3.9
* **35.23** Isa 14.5
* **35.24** Job 34.11; Mt 16.27; Rev 22.12
* **35.26** Isa 49.10; Hos 6.3

Sirach 36

w **36.1** Heb: Gk *O Master, the God*

* **36.3** Ps 79.6; Jer 10.25
* **36.4** Ezek 20.41; 28.25

x **36.5** Heb: Gk *And let them know you*

* **36.5** Josh 4.24; 1 Kings 8.43, 60
* **36.8** Ps 79.6; Jer 10.25

y **36.10** Other ancient authorities read *remember your oath*

* **36.12** Ps 68.21; 110.6

z **36.13** Verse numbers 14 and 15 are not used in chapter 36

* **36.13** Sir 48.10

a **36.17** Other ancient authorities read *you have likened to*

* **36.17** Dan 9.18, 19; 2 Esd 6.58

b **36.18** Or *on your holy city*

c **36.18** Heb: Gk *your rest*

* **36.18** 2 Chr 6.41; Ps 132.8, 14

d **36.19** Heb Syr: Gk *the celebration of your wondrous deeds*

e **36.19** Heb Syr: Gk Lat *people*

* **36.19** Isa 24.23
* **36.21** Isa 40.31
f **36.22** Heb and two Gk mss: Lat and most Gk mss read *according to the blessing of Aaron for*
* **36.22** Num 6.23–27; 1 Kings 8.60; 1 Tim 1.17
* **36.24** Job 12.11; 34.3
* **36.25** Sir 34.9
* **36.27** 1 Esd 4.18, 19
* **36.28** Prov 31.26
g **36.29** Heb: Gk *enters upon a possession*
h **36.29** Heb: Gk *rest*
* **36.29** Gen 2.18; Prov 18.22
i **36.30** Heb: Gk *wander about and sigh*
* **36.30** Sir 28.24a
* **36.31** Prov 27.8; Sir 29.24

Sirach 37

* **37.1** Prov 20.6
j **37.2** Heb reads *a friend like yourself*
* **37.2** Ps 35.12–14
* **37.4** Sir 6.8
* **37.5** Sir 6.10
k **37.6** Heb: Gk *in your heart*
l **37.6** Heb: Gk *him in your wealth*
* **37.6** Prov 27.10
* **37.8** 2 Sam 17.7; Joel 3.3; Add Esth 9.24
m **37.11** Gk: Heb *with an evil person about generosity*
* **37.11** Prov 18.9; Sir 26.6, 29; 27.2
* **37.12** Sir 6.36; 7.34; 8.9
n **37.13** Heb: Gk *establish*
* **37.14** 2 Sam 18.24; 2 Kings 9.17
* **37.16** Sir 32.19
o **37.17** Heb: Gk *change*
p **37.18** Heb: Gk *four kinds of destiny appear*
* **37.18** Deut 30.19; Prov 18.21; Mt 12.36, 37
* **37.19** Rom 2.17–23
q **37.22** Other ancient authorities read *trustworthy*
* **37.23** Prov 8.18, 19
* **37.25** Ps 39.4; 90.12
r **37.26** Other ancient authorities read *confidence*
* **37.26** Prov 3.35; Sir 4.13
* **37.28** 1 Cor 6.12; 10.23

* **37.29** Sir 31.12, 16, 17
* **37.30** Sir 31.20

Sirach 38

* **38.1** v 12
* **38.4** 2 Kings 20.7; Ezek 47.12
s **38.5** Or *his*
* **38.5** Ex 15.25; 2 Esd 1.23
t **38.6** Or *they*
u **38.7** Heb: Gk *he*
* **38.7** Jer 8.22; 46.11; 51.8
v **38.8** Gk *His*
* **38.9** Isa 38.2
* **38.10** Ps 51.10; 73.13; Jn 5.14
w **38.11** Heb: Lat lacks *as much as you can afford*; meaning of Gk uncertain
* **38.11** Lev 2.1; Sir 35.3, 8
* **38.12** v 1
x **38.13** Gk *in their hands*
y **38.14** Heb: Gk *rest*
z **38.15** Heb: Gk *may they fall into the hands of the physician*
* **38.15** 1 Cor 11.30
* **38.16** Sir 22.11
* **38.17** Gen 50.10; Acts 8.2
* **38.18** Prov 15.13; Sir 30.23; 2 Cor 7.10
* **38.20** Sir 7.36
a **38.21** Gk *him*
* **38.21** 2 Sam 12.23; Job 7.9
b **38.22** Heb: Gk *my*
c **38.22** Heb: Gk *mine*
* **38.22** Gen 3.19
* **38.23** 2 Sam 12.20–23
* **38.24** 1 Cor 1.20
* **38.27** Wis 14.19
d **38.28** Cn: Gk *renews his ear*
* **38.28** Isa 44.12
* **38.29** Wis 15.7
e **38.30** Cn: Gk *cleaning*
f **38.32** Syr: Gk *and people can neither live nor walk there*
g **38.32** Most ancient authorities lack this line
h **38.33** Cn: Gk *among parables*
i **38.34** Syr: Gk *prayer is in*

Sirach 39

* **39.1** Josh 1.8; Ps 1.2; 119.97; Sir 44.3
* **39.3** Sir 6.35; 47.15
* **39.4** Eccl 1.13; 7.25; Sir 11.1; 34.11
* **39.5** Sir 32.14
* **39.6** Wis 7.7; Sir 18.29; Jas 1.5

j **39.7** Gk *He himself*

* **39.7** Ps 25.14
* **39.9** Sir 44.13
* **39.10** Sir 44.15
* **39.13** Sir 24.14; 50.8

k **39.14** Syr: Gk *fragrance*

* **39.14** Sir 50.8
* **39.15** Ps 98.5; 147.7
* **39.16** v 33; Gen 1.31; Num 23.19
* **39.17** v 21; Ex 14.29; Ps 33.7; 147.18; Rom 9.20
* **39.18** Ps 135.6; 147.15
* **39.19** Sir 15.19; Heb 4.13
* **39.21** v 17; Rom 9.20
* **39.24** Hos 14.9

l **39.25** Heb Lat: Gk *sinners bad things*

* **39.25** Sir 40.10
* **39.26** Gen 49.11; Deut 32.14; Sir 29.21; 50.15
* **39.27** Rom 8.28; 1 Tim 4.4

m **39.28** Heb Syr: Gk *can scourge mightily*

* **39.28** Ps 148.8
* **39.29** Ps 148.8; Sir 40.9, 10
* **39.30** Deut 8.15; 32.24
* **39.31** Ps 147.15–18; 148.8
* **39.33** v 16; Gen 1.31
* **39.34** Eccl 7.10

Sirach 40

n **40.1** Other Gk and Lat authorities read *are buried in*

o **40.1** Heb: Gk *of all*

* **40.1** Job 5.7; Eccl 1.3; Wis 7.1; 2 Esd 10.10
* **40.2** Job 15.21; 18.11
* **40.3** Ex 11.5

p **40.6** Arm: Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **40.6** Wis 18.17; Sir 34.2, 3

q **40.7** Other ancient authorities read *need*
* **40.7** Isa 29.8
* **40.10** Gen 6.13; 7.11; Sir 39.25, 29, 30
r **40.11** Heb Syr: Gk Lat *from the waters returns to the sea*
* **40.11** Gen 3.19; Eccl 1.7; Sir 41.10
* **40.13** Job 6.15; Prov 10.25
* **40.15** Job 18.16; Isa 5.24; Hos 9.16
* **40.16** Job 8.11, 12
* **40.17** v 27; Tob 12.9
s **40.18** Heb: Gk *Life is sweet for the self-reliant and hard-working*
t **40.19** Heb Syr: Gk lacks *but better . . . prosperous*
* **40.19** Prov 19.14
u **40.20** Heb: Gk *wisdom*
* **40.20** Sir 31.27, 28; 32.5
* **40.21** Prov 16.24; Wis 19.18
v **40.23** Heb Compare Syr: Gk *wife with her husband*
* **40.23** Prov 31.10, 11
* **40.24** Prov 17.17; Sir 29.12
* **40.26** Prov 10.15; Sir 23.27; 25.11
* **40.27** v 17
* **40.28** Job 15.23
* **40.29** Sir 29.22, 24

Sirach 41

w **41.1** Heb: Gk *food*
* **41.1** Eccl 11.7, 8
* **41.2** Ps 90.10; Sir 2.14; 30.17
* **41.3** Rom 5.12
* **41.6** Deut 28.18; Ps 21.10
x **41.8** Heb: Gk adds *God*
y **41.9** Other ancient authorities read *If you have children, calamity will be theirs; you*
z **41.9** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **41.9** Job 20.28, 29
* **41.10** Gen 3.19; Sir 40.11
a **41.11** Heb: Gk *misery*
b **41.11** Heb: Gk *but the bad name of sinners will be blotted out*
* **41.11** Ps 9.5; 109.13
* **41.12** Prov 22.1; Eccl 7.1
* **41.13** Ps 112.6; Prov 10.7
* **41.14** Sir 20.30
* **41.15** Sir 20.31

c **41.16** Heb: Gk *and not everything is confidently esteemed by everyone*
* **41.16** Sir 4.20, 21; 42.1
d **41.19** Heb: Gk *before the truth of God and the covenant*
* **41.19** Sir 42.2
* **41.21** Isa 58.7; Sir 9.9; Mt 5.28
* **41.22** Sir 18.15

Sirach 42

* **42.1** Sir 4.20–22; 41.16
* **42.2** Sir 41.19
* **42.4** Prov 11.1
* **42.5** Sir 30.1, 2; 33.27
* **42.9** Sir 7.24, 25; 1 Cor 7.36
* **42.10** Sir 22.4
e **42.11** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
f **42.11** Heb: Gk *to shame before the great multitude*
g **42.11** Heb: Gk lacks *See . . . house*
* **42.11** Sir 26.10
h **42.12** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **42.12** Sir 25.21
* **42.13** Sir 25.13, 17
* **42.14** Prov 5.3; 6.24; 7.21
i **42.15** Syr Compare Heb: most Gk mss lack *and all . . . will*
* **42.15** 2 Esd 6.38
* **42.17** Sir 18.4; 43.27, 28
j **42.18** Heb: Gk *wondrous feats*
k **42.18** Heb: Gk *he sees the sign(s) of the age*
* **42.18** Dan 2.22
* **42.19** Isa 41.22; 46.10
* **42.20** Ps 139.4; Isa 29.15; Wis 1.6
* **42.21** Isa 40.13; Sir 16.26, 27; 18.6
l **42.22** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **42.22** Ps 104.24
m **42.23** Heb: Gk *forever for every need, and all are obedient*
* **42.24** Sir 33.15

Sirach 43

* **43.1** Job 37.18
* **43.2** Ps 19.4–6
* **43.3** Ps 19.6; Jas 1.11

n **43.4** Other ancient authorities read *blowing upon*
* **43.4** Rev 1.16
* **43.5** Ps 19.5; Eccl 1.5
o **43.6** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **43.6** Ps 104.19
* **43.7** Gen 1.14; Ex 12.2
p **43.8** Heb: Gk *The month accords with its name*
* **43.9** Ps 8.3; Wis 13.2, 3
* **43.10** Bar 3.34
* **43.11** Gen 9.13; Ezek 1.28; Sir 50.7; Rev 4.3
* **43.13** Job 28.26; 37.6; 38.25; Ps 147.16
* **43.14** Deut 28.12; Job 38.22; Jer 10.13; 51.16
* **43.16** Job 37.17; Ps 104.32
* **43.17b** Ex 10.5; Job 37.9
* **43.19** Ps 147.16
* **43.22** Prov 19.12; Isa 18.4
* **43.23** Ps 65.7; Mt 8.26
* **43.24** Ps 107.23–27
q **43.25** Heb: Gk *a creation of*
* **43.25** Gen 1.21; Ps 104.25, 26
* **43.26** Col 1.17
* **43.27** Sir 42.17
* **43.28** Wis 13.3, 4
* **43.29** Ps 48.1; 96.4; 147.5
* **43.31** Ps 106.2; Jn 1.18; 5.37; 6.46
r **43.32** Heb: Gk *we*
* **43.32** Sir 16.21

Sirach 44

s **44.1** This title is included in the Gk text.
t **44.2** Heb: Gk *created*
* **44.3** Sir 39.1
* **44.5** Sir 47.8–10
* **44.9** Ob 16; Wis 2.2
u **44.11** Heb Compare Lat Syr: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **44.11** Ps 112.3
* **44.13** Sir 39.9
* **44.14** Gen 15.15
v **44.15** Heb: Gk *Peoples declare*
* **44.15** Sir 39.10
* **44.16** Gen 5.24

w **44.17** Heb: Gk *was taken in exchange*
x **44.17** Cn: Gk *this*
* **44.17** Gen 6.9; 1 Pet 3.20; 2 Pet 2.5
* **44.18** Gen 9.11
* **44.19** Gen 12.2; 15.5
* **44.20** Gen 17.10, 11; 22.1; Heb 11.17
y **44.21** Gk *he*
z **44.21** Syr: Heb Gk *River*
* **44.21** Gen 13.16; 15.5, 18; 22.16–18
* **44.22** Gen 26.3–5
a **44.23** Gk *he*
* **44.23** Gen 27.28, 29; 28.14; 49.28

Sirach 45

* **45.1** Ex 11.3; Sir 46.11; 1 Macc 3.7
b **45.3** Heb: Gk *caused signs to cease*
c **45.3** Gk *he*
* **45.3** Ex 8.13, 31; 10.19; 19.3; 33.22, 23; 34.6; Deut 6.1–9
* **45.4** Num 12.3
* **45.5** Ex 24.18; 33.11
d **45.6** Gk *him*
* **45.6** Ex 4.14–16
* **45.7** Ex 28.1–3; Wis 18.24
e **45.8** Heb: Gk *boasting*
* **45.8** Ex 28.4, 42
* **45.9** Ex 28.33, 35
* **45.10** Ex 28.30; Sir 33.3
* **45.11** Ex 28.17–21; Wis 18.24
* **45.12** Ex 28.36–38; Zech 14.20; Wis 18.24
* **45.13** Ex 28.4
* **45.14** Num 28.3, 4
f **45.15** Gk *him*
* **45.15** Lev 8.1–30; Num 6.23–27
g **45.16** Other ancient authorities read *his* or *your*
* **45.16** Num 17.5; 1 Sam 2.28
h **45.17** Heb: Gk *authority in covenants of*
* **45.17** Lev 10.11; Deut 17.9–11; 19.17; 21.5; 33.10
* **45.18** Num 16.1
* **45.19** Num 16.23–25
* **45.20** Num 17.8; 18.12, 13
* **45.21** 1 Cor 9.13

i **45.22** Gk *he*
j **45.22** Other ancient authorities read *your*
* **45.22** Num 18.20
* **45.23** Num 25.11–13; 1 Macc 2.54
* **45.25** 2 Sam 7.12–16
k **45.26** Heb: Gk lacks *And . . . glory*
l **45.26** Gk *he*

Sirach 46

m **46.1** Gk *his*
* **46.1** Num 27.18; Deut 34.9; Josh 1.6; 12.7; Mt 1.21
* **46.2** Josh 6.1–12.24
* **46.4** Josh 10.12
* **46.5** Josh 10.11
n **46.6** Other ancient authorities read *for his battle was before*
* **46.6** Josh 10.11
o **46.7** Other ancient authorities read *the enemy*
* **46.7** Num 14.6–9; 1 Macc 2.55, 56
p **46.8** Gk *them*
* **46.8** Ex 3.8; Num 1.46; 14.38; 26.65
* **46.9** Josh 14.6–14
* **46.11** Judg 2.17; Sir 45.1; 1 Macc 3.7
q **46.12** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **46.12** Sir 49.10
* **46.13** 1 Sam 10.1; Acts 13.20
* **46.15** 1 Sam 3.19, 20
* **46.16** 1 Sam 7.7–10; Ps 99.6
r **46.18** Heb: Gk *leaders of the people of Tyre*
s **46.19** Gk *he*
* **46.19** 1 Sam 12.3
* **46.20** 1 Sam 28.16–19; Sir 48.13

Sirach 47

* **47.1** 2 Sam 7.1–17; 12.1–15
* **47.2** Lev 3.3; 1 Sam 16.11–13; Sir 35.2
* **47.3** 1 Sam 17.34–36
* **47.4** 1 Sam 17.49–51
t **47.5** Gk *horn*
* **47.5** 1 Sam 2.1
* **47.6** 1 Sam 18.7

u **47.7** Gk *horn*
* **47.7** 1 Sam 2.1; 2 Sam 5.7, 25; 8.1–14; 10.19
* **47.8** 2 Sam 23.1–7
v **47.9** Other ancient authorities add *and daily they sing their praises*
* **47.9** 1 Chr 16.4; Sir 50.18
w **47.10** Gk *to completion*
x **47.10** Gk *his*
y **47.11** Gk *horn*
* **47.11** 1 Sam 2.1; 2 Sam 7.12; 12.13
z **47.12** Heb: Gk *in a broad place*
* **47.13** 1 Kings 4.24, 25; 5.4, 5
a **47.14** Heb: Gk *a river*
* **47.14** 1 Kings 4.29, 30; Prov 18.4; Wis 8.10
* **47.15** Sir 39.3
* **47.16** 1 Kings 4.34; 10.1
* **47.17** 1 Kings 4.31–34
* **47.18** 1 Kings 10.22, 27
* **47.19** 1 Kings 11.1–3
b **47.20** Other ancient authorities read *I was grieved*
* **47.21** 1 Kings 11.26; 12.15–17
c **47.22** Heb Syr: Gk *works*
* **47.22** 2 Sam 7.15; Ps 89.33
d **47.23** Heb Syr: Gk *the people's*
* **47.23** 1 Kings 11.43; 12.8, 28; Sir 10.3
* **47.24** 2 Kings 17.6, 18

Sirach 48

* **48.1** Mal 4.5
* **48.3** 1 Kings 17.1; 18.38; 2 Kings 1.10, 12
e **48.4** Or *be glorified*
* **48.5** 1 Kings 17.21, 22
* **48.6** 2 Kings 1.16; 2 Chr 21.12–15
* **48.7** 1 Kings 19.8–18
f **48.8** Heb: Gk *him*
* **48.8** 1 Kings 19.15, 16
* **48.9** 2 Kings 2.11; 6.17
g **48.10** Heb: Gk *are for reproofs*
* **48.10** Mal 4.5, 6; Sir 36.13; Lk 1.17
h **48.11** Other ancient authorities read *and have died*
i **48.11** Meaning of Gk uncertain
j **48.12** Heb: Gk lacks *He performed . . . mouth*

* **48.12** 2 Kings 2.11, 15; 3.14
k **48.13** Heb: Gk *no word surpassed him*
* **48.13** 2 Kings 13.21; Sir 46.20
* **48.15** 2 Kings 18.11, 12; Rom 9.29
* **48.17** 2 Kings 20.20; 2 Chr 32.5
l **48.18** Other ancient authorities add *from Lachish*
* **48.18** 2 Kings 18.13, 17; Isa 36.1, 2, 8, 9
* **48.20** 2 Kings 19.15–20
m **48.21** Gk *He*
* **48.21** 2 Kings 19.35; Isa 37.36
* **48.22** 2 Kings 18.3
n **48.23** Gk *his*
* **48.23** 2 Kings 20.10, 11; Isa 38.8
* **48.24** Isa 12.1; 40.1
* **48.25** Isa 42.9; 48.3, 6

Sirach 49

o **49.1** Heb: Gk *memory*
p **49.1** Heb: Gk *it*
* **49.1** Ex 30.34, 35; 2 Kings 22.1, 2; Ps 19.10; Sir 32.5
* **49.2** 2 Kings 23.4–8; 2 Chr 34.3, 7, 33
* **49.3** 2 Kings 23.3, 25
* **49.4** v 1; Sir 47.1, 2; 48.17, 22
q **49.5** Heb *He*
* **49.5** 2 Kings 16.7; 2 Chr 28.16–21
r **49.6** Gk *by the hand of Jeremiah*
* **49.6** 2 Kings 25.9; 2 Chr 36.19; Jer 34.22; 37.8
* **49.7** Jer 1.5, 10; 37.21; 38.6; Gal 1.15
s **49.8** Gk *He*
* **49.8** Ezek 1.3, 4, 15
t **49.9** Heb Compare Syr: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **49.10** Sir 46.12; 2 Esd 1.39, 40
* **49.11** 1 Chr 3.19; Hag 2.23
u **49.12** Other ancient authorities read *people*
* **49.12** Ezra 3.2, 8–11
* **49.13** Neh 1.1; 3.1–32; 10.1
v **49.14** Heb Syr: Gk *No one has*
* **49.14** Gen 5.24; Heb 11.5
w **49.15** Heb Syr: Gk adds *the leader of his brothers, the support of the people*
* **49.15** Gen 42.6; 45.8; 50.25; Ex 13.19; Josh 24.32
x **49.16** Heb: Gk *Shem and Seth were honored by people*

* **49.16** Gen 1.26; 5.3, 32; 11.10

Sirach 50

y **50.1** Heb Syr: Gk lacks this line.
z **50.3** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
a **50.5** Heb: Gk *in his courses in the temple*
* **50.5** Ex 30.6; Lev 16.2; Heb 6.19
b **50.6** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **50.6** Rev 2.28; 22.16
* **50.7** Gen 9.14; 2 Sam 23.4; Sir 43.11, 12
* **50.8** Sir 39.13, 14
* **50.9** Lev 16.12, 13; Sir 24.15
* **50.10** Sir 24.13, 14
* **50.11** Wis 18.24
* **50.12** Ps 92.12
c **50.14** Other ancient authorities read *altar*
* **50.15** Sir 35.8; 39.26
* **50.16** Num 10.2, 10
d **50.18** Other ancient authorities read *in sweet melody throughout the house*
* **50.18** Sir 47.9
e **50.20** Gk *he*
* **50.21** Num 6.22–26
f **50.22** Heb *who nurtures humankind from the womb*
* **50.22** Ps 22.10; 71.6; 72.18
g **50.23** Other ancient authorities read *you*
h **50.23** Other ancient authorities read *your*
i **50.24** Other ancient authorities read *his*
j **50.26** Heb Compare Lat: Gk *on the mountain of Samaria*
* **50.26** Ezek 25.15–17; Jn 4.9
k **50.27** Heb: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **50.27** Sir 18.29
* **50.28** Rev 1.3
l **50.29** Heb: Other ancient authorities read *light*
m **50.29** Other ancient authorities add *And to the pious he gave wisdom. Blessed be the Lord forever. May it be; may it be.*
* **50.29** Isa 2.3

Sirach 51

n **51.1** This title is included in the Gk text.
* **51.1** Ps 138.1, 2; Lk 1.47

* **51.2** Ps 120.2
* **51.3** Ps 69.13–15; 124.6
* **51.4** Prov 16.27; Jas 3.6
* **51.5** Ps 120.2; Jas 3.6
* **51.6** Ps 88.3; 107.18
* **51.7** Ps 22.11; 118.10–12; 142.4

o **51.8** Other ancient authorities read *work*

p **51.10** Heb: Gk *the Father of my lord*

* **51.10** Sir 24.14
* **51.12** Sir 2.11; 24.14
* **51.13** Wis 7.7; Sir 34.10, 11
* **51.15** Prov 2.7, 8

q **51.18** Gk *her*

r **51.19** Gk *her*

s **51.19** Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **51.20** Prov 4.6
* **51.22** Isa 50.4
* **51.23** Prov 8.5; 9.4, 5

t **51.24** Cn Compare Heb Syr: Meaning of Gk uncertain

u **51.25** Heb: Gk lacks *wisdom*

* **51.25** Isa 55.1

v **51.26** Heb: other ancient authorities read *the*

* **51.26** Deut 30.14; Sir 6.25; Mt 11.29

w **51.28** Syr Compare Heb: Gk *Get instruction with a large sum of silver, and you will gain by it much gold.*

* **51.28** Prov 4.7; Wis 7.11

x **51.29** Gk *his*

y **51.30** Gk *he*

* **51.30** Job 34.11; Sir 2.8; 16.14; Jn 9.4

Baruch

Baruch 1

BARUCH AND THE JEWS IN BABYLON

1 These are the words of the book that Baruch son of Neriah son of
Mahseiah son of Zedekiah son of Hasadiah son of Hilkiah wrote in
Babylon,* 2in the fifth year, on the seventh day of the month, at the time
when the Chaldeans took Jerusalem and burned it with fire.*

3 Baruch read the words of this book to Jeconiah son of Jehoiakim, king
of Judah, and to all the people who came to hear the book* 4and to the
nobles and the princes and to the elders and to all the people, small and
great, all who lived in Babylon by the River Sud.*

5 Then they wept and fasted and prayed before the Lord; 6they collected
as much silver as each could give* 7and sent it to Jerusalem to the priest
Jehoiakim son of Hilkiah son of Shallum the priest and to the priests and to
all the people who were present with him in Jerusalem. 8At the same time,
on the tenth day of Sivan, Baruch[a] took the vessels of the house of the Lord
that had been carried away from the temple, to return them to the land of
Judah—the silver vessels that Zedekiah son of Josiah, king of Judah, had
made* 9after King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had carried away from
Jerusalem Jeconiah and the princes and the prisoners and the nobles and the
people of the land and brought them to Babylon.*

A LETTER TO JERUSALEM

10 They said, "Here we send you silver, so buy with the silver burnt
offerings and for sin and incense, and prepare a grain offering, and offer
them on the altar of the Lord our God,* 11and pray for the life of King
Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon and for the life of his son Belshazzar, so that
their days on earth may be like the days of heaven.* 12The Lord will give us
strength and light to our eyes; we shall live under the protection[b] of King
Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon and under the protection of his son Belshazzar,

and we shall serve them many days and find favor in their sight.* 13Pray also for us to the Lord our God, for we have sinned against the Lord our God, and to this day the anger of the Lord and his wrath have not turned away from us. 14And you shall read aloud this scroll that we are sending you, to make your confession in the house of the Lord on the days of the festivals and at appointed seasons.*

CONFESSION OF SINS

15 "And you shall say: To the Lord our God belongs righteousness, but to us, this day, public shame, on the people of Judah, on the inhabitants of Jerusalem,* 16and on our kings, our rulers, our priests, our prophets, and our ancestors, 17because we have sinned before the Lord. 18We have disobeyed him and have not heeded the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in the statutes of the Lord that he set before us.* 19From the time when the Lord brought our ancestors out of the land of Egypt until today, we have been disobedient to the Lord our God, and we have been negligent in not listening to his voice.* 20So to this day there have clung to us the calamities and the curse that the Lord declared through his servant Moses at the time when he brought our ancestors out of the land of Egypt to give to us a land flowing with milk and honey.* 21We did not listen to the voice of the Lord our God in all the words of the prophets whom he sent to us,* 22but all of us followed the intent of our own wicked hearts by serving other gods and doing what is evil in the sight of the Lord our God.

Baruch 2

1 “So the Lord carried out the threat[c] he spoke against us: against our
judges who ruled Israel and against our kings and our rulers and the people
of Israel and Judah.* 2Under the whole heaven there has not been done the
like of what he has done in Jerusalem, in accordance with what is written in
the law of Moses,* 3that we would each eat the flesh of ours sons and the
flesh of our daughters.* 4He made them subject to all the kingdoms around
us, to be an object of scorn and a desolation among all the surrounding
peoples, where the Lord has scattered them.* 5They were brought down and
not raised up, because we sinned against the Lord our God and did not
listen to his voice.*

6 “To the Lord our God belongs righteousness, but to us, this day, open
shame.* 7All those calamities with which the Lord threatened us have come
upon us.* 8Yet we have not entreated the favor of the Lord by turning away,
each of us, from the thoughts of our wicked hearts.* 9And the Lord has kept
the calamities ready, and the Lord has brought them upon us, for the Lord is
just in all the works that he has commanded us to do.* 10Yet we have not
obeyed his voice, to walk in the statutes of the Lord that he set before us.*

PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE

11 “And now, O Lord God of Israel, who brought your people out of the
land of Egypt with a mighty hand and with signs and wonders and with
great power and outstretched arm and made yourself a name that continues
to this day,* 12we have sinned, we have been ungodly, we have done wrong,
O Lord our God, against all your ordinances.* 13Let your anger turn away
from us, for we are left few in number among the nations where you have
scattered us.* 14Hear, O Lord, our prayer and our entreaty, and for your own
sake deliver us and grant us favor in the sight of those who have carried us
into exile,* 15so that all the earth may know that you are the Lord our God,
for Israel and his descendants are called by your name.

16 “O Lord, look down from your holy dwelling and consider us. Incline
your ear, O Lord, and hear;* 17open your eyes, O Lord, and see, for the dead

who are in Hades, whose spirit has been taken from their bodies, will not ascribe glory or justice to the Lord,* 18but the person who is deeply grieved, who walks bowed and feeble, with failing eyes and famished soul, will declare your glory and righteousness, O Lord.*

19 "For it is not because of any righteous deeds of our ancestors or our kings that we bring before you our prayer for mercy, O Lord our God.* 20For you have sent your anger and your wrath upon us, as you declared by your servants the prophets, saying: 21'Thus says the Lord: Bend your shoulders and serve the king of Babylon, and you will remain in the land that I gave to your ancestors.* 22But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord and will not serve the king of Babylon,* 23I will silence from the towns of Judah and from the region around Jerusalem the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, and the whole land will be a desolation without inhabitants.'*

24 "But we did not obey your voice to serve the king of Babylon, and you have carried out your threats[d] that you spoke by your servants the prophets, that the bones of our kings and the bones of our ancestors would be brought out of their resting place,* 25and indeed they have been thrown out to the heat of day and the frost of night. They perished in great misery, by famine and sword and pestilence.* 26And the house that is called by your name you have made as it is today because of the wickedness of the house of Israel and the house of Judah.*

GOD'S PROMISE RECALLED

27 "Yet you have dealt with us, O Lord our God, in all your kindness and in all your great compassion, 28as you spoke by your servant Moses on the day when you commanded him to write your law in the presence of the people of Israel, saying, 29'If you will not obey my voice, this very great multitude will surely turn into a small number among the nations, where I will scatter them.* 30For I know that they will not obey me, for they are a stiff-necked people. But in the land of their exile they will have a change of heart* 31and know that I am the Lord their God. I will give them a heart that obeys and ears that hear;* 32they will praise me in the land of their exile and will remember my name 33and turn from their stubbornness and their

wicked deeds, for they will remember the ways of their ancestors, who sinned before the Lord. [34]I will bring them again into the land that I swore to give to their ancestors, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and they will rule over it, and I will increase them, and they will not be diminished.* [35]I will make an everlasting covenant with them to be their God, and they shall be my people, and I will never again remove my people Israel from the land that I have given them.'*

Baruch 3

1 "O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, the soul in anguish and the wearied
spirit cry out to you. [2]Hear, O Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned
before you. [3]For you are enthroned forever, and we are perishing forever.*
[4]O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, hear now the prayer of those of Israel who
have died and of the children of those who sinned before you, who did not
heed the voice of the Lord their God, so that calamities have clung to us.*
[5]Do not remember the iniquities of our ancestors, but in this crisis
remember your power and your name. [6]For you are the Lord our God, and it
is you, O Lord, whom we will praise. [7]For you have put the fear of you in
our hearts so that we would call upon your name, and we will praise you in
our exile, for we have put away from our hearts all the iniquity of our
ancestors who sinned against you.* [8]See, we are today in our exile where
you have scattered us, to be reproached and cursed and punished for all the
iniquities of our ancestors, who forsook the Lord our God."*

IN PRAISE OF WISDOM

[9]Hear, O Israel, the commandments of life;
give ear and learn wisdom!
[10]Why is it, O Israel, why is it that you are in the land of your
enemies,
that you are growing old in a foreign land,
[11]that you are defiled with the dead,
that you are counted among those in Hades?*
[12]You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom.*
[13]If you had walked in the way of God,
you would be living in peace forever.*
[14]Learn where there is wisdom,
where there is strength,
where there is understanding,

so that you may at the same time discern
where there is length of days and life,
where there is light for the eyes and peace.*

15 Who has found her place,
and who has entered her storehouses?*
16 Where are the rulers of the nations
and those who lorded it over the animals on earth;*
17 those who made sport of the birds of the air
and who hoarded up silver and gold
in which people trust,
and there is no end to their getting;*
18 those who schemed to get silver and were anxious,
but there is no trace of their works?
19 They have vanished and gone down to Hades,
and others have arisen in their place.*

20 Younger people have seen the light of day
and have lived upon the earth,
but they have not learned the way to knowledge,
nor understood her paths,
nor laid hold of her.*
21 Their descendants have strayed far from their[e] way.
22 She has not been heard of in Canaan
or seen in Teman;*
23 the descendants of Hagar, who seek for understanding on the earth,
the merchants of Merran and Teman,
the storytellers and the seekers for understanding,
have not learned the way to wisdom

or given thought to her paths.*

24 O Israel, how great is the house of God,
how vast the territory that he possesses!
25 It is great and has no bounds;
it is high and immeasurable.
26 The giants were born there, who were famous of old,
great in stature, expert in war.*
27 God did not choose them
or give them the way to knowledge,*
28 so they perished because they had no wisdom;
they perished through their folly.

29 Who has gone up into heaven and taken her
and brought her down from the clouds?*
30 Who has gone over the sea and found her
and will buy her for pure gold?*
31 No one knows the way to her
or is concerned about the path to her.
32 But the one who knows all things knows her;
he found her by his understanding.
The one who prepared the earth for all time
filled it with four-footed creatures;*
33 the one who sends forth the light and it goes,
he called it, and it obeyed him, trembling;
34 the stars shone in their watches and were glad;
35 he called them, and they said, “Here we are!”
They shone with gladness for him who made them.*
36 This is our God;
no other can be compared to him.

[37]He found the whole way to knowledge
and gave her to his servant Jacob
and to Israel, whom he loved.*
[38]Afterward she appeared on earth
and lived with humankind.*

Baruch 4

[1]She is the book of the commandments of God,
the law that endures forever.
All who hold her fast will live,
and those who forsake her will die.*
[2]Turn, O Jacob, and take her;
walk toward the shining of her light.*
[3]Do not give your glory to another
or your advantages to a foreign nation.
[4]Happy are we, O Israel,
for we know what is pleasing to God.*

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR ISRAEL

[5]Take courage, my people,
who perpetuate Israel's name!
[6]It was not for destruction
that you were sold to the nations,
but you were handed over to your enemies
because you angered God.*
[7]For you provoked the one who made you
by sacrificing to demons and not to God.*
[8]You forgot the everlasting God, who brought you up,
and you grieved Jerusalem, who reared you.
[9]For she saw the wrath that came upon you from God,
and she said:
"Listen, you neighbors of Zion;
God has brought great sorrow upon me,*

10 for I have seen the exile of my sons and daughters,
which the Everlasting brought upon them.
11 With joy I nurtured them,
but I sent them away with weeping and sorrow.*
12 Let no one rejoice over me, a widow
and bereaved of many;
I was left desolate because of the sins of my children,
because they turned away from the law of God.*
13 They had no regard for his statutes;
they did not walk in the ways of God's commandments
or tread the paths his righteousness showed them.
14 Let the neighbors of Zion come;
remember the capture of my sons and daughters,
which the Everlasting brought upon them.*
15 For he brought a distant nation against them,
a nation ruthless and of a strange language,
which had no respect for the aged
and no pity for a child.*
16 They led away the widow's beloved sons
and bereaved the lonely woman of her daughters.

17 "But I, how can I help you?*
18 For he who brought these calamities
will deliver you from the hand of your enemies.*
19 Go, my children, go,
for I have been left desolate.*
20 I have taken off the robe of peace
and put on sackcloth for my supplication;
I will cry to the Everlasting all my days.*

21 “Take courage, my children, cry to God,
and he will deliver you from the power and hand of the enemy.*
22 For I have put my hope in the Everlasting to save you,
and joy has come to me from the Holy One,
because of the mercy that will soon come to you
from your everlasting savior.f
23 For I sent you out with sorrow and weeping,
but God will give you back to me with joy and gladness forever.*
24 For as the neighbors of Zion have now seen your capture,
so they soon will see your salvation by God,
which will come to you with great glory
and with the splendor of the Everlasting.*
25 My children, endure with patience the wrath that has come upon you from God.
Your enemy has overtaken you,
but you will soon see their destruction
and will tread upon their necks.*
26 My pampered children have traveled rough roads;
they were taken away like a flock carried off by the enemy.

27 “Take courage, my children, and cry to God,
for you will be remembered by the one who brought this upon you.*
28 For just as you were disposed to go astray from God,
return with tenfold zeal to seek him.
29 For the one who brought these calamities upon you
will bring you everlasting joy with your salvation.”*

JERUSALEM IS ASSURED OF HELP

[30]Take courage, O Jerusalem,
for the one who named you will comfort you.*
[31]Wretched will be those who mistreated you
and who rejoiced at your fall.
[32]Wretched will be the cities that your children served as slaves;
wretched will be the city that received your offspring.
[33]For just as she rejoiced at your fall
and was glad for your ruin,
so she will be grieved at her own desolation.
[34]I will take away her pride in her great population,
and her insolence will be turned to grief.*
[35]For fire will come upon her from the Everlasting for many days,
and for a long time she will be inhabited by demons.

[36]Look toward the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the joy that is coming to you from God.*
[37]Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away;
they are coming, gathered from east and west,
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing in the glory of God.*

Baruch 5

[1]Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.*
[2]Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting,*
[3]for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven,
[4]for God will give you evermore the name,
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."*

[5]Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;
look toward the east,
and see your children gathered from west and east
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that God has remembered them.*
[6]For they went out from you on foot,
led away by their enemies,
but God will bring them back to you,
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.*
[7]For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.*
[8]The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God's command.*
[9]For God will lead Israel with joy,
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Baruch 1

* **1.1** Jer 32.12; 45.2; 51.59
* **1.2** 2 Kings 24.10–16; 25.8–10
* **1.3** 2 Kings 24.15
* **1.4** 2 Kings 23.2; Jer 42.1
* **1.6** v 10; Deut 16.17; 2 Cor 8.3

a **1.8** Gk *he*

* **1.8** 2 Kings 24.13, 17; 2 Chr 36.10
* **1.9** 2 Kings 23.6, 15; Jer 24.1
* **1.10** v 6; Jer 17.26; 41.5
* **1.11** Ezra 1.7; 6.10; Jer 28.14; 29.7; Dan 5.1, 2

b **1.12** Gk *in the shadow*

* **1.12** Ezra 9.8; Ps 13.3; Dan 4.12; 7.1; 8.1
* **1.14** Hos 9.5
* **1.15** Neh 9.32–34; Ps 44.15; Dan 9.7; Bar 2.6
* **1.18** Dan 9.6, 10; Bar 2.10
* **1.19** 2 Kings 21.15; Jer 7.25
* **1.20** Ex 3.8; Deut 28.15–68; Bar 3.4; 4.29
* **1.21** 2 Chr 36.15; Jer 25.3, 4

Baruch 2

c **2.1** Gk *word*

* **2.1** Dan 9.12, 13
* **2.2** Bar 3.4; 4.18, 29
* **2.3** Lev 26.29; Deut 28.53
* **2.4** v 23; Deut 28.37; Jer 29.18; 44.22
* **2.5** Deut 28.13, 43, 44
* **2.6** Bar 1.15
* **2.7** Bar 1.20
* **2.8** Dan 9.13
* **2.9** Ezra 9.15; Dan 9.14
* **2.10** Dan 9.6, 10; Bar 1.18
* **2.11** Neh 9.10; Dan 9.15
* **2.12** Ps 106.6
* **2.13** Deut 28.62; Dan 9.16
* **2.14** Dan 9.17
* **2.16** Deut 26.15; Isa 63.15; Dan 9.18
* **2.17** Ps 6.5; Dan 9.18; Sir 17.27, 28
* **2.18** Deut 28.65

* **2.19** Dan 9.18
* **2.21** Jer 27.11, 12
* **2.22** Jer 27.8–10
* **2.23** v 4; Jer 7.34; 44.22
d **2.24** Gk *words*
* **2.24** Jer 8.1, 2; Ezek 6.5
* **2.25** Jer 32.36; 36.30
* **2.26** Jer 7.10, 14
* **2.29** Deut 28.62
* **2.30** Ex 32.9; Lev 26.39–42; Bar 3.7
* **2.31** Jer 24.7
* **2.34** Jer 16.15
* **2.35** Jer 31.31; 32.40; Lam 4.22

Baruch 3

* **3.3** Ps 29.10; Lam 5.19
* **3.4** Bar 1.20; 2.2
* **3.7** Deut 30.1; Bar 2.30
* **3.8** Bar 2.4
* **3.11** v 19; Ps 28.1; 88.4; 143.7
* **3.12** Jer 2.13
* **3.13** Isa 48.18
* **3.14** Prov 3.2
* **3.15** Job 28.12, 20
* **3.16** Jer 27.6
* **3.17** Job 41.5
* **3.19** v 11; Ps 28.1; 88.4; 143.7
* **3.20** vv 27, 37
e **3.21** Gk: Syr *her*
* **3.22** Jer 49.7
* **3.23** 1 Chr 5.10; Ps 83.6; Jer 49.7
* **3.26** Wis 14.6
* **3.27** Jer 49.7
* **3.29** Deut 30.12, 13; Sir 24.4; Rom 10.6, 7
* **3.30** Job 28.15–19; Wis 7.9
* **3.32** Job 28.23
* **3.35** Ps 147.4; Isa 40.26; Sir 43.10
* **3.37** Job 28.23; Ps 147.19; Sir 24.8
* **3.38** Prov 8.31

Baruch 4

* **4.1** Deut 30.19
* **4.2** Isa 2.5
* **4.4** Deut 33.29; Wis 9.18
* **4.6** Judg 2.14; Isa 50.1; 52.3
* **4.7** Deut 32.17
* **4.9** vv 14, 24
* **4.11** v 23; 2 Esd 2.3
* **4.12** Job 34.27; Isa 47.8, 9; 2 Esd 2.2, 4
* **4.14** vv 9, 24
* **4.15** Deut 28.49, 50; Jer 5.15
* **4.17** 2 Esd 2.4
* **4.18** Bar 1.20; 2.2
* **4.19** 2 Esd 2.2
* **4.20** Ps 116.2; Add Esth 14.2; Bar 5.1
* **4.21** v 27

f **4.22** Or *from the Everlasting, your savior*

* **4.23** v 11; Jer 31.13
* **4.24** vv 9, 14
* **4.25** Josh 10.24
* **4.27** v 21
* **4.29** Bar 1.20; 2.2
* **4.30** Isa 43.1; 45.3, 4; Bar 5.4
* **4.34** Isa 13.19–22; 21.9
* **4.36** Bar 5.5
* **4.37** Isa 43.5; 60.4; Zech 8.7; Bar 5.5

Baruch 5

* **5.1** Isa 52.1; Add Esth 15.1
* **5.2** Isa 61.10; Wis 18.24; Rev 21.2
* **5.4** Isa 32.17; Bar 4.30
* **5.5** Isa 43.5; 60.4; Zech 8.7; Bar 4.36, 37
* **5.6** Isa 66.20
* **5.7** Isa 40.4; 45.2
* **5.8** Isa 41.19; 55.13

The Letter of Jeremiah

Letter of Jeremiah 1

A copy of a letter that Jeremiah sent to those who were to be taken to Babylon as exiles by the king of the Babylonians, to give them the message that God had commanded him.

THE PEOPLE FACE A LONG CAPTIVITY

1 Because of the sins that you have committed before God, you will be taken to Babylon as exiles by Nebuchadnezzar, king of the Babylonians.* [2]Therefore when you have come to Babylon you will remain there for many years, for a long time, up to seven generations; after that I will bring you away from there in peace. [3]Now in Babylon you will see gods made of silver and gold and wood that people carry on their shoulders and that cause the nations to fear.* [4]So beware of becoming at all like the foreigners or of letting fear of these gods[a] possess you [5]when you see the multitude before and behind them worshiping them. But say in your heart, "It is you, O Lord, whom we must worship." [6]For my angel is with you, and he is watching over your lives.*

THE HELPLESSNESS OF IDOLS

7 Their tongues are smoothed by the carpenter, and they themselves are overlaid with gold and silver, but they are false and cannot speak.* [8]People[b] take gold and make crowns for the heads of their gods, as they might for a young woman who loves ornaments. [9]Sometimes the priests secretly take gold and silver from their gods and spend it on themselves [10]or even give some of it to the prostitutes on the terrace. They deck their gods[c] out with garments like humans—these gods of silver and gold and wood* [11]that cannot save themselves from rust and decay.[d] When they have been dressed

in purple robes,* 12their faces are wiped because of the dust from the temple, which is thick upon them.* 13One of them holds a scepter like a district judge but is unable to destroy anyone who offends it. 14Another has a dagger in its right hand and an ax but cannot defend itself from war and robbers.* 15From this it is evident that they are not gods, so do not fear them.*

16 For just as someone's dish is useless when it is broken, 17so are their gods when they have been set up in the temples. Their eyes are full of the dust raised by the feet of those who enter. And just as the gates are shut on every side against anyone who has offended a king, as though under sentence of death, so the priests make their temples secure with doors and locks and bars in order that they may not be plundered by robbers.* 18They light more lamps for them than they light for themselves, though their gods[e] can see none of them.* 19They are[f] just like a beam of the temple, but their hearts, it is said, are eaten away when crawling creatures from the earth devour them and their robes. They do not notice* 20when their faces have been blackened by the smoke of the temple. 21Bats, swallows, and birds alight on their bodies and heads, and so do cats. 22From this you will know that they are not gods, so do not fear them.*

23 As for the gold that they wear for beauty, it[g] will not shine unless someone wipes off the tarnish, for even when they were being cast, they did not feel it.* 24They are bought without regard to cost, but there is no breath in them.* 25Having no feet, they are carried on the shoulders of others, revealing to humans their worthlessness. And those who serve them are put to shame* 26because, if any of these gods falls[h] to the ground, they themselves must pick it up. If anyone sets it upright, it cannot move itself, and if it is tipped over, it cannot straighten itself. Gifts are placed before them just as before the dead.* 27The priests sell the sacrifices that are offered to these gods[i] and use the money themselves. Likewise their wives preserve some of the meat[j] with salt but give none to the poor or helpless.* 28Sacrifices to them may even be touched by women during their periods or after giving birth. Since you know by these things that they are not gods, do not fear them.*

29 For how can they be called gods? Women serve meals for gods of
silver and gold and wood,* [30]and in their temples the priests sit with their
clothes torn, their heads and beards shaved, and their heads uncovered.
[31]They howl and shout before their gods as some do at a funeral banquet.*
[32]The priests take some of the clothing of their gods[k] to clothe their wives
and children.* [33]Whether one does evil to them or good, they will not be
able to repay it. They cannot set up a king or depose one.* [34]Likewise, they
are not able to give either wealth or money; if one makes a vow to them and
does not keep it, they will not require it. [35]They cannot save anyone from
death or rescue the weak from the strong. [36]They cannot restore sight to the
blind; they cannot rescue one who is in distress.* [37]They cannot take pity on
a widow or do good to an orphan.* [38]These things that are made of wood
and overlaid with gold and silver are like stones from the mountain, and
those who serve them will be put to shame.* [39]Why then must anyone think
that they are gods or call them gods?

THE FOOLISHNESS OF WORSHIPING IDOLS

Besides, even the Chaldeans themselves dishonor them, for when they
see someone who cannot speak, they bring Bel and pray that the mute may
speak, as though Bel[l] were able to understand!* [40]Yet they themselves
cannot perceive this and abandon them, for they have no sense. [41]And the
women, with cords around them, sit along the passageways, burning bran
for incense.* [42]When one of them is led off by one of the passers-by and is
taken to bed by him, she derides the woman next to her because she was not
as attractive as herself and her cord was not broken. [43]Whatever is done for
these idols[m] is false. Why then must anyone think that they are gods or call
them gods?

44 They are made by carpenters and goldsmiths; they can be nothing but
what the artisans wish them to be.* [45]Those who make them will certainly
not live very long themselves; [46]how then can the things that are made by
them be gods? They have left only lies and reproach for those who come
after.* [47]For when war or calamity comes upon them, the priests consult
together as to where they can hide themselves and their gods.[n] [48]How then
can one fail to see that these are not gods, for they cannot save themselves

from war or calamity? [49]Since they are made of wood and overlaid with gold and silver, it will afterward be known that they are false.* [50]It will be manifest to all the nations and kings that they are not gods but the work of human hands and that there is no work of God in them.* [51]Who, then, does not know that they are not gods?

52 For they cannot set up a king over a country or give rain to people.* [53]They cannot judge their own cause or deliver one who is wronged, for they have no power; [54]they are like crows between heaven and earth. When fire breaks out in a temple of wooden gods overlaid with gold or silver, their priests will flee and escape, but the gods[o] will be burned up like timbers.* [55]Besides, they can offer no resistance to king or enemy. Why then must anyone admit or think that they are gods?*

56 Gods made of wood and overlaid with silver and gold are unable to save themselves from thieves or robbers.* [57]Anyone who can will strip them of their gold and silver and of the robes they wear and go off with this plunder, and they will not be able to help themselves.* [58]So it is better to be a king who shows his courage or a household utensil that serves its owner's need than to be these false gods, better even the door of a house that protects its contents than these false gods, better also a wooden pillar in a palace than these false gods.*

59 For sun and moon and stars are bright and, when sent to do a service, they are obedient.* [60]So also the lightning when it flashes is widely seen, and the wind likewise blows in every land. [61]When God commands the clouds to go over the whole world, they carry out his command. [62]And the fire sent from above to consume mountains and woods does what it is ordered. But these idols[p] are not to be compared with them in appearance or power. [63]Therefore one must not think that they are gods nor call them gods, for they are unable either to decide a case or to do good to anyone.* [64]Since you know, then, that they are not gods, do not fear them.*

65 They can neither curse nor bless kings;* [66]they cannot show signs in the heavens for the nations or shine like the sun or give light like the moon.* [67]The wild animals are better than they are, for they can flee to shelter and help themselves. [68]So we have no evidence whatever that they are gods; therefore do not fear them.*

69 Like a scarecrow in a cucumber bed that guards nothing, so are their
gods of wood, overlaid with gold and silver.* 70In the same way, their gods
of wood, overlaid with gold and silver, are like a thornbush in a garden on
which every bird perches or like a corpse thrown out in the darkness.*
71From the purple and linen[q] that rot upon them you will know that they are
not gods, and they will finally be consumed themselves and be a reproach in
the land.* 72Better, therefore, is someone upright who has no idols; such a
person will be far above reproach.

Letter of Jeremiah 1

* **1** 2 Kings 24.11–16; 2 Chr 36.10, 20
* **3** v 25; Jer 10.5; Wis 13.10; 2 Macc 2.2
a **4** Gk *for them*
* **6** Ex 23.20
* **7** vv 38, 49; Ps 115.5, 7; 135.16
b **8** Gk *They*
c **10** Gk *them*
* **10** v 57; Wis 13.10; 2 Macc 2.2
d **11** Gk *food*
* **11** vv 23, 71; Jer 10.9; Mt 6.19; Jas 5.2
* **12** v 17
* **14** vv 17, 56
* **15** vv 22, 28, 64, 68, 71
* **17** vv 12, 14, 56; Jer 37.16
e **18** Gk *they*
* **18** Ps 115.5; Wis 15.15
f **19** Gk *It is*
* **19** v 54
* **22** v 15
g **23** Lat Syr: Gk *they*
* **23** vv 7, 11; Sir 12.11
* **24** Ps 135.17; Jer 10.14; Hab 2.19
* **25** v 3; Wis 13.15, 16
h **26** Gk *if they fall*
* **26** vv 29, 31; 1 Sam 5.3, 4; Wis 13.16
i **27** Gk *to them*
j **27** Gk *of them*
* **27** v 32; Deut 14.28, 29; Bel 13
* **28** v 15; Lev 12.2, 4
* **29** vv 3, 26, 30; Lev 21.5, 10; Wis 13.10
* **31** v 26; 1 Kings 18.26, 28
k **32** Gk *some of their clothing*
* **32** vv 10, 27, 57
* **33** vv 52, 65; Ps 75.7; Dan 2.21
* **36** Ps 146.8
* **37** Ps 146.9
* **38** vv 3, 7; Isa 42.17; Hab 2.19
l **39** Gk *he*
* **39** Isa 46.1; Wis 13.18; Bel 3

* **41** Deut 23.17; Jer 7.18
m **43** Gk *them*
* **44** Isa 40.19, 20; Jer 10.3–9
* **46** v 71; Isa 44.20
n **47** Gk *them*
* **49** vv 3, 7
* **50** Ps 115.4; 135.15; Wis 13.10
* **52** v 33; Jer 5.24
o **54** Gk *they*
* **54** vv 3, 7, 19
* **55** vv 14, 39, 57
* **56** vv 3, 7, 14, 17
* **57** vv 10, 14; Wis 13.16
* **58** Wis 13.11; 2 Tim 2.20, 21
* **59** v 66; Ps 104.19
p **62** Gk *these things*
* **63** vv 34–37, 53
* **64** v 15
* **65** Jer 10.5
* **66** v 59
* **68** v 15
* **69** vv 3, 7; Isa 1.8; Jer 10.5
* **70** vv 3, 7
q **71** Cn: Gk *marble*, Syr *silk*
* **71** vv 11, 15, 46

The Prayer of

Azariah

and the Song of the Three Jews

(Additions to Daniel, inserted between 3.23 and 3.24)

Azariah and the Three Jews 1

THE PRAYER OF AZARIAH IN THE FURNACE

1 They walked around in the midst of the flames, singing hymns to God and blessing the Lord.* [2]Then Azariah stood still in the fire and prayed aloud:

[3]"Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our ancestors, and worthy of praise,
and glorious is your name forever!

[4]For you are just in all you have done;
all your works are true and your ways right,
and all your judgments are true.*

[5]You have executed true judgments in all you have brought upon us
and upon Jerusalem, the holy city of our ancestors;
by a true judgment you have brought all this upon us because of our sins.*

[6]For we have sinned and broken your law in turning away from you;
in all matters we have sinned grievously.*

[7]We have not obeyed your commandments;
we have not kept them or done what you have commanded us for our own good.*

[8]So all that you have brought upon us

and all that you have done to us,
you have done by a true judgment.*
9You have handed us over to our enemies, lawless and hateful rebels,
and to an unjust king, the most wicked in all the world.*
10And now we cannot open our mouths;
we, your servants who worship you, bear shame and reproach.*
11For your name's sake do not give us up forever,
and do not annul your covenant.*
12Do not withdraw your mercy from us,
for the sake of Abraham your beloved
and for the sake of Isaac your servant
and Israel your holy one,*
13to whom you promised
to multiply their descendants like the stars of heaven
and like the sand on the shore of the sea.*
14For we, O Lord, have become fewer than any other nation
and are brought low this day in all the world because of our sins.*
15In our day we have no ruler, or prophet, or leader,
no burnt offering, or sacrifice, or oblation, or incense,
no place to make an offering before you and to find mercy.*
16Yet with a contrite heart and a humble spirit may we be accepted,*
17as though it were with burnt offerings of rams and bulls
or with tens of thousands of fat lambs;
such may our sacrifice be in your sight today,
and may we unreservedly follow you,[a]
for no shame will come to those who trust in you.*
18And now with all our heart we follow you;

we fear you and seek your presence.
[19]Do not put us to shame,
but deal with us in your patience
and in your abundant mercy.*
[20]Deliver us in accordance with your marvelous works,
and bring glory to your name, O Lord.*
[21]Let all who do harm to your servants be put to shame;
let them be disgraced and deprived of all power,
and let their strength be broken.
[22]Let them know that you alone are the Lord God,
glorious over the whole world."*

THE SONG OF THE THREE JEWS

23 Now the king's servants who threw them in kept stoking the furnace with naphtha, pitch, tinder, and brushwood.* [24]And the flames poured out above the furnace forty-nine cubits* [25]and spread out and burned those Chaldeans who were caught near the furnace. [26]But the angel of the Lord came down into the furnace to be with Azariah and his companions and drove the fiery flame out of the furnace* [27]and made the inside of the furnace as though a moist wind were whistling through it. The fire did not touch them at all and caused them no pain or distress.*

28 Then the three with one voice praised and glorified and blessed God in the furnace:

[29]"Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our ancestors,
and to be praised and highly exalted forever;
And blessed is your glorious, holy name,
and to be highly praised and highly exalted forever.
[30]Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory,
and to be extolled and highly glorified forever.
[31]Blessed are you who look into the depths from your throne on
the cherubim,

and to be praised and highly exalted forever.*
32 Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,
and to be extolled and highly exalted forever.*
33 Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven,
and to be sung and glorified forever.*

34 "Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
35 Bless the Lord, you heavens;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
36 Bless the Lord, you angels of the Lord;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
37 Bless the Lord, all you waters above the heavens;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
38 Bless the Lord, all you powers of the Lord;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
39 Bless the Lord, sun and moon;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
40 Bless the Lord, stars of heaven;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*

41 "Bless the Lord, all rain and dew;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
42 Bless the Lord, all you winds;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
43 Bless the Lord, fire and heat;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
44 Bless the Lord, winter cold and summer heat;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*

45 Bless the Lord, dews and falling snow;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
46 Bless the Lord, nights and days;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.
47 Bless the Lord, light and darkness;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
48 Bless the Lord, ice and cold;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
49 Bless the Lord, frosts and snows;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
50 Bless the Lord, lightnings and clouds;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.

51 "Let the earth bless the Lord;
let it sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.
52 Bless the Lord, mountains and hills;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
53 Bless the Lord, all that grows in the ground;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
54 Bless the Lord, seas and rivers;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.
55 Bless the Lord, you springs;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.
56 Bless the Lord, you sea monsters and all that swim in the waters;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
57 Bless the Lord, all birds of the air;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
58 Bless the Lord, all wild animals and cattle;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*

59“Bless the Lord, all people on earth;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
60Bless the Lord, O Israel;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
61Bless the Lord, you priests of the Lord;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
62Bless the Lord, you servants of the Lord;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
63Bless the Lord, spirits and souls of the righteous;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*
64Bless the Lord, you who are holy and humble in heart;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.*

65“Bless the Lord, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael;
sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.
For he has rescued us from Hades and saved us from the power[b] of death
and delivered us from the midst of the burning fiery furnace;
from the midst of the fire he has delivered us.*
66Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.*
67All who worship the Lord, bless the God of gods,
sing praise to him and give thanks to him,
for his mercy endures forever.”*

Azariah and the Three Jews 1

* **1** Dan 1.6, 7; 2.17
* **4** Ezra 9.15; Ps 25.10; Dan 4.37
* **5** Dan 9.24; Tob 13.9
* **6** Lam 1.18; Dan 9.5
* **7** Deut 4.40; Tob 14.9
* **8** Ezra 9.15
* **9** Dan 4.27; 2 Macc 5.8
* **10** Ps 39.9; 44.13
* **11** Lev 26.44; Deut 4.31
* **12** 2 Chr 20.7; Isa 41.8; Jas 2.23
* **13** Gen 15.5; 22.17
* **14** Deut 28.62
* **15** 2 Kings 25.9; 2 Chr 36.19; Ps 74.9; Hos 3.4
* **16** Ps 51.16, 17

a **17** Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **17** Ps 25.3; 51.16, 17; Mic 6.7, 8
* **19** Ps 25.2
* **20** Ps 115.1
* **22** Ps 59.13; 83.18; 2 Macc 1.27
* **23** Isa 1.31; 2 Macc 1.33, 36
* **24** Dan 3.22
* **26** v 2; Dan 3.25
* **27** Dan 3.27; Wis 17.18; Acts 2.2
* **31** Ps 80.1; 99.1; Isa 37.16
* **32** Isa 6.1
* **33** Ps 150.1
* **34** Ps 103.22; 145.10
* **35** Ps 148.4
* **36** Ps 103.20; 148.2
* **37** Ps 148.4
* **38** Rom 8.38; Col 1.16
* **39** Ps 148.3; Rev 21.23
* **40** Ps 148.3
* **41** v 45; Deut 32.2
* **42** Ps 147.18
* **43** Ps 148.8
* **44** v 48; Jas 1.11
* **45** v 49; Ps 148.8
* **47** Isa 45.7

* **48** v 44; Ps 147.17
* **49** v 45; Ps 147.16; 148.8
* **52** Ps 148.9
* **53** Ps 148.9
* **56** Gen 1.21; Ps 104.25, 26
* **57** Gen 1.21; Ps 148.10
* **58** Ps 148.10
* **59** Ps 148.11, 12
* **60** Ps 135.19
* **61** Ps 135.19, 20
* **62** Ps 113.1; 134.1
* **63** Heb 12.23
* **64** v 16

b **65** Gk *hand*

* **65** v 2; Ps 56.13; 116.8; Dan 1.6, 7; 1 Macc 2.59
* **66** Ps 136.1; 1 Macc 4.24
* **67** Ps 136.2

Susanna

(Chapter 13 of the Greek Version of Daniel)

Susanna 1

SUSANNA'S BEAUTY ATTRACTS TWO ELDERS

1 There was a man living in Babylon whose name was Joakim.* [2]He married the daughter of Hilkiah, named Susanna, a very beautiful woman and one who feared the Lord.* [3]Her parents were righteous and had trained their daughter according to the law of Moses.* [4]Joakim was very rich and had a fine garden adjoining his house; the Jews used to come to him because he was the most honored of them all.*

5 That year two elders from the people were appointed as judges. Concerning them the Lord had said: "Wickedness came forth from Babylon, from elders who were judges, who were supposed to govern the people."* [6]These men were frequently at Joakim's house, and all who had a case to be tried came to them there.*

7 When the people left at noon, Susanna would go into her husband's garden to walk.* [8]Every day the two elders used to see her, going in and walking about, and they began to lust for her. [9]They suppressed their consciences and turned away their eyes from looking to heaven or remembering their duty to administer justice.* [10]Both were overwhelmed with passion for her, but they did not tell each other of their distress,* [11]for they were ashamed to disclose their lustful desire to have intercourse with her. [12]Day after day they watched eagerly to see her.

13 One day they said to each other, "Let us go home, for it is time for lunch." So they both left and parted from each other. [14]But turning back, they met again, and when each pressed the other for the reason, they confessed their lust. Then together they arranged for a time when they could find her alone.

THE ELDERS THREATEN SUSANNA

15 Once, while they were watching for an opportune day, she went in as
before with only two maids and wished to bathe in the garden, for it was a
hot day.* [16]No one was there except the two elders, who had hidden
themselves and were watching her. [17]She said to her maids, "Bring me olive
oil and ointments, and shut the garden doors so that I can bathe."* [18]They
did as she told them: they shut the doors of the garden and went out by the
side doors to bring what they had been commanded; they did not see the
elders because they were hiding.*

19 When the maids had gone out, the two elders got up and ran to her.
[20]They said, "Look, the garden doors are shut, and no one can see us. We
are burning with desire for you, so give your consent, and lie with us.* [21]If
you refuse, we will testify against you that a young man was with you, and
this was why you sent your maids away."

22 Susanna groaned and said, "I am completely trapped. For if I do this,
it will mean death for me; if I do not, I cannot escape your hands.* [23]I
choose not to do it; I will fall into your hands rather than sin in the sight of
the Lord."*

24 Then Susanna cried out with a loud voice, and the two elders shouted
against her. [25]And one of them ran and opened the garden doors. [26]When
the people in the house heard the shouting in the garden, they rushed in at
the side door to see what had happened to her.* [27]And when the elders told
their story, the servants felt very much ashamed, for nothing like this had
ever been said about Susanna.

THE ELDERS TESTIFY AGAINST SUSANNA

28 The next day, when the people gathered at the house of her husband
Joakim, the two elders came, full of their wicked plot to have Susanna put
to death. In the presence of the people they said,* [29]"Send for Susanna
daughter of Hilkiah, the wife of Joakim."* [30]So they sent for her. And she
came with her parents, her children, and all her relatives.

31 Now Susanna was a woman of great refinement and beautiful in
appearance.* [32]As she was veiled, the scoundrels ordered her to be
unveiled, so that they might feast their eyes on her beauty.* [33]Those who
were with her and all who saw her were weeping.

34 Then the two elders stood up before the people and laid their hands on her head.* 35Through her tears she looked up toward heaven, for her heart trusted in the Lord.* 36The elders said, "While we were walking in the garden alone, this woman came in with two maids, shut the garden doors, and dismissed the maids. 37Then a young man who was hiding there came to her and was intimate with her. 38We were in a corner of the garden, and when we saw this wickedness we ran to them. 39Although we saw him have intercourse with her, we could not hold the man because he was stronger than we, and he opened the doors and got away. 40We did, however, seize this woman and asked who the young man was, 41but she would not tell us. These things we testify."

Because they were elders of the people and judges, the assembly believed them and condemned her to death.*

42 Then Susanna cried out with a loud voice and said, "O eternal God, you know what is secret and are aware of all things before they come to be;* 43you know that these men have given false evidence against me. And now I am to die, though I have done none of the wicked things that they have charged against me!"

44 The Lord heard her cry. 45Just as she was being led off to execution, God stirred up the holy spirit of a young man named Daniel,* 46and he shouted with a loud voice, "I want no part in shedding this woman's blood!"*

DANIEL RESCUES SUSANNA

47 All the people turned to him and asked, "What is this you are saying?" 48Taking his stand among them he said, "Are you such fools, O Israelites, as to condemn a daughter of Israel without examination and without learning the facts?* 49Return to court, for these men have given false evidence against her."

50 So all the people hurried back. And the rest of the[a] elders said to him, "Come, sit among us and inform us, for God has given you the standing of an elder."* 51Daniel said to them, "Separate them far from each other, and I will examine them."

52 When they were separated from each other, he summoned one of them
and said to him, “You old relic of wicked days, your sins have now come
home, which you have committed in the past,* 53pronouncing unjust
judgments, condemning the innocent and acquitting the guilty, though the
Lord said, ‘You shall not put an innocent and righteous person to death.’*
54Now then, if you really saw this woman, tell me this: Under what tree did
you see them being intimate with each other?” He answered, “Under a
mastic tree.”[b] 55And Daniel said, “Very well! This lie has cost you your
head, for the angel of God has received the sentence from God and will
immediately cut[c] you in two.”*

56 Then, putting him to one side, he ordered them to bring the other. And
he said to him, “You offspring of Canaan and not of Judah, beauty has
beguiled you and lust has perverted your heart.* 57This is how you have
been treating the daughters of Israel, and they were intimate with you
through fear, but a daughter of Judah would not tolerate your wickedness.*
58Now then, tell me: Under what tree did you catch them being intimate
with each other?” He answered, “Under an evergreen oak.”[d] 59Daniel said
to him, “Very well! This lie has cost you also your head, for the angel of
God is waiting with his sword to split[e] you in two, so as to destroy you
both.”*

60 Then the whole assembly raised a great shout and blessed God, who
saves those who hope in him.* 61And they took action against the two elders
because out of their own mouths Daniel had convicted them of bearing false
witness; they did to them as they had wickedly planned to do to their
neighbor.* 62Acting in accordance with the law of Moses, they put them to
death. Thus innocent blood was spared that day.*

63 Hilkiah and his wife praised God for their daughter Susanna, and so
did her husband Joakim and all her relatives, because she was found
innocent of a shameful deed.* 64And from that day onward Daniel had a
great reputation among the people.

Susanna 1

* **1** Bar 1.7
* **2** v 31
* **3** Deut 6.7; Lk 1.6
* **4** vv 7, 15
* **5** vv 41, 50; Jer 29.23; Jdt 6.16
* **6** Ex 22.9
* **7** v 4
* **9** v 56; Num 15.39
* **10** Sir 14.1
* **15** vv 4, 7
* **17** vv 4, 7
* **18** vv 4, 7
* **20** Job 24.15; Ps 64.5
* **22** vv 28, 41, 44; Lev 20.10; 2 Sam 24.14
* **23** Gen 39.9
* **26** v 18
* **28** v 6
* **29** vv 1, 2
* **31** v 2
* **32** Gen 24.65
* **34** Lev 24.14
* **35** v 60
* **41** vv 5, 22
* **42** Ps 44.21; 139.1–4; Dan 2.28, 29; Acts 1.24
* **45** v 22; 2 Chr 36.22; Hag 1.14
* **46** Deut 21.7, 8; Mt 27.24
* **48** v 57

a **50** Gk lacks *rest of the*

* **50** v 41; Lk 2.46
* **52** Ex 23.7; Num 32.23
* **53** Ex 23.7; Prov 18.5

b **54** The Greek words for *mastic tree* and *cut* are similar

c **55** The Greek words for *mastic tree* and *cut* are similar

* **55** v 59
* **56** v 9; Ezek 16.3
* **57** v 48

d **58** The Greek words for *evergreen oak* and *split* are similar

e **59** The Greek words for *evergreen oak* and *split* are similar

* **59** v 55

* **60** v 35
* **61** Sir 42.8
* **62** Deut 19.19; Prov 19.5
* **63** vv 2, 29

Bel and the Dragon

(Chapter 14 of the Greek Version of Daniel)

Bel and the Dragon 1

DANIEL AND THE PRIESTS OF BEL

1 When King Astyages was laid to rest with his ancestors, Cyrus the
Persian succeeded to his kingdom.* [2]Daniel was a companion of the king
and was the most honored of all his Friends.

3 Now the Babylonians had an idol called Bel, and every day they
provided for it twelve bushels of choice flour and forty sheep and six
measures of wine.* [4]The king revered it and went every day to worship it.
But Daniel worshiped his own God.

So the king said to him, "Why do you not worship Bel?"* [5]He answered,
"Because I do not revere idols made with hands but the living God, who
created heaven and earth and has dominion over all living creatures."*

6 The king said to him, "Do you not think that Bel is a living god? Do
you not see how much he eats and drinks every day?" [7]And Daniel laughed
and said, "Do not be deceived, O king, for this thing is only clay inside and
bronze outside, and it has never eaten or drunk anything."*

8 Then the king was angry and called the priests of Bel[a] and said to them,
"If you do not tell me who is eating these provisions, you shall die.* [9]But if
you prove that Bel is eating them, Daniel shall die because he has spoken
blasphemy against Bel." Daniel said to the king, "Let it be done as you have
said."*

10 Now there were seventy priests of Bel, besides their wives and
children. So the king went with Daniel into the temple of Bel. [11]The priests
of Bel said, "See, we are now going outside; you yourself, O king, set out
the food and prepare the wine and shut the door and seal it with your
signet.* [12]When you return in the morning, if you do not find that Bel has
eaten it all, we will die; otherwise Daniel will, who is telling lies about us."
[13]They were unconcerned, for beneath the table they had made a hidden

entrance through which they used to go in regularly and consume the provisions.* 14After they had gone out, the king set out the food for Bel. Then Daniel ordered his servants to bring ashes, and they scattered them throughout the whole temple in the presence of the king alone. Then they went out, shut the door and sealed it with the king's signet, and departed.* 15During the night the priests came as usual, with their wives and children, and they ate and drank everything.

16 Early in the morning the king rose and came, and Daniel with him. 17The king said, "Are the seals unbroken, Daniel?" He answered, "They are unbroken, O king." 18As soon as the doors were opened, the king looked at the table and shouted in a loud voice, "You are great, O Bel, and in you there is no deceit at all!"

19 But Daniel laughed and restrained the king from going in. "Look at the floor," he said, "and notice whose footprints these are."* 20The king said, "I see the footprints of men and women and children."

21 Then the king was enraged, and he arrested the priests and their wives and children. They showed him the secret doors through which they used to enter to consume what was on the table.* 22Therefore the king put them to death and gave Bel over to Daniel, who destroyed it and its temple.*

DANIEL KILLS THE DRAGON

23 Now in that place[b] there was a great dragon[c] that the Babylonians revered. 24The king said to Daniel, "You cannot deny that this is a living god, so worship him." 25Daniel said, "I worship the Lord my God, for he is a living God.* 26But give me permission, O king, and I will kill the dragon[d] without sword or club." The king said, "I give you permission."

27 Then Daniel took pitch, fat, and hair and boiled them together and made cakes, which he fed to the dragon.[e] The dragon[f] ate them and burst open. Then Daniel said, "See what you have been worshiping!"

28 When the Babylonians heard about it, they were very indignant and conspired against the king, saying, "The king has become a Jew; he has destroyed Bel and killed the dragon[g] and slaughtered the priests."* 29Going to the king, they said, "Hand Daniel over to us, or else we will kill you and

your household." [30]The king saw that they were pressing him hard, and under compulsion he handed Daniel over to them.

DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN

31 They threw Daniel into the lions' den, and he was there for six days.* [32]There were seven lions in the den, and every day they had been given two human bodies and two sheep, but now they were given nothing, so that they would devour Daniel.

33 Now the prophet Habakkuk was in Judea; he had made a stew and had broken bread into a bowl and was going into the field to take it to the reapers.* [34]But the angel of the Lord said to Habakkuk, "Take the food that you have to Babylon, to Daniel, in the lions' den." [35]Habakkuk said, "Sir, I have never seen Babylon, and I know nothing about the den." [36]Then the angel of the Lord took him by the crown of his head and carried him by his hair; with a gust of wind[h] he set him down in Babylon, right over the den.*

37 Then Habakkuk shouted, "Daniel, Daniel! Take the food that God has sent you."* [38]Daniel said, "You have remembered me, O God, and have not abandoned those who love you."* [39]So Daniel got up and ate. And the angel of God immediately returned Habakkuk to his own place.

40 On the seventh day the king came to mourn for Daniel. When he came to the den he looked in, and there sat Daniel!* [41]The king shouted with a loud voice, "You are great, O Lord, the God of Daniel, and there is no other besides you!"* [42]Then he pulled Daniel[i] out and threw into the den those who had attempted his destruction, and they were instantly eaten before his eyes.*

Bel and the Dragon 1

* **1** Dan 6.28; 10.1
* **3** Isa 46.1; Jer 51.44; Let Jer 40; Jn 2.6
* **4** Dan 6.10
* **5** Ps 42.2; 115.4; Add Esth 16.16
* **7** v 19; Sir 30.19
a **8** Gk *his priests*
* **8** v 3
* **9** Mk 3.29; Lk 12.10
* **11** Dan 6.17
* **13** Let Jer 27
* **14** Dan 6.17
* **19** v 7
* **21** v 13
* **22** v 28
b **23** Other ancient authorities lack *in that place*
c **23** Or *serpent*
* **25** v 5; Deut 6.13; Ps 42.2; Add Esth 16.16
d **26** Or *serpent*
e **27** Or *serpent*
f **27** Or *serpent*
g **28** Or *serpent*
* **28** v 22
* **31** Dan 6.16
* **33** Hab 1.1; 3.1
h **36** Or *by the power of his spirit*
* **36** 1 Kings 18.12; Ezek 8.3
* **37** 1 Kings 17.4
* **38** Ps 9.10; 37.28
* **40** Dan 6.19
* **41** Dan 3.28, 29; 6.26
i **42** Gk *him*
* **42** Jer 39.16, 17; Dan 6.24

1 Maccabees

1 Maccabees 1

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

1 After Alexander son of Philip, the Macedonian, who came from the land
of Kittim, had defeated[a] King Darius of the Persians and the Medes, he
succeeded him as king. (He had previously become king of Greece.)* [2]He
fought many battles, conquered strongholds, and slaughtered the kings of
the earth. [3]He advanced to the ends of the earth and plundered many
nations. When the earth became quiet before him, he was exalted, and his
heart was lifted up.* [4]He gathered a very strong army and ruled over
countries, nations, and princes, and they paid him tribute.

5 After this he fell sick and perceived that he was dying. [6]So he
summoned his most honored officers, who had been brought up with him
from youth, and divided his kingdom among them while he was still alive.
[7]And after Alexander had reigned twelve years, he died.

8 Then his officers began to rule, each in his own place. [9]They all put on
crowns after his death, and so did their descendants after them for many
years, and they caused many evils on the earth.*

ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES AND RENEGADE JEWS

10 From them came forth a sinful root, Antiochus Epiphanes, son of
King Antiochus; he had been a hostage in Rome. He began to reign in the
one hundred thirty-seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.*

11 In those days certain renegades came out from Israel and misled many,
saying, “Let us go and make a covenant with the nations around us, for
since we separated from them many disasters have come upon us.”* [12]This
proposal pleased them, [13]and some of the people eagerly went to the king,
who authorized them to observe the ordinances of the nations.* [14]So they
built a gymnasium in Jerusalem according to the customs of the nations,*

[15]and made foreskins for themselves, and abandoned the holy covenant. They joined with the nations and sold themselves to do evil.*

ANTIOCHUS IN EGYPT

16 When Antiochus saw that his kingdom was established, he determined to become king of the land of Egypt, in order that he might reign over both kingdoms. [17]So he invaded Egypt with a strong force, with chariots and elephants and cavalry and with a large fleet.* [18]He engaged King Ptolemy of Egypt in battle, and Ptolemy turned and fled before him, and many were wounded and fell.* [19]They captured the fortified cities in the land of Egypt, and he plundered the land of Egypt.

PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS

20 After subduing Egypt, Antiochus turned back in the one hundred forty-third year and went up against Israel and came to Jerusalem with a strong force.* [21]He arrogantly entered the sanctuary and took the golden altar, the lampstand for the light, and all its utensils.* [22]He took also the table for the bread of the Presence, the cups for drink offerings, the bowls, the golden censers, the curtain, the crowns, and the gold decoration on the front of the temple; he stripped it all off.* [23]He took the silver and the gold and the costly vessels; he took also the hidden treasures that he found.* [24]Taking them all, he went into his own land.

He shed much blood
and spoke with great arrogance.*
[25]Israel mourned deeply in every community;
[26]rulers and elders groaned;
young women and young men became faint;
the beauty of the women faded.
[27]Every bridegroom took up the lament;
she who sat in the bridal chamber was mourning.*
[28]Even the land trembled for its inhabitants,
and all the house of Jacob was clothed with shame.

THE OCCUPATION OF JERUSALEM

29 Two years later the king sent to the cities of Judah a chief collector of tribute, and he came to Jerusalem with a large force.* [30]Deceitfully he spoke peaceable words to them, and they believed him, but he suddenly fell upon the city, dealt it a severe blow, and destroyed many people of Israel.* [31]He plundered the city, burned it with fire, and tore down its houses and its surrounding walls. [32]They took captive the women and children and seized the livestock. [33]Then they fortified the city of David with a large strong wall and strong towers, and it became their citadel.* [34]They stationed there a sinful nation, men who were renegades. These strengthened their position;* [35]they stored up arms and food, and, collecting the spoils of Jerusalem, they stored them there and became a great menace,

[36]for the citadel[b] became an ambush against the sanctuary,
an evil adversary of Israel at all times.*
[37]On every side of the sanctuary they shed innocent blood;
they even defiled the sanctuary.*
[38]Because of them the residents of Jerusalem fled;
she became a dwelling of strangers;
she became strange to her offspring,
and her children forsook her.
[39]Her sanctuary became desolate like a desert;
her feasts were turned into mourning,
her Sabbaths into a reproach,
her honor into contempt.*
[40]Her dishonor now grew as great as her glory;
her exaltation was turned into mourning.

INSTALLATION OF GENTILE CULTS

41 Then the king wrote to his whole kingdom that all should be one people [42]and that all should give up their particular customs. All the nations accepted the command of the king.* [43]Many even from Israel gladly

adopted his religion; they sacrificed to idols and profaned the Sabbath.
44And the king sent letters by messengers to Jerusalem and the towns of
Judah; he directed them to follow customs strange to the land, 45to forbid
burnt offerings and sacrifices and drink offerings in the sanctuary, to
profane Sabbaths and festivals,* 46to defile the sanctuary and the holy ones,
47to build altars and sacred precincts and shrines for idols, to sacrifice pigs
and other unclean animals,* 48and to leave their sons uncircumcised. They
were to make themselves abominable by everything unclean and profane
49so that they would forget the law and change all the ordinances. 50He
added,c "And whoever does not obey the command of the king shall die."*

51 In such words he wrote to his whole kingdom. He appointed
inspectors over all the people and commanded the towns of Judah to offer
sacrifice, town by town.* 52Many of the people, everyone who forsook the
law, joined them, and they did evil in the land; 53they drove Israel into
hiding in every place of refuge they had.*

54 Now on the fifteenth day of Chislev, in the one hundred forty-fifth
year, they erected a desolating sacrilege on the altar of burnt offering. They
also built altars in the surrounding towns of Judah* 55and offered incense at
the doors of the houses and in the streets. 56The books of the law that they
found they tore to pieces and burned with fire. 57Anyone found possessing
the book of the covenant or anyone who adhered to the law was condemned
to death by decree of the king. 58They kept using violence against Israel,
against those who were found month after month in the towns. 59On the
twenty-fifth day of the month they offered sacrifice on the altar that was on
top of the altar of burnt offering.* 60According to the decree, they put to
death the women who had their children circumcised* 61and their families
and those who circumcised them, and they hung the infants from their
mothers' necks.

62 But many in Israel stood firm and were resolved in their hearts not to
eat unclean food. 63They chose to die rather than to be defiled by food or to
profane the holy covenant, and they did die.* 64Very great wrath came upon
Israel.

1 Maccabees 2

MATTATHIAS AND HIS SONS

1 In those days Mattathias son of John son of Simeon, a priest of the clan of
Joarib, moved from Jerusalem and settled in Modein.* [2]He had five sons:
John surnamed Gaddi,* [3]Simon called Thassi,* [4]Judas called Maccabeus,*
[5]Eleazar called Avaran, and Jonathan called Apphus.* [6]He saw the
blasphemies being committed in Judah and Jerusalem [7]and said,

"Alas! Why was I born to see this,
the ruin of my people, the ruin of the holy city?
The people sat idle there when it was given over to the enemy,
the sanctuary given over to strangers.*
[8]Her temple has become like a person without honor;[d]
[9]her glorious vessels have been carried into exile.
Her infants have been killed in her streets,
her youths by the sword of the foe.*
[10]What nation has not inherited her palaces[e]
and has not seized her spoils?
[11]All her adornment has been taken away;
no longer free, she has become a slave.
[12]And see, our holy place, our beauty,
and our glory have been laid waste;
the nations have profaned them.*
[13]Why should we live any longer?"

14 Then Mattathias and his sons tore their clothes, put on sackcloth, and
mourned greatly.*

PAGAN WORSHIP REFUSED

15 The king's officers who were enforcing the apostasy came to the town
of Modein to make them offer sacrifice. [16]Many from Israel came to them,
and Mattathias and his sons were assembled. [17]Then the king's officers
spoke to Mattathias as follows: "You are a leader, honored and great in this
town, and supported by sons and brothers. [18]Now be the first to come and
do what the king commands, as all the nations and the people of Judah and
those who are left in Jerusalem have done. Then you and your sons will be
numbered among the Friends of the king, and you and your sons will be
honored with silver and gold and many gifts."*

19 But Mattathias answered and said in a loud voice: "Even if all the
nations that live under the rule of the king obey him and have chosen to
obey his commandments, every one of them abandoning the religion of
their ancestors,* [20]I and my sons and my brothers will continue to live by
the covenant of our ancestors.* [21]Far be it from us to desert the law and the
ordinances. [22]We will not obey the king's words by turning aside from our
religion to the right hand or to the left."*

23 When he had finished speaking these words, a Jew came forward in
the sight of all to offer sacrifice on the altar in Modein, according to the
king's command. [24]When Mattathias saw it, he burned with zeal, and his
heart was stirred. He gave vent to righteous anger; he ran and slaughtered
him on the altar. [25]At the same time he killed the king's officer who was
forcing them to sacrifice, and he tore down the altar. [26]Thus he burned with
zeal for the law, just as Phinehas did against Zimri son of Salu.*

27 Then Mattathias cried out in the town with a loud voice, saying: "Let
every one who is zealous for the law and supports the covenant come out
with me!" [28]Then he and his sons fled to the hills and left all that they had
in the town.*

29 At that time many who were seeking righteousness and justice went
down to the wilderness to live there, [30]they, their sons, their wives, and their
livestock, because troubles pressed heavily upon them.* [31]And it was
reported to the king's officers and to the troops in Jerusalem the city of
David that those who had rejected the king's command had gone down to
the hiding places in the wilderness.* [32]Many pursued them and overtook
them; they encamped opposite them and prepared for battle against them on
the Sabbath day. [33]They said to them, "Enough of this! Come out and do

what the king commands, and you will live." [34]But they said, "We will not come out, nor will we do what the king commands and so profane the Sabbath day."* [35]Then the enemy[f] quickly attacked them. [36]But they did not answer them or hurl a stone at them or block up their hiding places, [37]for they said, "Let us all die in our innocence; heaven and earth testify for us that you are killing us unjustly." [38]So they attacked them on the Sabbath, and they died, with their wives and children and livestock, to the number of a thousand persons.*

39 When Mattathias and his friends learned of it, they mourned for them deeply. [40]And all said to their neighbors: "If we all do as our kindred have done and refuse to fight with the nations for our lives and for our ordinances, they will quickly destroy us from the earth." [41]So they made this decision that day: "Let us fight against anyone who comes to attack us on the Sabbath day; let us not all die as our kindred died in their hiding places."*

COUNTER-ATTACK

42 Then there united with them a company of Hasideans, mighty warriors of Israel, all who offered themselves willingly for the law.* [43]And all who became fugitives to escape their troubles joined them and reinforced them. [44]They organized an army and struck down sinners in their anger and renegades in their wrath; the survivors fled to the nations for safety.* [45]And Mattathias and his friends went around and tore down the altars; [46]they forcibly circumcised all the uncircumcised boys whom they found within the borders of Israel. [47]They hunted down the arrogant, and the work prospered in their hands. [48]They rescued the law out of the hands of the nations and kings, and they never let the sinner gain the upper hand.

THE LAST WORDS OF MATTATHIAS

49 Now the days drew near for Mattathias to die, and he said to his sons: "Arrogance and scorn have now become strong; it is a time of ruin and furious anger. [50]Now, my children, show zeal for the law and give your lives for the covenant of our ancestors.

51 “Remember the deeds of the ancestors, which they did in their
generations, and you will receive great honor and an everlasting name.*
52Was not Abraham found faithful when tested, and it was reckoned to him
as righteousness?* 53Joseph in the time of his distress kept the
commandment and became lord of Egypt.* 54Phinehas our ancestor,
because he was deeply zealous, received the covenant of everlasting
priesthood.* 55Joshua, because he fulfilled the command, became a judge in
Israel.* 56Caleb, because he testified in the assembly, received an
inheritance in the land.* 57David, because he was merciful, inherited the
throne of the kingdom forever.* 58Elijah, because of great zeal for the law,
was taken up into heaven.* 59Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael believed and
were saved from the flame.* 60Daniel, because of his innocence, was
delivered from the mouth of the lions.*

61 “And so observe, from generation to generation, that none of those
who put their trust in him will lack strength.* 62Do not fear the words of
sinners, for their splendor will turn into dung and worms.* 63Today they
will be exalted, but tomorrow they will not be found, for they will have
returned to the dust, and their plans will have perished. 64My children, be
courageous and grow strong in the law, for by it you will gain honor.*

65 “Here is your brother Simeon, who I know is wise in counsel; always
listen to him; he shall be your father.* 66Judas Maccabeus has been a mighty
warrior from his youth; he shall command the army for you and fight the
battle against the peoples.g,* 67You shall rally around you all who observe
the law and avenge the wrong done to your people. 68Pay back the nations
in full, and obey the commands of the law.”

69 Then he blessed them and was gathered to his ancestors. 70He died in
the one hundred forty-sixth year and was buried in the tomb of his ancestors
at Modein. And all Israel mourned for him with great lamentation.*

1 Maccabees 3

THE EARLY VICTORIES OF JUDAS

1 Then his son Judas, who was called Maccabeus, took command in his place.* [2]All his brothers and all who had joined his father helped him; they gladly fought for Israel.*

[3]He extended the glory of his people.
Like a giant he put on his breastplate;
he bound on his armor of war and waged battles,
protecting the camp by his sword.
[4]He was like a lion in his deeds,
like a lion's cub roaring for prey.*
[5]He searched out and pursued those who broke the law;
he burned those who troubled his people.*
[6]Lawbreakers shrank back for fear of him;
all the evildoers were confounded;
and deliverance prospered by his hand.*
[7]He embittered many kings,
but he made Jacob glad by his deeds,
and his memory is blessed forever.
[8]He went through the cities of Judah;
he destroyed the ungodly out of the land;[h]
thus he turned away wrath from Israel.*
[9]He was renowned to the ends of the earth;
he gathered in those who were perishing.

10 Then Apollonius gathered together nations and a large force from Samaria to fight against Israel.* [11]When Judas learned of it, he went out to meet him, and he defeated and killed him. Many were wounded and fell,

and the rest fled.* 12Then they seized their spoils, and Judas took the sword of Apollonius and used it in battle the rest of his life.

13 When Seron, the commander of the Syrian army, heard that Judas had gathered a large company, including a body of faithful soldiers who stayed with him and went out to battle, 14he said, "I will make a name for myself and win honor in the kingdom. I will make war on Judas and his companions, who scorn the king's command." 15Once again a strong army of godless men joined him and went up with him to help him, to take vengeance on the Israelites.

16 When he approached the ascent of Beth-horon, Judas went out to meet him with a small company.* 17But when they saw the army coming to meet them, they said to Judas, "How can we, few as we are, fight against so great and so strong a multitude? And we are faint, for we have eaten nothing today." 18Judas replied, "It is easy for many to be hemmed in by few, for in the sight of heaven there is no difference between saving by many or by few.* 19It is not on the size of the army that victory in battle depends, but strength comes from heaven.* 20They come against us in great insolence and lawlessness to destroy us and our wives and our children and to despoil us, 21but we fight for our lives and our laws.* 22He himself will crush them before us; as for you, do not be afraid of them."

23 When he finished speaking, he rushed suddenly against Seron and his army, and they were crushed before him. 24They pursued them[i] down the descent of Beth-horon to the plain; eight hundred of them fell, and the rest fled into the land of the Philistines.* 25Then Judas and his brothers began to be feared, and terror fell on the nations all around them.* 26His fame reached the king, and the nations talked of the battles of Judas.

THE POLICY OF ANTIOCHUS

27 When King Antiochus heard these reports, he was greatly angered, and he sent and gathered all the forces of his kingdom, a very strong army.* 28He opened his coffers and gave a year's pay to his forces and ordered them to be ready for any need. 29Then he saw that the money in the treasury was exhausted and that the tribute payments from the country were small because of the dissension and disaster that he had caused in the land by

abolishing the laws that had existed from the earliest days. [30]He feared that he might not have such funds as he had before for his expenses and for the gifts that he used to give more lavishly than preceding kings. [31]He was greatly perplexed in mind; then he determined to go to Persia and collect the tribute payments from those regions and raise a large fund.*

32 He left Lysias, a distinguished man of royal lineage, in charge of the king's affairs from the River Euphrates to the borders of Egypt.* [33]Lysias was also to take care of his son Antiochus until he returned.* [34]And he turned over to Lysias[j] half of his forces and the elephants and gave him orders about all that he wanted done. As for the residents of Judea and Jerusalem,* [35]Lysias was to send a force against them to wipe out and destroy the strength of Israel and the remnant of Jerusalem; he was to banish the memory of them from the place,* [36]settle strangers in all their territory, and distribute their land by lot. [37]Then the king took the remaining half of his forces and left Antioch his capital in the one hundred and forty-seventh year. He crossed the Euphrates River and went through the upper provinces.*

PREPARATIONS FOR BATTLE

38 Lysias chose Ptolemy son of Dorymenes and Nicanor and Gorgias, able men among the Friends of the king,* [39]and sent with them forty thousand infantry and seven thousand cavalry to go into the land of Judah and destroy it, as the king had commanded. [40]So they set out with their entire force, and when they arrived they encamped near Emmaus in the plain.* [41]When the traders of the region heard what was said to them, they took silver and gold in immense amounts and fetters[k] and went to the camp to get the Israelites for slaves. And forces from Syria and the land of the Philistines[l] joined with them.*

42 Now Judas and his brothers saw that misfortunes had increased and that the forces were encamped in their territory. They also learned what the king had commanded to do to the people to cause their final destruction. [43]But they said to one another, "Let us restore the ruins of our people and fight for our people and the sanctuary." [44]So the congregation assembled to be ready for battle and to pray and ask for mercy and compassion.

45 Jerusalem was uninhabited like a wilderness;
not one of her children went in or out.
The sanctuary was trampled down,
and strangers held the citadel;
it was a lodging place for the nations.
Joy was taken from Jacob;
the flute and the harp ceased to play.*

46 Then they gathered together and went to Mizpah, opposite Jerusalem, because Israel formerly had a place of prayer in Mizpah.* 47 They fasted that day, put on sackcloth, and sprinkled ashes on their heads, and tore their clothes.* 48 And they opened the book of the law to inquire into those matters about which the nations consulted the likenesses of their gods. 49 They also brought the vestments of the priesthood and the first fruits and the tithes, and they stirred up the nazirites who had completed their days,* 50 and they cried aloud to heaven, saying,

"What shall we do with these?
Where shall we take them?
51 Your sanctuary is trampled down and profaned,
and your priests mourn in humiliation.*
52 Here the nations are assembled against us to destroy us;
you know what they plot against us.
53 How will we be able to withstand them,
if you do not help us?"

54 Then they sounded the trumpets and gave a loud shout.* 55 After this Judas appointed leaders of the people in charge of thousands and hundreds and fifties and tens.* 56 Those who were building houses or were about to be married or were planting a vineyard or were fainthearted, he told to go home, according to the law.* 57 Then the army marched out and encamped to the south of Emmaus.

58 And Judas said, "Arm yourselves and be courageous. Be ready early in the morning to fight with these nations who have assembled against us to destroy us and our sanctuary.* 59 It is better for us to die in battle than to see

the misfortunes of our nation and of the sanctuary. [60]But as his will in heaven may be, so shall he do."

1 Maccabees 4

THE BATTLE AT EMMAUS

1 Now Gorgias took five thousand infantry and one thousand picked
cavalry, and this division moved out by night [2]to fall upon the camp of the
Jews and attack them suddenly. Men from the citadel were his guides.* [3]But
Judas heard of it, and he and his warriors moved out to attack the king's
force in Emmaus [4]while the division was still absent from the camp. [5]When
Gorgias entered the camp of Judas by night, he found no one there, so he
looked for them in the hills, because he said, "These men are running away
from us."

6 At daybreak Judas appeared in the plain with three thousand men, but
they did not have armor and swords such as they desired.* [7]And they saw
the camp of the nations, strong and fortified, with cavalry all around it, and
these men were trained in war. [8]But Judas said to those who were with him,
"Do not fear their numbers or be afraid when they charge.* [9]Remember how
our ancestors were saved at the Red Sea, when Pharaoh with his forces
pursued them.* [10]And now, let us cry to heaven to see whether he will favor
us and remember his covenant with our ancestors and crush this army
before us today.* [11]Then all the nations will know that there is one who
redeems and saves Israel."

12 When the foreigners looked up and saw them coming against them,
[13]they went out from their camp to battle. Then the men with Judas blew
their trumpets* [14]and engaged in battle. The nations were crushed and fled
into the plain, [15]and all those in the rear fell by the sword. They pursued
them to Gazara and to the plains of Idumea and to Azotus and Jamnia, and
three thousand of them fell.* [16]Then Judas and his force turned back from
pursuing them, [17]and he said to the people, "Do not be greedy for plunder,
for there is a battle before us; [18]Gorgias and his force are near us in the
hills. But stand now against our enemies and fight them and afterward seize
the plunder boldly."

19 Just as Judas was finishing this speech, a detachment appeared coming
out of the hills. [20]They saw that their army[m] had been put to flight and that

the Jews[n] were burning the camp, for the smoke that was seen showed what had happened. 21When they perceived this, they were greatly frightened, and when they also saw the army of Judas drawn up in the plain for battle, 22they all fled into the land of the Philistines.[o,*] 23Then Judas returned to plunder the camp, and they seized a great amount of gold and silver, and cloth dyed blue and sea purple, and great riches.[*] 24On their return they sang hymns and praises to heaven: "For he is good, for his mercy endures forever."[*] 25Thus Israel had a great deliverance that day.

FIRST CAMPAIGN OF LYSIAS

26 Those of the foreigners who escaped went and reported to Lysias all that had happened.[*] 27When he heard it, he was perplexed and discouraged, for things had not happened to Israel as he had intended, nor had they turned out as the king had ordered. 28But the next year he mustered sixty thousand picked infantry and five thousand cavalry to subdue them.[*] 29They came into Idumea and encamped at Beth-zur, and Judas met them with ten thousand men.[*]

30 When he saw that their army was strong, he prayed, saying, "Blessed are you, O Savior of Israel, who crushed the attack of the mighty warrior by the hand of your servant David and gave the camp of the Philistines into the hands of Jonathan son of Saul and of the man who carried his armor.[*] 31Hem in this army by the hand of your people Israel, and let them be ashamed of their troops and their cavalry.[*] 32Fill them with cowardice; melt the boldness of their strength; let them tremble in their destruction. 33Strike them down with the sword of those who love you, and let all who know your name praise you with hymns."

34 Then both sides attacked, and there fell of the army of Lysias five thousand men; they fell before them.[p,*] 35When Lysias saw the rout of his troops and observed the boldness that inspired those of Judas and how ready they were either to live or to die nobly, he withdrew to Antioch and enlisted mercenaries in order to invade Judea again with an even larger army.

CLEANSING AND DEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE

36 Then Judas and his brothers said, "See, our enemies are crushed; let us
go up to cleanse the sanctuary and dedicate it."* [37]So all the army
assembled and went up to Mount Zion. [38]There they saw the sanctuary
desolate, the altar profaned, and the gates burned. In the courts they saw
bushes sprung up as in a thicket or as on one of the mountains. They saw
also the chambers of the priests in ruins.* [39]Then they tore their clothes and
mourned with great lamentation; they sprinkled themselves with ashes*
[40]and fell face down on the ground. And they blew the signal trumpets, and
they cried out to heaven.*

41 Then Judas detailed men to fight against those in the citadel until he
had cleansed the sanctuary.* [42]He chose blameless priests devoted to the
law, [43]and they cleansed the sanctuary and removed the defiled stones to an
unclean place. [44]They deliberated what to do about the altar of burnt
offering, which had been profaned.* [45]And they thought it best to tear it
down, so that it would not be a lasting shame to them that the nations had
defiled it. So they tore down the altar [46]and stored the stones in a
convenient place on the temple hill until a prophet should come to tell what
to do with them.* [47]Then they took unhewn[q] stones, as the law directs, and
built a new altar like the former one.* [48]They also rebuilt the sanctuary and
the interior of the temple and consecrated the courts. [49]They made new holy
vessels and brought the lampstand, the altar of incense, and the table into
the temple.* [50]Then they offered incense on the altar and lit the lamps on
the lampstand, and these gave light in the temple.* [51]They placed the bread
on the table and hung up the curtains. Thus they finished all the work they
had undertaken.*

52 Early in the morning on the twenty-fifth day of the ninth month,
which is the month of Chislev, in the one hundred forty-eighth year,* [53]they
rose and offered sacrifice, as the law directs, on the new altar of burnt
offering that they had built.* [54]At the very season and on the very day that
the nations had profaned it, it was dedicated with songs and harps and lutes
and cymbals.* [55]All the people fell on their faces and worshiped and blessed
heaven, who had prospered them. [56]So they celebrated the dedication of the
altar for eight days and joyfully offered burnt offerings; they offered a
sacrifice of well-being and a thanksgiving offering.* [57]They decorated the
front of the temple with golden crowns and small shields; they restored the

gates and the chambers for the priests and fitted them with doors.* 58There was very great joy among the people, and the disgrace brought by the nations was removed.

59 Then Judas and his brothers and all the assembly of Israel determined that every year at that season the days of dedication of the altar should be observed with joy and gladness for eight days, beginning with the twenty-fifth day of the month of Chislev.*

60 At that time they fortified Mount Zion with high walls and strong towers all around, to keep the nations from coming and trampling them down as they had done before.* 61Judas[r] stationed a garrison there to guard it; he also fortified Beth-zur to guard it, so that the people might have a stronghold that faced Idumea.*

1 Maccabees 5

WARS WITH NEIGHBORING PEOPLES

1 When the nations all around heard that the altar had been rebuilt and the
sanctuary dedicated as it was before, they became very angry, [2]and they
determined to destroy the descendants of Jacob who lived among them. So
they began to kill and destroy among the people. [3]But Judas made war on
the descendants of Esau in Idumea, at Akrabattene, because they kept lying
in wait for Israel. He dealt them a heavy blow and humbled them and
despoiled them.* [4]He also remembered the wickedness of the sons of
Baean, who were a trap and a snare to the people and ambushed them on
the highways. [5]They were shut up by him in towers, and he encamped
against them, vowed their complete destruction, and burned with fire their
towers and all who were in them.* [6]Then he crossed over to attack the
Ammonites, where he found a strong band and many people, with Timothy
as their leader.* [7]He engaged in many battles with them, and they were
crushed before him; he struck them down. [8]He also took Jazer and its
villages; then he returned to Judea.*

LIBERATION OF GALILEAN JEWS

9 Now the nations in Gilead gathered together against the Israelites who
lived in their territory and planned to destroy them. But they fled to the
stronghold of Dathema* [10]and sent to Judas and his brothers letters that
said, "The nations around us have gathered together to destroy us. [11]They
are preparing to come and capture the stronghold to which we have fled,
and Timothy is leading their forces. [12]Now then, come and rescue us from
their hands, for many of us have fallen, [13]and all our kindred who were in
the land of Tobias have been killed; the enemy[s] have captured their wives
and children and goods and have destroyed about a thousand persons
there."*

14 While the letters were still being read, other messengers, with their
garments torn, came from Galilee and made a similar report;* [15]they said

that the people of Ptolemais and Tyre and Sidon and all Galilee of the gentiles[t] had gathered together against them "to annihilate us."* 16When Judas and the people heard these messages, a great assembly was called to determine what they should do for their kindred who were in distress and were being attacked by enemies.[u] 17Then Judas said to his brother Simon, "Choose your men and go and rescue your kindred in Galilee; Jonathan my brother and I will go to Gilead."* 18But he left Joseph, son of Zechariah, and Azariah, a leader of the people, with the rest of the forces in Judea to guard it,* 19and he gave them this command, "Take charge of this people, but do not engage in battle with the nations until we return."* 20Then three thousand men were assigned to Simon to go to Galilee and eight thousand to Judas for Gilead.*

21 So Simon went to Galilee and fought many battles against the nations, and the nations were crushed before him. 22He pursued them to the gate of Ptolemais; as many as three thousand of the nations fell, and he despoiled them.* 23Then he took the Jews[v] of Galilee and Arbatta, with their wives and children, and all they possessed and led them to Judea with great rejoicing.*

JUDAS AND JONATHAN IN GILEAD

24 Judas Maccabeus and his brother Jonathan crossed the Jordan and made three days' journey into the wilderness.* 25They encountered the Nabateans, who met them peaceably and told them all that had happened to their kindred in Gilead:* 26"Many of them have been shut up in Bozrah and Bosor, in Alema and Chaspho, Maked and Carnaim"—all these towns were strong and large*—27"and some have been shut up in the other towns of Gilead; the enemy[w] are getting ready to attack the strongholds tomorrow and capture and destroy all these people in a single day."

28 Then Judas and his army quickly turned back by the wilderness road to Bozrah, and he took the town and killed every male by the edge of the sword; then he seized all its spoils and burned it with fire.* 29He left the place at night, and they went all the way to the stronghold of Dathema.[x] 30At dawn they looked out and saw a large company, which could not be counted, carrying ladders and engines of war to capture the stronghold and

attacking the Jews within.[y] 31So Judas saw that the battle had begun and that the cry of the town went up to heaven, with trumpets and loud shouts, 32and he said to the men of his forces, "Fight today for your kindred!"* 33Then he came up behind them in three companies, who sounded their trumpets and cried aloud in prayer.* 34And when the army of Timothy realized that it was Maccabeus, they fled before him, and he dealt them a heavy blow. As many as eight thousand of them fell that day.

35 Next he turned aside to Maapha[z] and fought against it and took it, and he killed every male in it, plundered it, and burned it with fire. 36From there he marched on and took Chaspho, Maked, and Bosor and the other towns of Gilead.*

37 After these things Timothy gathered another army and encamped opposite Raphon, on the other side of the stream.* 38Judas sent men to spy out the camp, and they reported to him, "All the nations around us have gathered to him; it is a very large force. 39They also have hired Arabs to help them, and they are encamped across the stream ready to come and fight against you." And Judas went to meet them.*

40 Now as Judas and his army drew near to the stream of water, Timothy said to the officers of his forces, "If he crosses over to us first, we will not be able to resist him, for he will surely defeat us. 41But if he shows fear and camps on the other side of the river, we will cross over to him and defeat him." 42When Judas approached the stream of water, he stationed the officers[a] of the army at the stream and gave them this command, "Permit no one to encamp, but make them all enter the battle."* 43Then he crossed over against them first, and the whole army followed him. All the nations were defeated before him, and they threw away their arms and fled into the sacred precincts at Carnaim.* 44But he took the town and burned the sacred precincts with fire, together with all who were in them. Thus Carnaim was conquered; they could stand before Judas no longer.*

THE RETURN TO JERUSALEM

45 Then Judas gathered together all the Israelites in Gilead, the small and the great, with their wives and children and goods, a very large company, to go to the land of Judah. 46So they came to Ephron. This was a large and

very strong town on the road, and they could not go around it to the right or to the left; they had to go through it.* 47But the people of the town shut them out and blocked up the gates with stones.

48 Judas sent them this friendly message, "Let us pass through your land to get to our land. No one will do you harm; we will simply pass by on foot." But they refused to open to him.* 49Then Judas ordered proclamation to be made to the army that all should encamp where they were. 50So the men of the forces encamped, and he fought against the town all that day and all the night, and the town was delivered into his hands.* 51He destroyed every male by the edge of the sword and razed and plundered the town. Then he passed through the town over the bodies of the dead.

52 Then they crossed the Jordan into the large plain before Beth-shan.* 53Judas kept rallying the laggards and encouraging the people all the way until he came to the land of Judah. 54So they went up to Mount Zion with joy and gladness and offered burnt offerings because they had returned in safety; not one of them had fallen.

JOSEPH AND AZARIAH DEFEATED

55 Now while Judas and Jonathan were in Gilead and their[b] brother Simon was in Galilee before Ptolemais,* 56Joseph son of Zechariah and Azariah, the commanders of the forces, heard of their brave deeds and of the heroic war they had fought.* 57So they said, "Let us also make a name for ourselves; let us go and make war on the nations around us."* 58So they issued orders to the men of the forces that were with them and marched against Jamnia.* 59Gorgias and his men came out of the town to meet them in battle.* 60Then Joseph and Azariah were routed and were pursued to the borders of Judea; as many as two thousand of the people of Israel fell that day.* 61Thus the people suffered a great rout because, thinking to do a brave deed, they did not listen to Judas and his brothers.* 62But they did not belong to the family of those men through whom deliverance was given to Israel.

63 The man Judas and his brothers were greatly honored in all Israel and among all the nations, wherever their name was heard. 64People gathered to them and praised them.

SUCCESS AT HEBRON AND PHILISTIA

65 Then Judas and his brothers went out and fought the descendants of Esau in the land to the south. He struck Hebron and its villages and tore down its strongholds and burned its towers on all sides.* 66Then he marched off to go into the land of the Philistines[c] and passed through Marisa.[d,*] 67On that day some priests who wished to do a brave deed fell in battle, for they went out to battle unwisely. 68But Judas turned aside to Azotus in the land of the Philistines; he tore down their altars, and the carved images of their gods he burned with fire; he plundered the towns and returned to the land of Judah.*

1 Maccabees 6

THE LAST DAYS OF ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES

1 King Antiochus was going through the upper provinces when he heard
that Elymais in Persia was a city famed for its wealth in silver and gold.*
2Its temple was very rich, containing golden shields, breastplates, and
weapons left there by Alexander son of Philip, the Macedonian king who
first reigned over the Greeks.* 3So he came and tried to take the city and
plunder it, but he could not because his plan had become known to the
citizens,* 4and they withstood him in battle. So he fled and in great
disappointment left there to return to Babylon.

5 Then someone came to him in Persia and reported that the armies that
had gone into the land of Judah had been routed;* 6that Lysias had gone first
with a strong force but had turned and fled before the Jews;[e] that the Jews[f]
had grown strong from the arms, supplies, and abundant spoils that they had
taken from the armies they had cut down;* 7that they had torn down the
abomination that he had erected on the altar in Jerusalem; and that they had
surrounded the sanctuary with high walls as before, and also Beth-zur, his
town.*

8 When the king heard this news, he was astounded and badly shaken. He
took to his bed and became sick from disappointment because things had
not turned out for him as he had planned.* 9He lay there for many days
because deep disappointment continually gripped him, and he realized that
he was dying.* 10So he called all his Friends and said to them, "Sleep has
departed from my eyes, and I am downhearted with worry.* 11I said to
myself, 'To what distress I have come! And into what a great flood I now
am plunged! For I was kind and beloved in my power.' 12But now I
remember the wrong I did in Jerusalem. I seized all its vessels of silver and
gold, and I sent to destroy the inhabitants of Judah without good reason.*
13I know that it is because of this that these misfortunes have come upon
me; here I am, perishing of bitter disappointment in a strange land."

14 Then he called for Philip, one of his Friends, and made him ruler over
all his kingdom.* 15He gave him the crown and his robe and the signet so

that he might guide his son Antiochus and bring him up to be king.* 16Thus King Antiochus died there in the one hundred forty-ninth year.* 17When Lysias learned that the king was dead, he set up Antiochus the king's[g] son to reign. Lysias[h] had brought him up from boyhood; he named him Eupator.*

RENEWED ATTACKS FROM SYRIA

18 Meanwhile the garrison in the citadel kept hemming Israel in around the sanctuary. They were trying in every way to harm them and strengthen the nations.* 19Judas therefore resolved to destroy them and assembled all the people to besiege them. 20They gathered together and besieged the citadel[i] in the one hundred fiftieth year, and he built siege towers and engines of war.* 21But some of the garrison escaped from the siege, and some of the ungodly Israelites joined them.* 22They went to the king and said, "How long will you fail to do justice and to avenge our kindred? 23We were happy to serve your father, to live by what he said, and to follow his commands.* 24For this reason the sons of our people besieged the citadel[j] and became hostile to us; moreover, they have put to death as many of us as they have caught, and they have seized our inheritances. 25It is not against us alone that they have stretched out their hands; they have also attacked all the lands on their borders. 26And see, today they have encamped against the citadel in Jerusalem to take it; they have fortified both the sanctuary and Beth-zur;* 27unless you quickly prevent them, they will do still greater things, and you will not be able to stop them."

28 The king was enraged when he heard this. He assembled all his Friends, the commanders of his forces and those in authority.[k],* 29Mercenary forces also came to him from other kingdoms and from islands of the seas.* 30The number of his forces was one hundred thousand foot soldiers, twenty thousand horsemen, and thirty-two elephants accustomed to war.* 31They came through Idumea and encamped against Beth-zur, and for many days they fought and built engines of war, but the Jews[l] sallied out and burned these with fire and fought courageously.*

THE BATTLE AT BETH-ZECHARIAH

32 Then Judas marched away from the citadel and encamped at Beth-
zechariah, opposite the camp of the king. [33]Early in the morning the king
set out and took his army by a forced march along the road to Beth-
zechariah, and his troops made ready for battle and sounded their trumpets.
[34]They offered the elephants the juice of grapes and mulberries, to arouse
them for battle. [35]They distributed the animals among the phalanxes; with
each elephant they stationed a thousand men armed with coats of mail and
with brass helmets on their heads, and five hundred picked horsemen were
assigned to each beast. [36]These took their position beforehand wherever the
animal was; wherever it went, they went with it, and they never left it. [37]On
the elephants[m] were wooden towers, strong and covered; they were fastened
on each animal by special harness, and on each were four[n] armed men who
fought from there and also its Indian driver. [38]The rest of the cavalry were
stationed on either side, on the two flanks of the army, to harass the enemy
while being themselves protected by the phalanxes. [39]When the sun shone
on the shields of gold and brass, the hills were ablaze with them and
gleamed like flaming torches.

40 Now a part of the king's army was spread out on the high hills, and
some troops were on the plain, and they advanced steadily and in good
order. [41]All who heard the noise made by their multitude, by the marching
of the multitude and the clanking of their arms, trembled, for the army was
very large and strong. [42]But Judas and his army advanced to the battle, and
six hundred of the king's army fell. [43]Now Eleazar, called Avaran, saw that
one of the animals was equipped with royal armor. It was taller than all the
others, and he supposed that the king was on it.[*] [44]So he gave his life to
save his people and to win for himself an everlasting name.[*] [45]He
courageously ran into the midst of the phalanx to reach it; he killed men
right and left, and they parted before him on both sides. [46]He got under the
elephant, stabbed it from beneath, and killed it, but it fell to the ground
upon him and he died. [47]When the Jews[o] saw the royal might and the fierce
attack of the forces, they turned away in flight.

THE SIEGE OF THE TEMPLE

48 The soldiers of the king's army went up to Jerusalem against them,
and the king encamped in Judea and at Mount Zion. [49]He made peace with

the people of Beth-zur, and they evacuated the town because they had no provisions there to withstand a siege, since it was a sabbatical year for the land.* 50So the king took Beth-zur and stationed a guard there to hold it.* 51Then he encamped before the sanctuary for many days. He set up siege towers, engines of war, devices to throw fire and stones, machines to shoot arrows, and catapults.* 52The Jews[p] also made engines of war to match theirs and fought for many days. 53But they had no food in storage,[q] because it was the seventh year; those who had found safety in Judea from the nations had consumed the last of the stores. 54Only a few men were left in the sanctuary; the rest scattered to their own homes, for the famine proved too much for them.

SYRIA OFFERS TERMS

55 Then Lysias heard that Philip, whom King Antiochus while still living had appointed to bring up his son Antiochus to be king,* 56had returned from Persia and Media with the forces that had gone with the king and that he was trying to seize control of the government.* 57So he quickly gave orders to withdraw and said to the king, to the commanders of the forces, and to the troops, "Daily we grow weaker, our food supply is scant, the place against which we are fighting is strong, and the affairs of the kingdom press urgently on us. 58Now, then, let us come to terms with these people and make peace with them and with all their nation.* 59Let us agree to let them live by their laws as they did before, for it was on account of their laws that we abolished that they became angry and did all these things."*

60 The speech pleased the king and the commanders, and he sent to the Jews[r] an offer of peace, and they accepted it.* 61So the king and the commanders gave them their oath. On these conditions the Jews[s] evacuated the stronghold. 62But when the king entered Mount Zion and saw what a strong fortress the place was, he broke the oath he had sworn and gave orders to tear down the wall all around.* 63Then he set off in haste and returned to Antioch. He found Philip in control of the city, but he fought against him and took the city by force.*

1 Maccabees 7

EXPEDITION OF BACCHIDES AND ALCIMUS

1 In the one hundred fifty-first year Demetrius son of Seleucus set out from
Rome, sailed with a few men to a town by the sea, and there began to
reign.* [2]As he was entering the royal palace of his ancestors, the army
seized Antiochus and Lysias to bring them to him.* [3]But when this act
became known to him, he said, "Do not let me see their faces!" [4]So the
army killed them, and Demetrius took his seat on the throne of his kingdom.

5 Then there came to him all the renegade and godless men of Israel;
they were led by Alcimus, who wanted to be high priest.* [6]They brought to
the king this accusation against the people: "Judas and his brothers have
destroyed all your Friends and have driven us out of our land. [7]Now, then,
send a man whom you trust; let him go and see all the ruin that Judas[t] has
brought on us and on the land of the king, and let him punish them and all
who help them."

8 So the king chose Bacchides, one of the king's Friends, governor of the
province Beyond the River; he was a great man in the kingdom and was
faithful to the king.* [9]He sent him, and with him he sent the ungodly
Alcimus, whom he made high priest, and he commanded him to take
vengeance on the Israelites.* [10]So they marched away and came with a large
force into the land of Judah, and he sent messengers to Judas and his
brothers with peaceable but treacherous words. [11]But they paid no attention
to their words, for they saw that they had come with a large force.

12 Then a group of scribes appeared in a body before Alcimus and
Bacchides to ask for just terms.* [13]The Hasideans were first among the
Israelites to seek peace from them, [14]for they said, "A priest of the line of
Aaron has come with the army, and he will not harm us."* [15]Alcimus[u]
spoke peaceable words to them and swore this oath to them, "We will not
seek to injure you or your friends." [16]So they trusted him, but he seized
sixty of them and killed them in one day, in accordance with the word that
was written,

[17]"The flesh of your faithful ones and their blood

they poured out all around Jerusalem,

and there was no one to bury them."*

18Then the fear and dread of them fell on all the people, for they said, "There is no truth or justice in them, for they have violated the agreement and the oath that they swore."

19 Then Bacchides withdrew from Jerusalem and encamped in Beth-zaith. And he sent and seized many of the men who had deserted to him,[v] and some of the people, and killed them and threw them into a great pit.* 20He placed Alcimus in charge of the country and left with him a force to help him; then Bacchides went back to the king.

21 Alcimus struggled to maintain his high priesthood,* 22and all who were troubling their people joined him. They gained control of the land of Judah and did great damage in Israel. 23And Judas saw all the wrongs that Alcimus and those with him had done among the Israelites; it was more than the nations had done. 24So Judas[w] went out into all the surrounding parts of Judea, taking vengeance on those who had deserted and preventing those in the city[x] from going out into the country. 25When Alcimus saw that Judas and those with him had grown strong and realized that he could not withstand them, he returned to the king and brought malicious charges against them.

NICANOR IN JUDEA

26 Then the king sent Nicanor, one of his honored princes, who hated and detested Israel, and he commanded him to destroy the people.* 27So Nicanor came to Jerusalem with a large force and treacherously sent to Judas and his brothers this peaceable message,* 28"Let there be no fighting between you and me; I shall come with a few men to see you face to face in peace."

29 So he came to Judas, and they greeted one another peaceably, but the enemy were preparing to kidnap Judas. 30It became known to Judas that Nicanor[y] had come to him with treacherous intent, and he was afraid of him and would not meet him again.* 31When Nicanor learned that his plan had been disclosed, he went out to meet Judas in battle near Caphar-salama.

[32]About five hundred of the army of Nicanor fell, and the rest[z] fled into the city of David.

NICANOR THREATENS THE TEMPLE

33 After these events Nicanor went up to Mount Zion. Some of the priests from the sanctuary and some of the elders of the people came out to greet him peaceably and to show him the burnt offering that was being offered for the king.* [34]But he mocked them and derided them and defiled them and spoke arrogantly, [35]and in anger he swore this oath, "Unless Judas and his army are delivered into my hands this time, then if I return safely I will burn up this house." And he went out in great anger.* [36]At this the priests went in and stood before the altar and the temple; they wept and said,*

[37]"You chose this house to be called by your name
and to be for your people a house of prayer and supplication.*
[38]Take vengeance on this man and on his army,
and let them fall by the sword;
remember their blasphemies,
and let them live no longer."

THE DEATH OF NICANOR

39 Now Nicanor went out from Jerusalem and encamped in Beth-horon, and the Syrian army joined him.* [40]Judas encamped in Adasa with three thousand men. Then Judas prayed and said, [41]"When the messengers from the king spoke blasphemy, your angel went out and struck down one hundred eighty-five thousand of the Assyrians.[a],* [42]So also crush this army before us today; let the rest learn that Nicanor[b] has spoken wickedly against the sanctuary, and judge him according to this wickedness."*

43 So the armies met in battle on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar. The army of Nicanor was crushed, and he himself was the first to fall in the battle.* [44]When his army saw that Nicanor had fallen, they threw down their arms and fled. [45]The Jews[c] pursued them a day's journey, from Adasa as far as Gazara, and as they followed they kept sounding the battle call on the

trumpets.* 46People came out of all the surrounding villages of Judea, and they outflanked the enemy[d] and drove them back to their pursuers,[e] so that they all fell by the sword; not even one of them was left. 47Then the Jews[f] seized the spoils and the plunder; they cut off Nicanor's head and the right hand that he had so arrogantly stretched out and brought them and displayed them just outside Jerusalem.* 48The people rejoiced greatly and celebrated that day as a day of great gladness. 49They decreed that this day should be celebrated each year on the thirteenth day of Adar.* 50So the land of Judah had rest for a few days.*

1 Maccabees 8

A EULOGY OF THE ROMANS

1 Now Judas heard of the fame of the Romans, that they were very strong
and were well-disposed toward all who made an alliance with them, that
they pledged friendship to those who came to them,* [2]and that they were
very strong. He had been told of their wars and of the brave deeds that they
were doing among the Gauls, how they had defeated them and forced them
to pay tribute, [3]and what they had done in the land of Spain to get control of
the silver and gold mines there, [4]and how they had gained control of the
whole region by their planning and patience, even though the place was far
distant from them. They also subdued the kings who came against them
from the ends of the earth, until they crushed them and inflicted great
disaster on them; the survivors paid them tribute every year. [5]They had
crushed in battle and conquered Philip, and King Perseus of the
Macedonians,[g] and the others who rose up against them.* [6]They also had
defeated Antiochus the Great, king of Asia, who went to fight against them
with one hundred twenty elephants and with cavalry and chariots and a very
large army. He was crushed by them;* [7]they took him alive and decreed that
he and those who would reign after him should pay a heavy tribute and give
hostages and surrender some of their best provinces:* [8]the countries of
India, Media, and Lydia. These they took from him and gave to King
Eumenes. [9]The Greeks planned to come and destroy them, [10]but this
became known to them, and they sent a general against the Greeks[h] and
attacked them. Many of them were wounded and fell, and the Romans[i] took
captive their wives and children; they plundered them, conquered the land,
tore down their strongholds, and enslaved them to this day. [11]The remaining
kingdoms and islands, as many as ever opposed them, they destroyed and
enslaved, [12]but with their friends and those who rely on them they have
kept friendship. They have subdued kings far and near, and as many as have
heard of their fame have feared them. [13]Those whom they wish to help and
to make kings, they make kings, and those whom they wish they depose,
and they have been greatly exalted. [14]Yet for all this not one of them has put

on a crown or worn purple as a mark of pride,* 15but they have built for themselves a senate chamber, and every day three hundred twenty senators constantly deliberate concerning the people, to govern them well.* 16They trust one man each year to rule over them and to control all their land; they all heed the one man, and there is no envy or jealousy among them.*

AN ALLIANCE WITH ROME

17 So Judas chose Eupolemus son of John son of Accos, and Jason son of Eleazar, and sent them to Rome to establish friendship and alliance* 18and to free themselves from the yoke, for they saw that the kingdom of the Greeks was enslaving Israel completely.* 19They went to Rome, a very long journey, and they entered the senate chamber and spoke as follows:* 20"Judas, who is also called Maccabeus, and his brothers and the people of the Jews have sent us to you to establish alliance and peace with you, so that we may be enrolled as your allies and friends."* 21The proposal pleased them, 22and this is a copy of the letter that they wrote in reply, on bronze tablets, and sent to Jerusalem to remain with them there as a memorial of peace and alliance:*

23 "May all go well with the Romans and with the nation of the Jews at sea and on land forever, and may sword and enemy be far from them. 24If war comes first to Rome or to any of their allies in all their dominion, 25the nation of the Jews shall act as their allies wholeheartedly, as the occasion may indicate to them. 26To the enemy that makes war they shall not give or supply grain, arms, money, or ships, just as Rome has decided, and they shall keep their obligations without receiving any return. 27In the same way, if war comes first to the nation of the Jews, the Romans shall willingly act as their allies, as the occasion may indicate to them. 28And to their enemies there shall not be given grain, arms, money, or ships, just as Rome has decided, and they shall keep these obligations and do so without deceit. 29Thus on these terms the Romans make a treaty with the Jewish people. 30If after these terms are in effect both parties shall determine to add or delete anything, they shall do so at their discretion, and any addition or deletion that they may make shall be valid.

31 “Concerning the wrongs that King Demetrius is doing to them, we have written to him as follows, ‘Why have you made your yoke heavy on our friends and allies the Jews?* [32]If now they appeal again for help against you, we will defend their rights and fight you on sea and on land.’ ”

1 Maccabees 9

BACCHIDES RETURNS TO JUDEA

1 When Demetrius heard that Nicanor and his army had fallen in battle, he
sent Bacchides and Alcimus into the land of Judah a second time, and with
them the right wing of the army.* [2]They went by the road that leads to
Gilgal and encamped against Mesaloth in Arbela, and they took it and killed
many people. [3]In the first month of the one hundred fifty-second year they
encamped against Jerusalem; [4]then they marched off and went to Berea
with twenty thousand foot soldiers and two thousand cavalry.

5 Now Judas was encamped in Elasa, and with him were three thousand
picked men. [6]When they saw the huge number of the enemy forces, they
were greatly frightened, and many slipped away from the camp, until no
more than eight hundred of them were left.

7 When Judas saw that his army had slipped away and the battle was
imminent, he was crushed in spirit, for he had no time to assemble them.
[8]He became faint, but he said to those who were left, "Let us get up and go
against our enemies. We may have the strength to fight them." [9]But they
tried to dissuade him, saying, "We do not have the strength. Let us rather
save our own lives now, and let us come back with our kindred and fight
them, for we are too few." [10]But Judas said, "Far be it from me to do such a
thing as to flee from them. If our time has come, let us die bravely for our
kindred and leave no cause to question our honor."*

THE LAST BATTLE OF JUDAS

11 Then the army of Bacchides[j] marched out from the camp and took its
stand for the encounter. The cavalry was divided into two companies, and
the slingers and the archers went ahead of the army, as did all the chief
warriors. [12]Bacchides was on the right wing. Flanked by the two
companies, the phalanx advanced to the sound of the trumpets, and the men
with Judas also blew their trumpets. [13]The earth was shaken by the noise of
the armies, and the battle raged from morning until evening.*

14 Judas saw that Bacchides and the strength of his army were on the
right; then all the courageous men went with him, [15]and they crushed the
right wing, and he pursued them as far as Mount Azotus. [16]When those on
the left wing saw that the right wing was crushed, they turned and followed
close behind Judas and his men. [17]The battle became desperate, and many
on both sides were wounded and fell. [18]Judas also fell, and the rest fled.

19 Then Jonathan and Simon took their brother Judas and buried him in
the tomb of their ancestors at Modein* [20]and wept for him. All Israel made
great lamentation for him; they mourned many days and said,*

[21]"How is the mighty fallen,
the savior of Israel!"*

[22]Now the rest of the acts of Judas, and his wars and the brave deeds that he
did, and his greatness have not been recorded because they were very
many.*

JONATHAN SUCCEEDS JUDAS

23 After the death of Judas, the renegades emerged in all parts of Israel;
all the wrongdoers reappeared.* [24]In those days a very great famine
occurred, and the country went over to their side. [25]Bacchides chose the
godless and put them in charge of the country.* [26]They made inquiry and
searched for the friends of Judas and brought them to Bacchides, who took
vengeance on them and made sport of them. [27]So there was great distress in
Israel such as had not been since the time a prophet had last appeared
among them.*

28 Then all the friends of Judas assembled and said to Jonathan,*
[29]"Since the death of your brother Judas there has been no one like him to
go against our enemies and Bacchides and to deal with those of our nation
who hate us.* [30]Now, therefore, we have chosen you today to take his place
as our ruler and leader, to fight our battle." [31]So Jonathan accepted the
leadership at that time in place of his brother Judas.*

THE CAMPAIGNS OF JONATHAN

32 When Bacchides learned of this, he tried to kill him. [33]But Jonathan and his brother Simon and all who were with him heard of it, and they fled into the wilderness of Tekoa and camped by the water of the pool of Asphar.* [34]Bacchides found this out on the Sabbath day, and he with all his army crossed the Jordan.*

35 So Jonathan[k] sent his brother as leader of the multitude and begged the Nabateans, who were his friends, for permission to store with them the great amount of baggage that they had.* [36]But the family of Jambri from Medeba came out and seized John and all that he had and left with it.

37 After these things it was reported to Jonathan and his brother Simon, "The family of Jambri are celebrating a great wedding and are conducting the bride, a daughter of one of the great nobles of Canaan, from Nadabath with a large escort." [38]Remembering how their brother John had been killed, they went up and hid under cover of the mountain. [39]They looked out and saw a tumultuous procession with a great amount of baggage, and the bridegroom came out with his friends and his brothers to meet them with tambourines and musicians and many weapons. [40]Then they rushed on them from the ambush and began killing them. Many were wounded and fell, and the rest fled to the mountain, and the troops[l] took all their goods.* [41]So the wedding was turned into mourning and the voice of their musicians into a funeral dirge. [42]After they had fully avenged the blood of their brother, they returned to the marshes of the Jordan.

43 When Bacchides heard of this, he came with a large force on the Sabbath day to the banks of the Jordan.* [44]And Jonathan said to those with him, "Let us get up now and fight for our lives, for today things are not as they were before.* [45]For look! The battle is in front of us and behind us; the water of the Jordan is on this side and on that, with marsh and thicket; there is no place to turn.* [46]Cry out now to heaven that you may be delivered from the hands of our enemies." [47]So the battle began, and Jonathan stretched out his hand to strike Bacchides, but he eluded him and went to the rear. [48]Then Jonathan and the men with him leaped into the Jordan and swam across to the other side, and Bacchides's troops[m] did not cross the Jordan to attack them. [49]And about one thousand of Bacchides's men fell that day.

BACCHIDES BUILDS FORTIFICATIONS

50 Then Bacchides[n] returned to Jerusalem and built strong cities in Judea: the fortress in Jericho, and Emmaus, and Beth-horon, and Bethel, and Timnath, and[o] Pharathon, and Tephon, with high walls and gates and bars.* 51And he placed garrisons in them to harass Israel. 52He also fortified the town of Beth-zur, and Gazara, and the citadel, and in them he put troops and stores of food.* 53And he took the sons of the leading men of the land as hostages and put them under guard in the citadel at Jerusalem.*

54 In the one hundred and fifty-third year, in the second month, Alcimus gave orders to tear down the wall of the inner court of the sanctuary. He tore down the work of the prophets!* 55But he only began to tear it down, for at that time Alcimus was stricken, and his work was hindered; his mouth was stopped, and he was paralyzed, so that he could no longer say a word or give commands concerning his house. 56And Alcimus died at that time in great agony. 57When Bacchides saw that Alcimus was dead, he returned to the king, and the land of Judah had rest for two years.*

THE END OF THE WAR

58 Then all the lawless plotted and said, "See! Jonathan and his men are living in quiet and confidence. So now let us bring Bacchides back, and he will capture them all in one night."* 59And they went and consulted with him. 60He started to come with a large force and secretly sent letters to all his allies in Judea telling them to seize Jonathan and his men, but they were unable to do it, because their plan became known. 61And Jonathan's men[p] seized about fifty of the men of the country who were leaders in this treachery and killed them.

62 Then Jonathan with his men and Simon withdrew to Bethbasi in the wilderness; he rebuilt the parts of it that had been demolished, and they fortified it. 63When Bacchides learned of this, he assembled all his forces and sent orders to the men of Judea. 64Then he came and encamped against Bethbasi; he fought against it for many days and made engines of war.

65 But Jonathan left his brother Simon in the town while he went out into the country, and he went with only a few men. 66He struck down Odomera and his kindred and the people of Phasiron in their tents. 67Then he[q] began

to attack and went into battle with his forces, and Simon and his men sallied out from the town and set fire to the engines of war. [68]They fought with Bacchides, and he was crushed by them. They pressed him very hard, for his plan and his expedition had been in vain.* [69]So he was very angry at the renegades who had counseled him to come into the country, and he killed many of them. Then he decided to go back to his own land.*

70 When Jonathan learned of this, he sent ambassadors to him to make peace with him and obtain release of the captives.* [71]He agreed and did as he said, and he swore to Jonathan[r] that he would not try to harm him as long as he lived. [72]He restored to him the captives whom he had taken previously from the land of Judah; then he turned and went back to his own land and did not come again into their territory.* [73]Thus the sword ceased from Israel. Jonathan settled in Michmash and began to judge the people, and he destroyed the godless out of Israel.*

1 Maccabees 10

REVOLT OF ALEXANDER EPIPHANES

1 In the one hundred sixtieth year Alexander Epiphanes, son of Antiochus,
landed and occupied Ptolemais. They welcomed him, and there he began to
reign.* [2]When King Demetrius heard of it, he assembled a very large army
and marched out to meet him in battle.* [3]Demetrius sent Jonathan a letter in
peaceable words to honor him, [4]for he said to himself, "Let us act first to
make peace with him[s] before he makes peace with Alexander against us,*
[5]for he will remember all the wrongs that we did to him and to his brothers
and his nation."* [6]So Demetrius[t] gave him authority to recruit troops, to
equip them with arms, and to become his ally, and he commanded that the
hostages in the citadel should be released to him.*

7 Then Jonathan came to Jerusalem and read the letter in the hearing of
all the people and of those in the citadel.* [8]They were greatly alarmed when
they heard that the king had given him authority to recruit troops. [9]But
those in the citadel released the hostages to Jonathan, and he returned them
to their parents.

10 And Jonathan took up residence in Jerusalem and began to rebuild and
restore the city. [11]He directed those who were doing the work to build the
walls and encircle Mount Zion with squared stones, for better fortification,
and they did so.*

12 Then the foreigners who were in the strongholds that Bacchides had
built fled;* [13]all of them left their places and went back to their own lands.
[14]Only in Beth-zur did some remain who had forsaken the law and the
commandments, for it served as a place of refuge.*

15 Now King Alexander heard of all the promises that Demetrius had
sent to Jonathan, and he heard of the battles that Jonathan[u] and his brothers
had fought, of the brave deeds that they had done, and of the troubles that
they had endured. [16]So he said, "Shall we find another such man? Come
now, we will make him our friend and ally."* [17]And he wrote a letter and
sent it to him, in the following words:

JONATHAN BECOMES HIGH PRIEST

18 "King Alexander to his brother Jonathan, greetings.* [19]We have heard about you, that you are a mighty warrior and worthy to be our friend.* [20]And so we have appointed you today to be the high priest of your nation; you are to be called the king's Friend, and you are to take our side and keep friendship with us." He also sent him a purple robe and a golden crown.*

21 So Jonathan put on the sacred vestments in the seventh month of the one hundred sixtieth year, at the Festival of Booths,[v] and he recruited troops and equipped them with arms in abundance.* [22]When Demetrius heard of these things, he was distressed and said, [23]"What is this that we have done? Alexander has gotten ahead of us in forming a friendship with the Jews to strengthen himself.* [24]I also will write them words of encouragement and promise them honor and gifts, so that I may have their help." [25]So he sent a message to them in the following words:

A LETTER FROM DEMETRIUS TO JONATHAN

"King Demetrius to the nation of the Jews, greetings. [26]Since you have kept your agreement with us and have continued your friendship with us and have not sided with our enemies, we have heard of it and rejoiced. [27]Now continue still to keep faith with us, and we will repay you with good for what you do for us. [28]We will grant you many immunities and give you gifts.*

29 "I now free you and exempt all the Jews from payment of tribute and salt tax and crown levies,* [30]and instead of collecting the third of the grain and the half of the fruit of the trees that I should receive, I release them from this day and henceforth. I will not collect them from the land of Judah or from the three districts added to it from Samaria and Galilee, from this day and for all time.* [31]Jerusalem and its environs, its tithes and its revenues, shall be holy and free from tax.* [32]I release also my control of the citadel in Jerusalem and give it to the high priest, so that he may station in it men of his own choice to guard it.* [33]And every one of the Jews taken as a captive from the land of Judah into any part of my kingdom, I set free without payment, and let all officials cancel also the taxes on their livestock.*

34 "All the festivals and Sabbaths and new moons and appointed days and the three days before a festival and the three after a festival—let them all be days of immunity and release for all the Jews who are in my kingdom.* [35]No one shall have authority to exact anything from them or trouble any of them about any matter.

36 "Let Jews be enrolled in the king's forces to the number of thirty thousand men, and let the maintenance be given them that is due to all the forces of the king.* [37]Let some of them be stationed in the great strongholds of the king, and let some of them be put in positions of trust in the kingdom. Let their officers and leaders be of their own number, and let them live by their own laws, just as the king has commanded in the land of Judah.

38 "As for the three districts that have been added to Judea from the country of Samaria, let them be annexed to Judea so that they may be considered to be under one ruler and obey no other authority than the high priest.* [39]Ptolemais and the land adjoining it I have given as a gift to the sanctuary in Jerusalem, to meet the necessary expenses of the sanctuary.* [40]I also grant fifteen thousand shekels of silver yearly out of the king's revenues from appropriate places. [41]And all the additional funds that the government officials have not paid as they did in the first years,[w] they shall give from now on for the service of the temple.[x] [42]Moreover, the five thousand shekels of silver that my officials[y] have received every year from the income of the services of the temple, this, too, is canceled, because it belongs to the priests who minister there. [43]And all who take refuge at the temple in Jerusalem or in any of its precincts because they owe money to the king or are in debt, let them be released and receive back all their property in my kingdom.

44 "Let the cost of rebuilding and restoring the structures of the sanctuary be paid from the revenues of the king. [45]And let the cost of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem and fortifying it all around and the cost of rebuilding the walls in Judea also be paid from the revenues of the king."*

DEATH OF DEMETRIUS

46 When Jonathan and the people heard these words, they did not believe or accept them, because they remembered the great wrongs that Demetrius[z]

had done in Israel and how much he had oppressed them.* 47They favored Alexander because he had been the first to speak peaceable words to them, and they remained his allies all his days.

48 Now King Alexander assembled large forces and encamped opposite Demetrius. 49The two kings met in battle, and the army of Demetrius fled, and Alexander[a] pursued him and defeated them. 50He pressed the battle strongly until the sun set, and on that day Demetrius fell.

TREATY OF PTOLEMY AND ALEXANDER

51 Then Alexander sent ambassadors to Ptolemy king of Egypt with the following message:* 52"Since I have returned to my kingdom and have taken my seat on the throne of my ancestors and established my rule—for I crushed Demetrius and gained control of our country; 53I met him in battle, and he and his army were crushed by us, and we have taken our seat on the throne of his kingdom—54now therefore let us establish friendship with one another; give me now your daughter as my wife, and I will become your son-in-law and will make gifts to you and to her in keeping with your position."

55 Ptolemy the king replied and said, "Happy was the day on which you returned to the land of your ancestors and took your seat on the throne of their kingdom. 56And now I will do for you as you wrote, but meet me at Ptolemais, so that we may see one another, and I will become your father-in-law, as you have said."*

57 So Ptolemy set out from Egypt, he and his daughter Cleopatra, and came to Ptolemais in the one hundred sixty-second year. 58King Alexander met him, and Ptolemy[b] gave him his daughter Cleopatra in marriage and celebrated her wedding at Ptolemais with great pomp, as kings do.*

59 Then King Alexander wrote to Jonathan to come and meet him. 60So he went with pomp to Ptolemais and met the two kings; he gave them and their Friends silver and gold and many gifts and found favor with them.* 61A group of malcontents from Israel, renegades, gathered together against him to accuse him, but the king paid no attention to them.* 62The king gave orders to take off Jonathan's garments and to clothe him in purple, and they did so.* 63The king also seated him at his side, and he said to his officers,

"Go out with him into the middle of the city and proclaim that no one is to bring charges against him about any matter, and let no one trouble him for any reason."* 64When his accusers saw the honor that was paid him, in accord with the proclamation, and saw him clothed in purple, they all fled.* 65Thus the king honored him and enrolled him among his First Friends and made him general and governor of the province.* 66And Jonathan returned to Jerusalem in peace and gladness.

APOLLONIUS IS DEFEATED BY JONATHAN

67 In the one hundred sixty-fifth year Demetrius son of Demetrius came from Crete to the land of his ancestors.* 68When King Alexander heard of it, he was greatly distressed and returned to Antioch.* 69And Demetrius appointed Apollonius the governor of Coelesyria, and he assembled a large force and encamped against Jamnia. Then he sent the following message to the high priest Jonathan:*

70 "You are the only one to rise up against us, and I have fallen into ridicule and disgrace because of you. Why do you assume authority against us in the hill country? 71If you now have confidence in your forces, come down to the plain to meet us, and let us match strength with each other there, for I have with me the power of the cities. 72Ask and learn who I am and who the others are who are helping us. People will tell you that you cannot stand before us, for your ancestors were twice put to flight in their own land.* 73And now you will not be able to withstand my cavalry and such an army in the plain, where there is no stone or pebble or place to flee."

74 When Jonathan heard the words of Apollonius, his spirit was aroused. He chose ten thousand men and set out from Jerusalem, and his brother Simon met him to help him.* 75He encamped before Joppa, but the people of the city closed its gates, for Apollonius had a garrison in Joppa.* 76So they fought against it, and the people of the city became afraid and opened the gates, and Jonathan gained possession of Joppa.

77 When Apollonius heard of it, he mustered three thousand cavalry and a large army and went to Azotus as though he were going farther. At the same time he advanced into the plain, for he had a large troop of cavalry and put confidence in it.* 78Jonathan[c] pursued him to Azotus, and the

armies engaged in battle.* 79Now Apollonius had secretly left a thousand cavalry behind them. 80Jonathan learned that there was an ambush behind him, for they surrounded his army and shot arrows at his men from early morning until late afternoon. 81But his men stood fast, as Jonathan had commanded, and the enemy's[d] horses grew tired.

82 Then Simon brought forward his force and engaged the phalanx in battle (for the cavalry was exhausted); they were overwhelmed by him and fled, 83and the cavalry was dispersed in the plain. They fled to Azotus and entered Beth-dagon, the temple of their idol, for safety.* 84But Jonathan burned Azotus and the surrounding towns and plundered them, and the temple of Dagon and those who had taken refuge in it he burned with fire.* 85The number of those who fell by the sword, with those burned alive, came to eight thousand.

86 Then Jonathan left there and encamped against Askalon, and the people of the city came out to meet him with great pomp.*

87 He and those with him then returned to Jerusalem with a large amount of plunder. 88When King Alexander heard of these things, he honored Jonathan still more, 89and he sent to him a golden buckle, such as it is the custom to give to the King's Kinsmen. He also gave him Ekron and all its environs as his possession.*

1 Maccabees 11

PTOLEMY INVADES SYRIA

1 Then the king of Egypt gathered great forces like the sand by the seashore
and many ships, and he tried to get possession of Alexander's kingdom by
trickery and add it to his own kingdom.* [2]He set out for Syria with
peaceable words, and the people of the towns opened their gates to him and
went to meet him, for King Alexander had commanded them to meet him,
since he was Alexander's[e] father-in-law. [3]But when Ptolemy entered the
towns he stationed forces as a garrison in each town.

4 When he[f] approached Azotus, they showed him the burnt-out temple of
Dagon, and Azotus and its suburbs destroyed, and the corpses lying about,
and the charred bodies of those whom Jonathan[g] had burned in the war, for
they had piled them in heaps along his route.* [5]They also told the king what
Jonathan had done, to throw blame on him, but the king kept silent.
[6]Jonathan met the king at Joppa with pomp, and they greeted one another
and spent the night there.* [7]And Jonathan went with the king as far as the
river called Eleutherus; then he returned to Jerusalem.*

8 So King Ptolemy gained control of the coastal cities as far as Seleucia
by the sea, and he kept devising wicked designs against Alexander.* [9]He
sent envoys to King Demetrius, saying, "Come, let us make a covenant with
each other, and I will give you in marriage my daughter who was
Alexander's wife, and you shall reign over your father's kingdom.* [10]I now
regret that I gave him my daughter, for he has tried to kill me." [11]He threw
blame on Alexander[h] because he coveted his kingdom. [12]So he took his
daughter away from him and gave her to Demetrius. He was estranged from
Alexander, and their hostility became apparent.

13 Then Ptolemy entered Antioch and put on the crown of Asia. Thus he
put two crowns on his head, the crown of Egypt and that of Asia.* [14]Now
King Alexander was in Cilicia at that time because the people of that region
were in revolt. [15]When Alexander heard of it, he came against him in battle.
Ptolemy marched out and met him with a strong force and put him to flight.
[16]So Alexander fled into Arabia to find protection there, and King Ptolemy

was triumphant. [17]Zabdiel the Arab cut off the head of Alexander and sent it to Ptolemy. [18]But King Ptolemy died three days later, and his troops in the strongholds were killed by the inhabitants of the strongholds. [19]So Demetrius became king in the one hundred sixty-seventh year.*

JONATHAN'S DIPLOMACY

20 In those days Jonathan assembled the Judeans to attack the citadel in Jerusalem, and he built many engines of war to use against it.* [21]But certain renegades who hated their nation went to the king and reported to him that Jonathan was besieging the citadel.* [22]When he heard this he was angry, and as soon as he heard it he set out and came to Ptolemais, and he wrote Jonathan not to continue the siege but to meet him for a conference at Ptolemais as quickly as possible.*

23 When Jonathan heard this, he gave orders to continue the siege. He chose some of the elders of Israel and some of the priests and put himself in danger, [24]for he went to the king at Ptolemais, taking silver and gold and clothing and numerous other gifts. And he won his favor.* [25]Although certain renegades of his nation kept making complaints against him,* [26]the king treated him as his predecessors had treated him; he exalted him in the presence of all his Friends.* [27]He confirmed him in the high priesthood and in as many other honors as he had formerly had and caused him to be reckoned among his First Friends.* [28]Then Jonathan asked the king to free Judea and the three districts and Samaria from tribute and promised him three hundred talents.* [29]The king consented and wrote a letter to Jonathan about all these things; its contents were as follows:

30 "King Demetrius to his brother Jonathan and to the nation of the Jews, greetings.* [31]This copy of the letter that we wrote concerning you to our kinsman Lasthenes we have written to you also, so that you may know what it says. [32]'King Demetrius to his father Lasthenes, greetings. [33]We have determined to do good to the nation of the Jews, who are our friends and fulfill their obligations to us, because of the goodwill they show toward us. [34]We have confirmed as their possession both the territory of Judea and the three districts of Aphairema and Lydda and Ramathaim;[i] the latter, with all the region bordering them, were added to Judea from Samaria. To all those

who offer sacrifice in Jerusalem we have granted release from[j] the royal taxes that the king formerly received from them each year, from the crops of the land and the fruit of the trees.* 35And the other payments henceforth due to us of the tithes, and the taxes due to us, and the salt pits and the crown taxes due to us—from all these we shall grant them release.* 36And not one of these grants shall be canceled from this time on forever.* 37Now, therefore, take care to make a copy of this, and let it be given to Jonathan and put up in a conspicuous place on the holy mountain.' "

THE INTRIGUE OF TRYPHO

38 When King Demetrius saw that the land was quiet before him and that there was no opposition to him, he dismissed all his troops, all of them to their own homes, except the foreign troops whom he had recruited from the islands of the nations. So all the troops who had served under his predecessors hated him.* 39A certain Trypho had formerly been one of Alexander's supporters; he saw that all the troops were grumbling against Demetrius. So he went to Imalkue the Arab, who was bringing up Antiochus, the young son of Alexander,* 40and insistently urged him to hand Antiochus[k] over to him, to become king in place of his father. He also reported to Imalkue[l] what Demetrius had done and told of the hatred that the troops of Demetrius[m] had for him, and he stayed there many days.*

41 Now Jonathan sent to King Demetrius the request that he remove the troops of the citadel from Jerusalem and the troops in the strongholds, for they kept fighting against Israel.* 42And Demetrius sent this message back to Jonathan: "Not only will I do these things for you and your nation, but I will confer great honor on you and your nation, if I find an opportunity. 43Now, then, you will do well to send me men who will help me, for all my troops have revolted."* 44So Jonathan sent three thousand stalwart men to him at Antioch, and when they came to the king, the king rejoiced at their arrival.*

45 Then the people of the city assembled within the city, to the number of a hundred and twenty thousand, and they wanted to kill the king. 46But the king fled into the palace. Then the people of the city seized the main streets of the city and began to fight. 47So the king called the Jews to his aid, and they all rallied around him and then spread out through the city, and they

killed on that day about one hundred thousand. [48]They set fire to the city and seized a large amount of spoil on that day and saved the king. [49]When the people of the city saw that the Jews had gained control of the city as they pleased, their courage failed, and they cried out to the king with this entreaty: [50]"Grant us peace, and make the Jews stop fighting against us and our city."* [51]And they threw down their arms and made peace. So the Jews gained glory in the sight of the king and of all the people in his kingdom, and they returned to Jerusalem with a large amount of spoil.

52 So King Demetrius sat on the throne of his kingdom, and the land was quiet before him.* [53]But he broke his word about all that he had promised; he became estranged from Jonathan and did not repay the favors that Jonathan[n] had done him but treated him very harshly.

TRYPHO SEIZES POWER

54 After this Trypho returned, and with him the young boy Antiochus, who began to reign and put on the crown.* [55]All the troops whom Demetrius had discharged gathered around him; they fought against Demetrius,[o] and he fled and was routed. [56]Trypho captured the elephants[p] and gained control of Antioch.* [57]Then the young Antiochus wrote to Jonathan, saying, "I confirm you in the high priesthood and set you over the four districts and make you one of the king's Friends."* [58]He also sent him gold plates and a table service and granted him the right to drink from gold cups and dress in purple and wear a gold buckle.* [59]He appointed Jonathan's[q] brother Simon governor from the Ladder of Tyre to the borders of Egypt.*

CAMPAIGNS OF JONATHAN AND SIMON

60 Then Jonathan set out and traveled beyond the river and among the towns, and all the army of Syria gathered to him as allies. When he came to Askalon, the people of the city met him and paid him honor.* [61]From there he went to Gaza, but the people of Gaza shut him out. So he besieged it and burned its suburbs with fire and plundered them.* [62]Then the people of Gaza pleaded with Jonathan, and he made peace with them and took the

sons of their rulers as hostages and sent them to Jerusalem. And he passed through the country as far as Damascus.*

63 Then Jonathan heard that the officers of Demetrius had come to Kadesh in Galilee with a large army, intending to remove him from office.* 64He went to meet them but left his brother Simon in the country. 65Simon encamped before Beth-zur and fought against it for many days and hemmed it in.* 66Then they asked him to grant them terms of peace, and he did so. He removed them from there, took possession of the town, and set a garrison over it.*

67 Jonathan and his army encamped by the waters of Gennesaret. Early in the morning they marched to the plain of Hazor,* 68and there in the plain the army of the foreigners met him; they had set an ambush against him in the mountains, but they themselves met him face to face.* 69Then the men in ambush emerged from their places and joined battle. 70All the men with Jonathan fled; not one of them was left except Mattathias son of Absalom and Judas son of Chalphi, commanders of the forces of the army.* 71Jonathan tore his clothes, put dust on his head, and prayed.* 72Then he turned back to the battle against the enemy[r] and routed them, and they fled. 73When his men who were fleeing saw this, they returned to him and joined him in the pursuit as far as Kadesh, to their camp, and there they encamped.* 74As many as three thousand of the foreigners fell that day. And Jonathan returned to Jerusalem.*

1 Maccabees 12

ALLIANCES WITH ROME AND SPARTA

1 Now when Jonathan saw that the time was favorable for him, he chose
men and sent them to Rome to confirm and renew the friendship with
them.* 2He also sent letters to the same effect to the Spartans and to other
places.* 3So they went to Rome and entered the senate chamber and said,
"The high priest Jonathan and the Jewish nation have sent us to renew the
former friendship and alliance with them."* 4And the Romans[s] gave them
letters to the people in every place, asking them to provide for the envoys[t]
safe conduct to the land of Judah.

5 This is a copy of the letter that Jonathan wrote to the Spartans: 6"The
high priest Jonathan, the council of the nation, the priests, and the rest of the
Jewish people to their brothers the Spartans, greetings.* 7Already in time
past a letter was sent to the high priest Onias from Arius, who was king
among you, stating that you are our brothers, as the appended copy shows.*
8Onias welcomed the envoy with honor and received the letter, which
contained a clear declaration of alliance and friendship.* 9Therefore, though
we have no need of these things, since we have as encouragement the holy
books that are in our hands,* 10we have undertaken to send to renew our
family ties and friendship with you, so that we may not become estranged
from you, for considerable time has passed since you sent your letter to us.
11We therefore remember you constantly on every occasion, both at our
festivals and on other appropriate days, at the sacrifices that we offer and in
our prayers, as it is right and proper to remember brothers. 12And we rejoice
in your glory. 13But as for ourselves, many trials and many wars have
encircled us; the kings around us have waged war against us. 14We were
unwilling to trouble you and our other allies and friends with these wars,
15for we have the help that comes from heaven for our aid, so we were
delivered from our enemies, and our enemies were humbled.* 16We
therefore have chosen Numenius son of Antiochus and Antipater son of
Jason and have sent them to Rome to renew our former friendship and
alliance with them.* 17We have commanded them to go also to you and

greet you and deliver to you this letter from us concerning the renewal of our family ties. [18]And now please send us a reply to this."

19 This is a copy of the letter that they sent to Onias:* [20]"King Arius of the Spartans, to the high priest Onias, greetings.* [21]It has been found in writing concerning the Spartans and the Jews that they are brothers and are of the family of Abraham.* [22]And now that we have learned this, please write us concerning your welfare; [23]we on our part write to you that your livestock and your property belong to us, and ours belong to you. We therefore command that our envoys[u] report to you accordingly."*

FURTHER CAMPAIGNS OF JONATHAN AND SIMON

24 Now Jonathan heard that the commanders of Demetrius had returned with a larger force than before to wage war against him.* [25]So he marched away from Jerusalem and met them in the region of Hamath, for he gave them no opportunity to invade his own country. [26]He sent spies to their camp, and they returned and reported to him that the enemy[v] were being drawn up in formation to attack the Jews[w] by night. [27]So when the sun had set, Jonathan commanded his troops to be alert and to keep their arms at hand so as to be ready all night for battle, and he stationed outposts around the camp. [28]When the enemy heard that Jonathan and his troops were prepared for battle, they were afraid and were terrified at heart, so they kindled fires in their camp and withdrew.[x] [29]But Jonathan and his troops did not know it until morning, for they saw the fires burning. [30]Then Jonathan pursued them, but he did not overtake them, for they had crossed the Eleutherus River.* [31]So Jonathan turned aside against the Arabs who are called Zabadeans, and he crushed them and plundered them. [32]Then he broke camp and went to Damascus and marched through all that region.*

33 Simon also went out and marched through the country as far as Askalon and the neighboring strongholds. He turned aside to Joppa and took it by surprise,* [34]for he had heard that they were ready to hand over the stronghold to those whom Demetrius had sent. And he stationed a garrison there to guard it.*

35 When Jonathan returned he convened the elders of the people and planned with them to build strongholds in Judea,* [36]to build the walls of

Jerusalem still higher, and to erect a high barrier between the citadel and the city to separate it from the city, in order to isolate it so that its garrison[y] could neither buy nor sell.* 37So they gathered together to rebuild the city; part of the wall on the valley to the east had fallen, and he repaired the section called Chaphenatha. 38Simon also built Adida in the Shephelah; he fortified it and installed gates with bolts.*

TRYPHO CAPTURES JONATHAN

39 Then Trypho attempted to become king in Asia and put on the crown and to raise his hand against King Antiochus.* 40He feared that Jonathan might not permit him to do so but might make war on him, so he kept seeking to seize and kill him, and he marched out and came to Beth-shan. 41Jonathan went out to meet him with forty thousand picked warriors, and he came to Beth-shan. 42When Trypho saw that he had come with a large army, he was afraid to raise his hand against him.* 43So he received him with honor and commended him to all his Friends, and he gave him gifts and commanded his Friends and his troops to obey him as they would himself.* 44Then he said to Jonathan, "Why have you put all these people to so much trouble when we are not at war? 45Dismiss them now to their homes and choose for yourself a few men to stay with you and come with me to Ptolemais. I will hand it over to you, as well as the other strongholds and the remaining troops and all the officials, and will turn around and go home. For that is why I am here."*

46 Jonathan[z] trusted him and did as he said; he sent away the troops, and they returned to the land of Judah. 47He kept with himself three thousand men, two thousand of whom he left in Galilee, while one thousand accompanied him. 48But when Jonathan entered Ptolemais, the people of Ptolemais closed the gates and seized him, and they killed with the sword all who had entered with him.*

49 Then Trypho sent troops and cavalry into Galilee and the Great Plain to destroy all Jonathan's soldiers.* 50But they realized that Jonathan had been seized and had perished along with his men, and they encouraged one another and kept marching in close formation, ready for battle.* 51When their pursuers saw that they would fight for their lives, they turned back.

[52]So they all reached the land of Judah safely, and they mourned for Jonathan and his companions and were in great fear, and all Israel mourned deeply.* [53]All the nations around them tried to destroy them, for they said, “They have no leader or helper. Now, therefore, let us make war on them and blot out the memory of them from humankind.”*

1 Maccabees 13

SIMON TAKES COMMAND

1 Simon heard that Trypho had assembled a large army to invade the land
of Judah and destroy it,* 2and he saw that the people were trembling with
fear. So he went up to Jerusalem, and gathering the people together 3he
encouraged them, saying to them, "You yourselves know what great things
my brothers and I and the house of my father have done for the laws and the
sanctuary; you know also the wars and the difficulties that my brothers and
I have seen. 4By reason of this all my brothers have perished for the sake of
Israel, and I alone am left.* 5And now, far be it from me to spare my life in
any time of distress, for I am not better than my brothers.* 6But I will
avenge my nation and the sanctuary and your wives and children, for all the
nations have gathered together out of hatred to destroy us."*

7 The spirit of the people was rekindled when they heard these words,
8and they answered in a loud voice, "You are our leader in place of Judas
and your brother Jonathan.* 9Fight our battles, and all that you say to us we
will do." 10So he assembled all the warriors and hurried to complete the
walls of Jerusalem, and he fortified it on every side.* 11He sent Jonathan son
of Absalom to Joppa and with him a considerable army; he drove out its
occupants and remained there.*

DECEIT AND TREACHERY OF TRYPHO

12 Then Trypho left Ptolemais with a large army to invade the land of
Judah, and Jonathan was with him under guard.* 13Simon encamped in
Adida, facing the plain.* 14Trypho learned that Simon had risen up in place
of his brother Jonathan and that he was about to join battle with him, so he
sent envoys to him and said,* 15"It is for the money that your brother
Jonathan owed the royal treasury, in connection with the offices he held,
that we are detaining him. 16Send now one hundred talents of silver and two
of his sons as hostages, so that when released he will not revolt against us,
and we will release him."

17 Simon knew that they were speaking deceitfully to him, but he sent to get the money and the sons, so that he would not arouse great hostility among the people, who might say, [18]"It was because Simon[a] did not send him the money and the sons that Jonathan[b] perished." [19]So he sent the sons and the hundred talents, but Trypho[c] broke his word and did not release Jonathan.

20 After this Trypho came to invade the country and destroy it, and he circled around by the way to Adora. But Simon and his army kept marching along opposite him to every place he went. [21]Now the men in the citadel kept sending envoys to Trypho urging him to come to them by way of the wilderness and to send them food.* [22]So Trypho got all his cavalry ready to go, but that night a very heavy snow fell, and he did not go because of the snow. He marched off and went into the land of Gilead.* [23]When he approached Baskama, he killed Jonathan, and he was buried there.* [24]Then Trypho turned and went back to his own land.

JONATHAN'S TOMB

25 Simon sent and took the bones of his brother Jonathan and buried him in Modein, the city of his ancestors.* [26]All Israel bewailed him with great lamentation and mourned for him many days.* [27]And Simon built a monument over the tomb of his father and his brothers; he made it high so that it might be seen, with polished stone at the front and back. [28]He also erected seven pyramids, opposite one another, for his father and mother and four brothers. [29]For the pyramids[d] he devised an elaborate setting, erecting about them great columns, and on the columns he put suits of armor for a permanent memorial, and beside the suits of armor he carved ships, so that they could be seen by all who sail the sea. [30]This is the tomb that he built in Modein; it remains to this day.*

JUDEA GAINS INDEPENDENCE

31 Trypho dealt treacherously with the young King Antiochus; he killed him* [32]and became king in his place, putting on the crown of Asia, and he brought great calamity on the land.* [33]But Simon built up the strongholds of Judea and walled them all around, with high towers and great walls and

gates and bolts, and he stored food in the strongholds.* 34Simon also chose emissaries and sent them to King Demetrius with a request to grant relief to the country, for all that Trypho did was to plunder.* 35King Demetrius sent him a favorable reply to this request and wrote him a letter as follows, 36"King Demetrius to Simon, the high priest and friend of kings, and to the elders and nation of the Jews, greetings.* 37We have received the gold crown and the palm branch that you sent, and we are ready to make a general peace with you and to write to our officials to grant you release from tribute.* 38All the grants that we have made to you remain valid, and let the strongholds that you have built be your possession.* 39We pardon any errors and offenses committed to this day and cancel the crown tax that you owe, and whatever other tax has been collected in Jerusalem shall be collected no longer.* 40And if any of you are qualified to be enrolled in our bodyguard,[e] let them be enrolled, and let there be peace between us."*

41 In the one hundred seventieth year the yoke of the nations was removed from Israel, 42and the people began to write in their documents and contracts, "In the first year of Simon the great high priest and commander and leader of the Jews."*

THE CAPTURE OF GAZARA BY SIMON

43 In those days Simon[f] encamped against Gazara[g] and surrounded it with troops. He made a siege engine, brought it up to the city, and battered and captured one tower. 44The men in the siege engine leaped out into the city, and a great tumult arose in the city. 45The men in the city, with their wives and children, went up on the wall with their clothes torn, and they cried out with a loud voice, asking Simon to make peace with them;* 46they said, "Do not treat us according to our wicked acts but according to your mercy." 47So Simon reached an agreement with them and stopped fighting against them. But he expelled them from the city and cleansed the houses in which the idols were located and then entered it with hymns and praise.* 48He removed all uncleanness from it and settled in it those who observed the law. He also strengthened its fortifications and built in it a house for himself.

SIMON REGAINS THE CITADEL AT JERUSALEM

49 Those who were in the citadel at Jerusalem were prevented from
going in and out to buy and sell in the country. So they were very hungry,
and many of them perished from famine.* [50]Then they cried to Simon to
make peace with them, and he did so. But he expelled them from there and
cleansed the citadel from its pollutions.* [51]On the twenty-third day of the
second month, in the one hundred seventy-first year, the Jews[h] entered it
with praise and palm branches, and with harps and cymbals and stringed
instruments, and with hymns and songs, because a great enemy had been
crushed and removed from Israel.* [52]Simon[i] decreed that every year they
should celebrate this day with rejoicing. He strengthened the fortifications
of the temple hill alongside the citadel, and he and his men lived there.*
[53]Simon saw that his son John had reached manhood, so he made him
commander of all the forces, and he lived at Gazara.*

1 Maccabees 14

CAPTURE OF DEMETRIUS

1 In the one hundred seventy-second year King Demetrius assembled his forces and marched into Media to obtain help, so that he could make war against Trypho.* 2When King Arsaces of Persia and Media heard that Demetrius had invaded his territory, he sent one of his generals to take him alive.* 3The general[j] went and defeated the army of Demetrius and seized him and took him to Arsaces, who put him under guard.*

EULOGY OF SIMON

4The land[k] had rest all the days of Simon.
He sought the good of his nation;
his rule was pleasing to them,
as was the honor shown him all his days.*
5To crown all his honors he took Joppa for a harbor
and opened a way to the isles of the sea.*
6He extended the borders of his nation
and gained full control of the country.
7He gathered a host of captives;
he ruled over Gazara and Beth-zur and the citadel,
and he removed its uncleanness from it,
and there was none to oppose him.*
8They tilled their land in peace;
the ground gave its increase
and the trees of the plains their fruit.*
9Old men sat in the streets;
they all talked together of good things,
and the youths put on splendid military attire.

[10]He supplied the towns with food
and furnished them with the means of defense,
until his renown spread to the ends of the earth.*
[11]He established peace in the land,
and Israel rejoiced with great joy.
[12]All the people sat under their own vines and fig trees,
and there was none to make them afraid.*
[13]No one was left in the land to fight them,
and the kings were crushed in those days.
[14]He gave help to all the humble among his people;
he sought out the law
and did away with all the renegades and outlaws.
[15]He made the sanctuary glorious
and added to the vessels of the sanctuary.

DIPLOMACY WITH ROME AND SPARTA

16 It was heard in Rome and as far away as Sparta that Jonathan had died, and they were deeply grieved.* [17]When they heard that his brother Simon had become high priest in his stead and that he was ruling over the country and the towns in it,* [18]they wrote to him on bronze tablets to renew with him the friendship and alliance that they had established with his brothers Judas and Jonathan.* [19]And these were read before the assembly in Jerusalem.

20 This is a copy of the letter that the Spartans sent:

"The rulers and the city of the Spartans to the high priest Simon and to the elders and the priests and the rest of the Jewish people, our brothers, greetings.* [21]The envoys who were sent to our people have told us about your glory and honor, and we rejoiced at their coming. [22]We have recorded what they said in our public decrees, as follows, 'Numenius son of Antiochus and Antipater son of Jason, envoys of the Jews, have come to us to renew their friendship with us.* [23]It has pleased our people to receive these men with honor and to put a copy of their words in the public

archives, so that the people of the Spartans may have a record of them. And they have sent a copy of this to the high priest Simon.' "[*]

24 After this Simon sent Numenius to Rome with a large gold shield weighing one thousand minas to confirm the alliance with the Romans.[l,*]

OFFICIAL HONORS FOR SIMON

25 When the people heard these things they said, "How shall we thank Simon and his sons?[*] [26]For he and his brothers and the house of his father have stood firm; they have fought and repulsed Israel's enemies and established its freedom."[*] [27]So they made a record on bronze tablets and put it on pillars on Mount Zion.

This is a copy of what they wrote: "On the eighteenth day of Elul, in the one hundred seventy-second year, which is the third year of the great high priest Simon,[*] [28]in Asaramel, in the great assembly of the priests and the people and the rulers of the nation and the elders of the country, the following was proclaimed to us:

29 "Since wars often occurred in the country, Simon son of Mattathias, of the clan of Joarib, and his brothers, exposed themselves to danger and resisted the enemies of their nation, in order that their sanctuary and the law might be preserved, and they brought great glory to their nation.[*] [30]Jonathan rallied the[m] nation, became their high priest, and was gathered to his people.[*] [31]When their enemies decided to invade their country and lay hands on their sanctuary,[*] [32]then Simon rose up and fought for his nation. He spent great sums of his own money; he armed the soldiers of his nation and paid them wages.[*] [33]He fortified the towns of Judea, and Beth-zur on the borders of Judea, where formerly the arms of the enemy had been stored, and he placed there a garrison of Jews.[*] [34]He also fortified Joppa, which is by the sea, and Gazara, which is on the borders of Azotus, where the enemy formerly lived. He settled Jews there and provided in those towns[n] whatever was necessary for their restoration.[*]

35 "The people saw Simon's faithfulness[o] and the glory that he had resolved to win for his nation, and they made him their leader and high priest because he had done all these things and because of the justice and loyalty that he had maintained toward his nation. He sought in every way to

exalt his people.* 36In his days things prospered in his hands, so that the nations were put out of the[p] country, as were also those in the city of David in Jerusalem, who had built themselves a citadel from which they used to sally forth and defile the environs of the sanctuary, doing great damage to its purity.* 37He settled Jews in it and fortified it for the safety of the country and of the city and built the walls of Jerusalem higher.*

38 "In view of these things King Demetrius confirmed him in the high priesthood,* 39made him one of his Friends, and paid him high honors.* 40For he had heard that the Jews were addressed by the Romans as friends and allies and brothers and that the Romans[q] had received the envoys of Simon with honor.*

41 "The Jews and their priests have resolved that Simon should be their leader and high priest forever, until a trustworthy prophet should arise,* 42and that he should be governor over them and[r] appoint officials over its tasks and over the country and the weapons and the strongholds, 43and that he should take charge of the sanctuary, and that he should be obeyed by all, and that all contracts in the country should be written in his name, and that he should be clothed in purple and wear gold.*

44 "None of the people or priests shall be permitted to nullify any of these decisions or to oppose what he says or to convene an assembly in the country without his permission or to be clothed in purple or put on a gold buckle.* 45Whoever acts contrary to these decisions or rejects any of them shall be liable to punishment."

46 All the people agreed to grant Simon the right to act in accordance with these decisions. 47So Simon accepted and agreed to be high priest, to be commander and ethnarch of the Jews and priests, and to be protector of them all.[s],* 48And they gave orders to inscribe this decree on bronze tablets, to put them up in a conspicuous place in the precincts of the sanctuary,* 49and to deposit copies of them in the treasury, so that Simon and his sons might have them.*

1 Maccabees 15

LETTER OF ANTIOCHUS VII

1 Antiochus, son of King Demetrius, sent a letter from the islands of the sea
to Simon, the priest and ethnarch of the Jews, and to all the nation;* [2]its
contents were as follows: "King Antiochus to Simon the high priest and
ethnarch and to the nation of the Jews, greetings.* [3]Whereas certain
scoundrels have gained control of the kingdom of our ancestors, and I
intend to lay claim to the kingdom so that I may restore it as it formerly
was, and have recruited a host of mercenary troops and have equipped
warships,* [4]and intend to make a landing in the country so that I may
proceed against those who have destroyed our country and those who have
devastated many cities in my kingdom,* [5]now therefore I confirm to you all
the tax remissions that the kings before me have granted you and a release
from all the other payments from which they have released you.* [6]I permit
you to mint your own coinage as money for your country, [7]and I grant
freedom to Jerusalem and the sanctuary. All the weapons that you have
prepared and the strongholds that you have built and now hold shall remain
yours.* [8]Every debt you owe to the royal treasury and any such future debts
shall be canceled for you from henceforth and for all time. [9]When we gain
control of our kingdom, we will bestow great honor on you and your nation
and the temple, so that your glory will become manifest in all the earth."

10 In the one hundred seventy-fourth year Antiochus set out and invaded
the land of his ancestors. All the troops rallied to him, so that there were
only a few with Trypho.* [11]Antiochus pursued him, and Trypho[t] came in his
flight to Dor, which is by the sea,* [12]for he knew that troubles had
converged on him, and his troops had deserted him. [13]So Antiochus
encamped against Dor, and with him were one hundred twenty thousand
warriors and eight thousand cavalry.* [14]He surrounded the town, and the
ships joined battle from the sea; he pressed the town hard from land and sea
and permitted no one to leave or enter it.*

ROME SUPPORTS THE JEWS

15 Then Numenius and his companions arrived from Rome, with letters
to the kings and countries, in which the following was written:* 16"Lucius,
consul of the Romans, to King Ptolemy, greetings.* 17The envoys of the
Jews have come to us as our friends and allies to renew our ancient
friendship and alliance. They had been sent by the high priest Simon and by
the Jewish people* 18and have brought a gold shield weighing one thousand
minas.* 19We therefore have decided to write to the kings and countries that
they should not seek their harm or make war against them and their cities
and their country or make alliance with those who war against them.* 20And
it has seemed good to us to accept the shield from them. 21Therefore if any
scoundrels have fled to you from their country, hand them over to the high
priest Simon, so that he may punish them according to their law."*

22 The consul[u] wrote the same thing to King Demetrius and to Attalus
and Ariarathes and Arsaces* 23and to all the countries, and to Sampsames,[v]
and to the Spartans, and to Delos, and to Myndos, and to Sicyon, and to
Caria, and to Samos, and to Pamphylia, and to Lycia, and to Halicarnassus,
and to Rhodes, and to Phaselis, and to Cos, and to Side, and to Aradus and
Gortyna and Cnidus and Cyprus and Cyrene.* 24They also sent a copy of
these things to the high priest Simon.

ANTIOCHUS VII THREATENS SIMON

25 King Antiochus besieged Dor for the second time, continually
throwing his forces against it and making engines of war, and he shut
Trypho up and kept him from going out or in.* 26And Simon sent to
Antiochus[w] two thousand picked troops, to fight for him, and silver and
gold and a large amount of military equipment. 27But he refused to receive
them and broke all the agreements he formerly had made with Simon and
became estranged from him.* 28He sent to him Athenobius, one of his
Friends, to confer with him, saying, "You hold control of Joppa and Gazara
and the citadel in Jerusalem; they are cities of my kingdom.* 29You have
devastated their territory, you have done great damage in the land, and you
have taken possession of many places in my kingdom.* 30Now, then, hand
over the cities that you have seized and the tribute money of the places that
you have conquered outside the borders of Judea, 31or else pay me five
hundred talents of silver for the destruction that you have caused and five

hundred talents more for the tribute money of the cities. Otherwise we will come and make war on you."*

32 So Athenobius, the king's Friend, came to Jerusalem, and when he saw the splendor of Simon, and the sideboard with its gold and silver plate, and his great magnificence, he was amazed. When he reported to him the king's message,* [33]Simon said to him in reply: "We have neither taken foreign land nor seized foreign property, but only the inheritance of our ancestors, which at one time had been unjustly taken by our enemies.* [34]Now that we have the opportunity, we are firmly holding the inheritance of our ancestors. [35]As for Joppa and Gazara, which you demand, they were causing great damage among the people and to our land, for them we will give you one hundred talents."

Athenobius[x] did not answer him a word* [36]but returned in wrath to the king and reported to him these words and also the splendor of Simon and all that he had seen. And the king was very angry.

VICTORY OVER CENDEBEUS

37 Meanwhile Trypho embarked on a ship and escaped to Orthosia.* [38]Then the king made Cendebeus commander-in-chief of the coastal country and gave him troops of infantry and cavalry.* [39]He commanded him to encamp against Judea, to build up Kedron and fortify its gates, and to make war on the people, but the king pursued Trypho.* [40]So Cendebeus came to Jamnia and began to provoke the people and invade Judea and take the people captive and kill them.* [41]He built up Kedron and stationed horsemen and troops there, so that they might go out and make raids along the highways of Judea, as the king had ordered him.*

1 Maccabees 16

1 John went up from Gazara and reported to his father Simon what
Cendebeus had done.* [2]And Simon called in his two eldest sons Judas and
John and said to them: "My brothers and I and my father's house have
fought the wars of Israel from our youth until this day, and things have
prospered in our hands so that we have delivered Israel many times.* [3]But
now I have grown old, and you by heaven's[y] mercy are mature in years.
Take my place and my brother's, and go out and fight for our nation, and
may the help that comes from heaven be with you."*

4 So John[z] chose out of the country twenty thousand warriors and
cavalry, and they marched against Cendebeus and camped for the night in
Modein.* [5]Early in the morning they started out and marched into the plain,
where a large force of infantry and cavalry was coming to meet them, and a
wadi lay between them. [6]Then he and his army lined up against them. He
saw that the soldiers were afraid to cross the wadi, so he crossed over first,
and when his troops saw him, they crossed over after him. [7]Then he divided
the army and placed the cavalry in the center of the infantry, for the cavalry
of the enemy were very numerous. [8]They sounded the trumpets, and
Cendebeus and his army were put to flight; many of them fell wounded, and
the rest fled into the stronghold.* [9]At that time Judas the brother of John
was wounded, but John pursued them until Cendebeus[a] reached Kedron,
which he had built.* [10]They also fled into the towers that were in the fields
of Azotus, and John[b] burned it with fire, and about two thousand of them
fell. He then returned to Judea safely.*

MURDER OF SIMON AND HIS SONS

11 Now Ptolemy son of Abubus had been appointed governor over the
plain of Jericho; he had a large store of silver and gold,* [12]for he was son-
in-law of the high priest. [13]His heart was lifted up; he determined to get
control of the country and made treacherous plans against Simon and his
sons, to do away with them. [14]Now Simon was visiting the towns of the
country and attending to their needs, and he went down to Jericho with his

sons Mattathias and Judas, in the one hundred seventy-seventh year, in the eleventh month, which is the month of Shebat. [15]The son of Abubus received them treacherously in the little stronghold called Dok, which he had built; he gave them a great banquet and hid men there. [16]When Simon and his sons were drunk, Ptolemy and his men rose up, took their weapons, rushed in against Simon in the banquet hall, and killed him and his two sons, as well as some of his servants.* [17]So he committed an act of great treachery and returned evil for good.

JOHN SUCCEEDS SIMON

18 Then Ptolemy wrote a report about these things and sent it to the king, asking him to send troops to aid him and to turn over to him the towns and the country. [19]He sent other troops to Gazara to do away with John; he sent letters to the captains asking them to come to him so that he might give them silver and gold and gifts,* [20]and he sent other troops to take possession of Jerusalem and the temple hill. [21]But someone ran ahead and reported to John at Gazara that his father and brothers had perished and that "he has sent men to kill you also."* [22]When he heard this, he was greatly shocked; he seized the men who came to destroy him and killed them, for he had found out that they were seeking to destroy him.

23 The rest of the acts of John and his wars and the brave deeds that he did, and the building of the walls that he completed, and his achievements* [24]are written in the annals of his high priesthood, from the time that he became high priest after his father.

1 Maccabees 1

a **1.1** Gk adds *and he defeated*
* **1.1** Gen 10.4; 1 Macc 6.2; 8.5
* **1.3** 1 Macc 11.38, 52
* **1.9** 1 Macc 6.15; 8.14
* **1.10** Deut 29.18; 1 Macc 3.27; 8.7; 2 Macc 1.14; 4.7
* **1.11** Deut 13.13; 1 Macc 7.5; 9.23; 11.21
* **1.13** 2 Macc 4.7–10
* **1.14** 2 Macc 4.9, 12
* **1.15** 1 Kings 21.20; 3 Macc 2.31; 1 Cor 7.18
* **1.17** 1 Macc 3.34; 6.35, 46; 8.6; 2 Macc 5.1
* **1.18** 1 Macc 10.51; 16.8; 2 Macc 4.21; 9.29
* **1.20** 2 Macc 5.11–16
* **1.21** Ex 25.31–37; 30.1–3
* **1.22** Ex 25.23–30; 26.31–33; 1 Macc 4.57
* **1.23** 1 Macc 2.9; 2 Macc 5.21
* **1.24** 2 Macc 5.12–14
* **1.27** Jer 7.34; 16.9; 3 Macc 4.6, 8
* **1.29** 2 Macc 5.24
* **1.30** 2 Macc 5.25, 26
* **1.33** 1 Macc 3.45; 4.41; 6.18, 26; 14.36
* **1.34** v 11; Tob 13.6
b **1.36** Gk *it*
* **1.36** 1 Macc 13.51
* **1.37** Ex 15.17; Ps 79.1–3
* **1.39** Am 8.10; Tob 2.6; 1 Macc 3.45
* **1.42** 1 Macc 2.19; 2 Macc 6.6
* **1.45** Dan 11.31; 2 Macc 6.4–6
* **1.47** Isa 66.3; 2 Macc 6.21
c **1.50** Gk lacks *He added*
* **1.50** 2 Macc 6.9
* **1.51** 2 Macc 5.22; 6.8
* **1.53** 1 Macc 2.31; 2 Macc 6.11; Heb 11.38
* **1.54** Dan 11.31; 1 Macc 2.12; 6.7; 2 Macc 6.2; 10.5
* **1.59** 1 Macc 2.12; 4.52; 2 Macc 10.5
* **1.60** 2 Macc 6.10
* **1.63** 2 Macc 6.19; 7.1–42

1 Maccabees 2

* **2.1** v 70; 1 Chr 9.10; 1 Macc 9.19; 13.25; 14.29
* **2.2** 1 Macc 9.36, 38
* **2.3** 1 Macc 5.17; 13.1; 2 Macc 8.22
* **2.4** v 66; 1 Macc 8.20; 2 Macc 5.27; 8.1
* **2.5** 1 Macc 5.17; 6.43; 2 Macc 8.23
* **2.7** Neh 11.1; Song of Thr 5; 2 Macc 1.12

d **2.8** Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **2.9** 1 Macc 1.23; 2 Macc 5.13

e **2.10** Other ancient authorities read *has not had a part in her kingdom*

* **2.12** Ps 50.2; 1 Macc 1.54, 59
* **2.14** Gen 37.29; 2 Sam 3.31
* **2.18** 1 Macc 1.42; 3.38; 10.65; 11.26, 27
* **2.19** 1 Macc 1.42, 45
* **2.20** Josh 24.15
* **2.22** Deut 5.32
* **2.26** v 54; Num 25.7, 8; Ps 106.30; Sir 45.23
* **2.28** 2 Macc 5.27
* **2.30** v 38
* **2.31** 1 Macc 1.34, 53
* **2.34** 1 Macc 1.45

f **2.35** Gk *they*

* **2.38** v 30; 2 Macc 6.11
* **2.41** 1 Macc 1.53; 9.43, 44
* **2.42** 1 Macc 7.13; 2 Macc 14.6
* **2.44** 1 Macc 1.34
* **2.51** 1 Macc 6.44
* **2.52** Gen 15.6; 22.1; Sir 44.20; Rom 4.3; Heb 11.17
* **2.53** Gen 39.8–10; 41.40
* **2.54** v 26; Num 25.13; Sir 45.24
* **2.55** Josh 1.1–9; Sir 46.1, 2
* **2.56** Num 14.6–9, 24
* **2.57** 1 Sam 24.6; 26.9; 2 Sam 7.16
* **2.58** 1 Kings 19.10, 14; 2 Kings 2.11; Sir 48.9
* **2.59** Dan 1.6, 7; 3.16–18, 26; Song of Thr 65
* **2.60** Dan 6.22
* **2.61** Sir 2.10
* **2.62** Isa 51.12
* **2.64** Deut 31.6
* **2.65** 1 Macc 13.1

g **2.66** Or *of the people*

* **2.66** v 4

* **2.70** vv 1, 23

1 Maccabees 3

* **3.1** 1 Macc 9.31; 2 Macc 8.1–7
* **3.2** 1 Macc 9.28; 16.2
* **3.4** Gen 49.9; Ezek 19.5–7; 2 Macc 11.11
* **3.5** Mic 5.8; 1 Macc 5.5; 2 Macc 8.6; 10.36
* **3.6** 1 Macc 14.36; 16.2
h **3.8** Gk *it*
* **3.8** Num 25.11
* **3.10** 2 Macc 4.4, 21; 5.24; 15.1
* **3.11** 2 Macc 15.27
* **3.16** v 24; Josh 10.10
* **3.18** 1 Sam 14.6; 1 Macc 4.31
* **3.19** Ps 33.16
* **3.21** 2 Macc 8.21; 13.14
i **3.24** Other ancient authorities read *him*
* **3.24** v 16; Josh 10.11
* **3.25** Deut 2.25
* **3.27** 1 Macc 1.10
* **3.31** 1 Macc 6.1
* **3.32** 1 Macc 6.6, 17, 55; 7.2
* **3.33** 1 Macc 1.10
j **3.34** Gk *him*
* **3.34** 1 Macc 1.17
* **3.35** 1 Macc 12.53
* **3.37** 1 Macc 4.35; 11.13; 2 Macc 9.25
* **3.38** 1 Macc 2.18; 4.1, 5, 18
* **3.40** v 57; 1 Macc 4.3; 9.50
k **3.41** Syr: Gk Vg *slaves*
l **3.41** Gk *foreigners*
* **3.41** 1 Macc 4.22; 5.66, 68; 2 Macc 8.11, 25, 35
* **3.45** 1 Macc 1.33–36, 38, 39; 4.38
* **3.46** Judg 20.1; 1 Sam 7.5; 10.17
* **3.47** 2 Sam 3.31; 1 Macc 2.14; 4.39
* **3.49** Ex 28.4; Lev 27.30; Num 6.2, 13; Neh 10.35
* **3.51** v 45; 1 Macc 1.39; 4.38
* **3.54** Num 10.9; 1 Macc 4.13; 5.33; 9.13; 16.8
* **3.55** 1 Macc 16.19
* **3.56** Deut 20.5–8; Judg 7.3; 1 Cor 9.7
* **3.58** Deut 31.6; 2 Sam 10.12

1 Maccabees 4

* **4.2** 1 Macc 1.33, 34
* **4.6** 2 Macc 8.31
* **4.8** 2 Macc 8.16
* **4.9** Ex 14.30
* **4.10** v 40; 1 Macc 12.15
* **4.13** 1 Macc 3.54
* **4.15** 1 Sam 5.1; 1 Macc 5.68; 10.77, 78; 11.4

m **4.20** Gk *they*

n **4.20** Gk *they*

o **4.22** Gk *foreigners*

* **4.22** 1 Macc 3.41; 5.66, 68
* **4.23** 2 Macc 8.23, 28
* **4.24** Ps 136.1; Song of Thr 66
* **4.26** 1 Macc 3.32
* **4.28** 2 Macc 11.2
* **4.29** v 61; Josh 15.58; 1 Macc 6.31
* **4.30** 1 Sam 14.13, 14; 17.50, 51
* **4.31** 1 Macc 3.18

p **4.34** Or *and some fell on the opposite side*

* **4.34** 1 Macc 3.32
* **4.36** 1 Macc 1.46; 2 Macc 10.1–3
* **4.38** 1 Macc 1.39; 3.45
* **4.39** 1 Macc 3.47
* **4.40** v 10; Num 31.6
* **4.41** 1 Macc 1.33, 34
* **4.44** 1 Macc 1.59
* **4.46** Neh 7.65; 1 Macc 9.27; 14.41

q **4.47** Gk *whole*

* **4.47** Ex 20.25; Josh 8.31
* **4.49** Ex 25.23–37; 30.1–3; 1 Macc 1.21, 22
* **4.50** Ex 30.7, 8; 2 Macc 1.8; 10.3
* **4.51** Ex 26.31, 36; 2 Macc 1.8
* **4.52** 1 Macc 1.54; 2 Macc 10.5
* **4.53** Ex 29.38–40; 1 Macc 1.59
* **4.54** 2 Chr 5.12; 1 Macc 13.51
* **4.56** 2 Chr 29.31; 2 Macc 10.6
* **4.57** v 38; 1 Macc 1.22
* **4.59** 2 Macc 1.18; 10.5, 6, 8; Jn 10.22
* **4.60** 1 Macc 6.7, 62

r **4.61** Gk *He*

* **4.61** vv 15, 29

1 Maccabees 5

* **5.3** v 65; Josh 15.3; 2 Macc 10.15–17
* **5.5** 1 Macc 3.5; 2 Macc 8.6; 10.18–23, 36
* **5.6** 2 Macc 4.26; 10.24; 12.2, 10
* **5.8** v 65; Num 21.32
* **5.9** vv 25, 27; Deut 34.1

s **5.13** Gk *they*

* **5.13** 2 Macc 12.17
* **5.14** Josh 7.6; 1 Macc 13.45

t **5.15** Gk *foreigners*

* **5.15** v 22; Jer 47.4; 1 Macc 10.39; 12.48; Mt 4.15

u **5.16** Gk *them*

* **5.17** v 9; Mt 4.15
* **5.18** vv 56, 60
* **5.19** vv 57, 61
* **5.20** v 9; Isa 9.1
* **5.22** v 15; 1 Macc 10.1, 39, 56; 11.22, 24

v **5.23** Gk *those*

* **5.23** Isa 9.1; Mt 4.15
* **5.24** v 52; 1 Macc 2.5
* **5.25** 1 Macc 9.35
* **5.26** 1 Chr 1.44; Isa 34.6; 63.1; 2 Macc 12.21

w **5.27** Gk *they*

* **5.28** 1 Chr 1.44

x **5.29** Gk lacks *of Dathema*

y **5.30** Gk *and they were attacking them*

* **5.32** Neh 4.14
* **5.33** Judg 7.16; 1 Sam 11.11; 1 Macc 3.54

z **5.35** Other ancient authorities read *Alema*

* **5.36** v 26
* **5.37** vv 6, 11; 2 Macc 12.20, 21
* **5.39** 2 Macc 5.8; 12.10

a **5.42** Or *scribes*

* **5.42** Josh 1.10; 3.2
* **5.43** v 26; 2 Macc 12.22
* **5.44** v 26; 2 Macc 12.21, 26
* **5.46** 2 Macc 12.27
* **5.48** Num 20.19, 20; Deut 2.26–28
* **5.50** 2 Macc 12.28

* **5.52** 1 Sam 31.10; Jdt 1.8; 1 Macc 12.40, 49
b **5.55** Gk *his*
* **5.55** vv 21–54
* **5.56** v 18
* **5.57** v 19
* **5.58** 1 Macc 4.15
* **5.59** 1 Macc 3.38
* **5.60** v 18
* **5.61** v 19
* **5.65** Josh 21.11; 2 Macc 12.32, 33
c **5.66** Gk *foreigners*
d **5.66** Other ancient authorities read *Samaria*
* **5.66** 1 Macc 3.41; 4.22
* **5.68** 1 Macc 3.41; 4.15, 22

1 Maccabees 6

* **6.1** v 56; 2 Macc 1.12–14; 9.1
* **6.2** 1 Macc 1.1
* **6.3** 2 Macc 9.2
* **6.5** v 56; 1 Macc 3.31; 14.2; 2 Macc 9.3
e **6.6** Gk *them*
f **6.6** Gk *they*
* **6.6** 1 Macc 3.38–4.35
* **6.7** 1 Macc 1.54; 4.29, 36–61
* **6.8** 2 Macc 9.5
* **6.9** 2 Macc 9.11–17
* **6.10** 1 Macc 2.18
* **6.12** 1 Macc 1.21–23, 57, 60, 61; 3.35
* **6.14** vv 55, 63; 1 Macc 2.18; 2 Macc 9.29; 13.23
* **6.15** Gen 41.42; Esth 3.10; 8.2
* **6.16** 2 Macc 9.28; 10.9
g **6.17** Gk *his*
h **6.17** Gk *He*
* **6.17** 1 Macc 3.32, 33; 2 Macc 10.10
* **6.18** 1 Macc 1.33
i **6.20** Gk *it*
* **6.20** v 51; Jer 32.24; 33.4; 2 Macc 13.1
* **6.21** 1 Macc 1.11
* **6.23** 1 Macc 1.41–50
j **6.24** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **6.26** 1 Macc 4.29, 60, 61

k **6.28** Gk *those over the reins*
* **6.28** 1 Macc 2.18; 2 Macc 13.1
* **6.29** 1 Macc 11.38; 14.5; 15.1
* **6.30** 2 Macc 13.2
l **6.31** Gk *they*
* **6.31** 1 Macc 4.29; 2 Macc 13.19–22
m **6.37** Gk *them*
n **6.37** Cn: Ancient authorities read *thirty* or *thirty-two*
* **6.43** 1 Macc 2.5
* **6.44** 1 Macc 2.51
o **6.47** Gk *they*
* **6.49** Lev 25.2–7; 2 Chr 36.21; 1 Macc 4.29; 2 Macc 13.22
* **6.50** 1 Macc 4.29
* **6.51** v 20
p **6.52** Gk *they*
q **6.53** Other ancient authorities read *in the sanctuary*
* **6.55** vv 14, 17; 1 Macc 3.32; 2 Macc 9.25, 29
* **6.56** v 1
* **6.58** 1 Macc 11.50, 62, 66
* **6.59** 2 Macc 11.24
r **6.60** Gk *them*
* **6.60** 2 Macc 11.14; 13.22–24
s **6.61** Gk *they*
* **6.62** 1 Macc 4.60; 10.11
* **6.63** v 14; 1 Macc 3.37; 2 Macc 13.26

1 Maccabees 7

* **7.1** 1 Macc 8.1; 9.1; 10.2, 50; 2 Macc 11.34; 14.14
* **7.2** 2 Macc 14.2
* **7.5** 1 Macc 1.11; 9.1, 54, 56, 57; 2 Macc 14.3, 13, 26
t **7.7** Gk *he*
* **7.8** Ex 23.31; 1 Macc 2.18; 9.1, 25, 43, 57, 68; 2 Macc 8.30
* **7.9** vv 5, 21
* **7.12** 1 Macc 9.1; 2 Macc 8.30
* **7.14** 2 Macc 14.7
u **7.15** Gk *He*
* **7.17** Ps 79.2, 3
v **7.19** Or *many of his men who had deserted*
* **7.19** Jer 41.7, 9; 1 Macc 9.1, 25, 43, 57, 68
* **7.21** v 5
w **7.24** Gk *he*

x **7.24** Gk *and they were prevented*
* **7.26** 1 Macc 3.38; 2 Macc 14.12
* **7.27** 2 Macc 14.19
y **7.30** Gk *he*
* **7.30** 2 Macc 14.22
z **7.32** Gk *they*
* **7.33** Ezra 6.10; Bar 1.11; 2 Macc 14.31
* **7.35** vv 42, 47
* **7.36** Joel 2.17
* **7.37** Deut 12.5; Isa 56.7
* **7.39** 1 Macc 3.16; 2 Macc 15.1
a **7.41** Gk *of them*
* **7.41** 2 Kings 19.35; Isa 37.36; 2 Macc 15.22
b **7.42** Gk *he*
* **7.42** v 35
* **7.43** 2 Macc 15.28
c **7.45** Gk *they*
* **7.45** 1 Macc 4.15
d **7.46** Gk *them*
e **7.46** Gk *these*
f **7.47** Gk *they*
* **7.47** v 35; 2 Macc 14.33; 15.30, 32, 35, 36
* **7.49** 2 Macc 15.36
* **7.50** 1 Macc 9.57; 14.4

1 Maccabees 8

* **8.1** 1 Macc 7.1; 2 Macc 11.34
g **8.5** Or *Kittim*
* **8.5** 1 Macc 1.1
* **8.6** 1 Macc 1.17; 11.13; 12.39; 13.32
* **8.7** 1 Macc 1.10
h **8.10** Gk *them*
i **8.10** Gk *they*
* **8.14** 1 Macc 1.9; 6.15
* **8.15** 1 Macc 12.3
* **8.16** 1 Macc 15.16
* **8.17** 2 Macc 4.11
* **8.18** v 31; 1 Macc 1.1, 10
* **8.19** 1 Macc 12.3
* **8.20** 1 Macc 2.4
* **8.22** 1 Macc 14.18

* **8.31** v 18; 1 Macc 7.1, 26; 14.40; 15.17

1 Maccabees 9

* **9.1** 1 Macc 7.1, 5, 7, 8, 43, 44
* **9.10** v 19; 1 Macc 3.59
j **9.11** Gk lacks *of Bacchides*
* **9.13** 1 Macc 3.54
* **9.19** v 10; 1 Macc 2.1, 3, 5; 10.74; 11.57, 59
* **9.20** 1 Macc 12.52; 13.26
* **9.21** 2 Sam 1.19, 25, 27
* **9.22** 1 Macc 16.23, 24
* **9.23** 1 Macc 1.11
* **9.25** 1 Macc 1.11
* **9.27** 1 Macc 4.46
* **9.28** 1 Macc 3.2
* **9.29** 1 Macc 1.11
* **9.31** v 18; 1 Macc 3.1
* **9.33** v 19; 2 Chr 20.20
* **9.34** v 43
k **9.35** Gk *he*
* **9.35** 1 Macc 5.25
l **9.40** Gk *they*
* **9.40** 1 Macc 11.68, 69
* **9.43** v 34; 1 Macc 7.8
* **9.44** 1 Macc 2.41
* **9.45** Josh 3.15
m **9.48** Gk *they*
n **9.50** Gk *he*
o **9.50** Some authorities omit *and*
* **9.50** Gen 28.19; 1 Macc 3.16, 40; 10.12; 12.38
* **9.52** 1 Macc 4.15, 29
* **9.53** 1 Macc 10.6
* **9.54** Ezra 5.2; Ezek 42.20; 1 Macc 7.9; 10.11
* **9.57** 1 Macc 7.5, 8, 50; 14.4
* **9.58** v 69; 1 Macc 7.5
p **9.61** Gk *they*
q **9.67** Other ancient authorities read *they*
* **9.68** 1 Macc 7.8
* **9.69** v 58
* **9.70** 1 Macc 10.4
r **9.71** Gk *him*

* **9.72** 1 Macc 10.33
* **9.73** 1 Sam 13.2

1 Maccabees 10

* **10.1** v 39; 1 Macc 5.15
* **10.2** 1 Macc 7.1
s **10.4** Gk *them*
* **10.4** v 23; 1 Macc 9.70
* **10.5** v 46; 1 Macc 7.1–50; 9.1–73
t **10.6** Gk *he*
* **10.6** 1 Macc 1.33; 9.53; 3 Macc 6.30
* **10.7** 1 Macc 1.33
* **10.11** v 45; 1 Macc 6.62; 9.54; 12.36; 13.10; 14.37
* **10.12** 1 Macc 9.50, 51
* **10.14** 1 Macc 1.11; 4.29
u **10.15** Gk *he*
* **10.16** v 65; 1 Macc 2.18
* **10.18** 1 Macc 11.30
* **10.19** v 65; 1 Macc 2.18
* **10.20** v 65; Dan 5.29; 1 Macc 2.18; 11.27, 58; 14.43
v **10.21** Or *Tabernacles*
* **10.21** Ex 28.2; Lev 23.34
* **10.23** v 4
* **10.28** v 34; 1 Macc 13.34
* **10.29** 1 Macc 11.28, 35; 13.37, 39
* **10.30** v 38; 1 Macc 11.28, 34, 57
* **10.31** 1 Macc 11.35; 15.7
* **10.32** 1 Macc 1.33; 15.7
* **10.33** 1 Macc 9.72
* **10.34** v 28; Isa 1.13, 14
* **10.36** 1 Macc 13.40
* **10.38** v 30; 1 Macc 11.28, 34
* **10.39** v 1; 1 Macc 5.15; 2 Macc 3.3
w **10.41** Meaning of Gk uncertain
x **10.41** Gk *house*
y **10.42** Gk *they*
* **10.45** v 11
z **10.46** Gk *he*
* **10.46** v 5
a **10.49** Other ancient authorities read *Alexander fled, and Demetrius*
* **10.51** 1 Macc 1.18; 11.1

* **10.56** v 1; 1 Macc 5.15
b **10.58** Gk *he*
* **10.58** 1 Macc 11.9
* **10.60** v 65; 1 Macc 2.18
* **10.61** 1 Macc 1.11; 15.3, 21
* **10.62** v 20
* **10.63** Gen 41.43; Esth 6.9
* **10.64** v 20
* **10.65** vv 16, 20, 60; 1 Macc 2.18
* **10.67** v 50; 1 Macc 11.9; 14.1; 2 Macc 1.7
* **10.68** 1 Macc 3.37
* **10.69** 1 Macc 4.15; 2 Macc 4.4
* **10.72** 1 Macc 5.60; 9.17, 18
* **10.74** 1 Macc 9.19
* **10.75** 1 Macc 11.6; 13.11; 14.5, 34; 15.28; 2 Macc 12.7
* **10.77** 1 Macc 4.15
c **10.78** Gk *he*
* **10.78** 1 Macc 4.15
d **10.81** Gk *their*
* **10.83** Judg 16.23; 1 Macc 4.15
* **10.84** Judg 16.23; 1 Macc 11.4; 16.10
* **10.86** Judg 1.18; Jdt 2.28; 1 Macc 11.60; 12.33
* **10.89** Josh 13.3; 15.11; Zech 9.7; 1 Macc 11.58; 14.44

1 Maccabees 11

* **11.1** v 8; Josh 11.4; 1 Macc 10.51
e **11.2** Gk *his*
f **11.4** Other ancient authorities read *they*
g **11.4** Gk *he*
* **11.4** Judg 16.23; 1 Macc 4.15; 10.84
* **11.6** 1 Macc 10.75
* **11.7** v 20; 1 Macc 12.30
* **11.8** v 1; 1 Macc 10.51; Acts 13.4
* **11.9** 1 Macc 10.58, 67
h **11.11** Gk *him*
* **11.13** 1 Macc 3.37; 8.6
* **11.19** 2 Macc 1.7
* **11.20** v 7; 1 Macc 1.33
* **11.21** v 25; 1 Macc 1.11
* **11.22** 1 Macc 5.15
* **11.24** 1 Macc 5.15; 10.60

* **11.25** v 21; 1 Macc 1.11
* **11.26** 1 Macc 2.18
* **11.27** v 57; 1 Macc 10.20, 65; 14.38, 39
* **11.28** v 35; 1 Macc 10.29, 30, 38
* **11.30** 1 Macc 10.18
i **11.34** Gk *Rathamin*
j **11.34** Or *Samaria, for all those who offer sacrifice in Jerusalem, in place of*
* **11.34** 1 Macc 10.30, 38; Acts 9.32
* **11.35** 1 Macc 10.29, 31
* **11.36** 1 Macc 13.39
* **11.38** vv 52, 68, 74; 1 Macc 1.3; 6.29
* **11.39** v 54; 1 Macc 12.39, 42, 49; 13.12, 23, 24
k **11.40** Gk *him*
l **11.40** Gk *him*
m **11.40** Gk *his troops*
* **11.40** v 54
* **11.41** vv 20–22; 1 Macc 9.50–52; 10.12–14
* **11.43** v 38
* **11.44** 1 Macc 3.37
* **11.50** vv 62, 66; 1 Macc 6.58
* **11.52** v 38; 1 Macc 1.3
n **11.53** Gk *he*
* **11.54** 1 Macc 12.39, 42, 49; 13.12
o **11.55** Gk *him*
p **11.56** Gk *animals*
* **11.56** vv 13, 39, 54; 1 Macc 3.37
* **11.57** vv 27, 28, 34; 1 Macc 2.18
* **11.58** 1 Macc 10.20, 89; 14.44; 1 Esd 3.6
q **11.59** Gk *his*
* **11.59** 1 Macc 9.19; 2 Macc 4.18
* **11.60** 1 Macc 10.86
* **11.61** Josh 13.3
* **11.62** vv 50, 66; Josh 13.3; 1 Macc 12.32
* **11.63** Josh 20.7; Tob 1.2; 1 Macc 12.24
* **11.65** 1 Macc 4.29
* **11.66** vv 50, 62; 1 Macc 14.7
* **11.67** Josh 11.1; Judg 4.2; Lk 5.1
* **11.68** v 38; 1 Macc 9.40
* **11.70** 1 Macc 13.11; 2 Macc 11.17
* **11.71** 1 Macc 2.14
r **11.72** Gk *them*

* **11.73** Josh 20.7; Tob 1.2
* **11.74** v 38

1 Maccabees 12

* **12.1** v 16; 1 Macc 8.19–22
* **12.2** 1 Macc 14.16, 23; 2 Macc 5.9
* **12.3** 1 Macc 8.15, 19, 21–32
s **12.4** Gk *they*
t **12.4** Gk *them*
* **12.6** v 21; 2 Macc 1.10; 4.44; 11.27
* **12.7** vv 20–23; Sir 50.1; 1 Macc 14.20; 2 Macc 5.9
* **12.8** Sir 50.1
* **12.9** Rom 15.4
* **12.15** Ps 118.7–12; 1 Macc 3.18–23; 4.8–14
* **12.16** v 1; 1 Macc 14.22, 24; 15.15
* **12.19** Sir 50.1
* **12.20** v 7; 1 Macc 14.16, 23; 2 Macc 5.9
* **12.21** v 7; 1 Macc 14.16, 23; 2 Macc 5.9
u **12.23** Gk *they*
* **12.23** 1 Kings 22.4; 2 Kings 3.7
* **12.24** v 34; 1 Macc 11.63
v **12.26** Gk *they*
w **12.26** Gk *them*
x **12.28** Other ancient authorities omit *and withdrew*
* **12.30** 1 Macc 11.7
* **12.32** 1 Macc 11.62
* **12.33** 1 Macc 10.75, 86; 11.59
* **12.34** v 24
* **12.35** 1 Macc 13.33
y **12.36** Gk *they*
* **12.36** 1 Macc 10.11; 13.21, 49
* **12.38** 1 Macc 9.50
* **12.39** 1 Macc 8.6; 11.39; 13.31
* **12.42** 1 Macc 11.39
* **12.43** 1 Macc 2.18
* **12.45** 1 Macc 5.15
z **12.46** Gk *he*
* **12.48** 1 Macc 5.15; 13.12
* **12.49** Jdt 1.8; 1 Macc 5.52; 11.39
* **12.50** 1 Macc 13.12, 23
* **12.52** 1 Macc 9.20; 13.26

* **12.53** 1 Macc 3.35; 13.6

1 Maccabees 13

* **13.1** 1 Macc 5.17
* **13.4** v 23; 1 Macc 6.46; 9.18, 36
* **13.5** 1 Kings 19.4
* **13.6** 1 Macc 12.53
* **13.8** 1 Macc 3.1; 9.31
* **13.10** 1 Macc 10.11
* **13.11** 1 Macc 10.75; 11.70; 2 Macc 11.17
* **13.12** 1 Macc 5.15; 11.39; 12.48
* **13.13** 1 Macc 12.38
* **13.14** 1 Macc 11.39

a **13.18** Gk *I*

b **13.18** Gk *he*

c **13.19** Gk *he*

* **13.21** v 49; 1 Macc 1.33; 12.36
* **13.22** 1 Macc 5.9
* **13.23** 1 Macc 12.50
* **13.25** 1 Macc 2.1
* **13.26** 1 Macc 9.20; 12.52

d **13.29** Gk *For these*

* **13.30** 1 Macc 2.1
* **13.31** 1 Macc 12.39
* **13.32** 1 Macc 8.6
* **13.33** v 38; 1 Macc 12.35; 14.10, 33, 34; 15.7
* **13.34** 1 Macc 15.4
* **13.36** 1 Macc 2.18; 14.17, 20, 35, 38, 39
* **13.37** 1 Macc 10.20, 29; 2 Macc 14.4
* **13.38** v 33; 1 Macc 11.29–37
* **13.39** 1 Macc 10.29; 11.36

e **13.40** Or *court*

* **13.40** 1 Macc 10.36
* **13.42** 1 Macc 14.17, 27, 35, 38, 43

f **13.43** Gk *he*

g **13.43** Cn: Gk *Gaza*

* **13.45** v 50; Josh 7.6; 1 Macc 6.58; 11.66
* **13.47** 1 Macc 14.36
* **13.49** v 21; 1 Macc 12.36
* **13.50** v 45; 1 Macc 6.58; 11.50, 62, 66; 14.7

h **13.51** Gk *they*

* **13.51** 1 Macc 1.36; 4.54; 2 Macc 10.7; Jn 12.13
i **13.52** Gk *He*
* **13.52** 1 Macc 14.37
* **13.53** 1 Macc 16.1, 2, 23

1 Maccabees 14

* **14.1** Tob 1.14; 1 Macc 10.67
* **14.2** 1 Macc 6.1, 5, 56; 15.22
j **14.3** Gk *He*
* **14.3** 1 Macc 15.22
k **14.4** Other ancient authorities add *of Judah*
* **14.4** 1 Macc 7.50; 9.57
* **14.5** v 34; 1 Macc 10.75
* **14.7** 1 Macc 4.29; 11.66; 13.43, 50
* **14.8** Ps 67.6
* **14.10** 1 Macc 13.33; 15.22, 23
* **14.12** 1 Kings 4.25
* **14.16** 1 Macc 8.1; 12.2, 20, 21
* **14.17** vv 35, 47; 1 Macc 13.36
* **14.18** vv 27, 48; 1 Macc 8.19–29; 12.1–18
* **14.20** 1 Macc 12.7, 21; 13.36; 2 Macc 5.9
* **14.22** 1 Macc 12.16; 15.15
* **14.23** 1 Macc 12.2; 13.36
l **14.24** Gk *them*
* **14.24** 1 Macc 12.16; 15.15, 18
* **14.25** v 49; 1 Macc 16.2, 14
* **14.26** 1 Macc 16.2
* **14.27** vv 18, 48; 1 Macc 8.22; 13.42
* **14.29** 1 Macc 2.1
m **14.30** Gk *their*
* **14.30** Gen 25.8; Jdt 16.22; 1 Macc 11.27
* **14.31** 1 Macc 13.1
* **14.32** 1 Macc 13.1
* **14.33** v 7; 1 Macc 4.29; 13.33
n **14.34** Gk *them*
* **14.34** v 5; 1 Macc 4.15; 10.75; 15.35
o **14.35** Other ancient authorities read *conduct*
* **14.35** vv 17, 47; 1 Macc 13.36
p **14.36** Gk *their*
* **14.36** 1 Macc 1.33; 3.6; 13.47, 50; 16.2
* **14.37** 1 Macc 13.10, 52

* **14.38** 1 Macc 11.27; 13.36
* **14.39** 1 Macc 2.18
q **14.40** Gk *they*
* **14.40** v 18; 1 Macc 8.3; 15.17
* **14.41** Deut 18.15; 1 Macc 4.46
r **14.42** Cn: Gk adds *that he should take charge of the sanctuary and*
* **14.43** 1 Macc 10.20; 13.42
* **14.44** 1 Macc 10.89; 11.58
s **14.47** Or *to preside over them all*
* **14.47** vv 17, 35
* **14.48** vv 18, 27; 1 Macc 8.22
* **14.49** Jn 8.20

1 Maccabees 15

* **15.1** 1 Macc 6.29; 14.35
* **15.2** 1 Macc 14.35
* **15.3** v 21; 1 Macc 10.61; 13.31
* **15.4** 1 Macc 13.34
* **15.5** 1 Macc 10.27–45; 13.37–39
* **15.7** 1 Macc 10.31, 32; 13.33
* **15.10** v 3
t **15.11** Gk *he*
* **15.11** v 25
* **15.13** v 25
* **15.14** v 25
* **15.15** vv 22, 23; 1 Macc 12.16; 14.22, 24
* **15.16** 1 Macc 8.16; 2 Macc 1.10
* **15.17** 1 Macc 8.23–32; 14.17, 35, 40
* **15.18** 1 Macc 14.24
* **15.19** vv 22, 23
* **15.21** v 3; 1 Macc 10.61
u **15.22** Gk *He*
* **15.22** 1 Macc 14.2
v **15.23** The name is uncertain
* **15.23** 1 Macc 14.16
* **15.25** vv 11, 13, 14, 37
w **15.26** Gk *him*
* **15.27** vv 3–9
* **15.28** 1 Macc 1.33; 2.18; 10.75; 13.43
* **15.29** 1 Macc 11.28, 34
* **15.31** v 35

* **15.32** 1 Kings 10.5; 1 Macc 2.18
* **15.33** Ex 23.31
x **15.35** Gk *He*
* **15.35** v 31; 1 Macc 10.75; 13.43; 14.34
* **15.37** v 25
* **15.38** v 25; 1 Macc 16.1, 4, 8
* **15.39** v 25; 1 Macc 16.9
* **15.40** 1 Macc 4.15; 16.1, 4, 8
* **15.41** 1 Macc 16.9

1 Maccabees 16

* **16.1** 1 Macc 13.43, 53; 15.38, 40
* **16.2** 1 Macc 3.2, 6; 13.53; 14.26, 36
y **16.3** Gk *his*
* **16.3** 1 Macc 13.23
z **16.4** Other ancient authorities read *he*
* **16.4** 1 Macc 2.1; 15.38, 40
* **16.8** 1 Macc 1.18; 3.54; 15.38, 40
a **16.9** Gk *he*
* **16.9** 1 Macc 15.39, 41
b **16.10** Gk *he*
* **16.10** 1 Macc 4.15; 10.84
* **16.11** v 19; 2 Kings 25.5
* **16.16** v 14; 2 Sam 13.28; Jdt 13.2
* **16.19** v 11; 1 Macc 3.55; 13.43
* **16.21** 1 Macc 13.43
* **16.23** 1 Macc 9.22; 13.53

2 Maccabees

2 Maccabees 1

A LETTER TO THE JEWS IN EGYPT

1 The Jews in Jerusalem and those in the land of Judea,

To their Jewish kindred in Egypt,

Greetings and true peace.

2 May God do good to you, and may he remember his covenant with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, his faithful servants.* [3]May he give you all a heart to worship him and to do his will with a strong heart and a willing spirit. [4]May he open your heart to his law and his commandments, and may he bring peace.* [5]May he hear your prayers and be reconciled to you, and may he not forsake you in time of evil.* [6]We are now praying for you here.

7 In the reign of Demetrius, in the one hundred sixty-ninth year, we Jews wrote to you, in the critical distress that came upon us in those years after Jason and his company revolted from the holy land and the kingdom* [8]and burned the gate and shed innocent blood. We prayed to the Lord and were heard, and we offered sacrifice and grain offering, and we lit the lamps and set out the loaves.* [9]And now see that you keep the Festival of Booths[a] in the month of Chislev, in the one hundred eighty-eighth year.*

A LETTER TO ARISTOBULUS

10 The people of Jerusalem and of Judea and the council and Judas,

To Aristobulus, who is of the family of the anointed priests, teacher of King Ptolemy, and to the Jews in Egypt,

Greetings and good health.*

11 Having been saved by God out of grave dangers, we thank him greatly for taking our side against the king,[b] [12]for he drove out those who fought against the holy city.* [13]When the leader reached Persia with a force that seemed irresistible, they were cut to pieces in the temple of Nanea by a

deception employed by the priests of the goddess[c] Nanea.* 14On the pretext of intending to marry her, Antiochus came to the place together with his Friends, to secure most of its treasures as a dowry.* 15When the priests of the temple of Nanea had set out the treasures and Antiochus had come with a few men inside the wall of the sacred precinct, they closed the temple as soon as he entered it. 16Opening a secret door in the ceiling, they threw stones and struck down the leader and his men; they dismembered them and cut off their heads and threw them to the people outside. 17Blessed in every way be our God, who has delivered up those who have behaved impiously.

FIRE CONSUMES NEHEMIAH'S SACRIFICE

18 Since on the twenty-fifth day of Chislev we shall celebrate the purification of the temple, we thought it necessary to notify you, in order that you also may celebrate the Festival of Booths[d] and the fire given when Nehemiah, who built the temple and the altar, offered sacrifices.*

19 For when our ancestors were being led captive to Persia, the pious priests of that time took some of the fire of the altar and secretly hid it in the hollow of a dry cistern, where they took such precautions that the place was unknown to anyone.* 20But after many years had passed, when it pleased God, Nehemiah, having been commissioned by the king of Persia, sent the descendants of the priests who had hidden the fire to get it. And when they reported to us that they had not found fire but only a thick liquid, he ordered them to dip it out and bring it.* 21When the materials for the sacrifices were presented, Nehemiah ordered the priests to sprinkle the liquid on the wood and on the things laid upon it.* 22When this had been done and some time had passed, and when the sun, which had been clouded over, shone out, a great fire blazed up, so that all marveled. 23And while the sacrifice was being consumed, the priests offered prayer—the priests and everyone. Jonathan led, and the rest responded, as did Nehemiah. 24The prayer was to this effect:

"O Lord, Lord God, Creator of all things, you are awe-inspiring and strong and just and merciful; you alone are king and are kind;* 25you alone are bountiful; you alone are just and almighty and eternal. You rescue Israel from every evil; you chose the ancestors and consecrated them.* 26Accept this sacrifice on behalf of all your people Israel and preserve your portion

and make it holy.* [27]Gather together our scattered people; set free those who are slaves among the nations; look on those who are rejected and despised; and let the nations know that you are our God.* [28]Punish those who oppress and are insolent with pride. [29]Plant your people in your holy place, as Moses promised."*

30 Then the priests sang the hymns. [31]After the materials of the sacrifice had been consumed, Nehemiah ordered that the liquid that was left should be poured on large stones. [32]When this was done, a flame blazed up, but when the light from the altar shone back, it went out. [33]When this matter became known and it was reported to the king of the Persians that, in the place where the exiled priests had hidden the fire, the liquid had appeared with which Nehemiah and his associates had burned the materials of the sacrifice, [34]the king investigated the matter and enclosed the place and made it sacred. [35]And with those persons whom the king favored he exchanged many excellent gifts. [36]Nehemiah and his associates called this "nephthar," which means purification, but by most people it is called "naphtha."

2 Maccabees 2

JEREMIAH HIDES THE TENT, ARK, AND ALTAR

1 One finds in the records that the prophet Jeremiah ordered those who were
being deported to take some of the fire, as has been mentioned,* [2]and that
the prophet, after giving them the law, instructed those who were being
deported not to forget the commandments of the Lord or to be led astray in
their thoughts on seeing the gold and silver statues and their adornment.*
[3]And with other similar words he exhorted them that the law should not
depart from their hearts.

4 It was also in the same document that the prophet, having received an
oracle, ordered that the tent and the ark should follow with him and that he
went out to the mountain where Moses had gone up and had seen the
inheritance of God.* [5]Jeremiah came and found a cave dwelling, and he
brought there the tent and the ark and the altar of incense; then he sealed up
the entrance.* [6]Some of those who followed him came up intending to mark
the way but could not find it. [7]When Jeremiah learned of it, he rebuked
them and declared, "The place shall remain unknown until God gathers his
people together again and shows his mercy.* [8]Then the Lord will disclose
these things, and the glory of the Lord and the cloud will appear, as they
were shown in the case of Moses and as Solomon asked that the place
should be specially consecrated."*

9 It was also made clear that, being possessed of wisdom, Solomon[e]
offered sacrifice for the dedication and completion of the temple.* [10]Just as
Moses prayed to the Lord and fire came down from heaven and consumed
the sacrifices, so also Solomon prayed, and the fire came down and
consumed the whole burnt offerings. [11]And Moses said, "They were
consumed because the purification offering had not been eaten."*
[12]Likewise Solomon also kept the eight days.*

13 The same things are reported in the records and in the memoirs of
Nehemiah and also that he founded a library and collected the books about
the kings and prophets and the writings of David and letters of kings about
votive offerings.* [14]In the same way Judas also collected all the books that

had been lost on account of the war that had come upon us, and they are in our possession. [15]So if you have need of them, send people to get them for you.

16 Since, therefore, we are about to celebrate the purification, we write to you. You will do well if you celebrate these days.* [17]It is God who has saved all his people and has returned the inheritance to all and the kingship and the priesthood and the consecration,* [18]as he promised through the law. We have hope in God that he will soon have mercy on us and will gather us from everywhere under heaven into his holy place, for he has rescued us from great evils and has purified the place.*

THE COMPILER'S PREFACE

19 The story of Judas Maccabeus and his brothers, and the purification of the greatest temple, and the dedication of the altar,* [20]and further the wars against Antiochus Epiphanes and his son Eupator,* [21]and the appearances that came from heaven to those who fought bravely for Judaism, so that though few in number they seized the whole land and pursued the barbarian hordes* [22]and regained possession of the temple famous throughout the world and liberated the city and reestablished the laws that were about to be abolished, while the Lord with great kindness became gracious to them* — [23]all this, which has been set forth by Jason of Cyrene in five volumes, we shall attempt to condense into a single book. [24]For considering the flood of lines written and the difficulty there is for those who wish to enter upon the narratives of history because of the mass of material, [25]we have aimed to please those who wish to read, to make it easy for those who are inclined to memorize, and to profit all readers. [26]For us who have undertaken the toil of abbreviating, it is no light matter but calls for sweat and loss of sleep, [27]just as it is not easy for one who prepares a banquet and seeks the benefit of others. Nevertheless, to secure the gratitude of many we will gladly endure the uncomfortable toil,* [28]leaving the responsibility for exact details to the compiler, while devoting our effort to arriving at the outlines of the condensation. [29]For as the master builder of a new house must be concerned with the whole construction, while the one who undertakes its painting and decoration has to consider only what is suitable for its adornment, such in my judgment is the case with us.* [30]It is the duty of the original historian to

occupy the ground, to discuss matters from every side, and to take trouble with details, [31]but the one who recasts the narrative should be allowed to strive for brevity of expression and to forego exhaustive treatment. [32]At this point, therefore, let us begin our narrative, without adding any more to what has already been said, for it would be foolish to lengthen the preface while cutting short the history itself.*

2 Maccabees 3

ARRIVAL OF HELIODORUS IN JERUSALEM

1 While the holy city was inhabited in unbroken peace and the laws were
strictly observed because of the piety of the high priest Onias and his hatred
of wickedness,* 2it came about that the kings themselves honored the place
and glorified the temple with the finest presents, 3even to the extent that
King Seleucus of Asia defrayed from his own revenues all the expenses
connected with the service of the sacrifices.*

4 But a man named Simon, of the tribe of Balgea,[f] who had been made
captain of the temple, had a disagreement with the high priest about the
administration of the city market.* 5Since he could not prevail over Onias,
he went to Apollonius of Tarsus,[g] who at that time was governor of
Coelesyria and Phoenicia, 6and reported to him that the treasury in
Jerusalem was full of untold sums of money, so that the amount of the funds
could not be reckoned, and that they did not belong to the account of the
sacrifices but that it was possible for them to fall under the control of the
king.* 7When Apollonius met the king, he told him of the money about
which he had been informed. The king[h] chose Heliodorus, who was in
charge of his affairs, and sent him with commands to effect the removal of
the reported wealth.* 8Heliodorus at once set out on his journey, ostensibly
to make a tour of inspection of the cities of Coelesyria and Phoenicia but in
fact to carry out the king's purpose.*

9 When he had arrived at Jerusalem and had been kindly welcomed by
the high priest of[i] the city, he told about the disclosure that had been made
and stated why he had come, and he inquired whether this really was the
situation.* 10The high priest explained that there were some deposits
belonging to widows and orphans* 11and also some money of Hyrcanus son
of Tobias, a man of very prominent position, and that it totaled in all four
hundred talents of silver and two hundred of gold. To such an extent the
impious Simon had misrepresented the facts.* 12And he said[j] that it was
utterly impossible that wrong should be done to those people who had

trusted in the holiness of the place and in the sanctity and inviolability of the temple that is honored throughout the whole world.*

HELIODORUS PLANS TO ROB THE TEMPLE

13 But Heliodorus,[k] because of the orders he had from the king, said that this money must in any case be confiscated for the king's treasury.* [14]So he set a day and went in to direct the inspection of these funds.

There was no little distress throughout the whole city. [15]The priests prostrated themselves before the altar in their priestly vestments and called toward heaven upon him who had given the law about deposits, that he should keep them safe for those who had deposited them.* [16]To see the appearance of the high priest was to be wounded at heart, for his face and the change in his color disclosed the anguish of his soul. [17]For terror and bodily trembling had come over the man, which plainly showed to those who looked at him the pain lodged in his heart. [18]People also hurried out of their houses in crowds to make a general supplication because the holy place was about to be brought into dishonor.* [19]Women girded with sackcloth under their breasts thronged the streets. Some of the young women who were kept indoors ran together to the gates, and some to the walls, while others peered out of the windows.* [20]And holding up their hands to heaven, they all made supplication.* [21]There was something pitiable in the prostration of the whole populace and the anxiety of the high priest in his great anguish.*

THE LORD PROTECTS HIS TEMPLE

22 While they were calling upon the Almighty Lord that he would keep what had been entrusted safe and secure for those who had entrusted it,* [23]Heliodorus went on with what had been decided. [24]But when he arrived at the treasury with his bodyguard, then and there the Sovereign of spirits and of all authority caused so great a manifestation that all who had been so bold as to accompany him were astounded by the power of God and became faint with terror.* [25]For there appeared to them a magnificently adorned horse, with a rider of frightening appearance; it rushed furiously at Heliodorus and struck at him with its front hoofs. Its rider was seen to have

armor and weapons of gold.* 26Two young men also appeared to him, remarkably strong, gloriously beautiful and splendidly dressed, who stood on either side of him and flogged him continuously, inflicting many blows on him.* 27When he suddenly fell to the ground and deep darkness came over him, his men took him up, put him on a stretcher,* 28and carried him away—this man who had just entered the aforesaid treasury with a great retinue and all his bodyguard but was now unable to help himself with all his weapons. He recognized clearly the sovereign power of God.*

ONIAS PRAYS FOR HELIODORUS

29 While he lay prostrate, speechless because of the divine intervention and deprived of any hope of recovery, 30they praised the Lord who had acted marvelously for his own place. And the temple, which a little while before was full of fear and disturbance, was filled with joy and gladness, now that the Almighty Lord had appeared.

31 Some of Heliodorus's friends quickly begged Onias to call upon the Most High to grant life to one who was lying quite at his last breath.* 32So the high priest, fearing that the king might get the notion that some foul play had been perpetrated by the Jews with regard to Heliodorus, offered sacrifice for the man's recovery.* 33While the high priest was making the atonement, the same young men appeared again to Heliodorus dressed in the same clothing, and they stood and said, "Be very grateful to the high priest Onias, since for his sake the Lord has granted you your life.* 34And see that you, who have been flogged by heaven, report to all people the majestic power of God." Having said this, they vanished.

THE CONVERSION OF HELIODORUS

35 Then Heliodorus offered sacrifice to the Lord and made very great vows to the Savior of his life, and having bidden Onias farewell, he marched off with his forces to the king. 36He bore testimony to all concerning the deeds of the supreme God, which he had seen with his own eyes.* 37When the king asked Heliodorus what sort of person would be suitable to send on another mission to Jerusalem, he replied, 38"If you have any enemy or plotter against your government, send him there, for you will

get him back thoroughly flogged, if he survives at all, for there is certainly some power of God about the place.* 39For he who has his dwelling in heaven watches over that place himself and brings it aid, and he strikes and destroys those who come to do it injury."* 40This was the outcome of the episode of Heliodorus and the protection of the treasury.*

2 Maccabees 4

SIMON ACCUSES ONIAS

1 The previously mentioned Simon, who had informed about the money against[l] his own country, slandered Onias, saying that it was he who had incited Heliodorus and had been the real cause of the misfortune.* [2]He dared to designate as a plotter against the government the man who was the benefactor of the city, the protector of his compatriots, and a zealot for the laws.* [3]When his hatred progressed to such a degree that even murders were committed by one of Simon's approved agents,* [4]Onias recognized that the rivalry was serious and that Apollonius son of Menestheus,[m] and governor of Coelesyria and Phoenicia, was intensifying the malice of Simon.* [5]So he appealed to the king, not accusing his compatriots but having in view the welfare, both public and private, of all the people.* [6]For he saw that, without the king's attention, public affairs could not again reach a peaceful settlement and that Simon would not stop his folly.

JASON'S REFORMS

7 When Seleucus died and Antiochus, who was called Epiphanes, succeeded to the kingdom, Jason the brother of Onias obtained the high priesthood by corruption,* [8]promising the king through a petition three hundred sixty talents of silver and from another source of revenue eighty talents.* [9]In addition to this he promised to pay one hundred fifty more if permission were given to establish by his authority a gymnasium and a body of youth for it and to enroll the people of Jerusalem as the Antiochenes in Jerusalem.* [10]When the king assented and Jason[n] came to office, he at once shifted his compatriots over to the Greek way of life.*

11 He set aside the existing royal concessions to the Jews, secured through John the father of Eupolemus, who went on the mission to establish friendship and alliance with the Romans, and he destroyed the lawful ways of living and introduced new customs contrary to the law.* [12]He took delight in establishing a gymnasium right under the citadel, and he induced the noblest of the young men to wear the Greek hat.* [13]There was such an

extreme of Hellenization and increase in the adoption of foreign ways because of the surpassing wickedness of Jason, who was ungodly and no true[o] high priest,* 14that the priests were no longer intent upon their service at the altar. Despising the sanctuary and neglecting the sacrifices, they hurried to take part in the unlawful proceedings in the wrestling arena after the signal for the discus throwing,* 15disdaining the honors prized by their ancestors and putting the highest value upon Greek forms of prestige. 16For this reason heavy disaster overtook them, and those whose ways of living they admired and wished to imitate completely became their enemies and punished them.* 17It is no light thing to show irreverence to the divine laws, a fact that later events will make clear.*

JASON INTRODUCES GREEK CUSTOMS

18 When the quadrennial games were being held at Tyre and the king was present,* 19the vile Jason sent envoys, chosen as being Antiochenes from Jerusalem, to carry three hundred silver drachmas for the sacrifice to Hercules. Those who carried the money, however, thought best not to use it for sacrifice, because that was inappropriate, but to expend it for another purpose.* 20So this money was intended by the sender for the sacrifice to Hercules, but by the decision of its carriers it was applied to the construction of triremes.

21 When Apollonius son of Menestheus was sent to Egypt for the coronation[p] of Philometor as king, Antiochus learned that Philometor[q] had become hostile to his government, and he took measures for his own security. Therefore upon arriving at Joppa he proceeded to Jerusalem.* 22He was welcomed magnificently by Jason and the city and ushered in with a blaze of torches and with shouts. Then he marched his army into Phoenicia.

MENELAUS BECOMES HIGH PRIEST

23 After a period of three years, Jason sent Menelaus, the brother of the previously mentioned Simon, to carry the money to the king and to complete the records of essential business.* 24But he, when presented to the king, extolled him with an air of authority and secured the high priesthood for himself, outbidding Jason by three hundred talents of silver.* 25After

receiving the king's orders, he returned, possessing no qualification for the high priesthood but having the hot temper of a cruel tyrant and the rage of a savage wild beast. [26]So Jason, who after supplanting his own brother was supplanted by another man, was driven as a fugitive into the land of Ammon.* [27]Although Menelaus continued to hold the office, he did not pay regularly any of the money promised to the king.* [28]When Sostratus the captain of the citadel kept requesting payment—for the collection of the revenue was his responsibility—the two of them were summoned by the king on account of this issue. [29]Menelaus left his own brother Lysimachus as deputy in the high priesthood, while Sostratus left Crates, the commander of the Cyprian troops.*

THE MURDER OF ONIAS

30 While such was the state of affairs, it happened that the people of Tarsus and of Mallus revolted because their cities had been given as a present to Antiochis, the king's concubine.* [31]So the king went hurriedly to settle the trouble, leaving Andronicus, a man of high rank, to act as his deputy. [32]But Menelaus, thinking he had obtained a suitable opportunity, stole some of the gold vessels of the temple and gave them to Andronicus; other vessels, as it happened, he had sold to Tyre and the neighboring cities.* [33]When Onias became fully aware of these acts, he publicly exposed them, having first withdrawn to a place of sanctuary at Daphne near Antioch. [34]Therefore Menelaus, taking Andronicus aside, urged him to kill Onias. Andronicus[r] came to Onias and, resorting to treachery, offered him sworn pledges and gave him his right hand; he persuaded him, in spite of his suspicions, to come out from the place of sanctuary; then, with no regard for justice, he immediately put him out of the way.

ANDRONICUS IS PUNISHED

35 For this reason not only Jews but many also of other nations were grieved and displeased at the unjust murder of the man. [36]When the king returned from the region of Cilicia, the Jews in the city[s] appealed to him with regard to the unreasonable murder of Onias, and the Greeks shared their hatred of the crime.* [37]Therefore Antiochus was grieved at heart and

filled with pity and wept because of the moderation and good conduct of the deceased.* 38Inflamed with anger, he immediately stripped the purple robe from Andronicus, tore off his clothes, and led him around the whole city to that very place where he had committed the outrage against Onias, and there he dispatched the bloodthirsty fellow. The Lord thus repaid him with the punishment he deserved.*

UNPOPULARITY OF LYSIMACHUS AND MENELAUS

39 When many acts of sacrilege had been committed in the city by Lysimachus with the connivance of Menelaus, and when report of them had spread abroad, the populace gathered against Lysimachus, because many of the gold vessels had already been stolen.* 40Since the crowds were becoming aroused and filled with anger, Lysimachus armed about three thousand men and launched an unjust attack, under the leadership of a certain Auranus, a man advanced in years and no less advanced in folly.* 41But when the Jews[t] became aware that Lysimachus was attacking them, some picked up stones, some blocks of wood, and others took handfuls of the ashes that were lying around and threw them in wild confusion at Lysimachus and his men.* 42As a result, they wounded many of them and killed some and put all the rest to flight; the temple robber himself they killed close by the treasury.

43 Charges were brought against Menelaus about this incident. 44When the king came to Tyre, three men sent by the senate presented the case before him.* 45But Menelaus, already as good as beaten, promised a substantial bribe to Ptolemy son of Dorymenes to win over the king.* 46Therefore Ptolemy, taking the king aside into a colonnade as if for refreshment, induced the king to change his mind. 47Menelaus, the cause of all the trouble, he acquitted of the charges against him, while he sentenced to death those unfortunate men who would have been freed uncondemned if they had pleaded even before Scythians.* 48And so those who had spoken for the city and the villages[u] and the holy vessels quickly suffered the unjust penalty.* 49Therefore even the Tyrians, showing their hatred of the crime, provided magnificently for their funeral. 50But Menelaus, because of the greed of those in power, remained in office, growing in wickedness, having become the chief plotter against his compatriots.*

2 Maccabees 5

JASON TRIES TO REGAIN CONTROL

1 About this time Antiochus made his second invasion of Egypt.* [2]And it
happened that, for almost forty days, there appeared over all the city
golden-clad cavalry charging through the air, in companies fully armed with
lances and drawn swords*—[3]troops of cavalry drawn up, attacks and
counterattacks made on this side and on that, brandishing of shields,
massing of spears, hurling of missiles, the flash of golden trappings, and
armor of all kinds.* [4]Therefore everyone prayed that the apparition might
prove to have been a good omen.*

5 When a false rumor arose that Antiochus was dead, Jason took no
fewer than a thousand men and suddenly made an assault on the city. When
the troops on the wall had been forced back and at last the city was being
taken, Menelaus took refuge in the citadel.* [6]But Jason kept relentlessly
slaughtering his compatriots, not realizing that success at the cost of one's
kindred is the greatest misfortune but imagining that he was setting up
trophies of victory over enemies and not over compatriots.* [7]He did not,
however, gain control of the government; in the end, he got only disgrace
from his conspiracy and fled again into the country of the Ammonites.*
[8]Finally, he met a miserable end. Accused[v] before Aretas the ruler of the
Arabs, fleeing from city to city, pursued by everyone, hated as a rebel
against the laws, and abhorred as the executioner of his country and his
compatriots, he was cast ashore in Egypt.* [9]There he who had driven many
from their own country into exile died in exile, having embarked to go to
the Spartans[w] in hope of finding protection because of their kinship.* [10]He
who had cast out many to lie unburied had no one to mourn for him; he had
no funeral of any sort and no place in the tomb of his ancestors.*

11 When news of what had happened reached the king, he took it to mean
that Judea was in revolt. So, raging inwardly, he left Egypt and took the city
by storm.* [12]He commanded his soldiers to cut down relentlessly everyone
they met and to kill those who went into their houses.* [13]Then there was
massacre of young and old, destruction of boys, women, and children, and

slaughter of young girls and infants.* 14Within the total of three days eighty thousand were destroyed, forty thousand in hand-to-hand fighting, and as many were sold into slavery as were killed.

PILLAGE OF THE TEMPLE

15 Not content with this, Antiochus[x] dared to enter the most holy temple in all the world, guided by Menelaus, who had become a traitor both to the laws and to his country.* 16He took the holy vessels with his polluted hands and swept away with profane hands the votive offerings that other kings had made to enhance the glory and honor of the place.* 17Antiochus was elated in spirit and did not perceive that the Lord was angered for a little while because of the sins of those who lived in the city and that this was the reason he was disregarding the holy place.* 18But if it had not happened that they were involved in many sins, this man would have been flogged and turned back from his rash act as soon as he came forward, just as Heliodorus had been, whom King Seleucus sent to inspect the treasury.* 19But the Lord did not choose the nation for the sake of the holy place but the place for the sake of the nation.* 20Therefore the place itself shared in the misfortunes that befell the nation and afterward participated in its benefits, and what was forsaken in the wrath of the Almighty was restored again in all its glory when the great Lord became reconciled.*

21 So Antiochus carried off eighteen hundred talents from the temple and hurried away to Antioch, thinking in his arrogance that he could sail on the land and walk on the sea, because his mind was elated.* 22He left governors to oppress the people: at Jerusalem, Philip, by birth a Phrygian and in character more barbarous than the man who appointed him;* 23and at Gerizim, Andronicus; and besides these Menelaus, who lorded it over his compatriots worse than the others did. In his malice toward the Jewish citizens,[y],* 24Antiochus[z] sent Apollonius, the captain of the Mysians, with an army of twenty-two thousand and commanded him to kill all the grown men and to sell the women and boys as slaves.* 25When this man arrived in Jerusalem, he pretended to be peaceably disposed and waited until the holy Sabbath day; then, finding the Jews not at work, he ordered his troops to parade under arms. 26He put to the sword all those who came out to see

them, then rushed into the city with his armed warriors and killed great numbers of people.

27 But Judas Maccabeus, with about nine others, got away to the wilderness and kept himself and his companions alive in the mountains as wild animals do; they continued to live on what grew wild, so that they might not share in the defilement.*

2 Maccabees 6

THE SUPPRESSION OF JUDAISM

1 Not long after this, the king sent an Athenian[a] senator[b] to compel the Jews
to forsake the laws of their ancestors and no longer to live by the laws of
God,* [2]also to pollute the temple in Jerusalem and to call it the temple of
Olympian Zeus and to call the one in Gerizim Zeus-the-Friend-of-
Strangers, as the people who live in that place are known.*

3 Harsh and utterly grievous was the onslaught of evil. [4]For the temple
was filled with debauchery and reveling by the nations, who dallied with
prostitutes and had intercourse with women within the sacred precincts and
besides brought in things for sacrifice that were unfit.* [5]The altar was
covered with abominable offerings that were forbidden by the laws.*
[6]People could neither keep the Sabbath nor observe the festivals of their
ancestors nor so much as confess themselves to be Jews.*

7 On the monthly celebration of the king's birthday, the Jews[c] were
taken, under bitter constraint, to partake of the sacrifices, and when a
festival of Dionysus was celebrated, they were compelled to wear wreaths
of ivy and to walk in the procession in honor of Dionysus.* [8]At the
suggestion of the people of Ptolemais,[d] a decree was issued to the
neighboring Greek cities that they should adopt the same policy toward the
Jews and make them partake of the sacrifices* [9]and should kill those who
did not choose to change over to Greek customs. One could see, therefore,
the misery that had come upon them.* [10]For example, two women were
brought in for having circumcised their children. They publicly paraded
them around the city with their babies hanging at their breasts and then
hurled them down headlong from the wall.* [11]Others who had assembled in
the caves nearby in order to observe the seventh day secretly were betrayed
to Philip and were all burned together, because their piety kept them from
defending themselves, in view of their regard for that most holy day.*

PROVIDENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PERSECUTION

12 Now I urge those who read this book not to be depressed by such calamities but to recognize that these punishments were designed not to destroy but to discipline our people.* 13In fact, it is a sign of great kindness not to let the impious alone for long but to punish them immediately. 14For in the case of the other nations the Lord waits patiently to punish them until they have reached the full measure of their sins, but he does not deal in this way with us,* 15in order that he may not take vengeance on us afterward when our sins have reached their height. 16Therefore he never withdraws his mercy from us. Although he disciplines us with calamities, he does not forsake his own people.* 17Let what we have said serve as a reminder; we must go on briefly with the story.*

THE MARTYRDOM OF ELEAZAR

18 Eleazar, one of the scribes in high position, a man now advanced in age and of noble presence, was being forced to open his mouth to eat pig's flesh.* 19But he, welcoming death with honor rather than life with pollution, went up to the rack of his own accord,* 20spitting it out as all ought to go who have the courage to refuse things that it is not right to taste, even for the natural love of life.

21 Those who were in charge of that unlawful sacrifice took the man aside because of their long acquaintance with him and privately urged him to bring meat of his own providing, proper for him to use, and to pretend that he was eating the flesh of the sacrificial meal that had been commanded by the king,* 22so that by doing this he might be saved from death and be treated kindly on account of his old friendship with them.* 23But making a high resolve, worthy of his years and the dignity of his old age and the gray hairs that he had reached with distinction and his excellent life even from childhood, and moreover according to the holy God-given law, he declared himself quickly, telling them to send him to Hades.*

24 "Such pretense is not worthy of our time of life," he said, "for many of the young might suppose that Eleazar in his ninetieth year had gone over to a foreign way of life,* 25and through my pretense, for the sake of living a brief moment longer, they would be led astray because of me, while I defile and disgrace my old age. 26Even if for the present I would avoid the punishment of mortals, yet whether I live or die I will not escape the hands

of the Almighty.* [27]Therefore, by bravely giving up my life now, I will show myself worthy of my old age [28]and leave to the young a noble example of how to die a good death willingly and nobly for the revered and holy laws."

When he had said this, he was dragged[e] at once to the rack.* [29]Those who a little before had acted toward him with goodwill now changed to ill will, because the words he had uttered were in their opinion sheer madness.[f,*] [30]When he was about to die under the blows, he groaned aloud and said: "It is clear to the Lord in his holy knowledge that, though I might have been saved from death, I am enduring terrible sufferings in my body under this beating, but in my soul I am glad to suffer these things because I fear him."*

31 So in this way he died, leaving in his death an example of nobility and a memorial of courage, not only to the young but to the great body of his nation.*

2 Maccabees 7

THE MARTYRDOM OF SEVEN BROTHERS

1 It happened also that seven brothers and their mother were arrested and
were being compelled by the king, under torture with whips and straps, to
partake of unlawful pig's flesh.* [2]One of them, acting as their spokesman,
said, "What do you intend to ask and learn from us? For we are ready to die
rather than transgress the laws of our ancestors."*

3 The king fell into a rage and gave orders to have pans and caldrons
heated.* [4]These were heated immediately, and he commanded that the
tongue of their spokesman be cut out and that they scalp him and cut off his
hands and feet, while the rest of the brothers and the mother looked on.
[5]When he was utterly helpless, the king[g] ordered them to take him to the
fire, still breathing, and to fry him in a pan. The smoke from the pan spread
widely, but the brothers[h] and their mother encouraged one another to die
nobly, saying, [6]"The Lord God is watching over us and in truth has
compassion on us, as Moses declared in his song that bore witness against
the people to their faces, when he said, 'And he will have compassion on
his servants.' "*

7 After the first brother had died in this way, they brought forward the
second for their sport. They tore off the skin of his head with the hair and
asked him, "Will you eat rather than have your body punished limb by
limb?"* [8]He replied in the language of his ancestors and said to them, "No."
Therefore he in turn underwent tortures as the first brother had done.* [9]And
when he was at his last breath, he said, "You accursed wretch, you dismiss
us from this present life, but the King of the universe will raise us up to a
renewal of everlasting life, because we have died for his laws."*

10 After him, the third was the victim of their sport. When it was
demanded, he quickly put out his tongue and courageously stretched forth
his hands [11]and said nobly, "I got these from heaven, and because of his
laws I disdain them, and from him I hope to get them back again." [12]As a
result, the king himself and those with him were astonished at the young
man's spirit, for he regarded his sufferings as nothing.

13 After he, too, had died, they maltreated and tortured the fourth in the same way. [14]When he was near death, he said, "One cannot but choose to die at the hands of mortals and to cherish the hope God gives of being raised again by him. But for you there will be no resurrection to life!"*

15 Next they brought forward the fifth and maltreated him. [16]But he looked at the king[i] and said, "Because you have authority among mortals, though you also are mortal, you do what you please. But do not think that God has forsaken our people. [17]Keep on, and see how his mighty power will torture you and your descendants!"*

18 After him they brought forward the sixth. And when he was about to die, he said, "Do not deceive yourself in vain. For we are suffering these things on our own account because of our sins against our own God.[j,*] [19]But do not think that you will go unpunished for having tried to fight against God!"*

20 The mother was especially admirable and worthy of honorable memory. Although she saw her seven sons perish within a single day, she bore it with good courage because of her hope in the Lord. [21]She encouraged each of them in the language of their ancestors. Filled with a noble spirit, she reinforced her woman's reasoning with a man's courage and said to them,* [22]"I do not know how you came into being in my womb. It was not I who gave you life and breath nor I who set in order the elements within each of you.* [23]Therefore the Creator of the world, who shaped the beginning of humankind and devised the origin of all things, in his mercy gives life and breath back to you again, since you now forget yourselves for the sake of his laws."*

24 Antiochus felt that he was being treated with contempt, and he was suspicious of her reproachful tone. The youngest brother being still alive, Antiochus[k] not only appealed to him in words but promised with oaths that he would make him rich and enviable if he would turn from the ways of his ancestors and that he would take him for his Friend and entrust him with public affairs.* [25]Since the young man would not listen to him at all, the king called the mother to him and urged her to advise the youth to save himself. [26]After much urging on his part, she undertook to persuade her son. [27]But, leaning close to him, she spoke in their native language as follows, deriding the cruel tyrant: "My son, have pity on me. I carried you nine

months in my womb and nursed you for three years and have reared you and brought you up to this point in your life and have taken care of you.* 28I beg you, my child, to look at the heaven and the earth and see everything that is in them and recognize that God did not make them out of things that existed.[1] And in the same way the human race came into being.* 29Do not fear this butcher but prove worthy of your brothers. Accept death, so that in God's mercy I may get you back again along with your brothers."*

30 While she was still speaking, the young man said, "What are you waiting for? I will not obey the king's command, but I obey the command of the law that was given to our ancestors through Moses. 31But you, who have contrived all sorts of evil against the Hebrews, will certainly not escape the hands of God.* 32For we are suffering because of our own sins.* 33And if our living Lord is angry for a little while, to rebuke and discipline us, he will again be reconciled with his own servants.* 34But you, unholy wretch, you most defiled of all mortals, do not be elated in vain and puffed up by uncertain hopes when you raise your hand against the children of heaven.* 35You have not yet escaped the judgment of the almighty, all-seeing God. 36For our brothers, after enduring a brief suffering for everlasting life, have fallen under God's covenant, but you, by the judgment of God, will receive just punishment for your arrogance.* 37I, like my brothers, give up body and life for the laws of our ancestors, appealing to God to show mercy soon to our nation and by trials and plagues to make you confess that he alone is God,* 38and through me and my brothers to bring to an end the wrath of the Almighty that has justly fallen on our whole nation."*

39 The king fell into a rage and handled him worse than the others, being exasperated at his scorn.* 40So he died in his integrity, putting his whole trust in the Lord.

41 Last of all, the mother died, after her sons.*

42 Let this be enough, then, about the eating of sacrifices and the extreme tortures.

2 Maccabees 8

THE REVOLT OF JUDAS MACCABEUS

1 Meanwhile Judas, who was also called Maccabeus, and his companions
secretly entered the villages and summoned their kindred and enlisted those
who had continued in the Jewish faith, and so they gathered about six
thousand.* [2]They implored the Lord to look upon the people who were
oppressed by all and to have pity on the temple that had been profaned by
the godless,* [3]to have mercy on the city that was being destroyed and about
to be leveled to the ground, to hearken to the blood that cried out to him,*
[4]to remember also the lawless destruction of the innocent babies and the
blasphemies committed against his name, and to show his hatred of evil.

5 As soon as Maccabeus got his army organized, the nations could not
withstand him, for the wrath of the Lord had turned to mercy. [6]Coming
without warning, he would set fire to towns and villages. He captured
strategic positions and put to flight not a few of the enemy.* [7]He found the
nights most advantageous for such attacks. And talk of his valor spread
everywhere.*

8 When Philip saw that the man was gaining ground little by little and
that he was pushing ahead with more frequent successes, he wrote to
Ptolemy, the governor of Coelesyria and Phoenicia, to come to the aid of
the king's government.* [9]Then Ptolemy[m] promptly appointed Nicanor son
of Patroclus, one of the king's First[n] Friends, and sent him, in command of
no fewer than twenty thousand men of various nations, to wipe out the
entire people of Judea. He associated with him Gorgias, a general and a
man of experience in military service.* [10]Nicanor determined to make up
for the king the tribute due to the Romans, two thousand talents, by selling
the captured Jews into slavery.* [11]So he immediately sent to the towns on
the seacoast, inviting them to buy Jewish slaves and promising to hand over
ninety slaves for a talent, not expecting the judgment from the Almighty
that was about to overtake him.*

PREPARATION FOR BATTLE

12 Word came to Judas concerning Nicanor's invasion, and when he told
his companions of the arrival of the army,* [13]those who were cowardly and
distrustful of God's justice ran off and got away.* [14]Others sold all their
remaining property and at the same time implored the Lord to rescue those
who had been sold by the ungodly Nicanor before he ever met them, [15]if
not for their own sake, then for the sake of the covenants made with their
ancestors and because he had called them by his holy and glorious name.*
[16]But Maccabeus gathered his forces together, to the number six thousand,
and exhorted them not to be frightened by the enemy and not to fear the
great multitude of nations who were wickedly coming against them but to
fight nobly,* [17]keeping before their eyes the lawless outrage that the
nations[o] had committed against the holy place and the torture of the derided
city, as well as the overthrow of their ancestral way of life.* [18]"For they
trust to arms and acts of daring," he said, "but we trust in the Almighty
God, who is able with a single nod to strike down those who are coming
against us, and even, if necessary, the whole world."*

19 Moreover, he told them of the occasions when help came to their
ancestors, how, in the time of Sennacherib, when one hundred eighty-five
thousand perished,* [20]and the time of the battle against the Galatians that
took place in Babylonia, when eight thousand Jews[p] fought along with four
thousand Macedonians; yet when the Macedonians were hard pressed, the
eight thousand, by the help that came to them from heaven, destroyed one
hundred twenty thousand Galatians[q] and took a great amount of plunder.

JUDAS DEFEATS NICANOR

21 With these words he filled them with courage and made them ready to
die for their laws and their country; then he divided his army into four
parts.* [22]He appointed his brothers also, Simon and Joseph and Jonathan,
each to command a division, putting fifteen hundred men under each.*
[23]Besides, he appointed Eleazar to read aloud[r] from the holy book and gave
the watchword, "The help of God"; then, leading the first division himself,
he joined battle with Nicanor.*

24 With the Almighty as their ally, they killed more than nine thousand
of the enemy and wounded and disabled most of Nicanor's army and forced

them all to flee. [25]They captured the money of those who had come to buy them as slaves. After pursuing them for some distance, they were obliged to return because the hour was late.* [26]It was the day before the Sabbath, and for that reason they did not continue their pursuit. [27]When they had collected the arms of the enemy and stripped them of their spoils, they kept the Sabbath, giving great praise and thanks to the Lord, who had preserved them for that day and allotted it to them as the beginning of mercy.* [28]After the Sabbath they gave some of the spoils to those who had been tortured and to the widows and orphans and distributed the rest among themselves and their children.* [29]When they had done this, they made common supplication and implored the merciful Lord to be wholly reconciled with his servants.*

JUDAS DEFEATS TIMOTHY AND BACCHIDES

30 In encounters with the forces of Timothy and Bacchides they killed more than twenty thousand of them and got possession of some exceedingly high strongholds, and they divided a very large amount of plunder, giving to those who had been tortured and to the orphans and widows and also to the aged, shares equal to their own.* [31]They collected the arms of the enemy[s] and carefully stored all of them in strategic places; the rest of the spoils they carried to Jerusalem.* [32]They killed the commander of Timothy's forces, a most wicked man, and one who had greatly troubled the Jews. [33]While they were celebrating the victory in the city of their ancestors, they burned those who had set fire to the sacred gates, Callisthenes and some others, who had fled into one little house, so these received the proper reward for their impiety.[t,*]

34 The thrice-accursed Nicanor, who had brought the thousand merchants to buy the Jews,* [35]having been humbled with the help of the Lord by opponents whom he regarded as of the least account, took off his splendid uniform and made his way alone like a runaway slave across the country until he reached Antioch, having succeeded chiefly in the destruction of his own army! [36]So he who had undertaken to secure tribute for the Romans by the capture of the people of Jerusalem proclaimed that the Jews had a Defender and that therefore the Jews were invulnerable because they followed the laws ordained by him.*

2 Maccabees 9

THE LAST CAMPAIGN OF ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES

1 About that time, as it happened, Antiochus had retreated in disorder from
the region of Persia.* [2]He had entered the city called Persepolis and
attempted to rob the temples and control the city. Therefore the people
rushed to the rescue with arms, and Antiochus and his army were defeated,[u]
with the result that Antiochus was put to flight by the inhabitants and beat a
shameful retreat.* [3]While he was in Ecbatana, news came to him of what
had happened to Nicanor and the forces of Timothy.* [4]Transported with
rage, he conceived the idea of turning upon the Jews the injury done by
those who had put him to flight, so he ordered his charioteer to drive
without stopping until he completed the journey. But the judgment of
heaven rode with him! For in his arrogance he said, "When I get there I will
make Jerusalem a cemetery of Jews."*

5 But the all-seeing Lord, the God of Israel, struck him with an incurable
and invisible blow. As soon as he stopped speaking, he was seized with a
pain in his bowels for which there was no relief and with sharp internal
tortures*—[6]and that very justly, for he had tortured the bowels of others
with many and strange inflictions. [7]Yet he did not in any way stop his
insolence but was even more filled with arrogance, breathing fire in his rage
against the Jews and giving orders to drive even faster. And so it came
about that he fell out of his chariot as it was rushing along, and the fall was
so hard as to torture every limb of his body.* [8]Thus he, who only a little
while before had thought in his superhuman arrogance that he could
command the waves of the sea and had imagined that he could weigh the
high mountains in a balance, was brought down to earth and carried in a
litter, making the power of God manifest to all.* [9]And so the ungodly man's
body swarmed with worms, and while he was still living in anguish and
pain, his flesh rotted away, and because of the stench the whole army felt
revulsion at his decay.* [10]Because of his intolerable stench no one was able
to carry the man who a little while before had thought that he could touch
the stars of heaven.* [11]Then it was that, broken in spirit, he began to lose
much of his arrogance and to come to his senses under the scourge of God,

for he was tortured with pain every moment.* 12And when he could not endure his own stench, he uttered these words, “It is right to be subject to God; mortals should not think that they are equal to God.”v,*

ANTIOCHUS MAKES A PROMISE TO GOD

13 Then the abominable fellow made a vow to the Lord, who would no longer have mercy on him, stating* 14that the holy city, which he was hurrying to level to the ground and to make a cemetery, he was now declaring to be free,* 15and the Jews, whom he had not considered worth burying but had planned to throw out with their children for the wild animals and for the birds to eat, he would make, all of them, equal to citizens of Athens,* 16and the holy sanctuary, which he had formerly plundered, he would adorn with the finest offerings, and all the holy vessels he would give back many times over, and the expenses incurred for the sacrifices he would provide from his own revenues,* 17and in addition to all this he also would become a Jew and would visit every inhabited place to proclaim the power of God. 18But when his sufferings did not in any way abate, for the judgment of God had justly come upon him, he gave up all hope for himself and wrote to the Jews the following letter, in the form of a supplication. This was its content:

ANTIOCHUS’S LETTER AND DEATH

19 “To his worthy Jewish citizens, Antiochus their king and general sends hearty greetings and good wishes for their health and prosperity.* 20If you and your children are well and your affairs are as you wish, I am glad as my hope is in heaven. 21Now I was feeling weak, and so I was remembering with affection your esteem and goodwill. On my way back from the region of Persia I suffered an annoying illness, and I have deemed it necessary to take thought for the general security of all.* 22I do not despair of my condition, for I have good hope of recovering from my illness, 23but I observed that my father, on the occasions when he made expeditions into the upper country, appointed his successor, 24so that, if anything unexpected happened or any unwelcome news came, the people throughout the realm would not be troubled, for they would know to whom

the government was left. [25]Moreover, I understand how the princes along the borders and the neighbors of my kingdom keep watching for opportunities and waiting to see what will happen. So I have appointed my son Antiochus to be king, whom I have often entrusted and commended to most of you when I hurried off to the upper provinces, and I have written to him the appended letter.* [26]I therefore urge and beg you to remember the public and private services rendered to you and to maintain your present goodwill, each of you, toward me and my son.* [27]For I am sure that he will follow my policy and will treat you with moderation and kindness."

28 So the murderer and blasphemer, having endured the more intense suffering such as he had inflicted on others, came to the end of his life by a most pitiable fate, among the mountains in a strange land.* [29]And Philip, one of his courtiers, took his body home; then, fearing the son of Antiochus, he withdrew to Ptolemy Philometor in Egypt.*

2 Maccabees 10

PURIFICATION OF THE TEMPLE

1 Now Maccabeus and his followers, the Lord leading them on, recovered
the temple and the city;* [2]they tore down the altars that had been built in the
public square by the foreigners and also destroyed the sacred precincts.*
[3]They purified the sanctuary and made another altar of sacrifice; then,
striking fire out of flint, they offered sacrifices, after a lapse of two years,
and they offered incense and lighted lamps and set out the bread of the
Presence.* [4]When they had done this, they fell prostrate and implored the
Lord that they might never again fall into such misfortunes but that, if they
should ever sin, they might be disciplined by him with forbearance and not
be handed over to blasphemous and barbarous nations.* [5]It happened that
on the same day on which the sanctuary had been profaned by the
foreigners, the purification of the sanctuary took place, that is, on the
twenty-fifth day of the same month, which was Chislev.* [6]They celebrated
it for eight days with rejoicing, in the manner of the Festival of Booths,[w]
remembering how not long before, during the Festival of Booths,[x] they had
been wandering in the mountains and caves like wild animals.* [7]Therefore,
carrying ivy-wreathed wands and beautiful branches and also palm fronds,
they offered hymns of thanksgiving to him who had given success to the
purifying of his own holy place.* [8]They decreed by public edict, ratified by
vote, that the whole nation of the Jews should observe these days every
year.

9 Such then was the end of Antiochus, who was called Epiphanes.*

ACCESSION OF ANTIOCHUS EUPATOR

10 Now we will tell what took place under Antiochus Eupator, who was
the son of that ungodly man, and will give a brief summary of the principal
calamities of the wars.* [11]This man, when he succeeded to the kingdom,
appointed one Lysias to have charge of the government and Protarchos to be
governor of Coelesyria and Phoenicia.* [12]Ptolemy, who was called Macron,
took the lead in showing justice to the Jews because of the wrong that had

been done to them and attempted to maintain peaceful relations with them.* 13As a result he was accused before Eupator by the king's Friends. He heard himself called a traitor at every turn because he had abandoned Cyprus, which Philometor had entrusted to him, and had gone over to Antiochus Epiphanes. Unable to command the respect due his office,y he took poison and ended his life.*

CAMPAIGN IN IDUMEA

14 When Gorgias became governor of the region, he maintained a force of mercenaries and at every turn kept attacking the Jews.* 15Besides this, the Idumeans, who had control of important strongholds, were harassing the Jews; they received those who were banished from Jerusalem and endeavored to keep up the war.* 16But Maccabeus and his forces, after making solemn supplication and imploring God to fight on their side, rushed to the strongholds of the Idumeans. 17Attacking them vigorously, they gained possession of the places and drove back all who fought upon the wall and slaughtered those whom they encountered, killing no fewer than twenty thousand.

18 When at least nine thousand took refuge in two very strong towers well equipped to withstand a siege, 19Maccabeus left Simon and Joseph, and also Zacchaeus and his troops, a force sufficient to besiege them, and he himself set off for places where he was more urgently needed.* 20But those with Simon, who were money-hungry, were bribed by some of those who were in the towers and on receiving seventy thousand drachmas let some of them slip away.* 21When word of what had happened came to Maccabeus, he gathered the leaders of the people and accused these men of having sold their kindred for money by setting their enemies free to fight against them. 22Then he killed these men who had turned traitor and immediately captured the two towers. 23Having success at arms in everything he undertook, he destroyed more than twenty thousand in the two strongholds.*

JUDAS DEFEATS TIMOTHY

24 Now Timothy, who had been defeated by the Jews before, gathered a
tremendous force of mercenaries and collected the cavalry from Asia in no
small number. He came on, intending to take Judea by storm.* 25As he drew
near, Maccabeus and his men sprinkled dust on their heads and girded their
loins with sackcloth, in supplication to God.* 26Falling upon the steps
before the altar, they implored him to be gracious to them and to be an
enemy to their enemies and an adversary to their adversaries, as the law
declares.* 27And rising from their prayer they took up their arms and
advanced a considerable distance from the city, and when they came near
the enemy they halted. 28Just as dawn was breaking, the two armies joined
battle, the one having as pledge of success and victory not only their valor
but also their reliance on the Lord, while the other made rage their leader in
the fight.

29 When the battle became fierce, there appeared to the enemy from
heaven five resplendent men on horses with golden bridles, and they were
leading the Jews.* 30Two of them took Maccabeus between them and,
shielding him with their own armor and weapons, they kept him from being
wounded. They showered arrows and thunderbolts on the enemy so that,
confused and blinded, they were thrown into disorder and cut to pieces.
31Twenty thousand five hundred were slaughtered, besides six hundred
cavalry.

32 Timothy himself fled to a stronghold called Gazara, especially well
garrisoned, where Chaereas was commander.* 33Then Maccabeus and his
men were glad, and they besieged the fort for four days. 34The men within,
relying on the strength of the place, kept blaspheming terribly and uttering
wicked words. 35But at dawn of the fifth day, twenty young men in the army
of Maccabeus, fired with anger because of the blasphemies, bravely
stormed the wall and with savage fury cut down everyone they met.
36During the distraction, others came up in the same way, wheeled around
against the defenders, and set fire to the towers; they kindled fires and
burned the blasphemers alive. Others broke open the gates and let in the rest
of the force, and they occupied the city.* 37They killed Timothy, who was
hiding in a cistern, and his brother Chaereas, and Apollophanes.* 38When
they had accomplished these things, with hymns and thanksgivings they
blessed the Lord, who shows great kindness to Israel and gives them the
victory.*

2 Maccabees 11

LYSIAS BESIEGES BETH-ZUR

1 Very soon after this, Lysias, the king's guardian and kinsman, who was in
charge of the government, being vexed at what had happened,* [2]gathered
about eighty thousand infantry and all his cavalry and came against the
Jews. He intended to make the city a home for Greeks* [3]and to levy tribute
on the temple as he did on the sacred places of the other nations and to put
up the high priesthood for sale every year.* [4]He took no account whatever
of the power of God but was elated with his ten thousands of infantry and
his thousands of cavalry and his eighty elephants. [5]Invading Judea, he
approached Beth-zur, which was a fortified place about five schoinoi[z] from
Jerusalem, and pressed it hard.*

6 When Maccabeus and his men got word that Lysias[a] was besieging the
strongholds, they and all the people, with lamentations and tears, prayed the
Lord to send a good angel to save Israel.* [7]Maccabeus himself was the first
to take up arms, and he urged the others to risk their lives with him to aid
their kindred. Then they eagerly rushed off together. [8]And there, while they
were still near Jerusalem, a horseman appeared at their head, clothed in
white and brandishing weapons of gold.* [9]And together they all praised the
merciful God and were strengthened in heart, ready to assail not only
humans but the wildest animals or walls of iron.* [10]They advanced in battle
order, having their heavenly ally, for the Lord had mercy on them. [11]They
hurled themselves like lions against the enemy and laid low eleven
thousand of them and sixteen hundred cavalry and forced all the rest to
flee.* [12]Most of them got away wounded and stripped, and Lysias himself
escaped by disgraceful flight.

LYSIAS MAKES PEACE WITH THE JEWS

13 As he was not without intelligence, he pondered over the defeat that
had befallen him and realized that the Hebrews were invincible because the
mighty God fought on their side. So he sent to them* [14]and persuaded them
to settle everything on just terms, promising that he would persuade the

king, constraining him to be their friend.[b,*] 15Maccabeus, having regard for the common good, agreed to all that Lysias urged. For the king granted every request in behalf of the Jews that Maccabeus delivered to Lysias in writing.*

16 The letter written to the Jews by Lysias was to this effect:

"Lysias to the people of the Jews, greetings. 17John and Absalom, who were sent by you, have delivered your signed communication and have asked about the matters indicated in it.* 18I have informed the king of everything that needed to be brought before him, and I have agreed to what was possible. 19If you will maintain your goodwill toward the government, I will endeavor in the future to help promote your welfare. 20And concerning such matters and their details, I have ordered these men and my representatives to confer with you. 21Farewell. The one hundred forty-eighth year, Dioscorinthius twenty-fourth."*

22 The king's letter ran thus:

"King Antiochus to his brother Lysias, greetings.* 23Now that our father has gone on to the gods, we desire that the subjects of the kingdom be undisturbed in caring for their own affairs. 24We have heard that the Jews do not consent to our father's change to Greek customs but prefer their own way of living and ask that their own customs be allowed them.* 25Accordingly, since we choose that this nation also should be free from disturbance, our decision is that their temple be restored to them and that they shall live according to the customs of their ancestors.* 26You will do well, therefore, to send word to them and give them pledges of friendship, so that they may know our policy and be of good cheer and go on happily in the conduct of their own affairs."*

27 To the nation the king's letter was as follows:

"King Antiochus to the council of the Jews and to the other Jews, greetings.* 28If you are well, it is as we desire. We also are in good health. 29Menelaus has informed us that you wish to return home and look after your own affairs.* 30Therefore those who go home by the thirtieth of Xanthicus will have our pledge of friendship and full permission 31for the Jews to enjoy their own customs[c] and laws, just as formerly, and none of them shall be molested in any way for what may have been done in

ignorance. [32]And I have also sent Menelaus to encourage you.* [33]Farewell. The one hundred forty-eighth year, Xanthicus fifteenth."*

34 The Romans also sent them a letter, which read thus:

"Quintus Memmius and Titus Manius, envoys of the Romans, to the people of the Jews, greetings.* [35]With regard to what Lysias the kinsman of the king has granted you, we also give consent.* [36]But as to the matters that he decided are to be referred to the king, as soon as you have considered them, send someone promptly so that we may make proposals appropriate for you, for we are on our way to Antioch.* [37]Therefore make haste and send messengers so that we may have your judgment. [38]Farewell. The one hundred forty-eighth year, Xanthicus fifteenth."*

2 Maccabees 12

INCIDENTS AT JOPPA AND JAMNIA

1 When this agreement had been reached, Lysias returned to the king, and the Jews went about their farming.*

2 But some of the governors in various places, Timothy and Apollonius son of Gennaeus, as well as Hieronymus and Demophon, and in addition to these Nicanor the governor of Cyprus, would not let them live quietly and in peace.* 3And the people of Joppa did so ungodly a deed as this: they invited the Jews who lived among them to embark, with their wives and children, on boats that they had provided, as though there were no ill will to the Jews,[d],* 4and this was done by public vote of the city. When they accepted, because they wished to live peaceably and suspected nothing, the people of Joppa[e] took them out to sea and drowned them, at least two hundred. 5When Judas heard of the cruelty visited on his compatriots, he gave orders to his men 6and, calling upon God, the righteous judge, attacked the murderers of his kindred. He set fire to the harbor by night, burned the boats, and massacred those who had taken refuge there.* 7Then, because the city's gates were closed, he withdrew, intending to come again and root out the whole community of Joppa.* 8But learning that the people in Jamnia meant in the same way to wipe out the Jews who were living among them,* 9he attacked the Jamnites by night and set fire to the harbor and the fleet, so that the glow of the light was seen in Jerusalem, thirty miles[f] distant.*

THE CAMPAIGN IN GILEAD

10 When they had gone more than a mile[g] from there on their march against Timothy, at least five thousand Arabs with five hundred cavalry attacked them.* 11After a hard fight, Judas and his companions, with God's help, were victorious. The defeated nomads begged Judas to grant them pledges of friendship, promising to give him livestock and to help his people[h] in all other ways. 12Judas, realizing that they might indeed be useful

in many ways, agreed to make peace with them, and after receiving his pledges they went back to their tents.

13 He also attacked a certain town that was strongly fortified with earthworks[i] and walls and inhabited by all sorts of nations. Its name was Caspin. [14]Those who were within, relying on the strength of the walls and on their supply of provisions, behaved most insolently toward Judas and his men, railing at them and even blaspheming and saying unholy things. [15]But Judas and his men, calling upon the great Sovereign of the world, who without battering rams or engines of war overthrew Jericho in the days of Joshua, rushed furiously upon the walls.* [16]They took the town by the will of God and slaughtered untold numbers, so that the adjoining lake, a quarter of a mile[j] wide, appeared to be running over with blood.

JUDAS DEFEATS TIMOTHY'S ARMY

17 When they had gone ninety-five miles[k] from there, they came to a stockade,[l] to the Jews who are called Toubiani. [18]They did not find Timothy in that region, for he had by then left there without accomplishing anything, though in one place he had left a very strong garrison.* [19]Dositheus and Sosipater, who were captains under Maccabeus, marched out and destroyed those whom Timothy had left in the stronghold, more than ten thousand men. [20]But Maccabeus arranged his army in divisions, set men[m] in command of the divisions, and hurried after Timothy, who had with him one hundred twenty thousand infantry and two thousand five hundred cavalry.* [21]When Timothy learned of the approach of Judas, he sent off the women and the children and also the baggage to a place called Carnaim, for that place was hard to besiege and difficult to access because of the narrowness of all the approaches. [22]But when Judas's first division appeared, terror and fear came over the enemy at the manifestation to them of him who sees all things. In their flight they rushed headlong in every direction, so that often they were injured by their own men and pierced by the points of their own swords.* [23]Judas pressed the pursuit with the utmost vigor, putting the sinners to the sword, and destroyed as many as thirty thousand.

24 Timothy himself fell into the hands of Dositheus and Sosipater and their men. With great guile he begged them to let him go in safety, because

he held the parents of most of them and the brothers of some, to whom no consideration would be shown.* 25And when with many words he had confirmed his solemn promise to restore them unharmed, they let him go, for the sake of saving their kindred.

JUDAS WINS OTHER VICTORIES

26 Then Judas[n] marched against Carnaim and the temple of Atargatis and slaughtered twenty-five thousand people.* 27After the rout and destruction of these, he marched also against Ephron, a fortified town where Lysias lived with multitudes of people of all nationalities.[o] Stalwart young men took their stand before the walls and made a vigorous defense, and great stores of war engines and missiles were there.* 28But the Jews[p] called upon the Sovereign who with power shatters the might of his enemies, and they got the town into their hands and killed as many as twenty-five thousand of those who were in it.*

29 Setting out from there, they hastened to Scythopolis, which is seventy-five miles[q] from Jerusalem. 30But when the Jews who lived there bore witness to the goodwill that the people of Scythopolis had shown them and their kind treatment of them in times of misfortune, 31they thanked them and exhorted them to be well disposed to their race in the future also. Then they went up to Jerusalem, as the Festival of Weeks was close at hand.*

JUDAS DEFEATS GORGIAS

32 After the festival called Pentecost, they hurried against Gorgias, the governor of Idumea,* 33who came out with three thousand infantry and four hundred cavalry. 34When they joined battle, it happened that a few of the Jews fell. 35But a certain Dositheus, one of Bacenor's men,[r] who was on horseback and was a strong man, caught hold of Gorgias and, grasping his cloak, was dragging him off by main strength, wishing to take the accursed man alive, when one of the Thracian cavalry bore down on him and cut off his arm, so Gorgias escaped and reached Marisa.*

36 As Esdris and his men had been fighting for a long time and were weary, Judas called upon the Lord to show himself their ally and leader in the battle. 37In the language of their ancestors he raised the battle cry, with

hymns; then he charged against Gorgias's troops when they were not expecting it and put them to flight.*

PRAYERS FOR THOSE KILLED IN BATTLE

38 Then Judas assembled his army and went to the city of Adullam. As the seventh day was coming on, they purified themselves according to the custom and kept the Sabbath there.*

39 On the next day, as had now become necessary, Judas and his men went to take up the bodies of the fallen and to bring them back to lie with their kindred in the tombs of their ancestors. [40]Then under the tunic of each one of the dead they found sacred tokens of the idols of Jamnia, which the law forbids the Jews to wear. And it became clear to all that this was the reason these men had fallen.* [41]So they all blessed the ways of the Lord, the righteous judge, who reveals the things that are hidden,* [42]and they turned to supplication, praying that the sin that had been committed might be wholly blotted out. The noble Judas exhorted the people to keep themselves free from sin, for they had seen with their own eyes what had happened as the result of the sin of those who had fallen. [43]He also took up a collection, man by man, to the amount of two thousand drachmas of silver, and sent it to Jerusalem to provide for a purification offering. In doing this he acted very well and honorably, taking account of the resurrection.* [44]For if he were not expecting that those who had fallen would rise again, it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead. [45]But if he was looking to the splendid reward that is laid up for those who fall asleep in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Therefore he made atonement for the dead, so that they might be delivered from their sin.*

2 Maccabees 13

MENELAUS IS PUT TO DEATH

1 In the one hundred forty-ninth year, word came to Judas and his men that
Antiochus Eupator was coming with a great army against Judea,* [2]and with
him Lysias, his guardian, who had charge of the government. Each of them
had a Greek force of one hundred ten thousand infantry, five thousand three
hundred cavalry, twenty-two elephants, and three hundred chariots armed
with scythes.*

3 Menelaus also joined them and with utter hypocrisy urged Antiochus
on, not for the sake of his country's welfare but because he thought that he
would be established in office.* [4]But the King of kings aroused the anger of
Antiochus against the scoundrel, and when Lysias informed him that this
man was to blame for all the trouble, he ordered them to take him to Beroea
and to put him to death by the method that is customary in that place.* [5]For
there is a tower there, fifty cubits high, full of ashes, and it has a rim
running around it that on all sides inclines precipitously into the ashes.
[6]There they all push to destruction anyone guilty of sacrilege or notorious
for other crimes.* [7]By such a fate it came about that Menelaus the
lawbreaker died, without even burial in the earth.* [8]And this was eminently
just; because he had committed many sins against the altar whose fire and
ashes were holy, he met his death in ashes.

A BATTLE NEAR THE CITY OF MODEIN

9 The king with barbarous arrogance was coming to show the Jews
things far worse than those that had been done[s] in his father's time. [10]But
when Judas heard of this, he ordered the people to call upon the Lord day
and night, now if ever to help those who were on the point of being
deprived of the law and their country and the holy temple, [11]and not to let
the people who had just begun to revive fall into the hands of the
blasphemous nations. [12]When they had all joined in the same petition and
had implored the merciful Lord with weeping and fasting and lying

prostrate for three days without ceasing, Judas exhorted them and ordered them to stand ready.*

13 After consulting privately with the elders, he determined to march out and decide the matter by the help of God before the king's army could enter Judea and get possession of the city.* [14]So, committing the decision to the Creator of the world and exhorting his troops to fight bravely to the death for the laws, temple, city, country, and way of life, he pitched his camp near Modein.* [15]He gave his troops the watchword, "God's victory," and with a picked force of the bravest young men, he attacked the king's pavilion at night and killed as many as two thousand men in the camp. He stabbed[t] the leading elephant and its rider.* [16]In the end, they filled the camp with terror and confusion and withdrew in triumph. [17]This happened, just as day was dawning, because the Lord's help protected him.*

ANTIOCHUS MAKES A TREATY WITH THE JEWS

18 The king, having had a taste of the daring of the Jews, tried strategy in attacking their positions. [19]He advanced against Beth-zur, a strong fortress of the Jews, was turned back, attacked again,[u] and was defeated.* [20]Judas sent in to the garrison whatever was necessary. [21]But Rhodocus, a man from the ranks of the Jews, gave secret information to the enemy; he was sought for, caught, and put in prison. [22]The king negotiated a second time with the people in Beth-zur, gave pledges, received theirs, withdrew, attacked Judas and his men, was defeated;* [23]he got word that Philip, who had been left in charge of the government, had revolted in Antioch; he was dismayed, called in the Jews, yielded and swore to observe all their rights, settled with them and offered sacrifice, honored the sanctuary, and showed generosity to the holy place.* [24]He received Maccabeus, left Hegemonides as governor from Ptolemais to Gerar,* [25]and went to Ptolemais. The people of Ptolemais were indignant over the treaty; in fact, they were so angry that they wanted to annul its terms.[v],* [26]Lysias took the public platform, made the best possible defense, convinced them, appeased them, gained their goodwill, and set out for Antioch. This is how the king's attack and withdrawal turned out.*

2 Maccabees 14

ALCIMUS SPEAKS AGAINST JUDAS

1 Three years later, word came to Judas and his men that Demetrius son of
Seleucus had sailed into the harbor of Tripolis with a strong army and a
fleet* [2]and had taken possession of the country, having made away with
Antiochus and his guardian Lysias.*

3 Now a certain Alcimus, who had formerly been high priest but had
willfully defiled himself in the days of separation,[w] realized that there was
no way for him to be safe or to have access again to the holy altar* [4]and
went to King Demetrius in about the one hundred fifty-first year, presenting
to him a crown of gold and a palm and besides these some of the customary
olive branches from the temple. During that day he kept quiet.* [5]But he
found an opportunity that furthered his mad purpose when he was invited
by Demetrius to a meeting of the council and was asked about the attitude
and intentions of the Jews. He answered:

6 "Those of the Jews who are called Hasideans, whose leader is Judas
Maccabeus, are keeping up war and stirring up sedition and will not let the
kingdom attain tranquility.* [7]Therefore I have laid aside my ancestral glory
—I mean the high priesthood—and have now come here,* [8]first because I
am genuinely concerned for the interests of the king, and second because I
have regard also for my compatriots. For through the folly of those whom I
have mentioned our whole nation is now in no small misfortune. [9]Since you
are acquainted, O king, with the details of this matter, may it please you to
take thought for our country and our hard-pressed nation with the gracious
kindness that you show to all. [10]For as long as Judas lives, it is impossible
for the government to find peace." [11]When he had said this, the rest of the
king's Friends,[x] who were hostile to Judas, quickly inflamed Demetrius still
more.* [12]He immediately chose Nicanor, who had been in command of the
elephants, appointed him governor of Judea, and sent him off* [13]with orders
to kill Judas and scatter his troops and to install Alcimus as high priest of
the great[y] temple.* [14]And the nations throughout Judea, who had fled

before[z] Judas, flocked to join Nicanor, thinking that the misfortunes and calamities of the Jews would mean prosperity for themselves.

NICANOR MAKES FRIENDS WITH JUDAS

15 When the Jews[a] heard of Nicanor's coming and the gathering of the nations, they sprinkled dust on their heads and prayed to him who established his own people forever and always upholds his own heritage by manifesting himself.* [16]At the command of the leader, they[b] set out from there immediately and engaged them in battle at a village called Dessau.[c] [17]Simon, the brother of Judas, had encountered Nicanor but had been temporarily[d] checked because of the sudden consternation created by the enemy.*

18 Nevertheless, Nicanor, hearing of the valor of Judas and his troops and their courage in battle for their country, shrank from deciding the issue by bloodshed. [19]Therefore he sent Posidonius, Theodotus, and Mattathias to give and receive pledges of friendship.* [20]When the terms had been fully considered and the leader had informed the people and it had appeared that they were of one mind, they agreed to the covenant. [21]The leaders[e] set a day on which to meet by themselves. A chariot came forward from each army; seats of honor were set in place; [22]Judas posted armed men in readiness at key places to prevent sudden treachery on the part of the enemy; so they duly held the consultation.*

23 Nicanor stayed on in Jerusalem and did nothing out of the way but dismissed the flocks of people who had gathered. [24]And he kept Judas always in his presence; he was warmly attached to the man. [25]He urged him to marry and have children, so Judas[f] married, settled down, and shared the common life.

NICANOR TURNS AGAINST JUDAS

26 But when Alcimus noticed their goodwill for one another, he took the covenant that had been made and went to Demetrius. He told him that Nicanor was disloyal to the government, since he had appointed that conspirator against the kingdom, Judas, to be his successor.* [27]The king became excited and, provoked by the false accusations of that depraved

man, wrote to Nicanor, stating that he was displeased with the covenant and commanding him to send Maccabeus to Antioch as a prisoner without delay.

28 When this message came to Nicanor, he was troubled and grieved that he had to annul their agreement when the man had done no wrong. [29]Since it was not possible to oppose the king, he watched for an opportunity to accomplish this by a stratagem.* [30]But Maccabeus, noticing that Nicanor was more austere in his dealings with him and was meeting him more rudely than had been his custom, concluded that this austerity did not spring from the best motives. So he gathered not a few of his men and went into hiding from Nicanor. [31]When the latter became aware that he had been cleverly outwitted by the man, he went to the great[g] and holy temple while the priests were offering the customary sacrifices and commanded them to hand the man over.* [32]When they declared on oath that they did not know where the man was whom he wanted, [33]he stretched out his right hand toward the sanctuary and swore this oath: "If you do not hand Judas over to me as a prisoner, I will level this shrine of God to the ground and tear down the altar and build here a splendid temple to Dionysus."*

34 Having said this, he went away. Then the priests stretched out their hands toward heaven and called upon the constant Defender of our nation, in these words:* [35]"O Lord of all, though you have need of nothing, you were pleased that there should be a temple for your habitation among us,* [36]so now, O holy One, Lord of all holiness, keep undefiled forever this house that has been so recently purified."*

RAZIS DIES FOR HIS COUNTRY

37 A certain Razis, one of the elders of Jerusalem, was denounced to Nicanor as a man who loved his compatriots and was very well thought of and for his goodwill was called father of the Jews. [38]For before the days of separation, he had been accused of Judaism, and he had most zealously risked body and life for Judaism.* [39]Nicanor, wishing to exhibit the enmity that he had for the Jews, sent more than five hundred soldiers to arrest him, [40]for he thought that by arresting[h] him he would do them an injury. [41]When the troops were about to capture the tower and were forcing the door of the courtyard, they ordered that fire be brought and the doors burned. Being

surrounded, Razis[i] fell upon his own sword, [42]preferring to die nobly rather than to fall into the hands of sinners and suffer outrages unworthy of his noble birth. [43]But in the heat of the struggle he did not hit exactly, and the crowd was now rushing in through the doors. He courageously ran up on the wall and bravely threw himself down into the crowd. [44]But as they quickly drew back, a space opened and he fell in the middle of the empty space. [45]Still alive and aflame with anger, he rose, and though his blood gushed forth and his wounds were severe he ran through the crowd, and standing upon a steep rock, [46]with his blood now completely drained from him, he tore out his entrails, took them in both hands, and hurled them at the crowd, calling upon the Lord of life and spirit to give them back to him again. This was the manner of his death.

2 Maccabees 15

NICANOR'S ARROGANCE

1 When Nicanor heard that Judas and his troops were in the region of
Samaria, he made plans to attack them with complete safety on the day of
rest.* [2]When the Jews who were compelled to follow him said, "Do not
destroy so savagely and barbarously, but show respect for the day that he
who sees all things has honored and hallowed above other days,"* [3]the
thrice-accursed wretch asked if there were a sovereign in heaven who had
commanded the keeping of the Sabbath day.* [4]When they declared, "It is
the living Lord himself, the Sovereign in heaven, who ordered us to observe
the seventh day,"* [5]he replied, "But I am a sovereign also, on earth, and I
command you to take up arms and finish the king's business." Nevertheless,
he did not succeed in carrying out his abominable design.*

JUDAS PREPARES THE JEWS FOR BATTLE

6 This Nicanor in his utter boastfulness and arrogance had determined to
erect a public monument of victory over Judas and his forces. [7]But
Maccabeus did not cease to trust with all confidence that he would get help
from the Lord. [8]He exhorted his troops not to fear the attack of the nations
but to keep in mind the former times when help had come to them from
heaven and so to look for the victory that the Almighty would give them.*
[9]Encouraging them from the Law and the Prophets and reminding them also
of the struggles they had won, he made them the more eager.* [10]When he
had aroused their courage, he issued his orders, at the same time pointing
out the treachery of the nations and their violation of oaths. [11]He armed
each of them not so much with confidence in shields and spears as with the
inspiration of brave words, and he cheered them all by relating a dream, a
sort of vision,[j] that was worthy of belief.

12 What he saw was this: Onias, who had been high priest, a noble and
good man, of modest bearing and gentle manner, one who spoke fittingly
and had been trained from childhood in all that belongs to excellence, was
praying with outstretched hands for the whole body of the Jews.* [13]Then in

the same fashion another appeared, distinguished by his gray hair and dignity, and of marvelous majesty and authority. [14]And Onias spoke, saying, "This is a man who loves the family of Israel and prays much for the people and the holy city: Jeremiah, the prophet of God."* [15]Jeremiah stretched out his right hand and gave to Judas a golden sword, and as he gave it he addressed him thus: [16]"Take this holy sword, a gift from God, with which you will strike down your adversaries."

17 Encouraged by the words of Judas, so noble and so effective in arousing valor and awaking courage in the souls of the young, they determined not to carry on a campaign[k] but to attack bravely and to decide the matter by fighting hand to hand with all courage, because the city and the sanctuary and the temple were in danger. [18]Their concern for wives and children and also for brothers and sisters and relatives lay upon them less heavily; their greatest and first fear was for the consecrated sanctuary.* [19]And those who had to remain in the city were in no little distress, being anxious over the encounter in the open country.

THE DEFEAT AND DEATH OF NICANOR

20 When all were now looking forward to the coming issue and the enemy was already close at hand with their army drawn up for battle, the elephants[l] strategically stationed and the cavalry deployed on the flanks, [21]Maccabeus, observing the masses that were in front of him and the varied supply of arms and the savagery of the elephants, stretched out his hands toward heaven and called upon the Lord who works wonders, for he knew that it is not by arms but as the Lord[m] decides that he gains the victory for those who deserve it.* [22]He called upon him in these words: "O Lord, you sent your angel in the time of King Hezekiah of Judea, and he killed fully one hundred eighty-five thousand in the camp of Sennacherib.* [23]So now, O Sovereign of the heavens, send a good angel to spread terror and trembling before us.* [24]By the might of your arm may these blasphemers who come against your holy people be struck down." With these words he ended his prayer.

25 Nicanor and his troops advanced with trumpets and battle songs, [26]but Judas and his troops met the enemy in battle with invocations to God and prayers. [27]So, fighting with their hands and praying to God in their hearts,

they laid low at least thirty-five thousand and were greatly gladdened by God's manifestation.*

28 When the action was over and they were returning with joy, they recognized Nicanor, lying dead, in full armor.* [29]Then there was shouting and tumult, and they blessed the Sovereign Lord in the language of their ancestors.* [30]Then the man who was ever in body and soul the defender of his people, the man who maintained his youthful goodwill toward his compatriots, ordered them to cut off Nicanor's head and arm and carry them to Jerusalem.* [31]When he arrived there and had called his compatriots together and stationed the priests before the altar, he sent for those who were in the citadel.* [32]He showed them the vile Nicanor's head and that profane man's arm, which had been boastfully stretched out against the holy house of the Almighty.* [33]He cut out the tongue of the ungodly Nicanor and said that he would feed it piecemeal to the birds and would hang up these rewards of his folly opposite the sanctuary.* [34]And they all, looking to heaven, blessed the Lord who had manifested himself, saying, "Blessed is he who has kept his own place undefiled!"* [35]Judas[n] hung Nicanor's head from the citadel, a clear and conspicuous sign to everyone of the help of the Lord.* [36]And they all decreed by public vote never to let this day go unobserved but to celebrate the thirteenth day of the twelfth month—which is called Adar in the Aramaic language—the day before Mordecai's day.*

37 This, then, is how matters turned out with Nicanor, and from that time the city has been in the possession of the Hebrews. So I will here end my story.*

THE COMPILER'S EPILOGUE

38 If it is well told and to the point, that is what I myself desired; if it is poorly done and mediocre, that was the best I could do. [39]For just as it is harmful to drink wine alone or, again, to drink water alone, while wine already mixed with water is delicious and enhances one's enjoyment, so also the style of the story delights the ears of those who read the work. And here will be the end.*

2 Maccabees 1

* **1.2** Lev 26.42
* **1.4** Acts 16.14
* **1.5** 2 Macc 5.20
* **1.7** Wis 12.3; 1 Macc 10.67; 11.19; 2 Macc 4.7
* **1.8** 1 Macc 4.38, 50–53; 2 Macc 8.33

a **1.9** Or *Tabernacles*

* **1.9** v 18; 1 Macc 1.54; 2 Macc 10.5–8
* **1.10** Lev 4.3; 16.32; 1 Macc 12.6; 15.16

b **1.11** Cn: Gk *as those who array themselves against a king*

* **1.12** 2 Macc 3.1

c **1.13** Gk lacks *the goddess*

* **1.13** 1 Macc 6.1–4; 2 Macc 9.2
* **1.14** 1 Macc 1.10; 2 Macc 8.9

d **1.18** Or *Tabernacles*

* **1.18** v 9; Lev 23.39–43; Neh 8.14–18; 1 Macc 4.59; 2 Macc 2.16; 10.5, 8
* **1.19** 2 Macc 2.1
* **1.20** Neh 2.6
* **1.21** 1 Kings 18.33–35
* **1.24** Sir 24.8; 2 Macc 7.23; 13.14
* **1.25** Mt 19.17; Mk 10.18; Lk 18.19
* **1.26** Deut 32.9; Sir 17.17; 2 Macc 14.15
* **1.27** Deut 30.3–5; Ps 106.47; Song of Thr 22; Jn 7.35
* **1.29** 2 Macc 2.18; 8.17

2 Maccabees 2

* **2.1** 2 Macc 1.19
* **2.2** Let Jer 3, 4
* **2.4** Deut 32.49; 34.1
* **2.5** 2 Macc 15.14; 2 Esd 10.22
* **2.7** 2 Macc 15.14
* **2.8** Ex 13.21; 40.34, 35

e **2.9** Gk *he*

* **2.9** 1 Kings 8.62, 63
* **2.11** Lev 9.24; 10.16
* **2.12** 1 Kings 8.65, 66
* **2.13** 2 Macc 1.4; 5.16
* **2.16** 2 Macc 1.18
* **2.17** 1 Macc 4.43, 48; 2 Macc 10.3

* **2.18** Deut 30.3–5; Ezek 39.27, 28; 2 Macc 10.3
* **2.19** 1 Macc 2.2–5; 4.43, 48; 2 Macc 10.3
* **2.20** 1 Macc 1.10; 6.17; 2 Macc 10.10
* **2.21** 2 Macc 3.24; 5.4; 10.29; 11.8; 12.22; 3 Macc 6.18
* **2.22** 2 Macc 3.12; 5.15; 10.1
* **2.27** Sir 32.1, 2
* **2.29** 2 Macc 15.39
* **2.32** 2 Macc 6.17

2 Maccabees 3

* **3.1** Neh 11.1; 2 Macc 4.1, 7; 9.14; 15.12, 14; 4 Macc 4.1
* **3.3** Ezra 6.9; 1 Macc 10.39
f **3.4** Lat Arm: Gk *Benjamin*
* **3.4** 2 Macc 4.1, 3, 4, 23; 4 Macc 4.1
g **3.5** Gk *Tharseas*
* **3.6** vv 24, 28, 40; 2 Macc 5.18; 4 Macc 4.3
h **3.7** Gk *He*
* **3.7** 2 Macc 4.4
* **3.8** 1 Esd 2.16
i **3.9** Other ancient authorities read *and*
* **3.9** 3 Macc 1.8
* **3.10** 2 Macc 8.28, 30
* **3.11** 2 Macc 4.1, 3, 4, 23
j **3.12** Gk lacks *And he said*
* **3.12** 2 Macc 2.22; 5.15
k **3.13** Gk *the other*
* **3.13** 4 Macc 3.13
* **3.15** Ex 22.7; 28.2–5; 3 Macc 1.16; 4 Macc 4.7
* **3.18** 3 Macc 1.17
* **3.19** 2 Sam 3.31; 2 Macc 1.8; 10.25; 3 Macc 1.18
* **3.20** Ex 9.29, 33; Ezra 9.5
* **3.21** 4 Macc 3.21
* **3.22** vv 10, 12
* **3.24** 2 Macc 2.21; 15.22, 23
* **3.25** 2 Macc 5.3; 4 Macc 4.10
* **3.26** v 33; 2 Macc 5.18; 3 Macc 6.18
* **3.27** 2 Macc 9.8; 3 Macc 2.22; 4 Macc 4.11; Acts 9.4, 8
* **3.28** vv 6, 24
* **3.31** v 1; Jas 5.15
* **3.32** 2 Macc 4.1
* **3.33** v 26; Jas 5.15

* **3.36** 4 Macc 4.12
* **3.38** 2 Macc 4.2
* **3.39** Ps 2.4; 123.1; 2 Macc 8.36; 11.13
* **3.40** v 6

2 Maccabees 4

l **4.1** Gk *and*
* **4.1** 2 Macc 3.2, 4
* **4.2** 2 Macc 3.1, 38
* **4.3** 2 Macc 3.4
m **4.4** Vg: Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **4.4** 1 Macc 10.69; 2 Macc 3.4, 7; 5.24
* **4.5** v 21; 1 Macc 3.10, 12
* **4.7** vv 24, 26; 1 Macc 1.10; 2 Macc 5.6; 11.3; 4 Macc 4.15, 16
* **4.8** 4 Macc 4.8
* **4.9** v 19; 1 Macc 1.14; 2 Macc 5.23; 9.19
n **4.10** Gk *he*
* **4.10** 1 Macc 1.13; 3 Macc 2.31
* **4.11** 1 Macc 8.17; 4 Macc 4.19
* **4.12** 1 Macc 1.14; 2 Macc 5.5; 15.31, 35
o **4.13** Gk lacks *true*
* **4.13** 2 Macc 6.8, 9
* **4.14** 4 Macc 4.20
* **4.16** 4 Macc 4.21
* **4.17** Num 32.23
* **4.18** 1 Macc 11.59
* **4.19** v 9; 2 Macc 10.20; 12.43; Lk 15.8
p **4.21** Meaning of Gk uncertain
q **4.21** Gk *he*
* **4.21** v 4; 1 Macc 1.18; 3.10; 10.75
* **4.23** vv 1, 8, 9; 5.15, 23; 13.3, 7; 2 Macc 3.4
* **4.24** 2 Macc 11.3
* **4.26** v 7; 1 Macc 5.6; 2 Macc 5.7
* **4.27** 2 Macc 5.5, 15, 23; 11.29, 32; 13.3, 7
* **4.29** vv 39–41
* **4.30** Acts 9.11
* **4.32** v 18; 1 Kings 15.18; 2 Kings 16.8
r **4.34** Gk *He*
s **4.36** Or *in each city*
* **4.36** 1 Macc 11.14
* **4.37** 2 Macc 3.1, 2

* **4.38** Judg 9.56; 1 Macc 10.20
* **4.39** vv 29, 32; 2 Macc 13.6, 7
* **4.40** v 29
t **4.41** Gk *they*
* **4.41** v 29
* **4.44** v 18; 1 Macc 12.6
* **4.45** 1 Macc 3.38; 2 Macc 6.8; 8.8; 10.12
* **4.47** Col 3.11
u **4.48** Other ancient authorities read *the people*
* **4.48** 2 Macc 7.2
* **4.50** v 23; 2 Macc 5.15, 23; 11.29

2 Maccabees 5

* **5.1** v 11; 1 Macc 1.17
* **5.2** Lk 21.11
* **5.3** 2 Macc 3.25
* **5.4** 2 Macc 2.21
* **5.5** 2 Macc 4.7, 12, 23
* **5.6** 2 Macc 4.7
* **5.7** 2 Macc 4.26
v **5.8** Cn: Gk *Imprisoned*
* **5.8** 1 Macc 5.39; 2 Macc 4.11; 12.10; 2 Cor 11.32
w **5.9** Gk *Lacedaemonians*
* **5.9** 1 Macc 12.2, 7, 21
* **5.10** Jer 22.18, 19; 36.30
* **5.11** v 1; 1 Macc 1.20
* **5.12** 1 Macc 1.24
* **5.13** 1 Macc 1.24; 2.9
x **5.15** Gk *he*
* **5.15** 1 Macc 1.20–23; 2 Macc 3.12; 3 Macc 2.14
* **5.16** 1 Macc 1.20–23; 2 Macc 2.13
* **5.17** Isa 54.7, 8; Zech 1.15; 2 Macc 7.33, 34
* **5.18** 2 Macc 3.6, 25, 26
* **5.19** Mk 2.27
* **5.20** Isa 60.15; 2 Macc 1.5; 7.33; 8.29
* **5.21** 1 Macc 1.23; 3.37; 2 Macc 7.34; 9.8
* **5.22** 1 Macc 1.51; 2 Macc 6.11; 8.8
y **5.23** Or *worse than the others did in his malice toward the Jewish citizens*.
* **5.23** 2 Macc 4.9, 19; 6.2
z **5.24** Gk *he*
* **5.24** 1 Macc 1.29–32; 3.10; 2 Macc 4.4

* **5.27** 1 Macc 2.4, 28

2 Maccabees 6

a **6.1** Other ancient authorities read *Antiochian*
b **6.1** Or *Geron an Athenian*
* **6.1** 1 Macc 1.42–45; 2 Macc 9.15; 11.24
* **6.2** 1 Macc 1.54; 2 Macc 5.23; 8.2
* **6.4** 1 Macc 1.45
* **6.5** 1 Macc 1.46, 47
* **6.6** 1 Macc 1.39, 44; 2 Macc 14.38
c **6.7** Gk *they*
* **6.7** v 21; 2 Macc 7.42; 14.33
d **6.8** Or *of Ptolemy*
* **6.8** 1 Macc 1.51; 2 Macc 4.45
* **6.9** 1 Macc 1.50; 2 Macc 4.13; 3 Macc 2.28
* **6.10** 1 Macc 1.60, 61; 2 Macc 8.4
* **6.11** 1 Macc 1.53; 2.32–38; 2 Macc 5.22; 8.8
* **6.12** Hab 1.12; 2 Esd 16.19
* **6.14** Gen 15.16; Wis 19.4
* **6.16** Lam 3.31, 32; 2 Macc 7.23, 33
* **6.17** 2 Macc 2.32
* **6.18** Lev 11.7; 2 Macc 7.1; 3 Macc 6.1
* **6.19** 1 Macc 1.63; 2 Macc 7.1, 2; 4 Macc 7.6
* **6.21** v 7; 1 Macc 1.47
* **6.22** 1 Macc 2.18
* **6.23** Prov 16.31; 20.29; 4 Macc 5.7
* **6.24** 2 Macc 4.13
* **6.26** 2 Esd 7.56; Mt 10.28; Lk 12.4, 5; Heb 10.31
e **6.28** Other ancient authorities read *went*
* **6.28** v 31
f **6.29** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **6.29** Wis 5.4
* **6.30** 4 Macc 6.27; Heb 11.35, 36
* **6.31** v 28; Heb 11.39; 12.1

2 Maccabees 7

* **7.1** 2 Macc 6.18
* **7.2** 2 Macc 4.48; 6.19
* **7.3** v 39
g **7.5** Gk *he*

h **7.5** Gk *they*
* **7.6** Deut 31.21, 26, 30; 32.36
* **7.7** Heb 11.36
* **7.8** vv 21, 27; 2 Macc 12.37; 15.29
* **7.9** vv 14, 23, 36; Dan 12.2; 2 Esd 14.35
* **7.14** vv 7, 23, 26; Dan 12.2; 2 Esd 14.35
i **7.16** Gk *at him*
* **7.17** 2 Macc 9.5, 6, 9
j **7.18** Gk adds *Astounding things have happened*
* **7.18** vv 32, 33, 38; 2 Macc 6.12–17
* **7.19** 2 Macc 9.5, 6, 9; Acts 5.39
* **7.21** vv 8, 27; 2 Macc 12.37; 15.29
* **7.22** Ps 139.13–16; Eccl 11.5
* **7.23** vv 9, 33; 2 Macc 1.24; 6.16
k **7.24** Gk *he*
* **7.24** 1 Macc 2.18
* **7.27** vv 8, 21; 2 Macc 12.37; 15.29
l **7.28** Or *God made them out of things that did not exist*
* **7.28** Rom 4.17; Heb 11.3
* **7.29** v 9; 2 Macc 14.29; 2 Esd 10.16
* **7.31** v 17; 2 Macc 15.37
* **7.32** v 18
* **7.33** v 23; 2 Macc 5.17, 20; 6.16
* **7.34** 2 Macc 5.17, 21
* **7.36** 2 Macc 9.5–8; 2 Cor 4.17
* **7.37** 2 Macc 9.12–17
* **7.38** v 18
* **7.39** v 3
* **7.41** 4 Macc 17.1

2 Maccabees 8

* **8.1** 1 Macc 2.4; 3.1–9
* **8.2** 1 Macc 1.54; 2 Macc 6.2, 5
* **8.3** Gen 4.10
* **8.6** 1 Macc 3.5; 5.5; 2 Macc 10.36
* **8.7** 2 Macc 12.6, 9; 13.15
* **8.8** 2 Macc 4.45; 5.22; 6.8, 11; 10.12
m **8.9** Gk *he*
n **8.9** Gk *one of the first*
* **8.9** 1 Macc 2.18; 3.38, 39; 2 Macc 1.14
* **8.10** v 36; 1 Macc 3.38

* **8.11** vv 25, 34; 1 Macc 3.41
* **8.12** 1 Macc 3.38
* **8.13** 1 Macc 3.56
* **8.15** 2 Chr 7.14; 2 Macc 1.2
* **8.16** 1 Macc 4.8; 2 Macc 15.8
o **8.17** Gk *they*
* **8.17** 2 Macc 1.29; 2.18
* **8.18** 1 Sam 17.45; Ps 20.7; 2 Macc 15.21
* **8.19** 2 Kings 19.35; 2 Macc 15.8, 22
p **8.20** Gk lacks *Jews*
q **8.20** Gk lacks *Galatians*
* **8.21** 1 Macc 3.21; 2 Macc 13.14
* **8.22** 1 Macc 2.3, 5; 2 Macc 10.19, 20; 14.17
r **8.23** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **8.23** 1 Macc 2.5; 4.13–16; 2 Macc 13.15; 15.9
* **8.25** vv 11, 34
* **8.27** 1 Macc 4.6, 23; 2 Macc 10.38; 12.38
* **8.28** v 30; 1 Macc 4.23; 2 Macc 3.10
* **8.29** 2 Macc 5.20; 11.9; 13.12
* **8.30** v 28; 2 Macc 9.3; 10.24; 12.2
s **8.31** Gk *their arms*
* **8.31** 1 Macc 4.6
t **8.33** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **8.33** 1 Macc 4.38; 2 Macc 4.38
* **8.34** vv 11, 25; 2 Macc 15.3
* **8.36** v 10; 2 Macc 3.38, 39

2 Maccabees 9

* **9.1** 1 Macc 6.1
u **9.2** Gk *they were defeated*
* **9.2** 1 Macc 6.2–4; 2 Macc 1.13–16
* **9.3** Ezra 6.2; Tob 3.7; Jdt 1.1; 1 Macc 3.38; 6.5; 2 Macc 8.30
* **9.4** 2 Macc 8.30
* **9.5** 1 Macc 6.8; 2 Macc 15.2
* **9.7** Acts 9.1
* **9.8** Isa 40.12; 2 Macc 3.27; 5.21
* **9.9** 2 Macc 7.17; Acts 12.23
* **9.10** Isa 14.13; Ob 4
* **9.11** 1 Macc 6.9–13
v **9.12** Or *not think thoughts proper only to God*
* **9.12** Sir 10.9, 10; 2 Macc 7.37

* **9.13** Prov 1.28
* **9.14** v 4; 2 Macc 3.1
* **9.15** 2 Macc 6.1
* **9.16** 2 Macc 3.3
* **9.19** 2 Macc 4.9, 19
* **9.21** v 1
* **9.25** 1 Macc 1.10; 6.29
* **9.26** vv 14–16
* **9.28** 1 Macc 6.16
* **9.29** 1 Macc 1.18; 6.14, 55, 63; 2 Macc 4.21

2 Maccabees 10

* **10.1** v 35; 2 Macc 2.22; 11.25
* **10.2** 1 Macc 1.47; 2 Macc 6.2
* **10.3** 1 Macc 2.18; 4.43, 47; 14.36
* **10.4** 2 Sam 24.14; 2 Macc 13.12
* **10.5** 1 Macc 1.54, 59

w **10.6** Or *Tabernacles*

x **10.6** Or *Tabernacles*

* **10.6** 1 Macc 4.56; 3 Macc 6.30
* **10.7** Lev 23.40; Neh 8.15; 1 Macc 13.51; 2 Macc 14.4
* **10.9** 1 Macc 1.10; 6.16
* **10.10** 1 Macc 6.17; 2 Macc 2.20; 13.1
* **10.11** 1 Macc 3.32
* **10.12** 2 Macc 4.45

y **10.13** Cn: Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **10.13** 1 Macc 1.10; 6.17; 2 Macc 2.20; 4.21; 9.29
* **10.14** 1 Macc 3.38; 2 Macc 8.9; 12.32
* **10.15** 1 Macc 5.3
* **10.19** 2 Macc 8.22
* **10.20** 2 Macc 4.19
* **10.23** v 18; 1 Macc 5.5
* **10.24** 1 Macc 5.6, 7; 2 Macc 8.30
* **10.25** 2 Sam 3.31; 1 Macc 3.47; 2 Macc 3.19
* **10.26** Ex 23.22
* **10.29** 2 Macc 2.21; 11.8; 3 Macc 3.25
* **10.32** v 37; 1 Macc 4.15
* **10.36** 1 Macc 3.5; 2 Macc 8.6
* **10.37** v 32; 2 Macc 12.2, 24
* **10.38** 1 Macc 13.51; 2 Macc 8.27; 11.9

2 Maccabees 11

* **11.1** 1 Macc 3.32
* **11.2** 1 Macc 1.38; 4.28
* **11.3** 2 Macc 4.7, 23, 24
z **11.5** A unit for measuring distance
* **11.5** 1 Macc 4.29
a **11.6** Gk *he*
* **11.6** Ex 23.20; 2 Macc 15.23
* **11.8** 2 Macc 2.21; 10.29; 3 Macc 3.25
* **11.9** 2 Macc 8.29; 13.12
* **11.11** 1 Macc 3.4; 4.34
* **11.13** 2 Macc 3.39; 15.37
b **11.14** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **11.14** 1 Macc 6.55–60
* **11.15** 1 Macc 3.32
* **11.17** 1 Macc 11.70; 13.11
* **11.21** vv 33, 38
* **11.22** 1 Macc 11.30
* **11.24** 1 Macc 6.59; 2 Macc 6.1
* **11.25** 1 Macc 6.59; 2 Macc 10.1
* **11.26** 1 Macc 6.58
* **11.27** 1 Macc 12.6
* **11.29** 2 Macc 4.23
c **11.31** Cn: Gk *food*
* **11.32** 2 Macc 4.23
* **11.33** v 21
* **11.34** 1 Macc 7.1; 8.1
* **11.35** v 1
* **11.36** v 18
* **11.38** v 21

2 Maccabees 12

* **12.1** 2 Macc 11.1, 29, 30
* **12.2** v 24; 1 Macc 3.38; 5.6; 2 Macc 10.13, 37
d **12.3** Gk *to them*
* **12.3** 1 Macc 10.75
e **12.4** Gk *they*
* **12.6** v 41; Ps 7.11; 2 Macc 8.7; 13.15; 2 Esd 14.32
* **12.7** 1 Macc 10.75
* **12.8** v 40; 1 Macc 4.15

f **12.9** Gk *two hundred forty stadia*
* **12.9** 1 Macc 4.15; 2 Macc 8.7; 13.15
g **12.10** Gk *nine stadia*
* **12.10** v 24; 1 Macc 5.6, 39; 2 Macc 5.8
h **12.11** Gk *them*
i **12.13** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **12.15** Josh 6.20; 2 Macc 3.24; Heb 11.30
j **12.16** Gk *two stadia*
k **12.17** Gk *seven hundred fifty stadia*
l **12.17** Or *Charax*
* **12.18** v 2
m **12.20** Gk *them*
* **12.20** 1 Macc 5.37
* **12.22** 1 Macc 5.43; 2 Macc 2.21
* **12.24** v 2
n **12.26** Gk *he*
* **12.26** 1 Macc 5.43, 44
o **12.27** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **12.27** 1 Macc 5.46
p **12.28** Gk *they*
* **12.28** Job 34.24; Ps 76.3; 1 Macc 5.50, 51; 2 Macc 3.24
q **12.29** Gk *six hundred stadia*
* **12.31** Deut 16.10; 2 Chr 8.13
* **12.32** 1 Macc 3.38; 5.65; 2 Macc 10.14, 15; Acts 2.1
r **12.35** Other authorities read *the Toubians*
* **12.35** Mic 1.15
* **12.37** 2 Macc 7.8
* **12.38** Num 31.19; 2 Macc 8.27
* **12.40** v 8; Deut 7.25, 26
* **12.41** v 6; 1 Cor 4.5
* **12.43** Lev 4.2–35; 2 Macc 4.19
* **12.45** v 43

2 Maccabees 13

* **13.1** 1 Macc 6.17, 20; 2 Macc 10.10, 11
* **13.2** 1 Macc 6.17, 30; 2 Macc 10.10, 11
* **13.3** 2 Macc 4.23
* **13.4** 1 Tim 6.15; Rev 17.14; 19.16
* **13.6** 2 Macc 4.39; 5.15
* **13.7** 2 Macc 4.23
s **13.9** Or *the worst of the things that had been done*

* **13.12** Joel 2.12; 2 Macc 8.29; 10.4; 11.9
* **13.13** v 17; 2 Macc 15.35
* **13.14** 1 Macc 2.1; 3.21; 2 Macc 1.24; 8.21
t **13.15** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **13.15** 2 Macc 8.7, 23; 12.6, 9
* **13.17** v 13; 2 Macc 15.35
u **13.19** Or *faltered*
* **13.19** 1 Macc 4.29; 6.31
* **13.22** 1 Macc 6.49, 58
* **13.23** 1 Macc 6.14, 60, 61
* **13.24** 1 Macc 5.15
v **13.25** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **13.25** 1 Macc 5.15
* **13.26** v 2; 1 Macc 3.37; 6.63

2 Maccabees 14

* **14.1** 1 Macc 7.1; 2 Macc 3.3
* **14.2** 1 Macc 7.2
w **14.3** Other ancient authorities read *of mixing*
* **14.3** vv 13, 26, 38; 1 Macc 1.53; 2.31; 7.5, 9
* **14.4** 1 Macc 7.1; 13.37; 2 Macc 10.7
* **14.6** 1 Macc 2.42; 7.13
* **14.7** 1 Macc 7.14
x **14.11** Gk *of the Friends*
* **14.11** 2 Macc 8.9
* **14.12** 1 Macc 3.38; 7.26
y **14.13** Gk *greatest*
* **14.13** vv 3, 26; 1 Macc 7.9
z **14.14** Meaning of Gk uncertain
a **14.15** Gk *they*
* **14.15** Deut 28.9; 1 Macc 3.47; 2 Macc 1.26
b **14.16** Gk *he*
c **14.16** Meaning of Gk uncertain
d **14.17** Other ancient authorities read *slowly*
* **14.17** 2 Macc 8.22
* **14.19** 1 Macc 7.27
e **14.21** Gk *They*
* **14.22** 1 Macc 7.30
f **14.25** Gk *he*
* **14.26** vv 3, 13; 1 Macc 7.1; 2 Macc 3.38; 4.2
* **14.29** 1 Macc 7.29, 30

g **14.31** Gk *greatest*
* **14.31** 1 Macc 7.33
* **14.33** 1 Macc 7.47; 2 Macc 6.7; 15.32
* **14.34** 1 Kings 8.22; Ps 88.9; 143.6
* **14.35** 2 Chr 6.2; Acts 17.24
* **14.36** 2 Macc 10.3; 3 Macc 2.14
* **14.38** v 3; 2 Macc 6.6
h **14.40** Meaning of Gk uncertain
i **14.41** Gk *he*

2 Maccabees 15

* **15.1** 1 Macc 3.10, 38; 7.39
* **15.2** Ex 20.11; 2 Macc 9.5
* **15.3** 2 Macc 3.24; 8.34
* **15.4** 2 Macc 3.24
* **15.5** Ezek 28.2, 9
* **15.8** 1 Macc 4.8, 9; 2 Macc 8.16, 19
* **15.9** Mt 5.17; 7.12; 22.40; Acts 13.15
j **15.11** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **15.12** 2 Macc 3.1; 14.34
* **15.14** 2 Macc 2.5, 7; 3.1; 2 Esd 2.18
k **15.17** Or *to remain in camp*
* **15.18** 2 Macc 8.2
l **15.20** Gk *animals*
m **15.21** Gk *he*
* **15.21** Ps 72.18; 136.4; 2 Macc 8.18
* **15.22** 2 Kings 19.35; 1 Macc 7.41; 2 Macc 3.24; 8.19
* **15.23** Ex 23.20; 2 Macc 3.24; 11.6
* **15.27** Ps 149.6; 2 Macc 2.21
* **15.28** 1 Macc 7.43
* **15.29** 2 Macc 3.24; 7.8
* **15.30** 1 Macc 7.47
* **15.31** 2 Macc 4.12
* **15.32** 1 Macc 7.47; 2 Macc 14.33
* **15.33** 1 Sam 17.44, 46
* **15.34** 2 Macc 2.21
n **15.35** Gk *He*
* **15.35** Jdt 14.1; 1 Macc 7.47; 2 Macc 4.12; 13.13
* **15.36** Esth 3.7, 13; 9.17, 21; Add Esth 13.6; 1 Macc 7.49
* **15.37** 2 Macc 7.31
* **15.39** 2 Macc 2.29

(b) The books from 1 Esdras through 3 Maccabees are recognized as Deuterocanonical Scripture by the Greek and the Russian Orthodox Churches. They are not so recognized by the Roman Catholic Church, but 1 Esdras and the Prayer of Manasseh (together with 2 Esdras) are placed in an appendix to the Latin Vulgate Bible.

1 Esdras

1 Esdras 1

JOSIAH CELEBRATES THE PASSOVER

1 Josiah kept the Passover to his Lord in Jerusalem; he killed the Passover
lamb on the fourteenth day of the first month,* [2]having placed the priests
according to their divisions, arrayed in their vestments, in the temple of the
Lord.* [3]He told the Levites, the temple servants of Israel, that they should
sanctify themselves to the Lord and put the holy ark of the Lord in the
house that King Solomon, son of David, had built,* [4]and he said,[a] "You
need no longer carry it on your shoulders. Now worship the Lord your God
and serve his nation Israel; prepare yourselves by your families and
kindred, in accordance with the directions of King David of Israel and the
magnificence of his son Solomon.* [5]Stand in order in the temple[b] according
to the groupings of the ancestral houses of you Levites, who minister before
your kindred the people of Israel,* [6]and kill the Passover lamb and prepare
the sacrifices for your kindred, and keep the Passover according to the
commandment of the Lord that was given to Moses."*

7 To the people who were present Josiah gave thirty thousand lambs and
kids and three thousand calves; these were given from the king's
possessions, as he promised, to the people and the priests and Levites.
[8]Hilkiah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, the chief officers of the temple, gave to the
priests for the Passover two thousand six hundred sheep and three hundred
calves. [9]And Jeconiah and Shemaiah and his brother Nethanel, and
Hashabiah and Ochiel and Joram, captains over thousands, gave the Levites
for the Passover five thousand sheep and seven hundred calves.*

10 This is what took place. The priests and the Levites, having the
unleavened bread, stood in proper order according to kindred and the
grouping of the ancestral houses, before the people, to make the offering to
the Lord as it is written in the book of Moses; this they did in the morning.*
[11]They roasted the Passover lamb with fire, as required, and they boiled the
sacrifices in bronze pots and caldrons, with a pleasing odor, and carried

them to all the people.* 12Afterward they prepared the Passover for themselves and for their kindred the priests, the sons of Aaron, 13because the priests were offering the fat until nightfall, so the Levites prepared it for themselves and for their kindred the priests, the sons of Aaron. 14The temple singers, the sons of Asaph, were in their place according to the arrangement made by David, and also Asaph, Zechariah, and Eddinus, who represented the king.* 15The gatekeepers were at each gate; no one needed to interrupt his daily duties, for their kindred the Levites prepared the Passover for them.*

16 So the things that had to do with the sacrifices to the Lord were accomplished that day: the Passover was kept and the sacrifices were offered on the altar of the Lord, according to the command of King Josiah.* 17And the people of Israel who were present at that time kept the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread seven days.* 18No Passover like it had been kept in Israel since the times of the prophet Samuel;* 19none of the kings of Israel had kept such a Passover as was kept by Josiah and the priests and Levites and the people of Judah and all of Israel who were living in Jerusalem. 20In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah this Passover was kept.*

THE END OF JOSIAH'S REIGN

21 And the deeds of Josiah were upright in the sight of the Lord, for his heart was full of godliness.* 22In ancient times the events of his reign have been recorded—concerning those who sinned and acted wickedly toward the Lord beyond any other nation or kingdom and how they grieved the Lord[c] deeply, so that the words of the Lord fell upon Israel.*

23 After all these acts of Josiah, it happened that Pharaoh, king of Egypt, went to make war at Carchemish on the Euphrates, and Josiah went out against him.* 24And the king of Egypt sent word to him, saying, "What have we to do with each other, O king of Judea? 25I was not sent against you by the Lord God, for my war is at the Euphrates. And now the Lord is with me! The Lord is with me, urging me on! Stand aside, and do not oppose the Lord."*

26 Josiah, however, did not turn back to his chariot but tried to fight with him and did not heed the words of the prophet Jeremiah from the mouth of the Lord. [27]He joined battle with him in the plain of Megiddo, and the commanders came down against King Josiah. [28]The king said to his servants, "Take me away from the battle, for I am very weak." And immediately his servants took him out of the line of battle. [29]He got into his second chariot, and after he was brought back to Jerusalem he died and was buried in the tomb of his ancestors.

30 In all Judea they mourned for Josiah. The prophet Jeremiah lamented for Josiah, and the principal men, with the women,[d] have made lamentation for him to this day; it was ordained that this should always be done throughout the whole people of Israel.* [31]These things are written in the book of the histories of the kings of Judea, and every one of the acts of Josiah and his splendor and his understanding of the law of the Lord and the things that he had done before and these that are now told are recorded in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

THE LAST KINGS OF JUDAH

32 The people of the nation took Jeconiah son of Josiah, who was twenty-three years old, and made him king in succession to his father Josiah.* [33]He reigned three months in Judah[e] and Jerusalem. Then the king of Egypt deposed him from reigning in Jerusalem [34]and fined the nation one hundred talents of silver and one talent of gold. [35]The king of Egypt made his brother Jehoiakim king of Judea and Jerusalem. [36]Jehoiakim put the nobles in prison and seized his brother Zarius and brought him back from Egypt.

37 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign in Judea and Jerusalem; he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord.* [38]King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came up against him; he bound him with a chain of bronze and took him away to Babylon. [39]Nebuchadnezzar also took some holy vessels of the Lord and carried them away and stored them in his temple in Babylon.* [40]But the things that are reported about Jehoiakim[f] and his uncleanness and impiety are written in the annals of the kings.

41 His son Jehoiachin became king in his place; when he was made king
he was eighteen years old,* 42and he reigned three months and ten days in
Jerusalem. He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord. 43A year later
Nebuchadnezzar sent and removed him to Babylon, with the holy vessels of
the Lord,* 44and made Zedekiah king of Judea and Jerusalem.

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

Zedekiah was twenty-one years old, and he reigned eleven years.* 45He
also did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and did not heed the words
spoken by the prophet Jeremiah from the mouth of the Lord.* 46Although
King Nebuchadnezzar had made him swear by the name of the Lord, he
broke his oath and rebelled; he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart
and transgressed the laws of the Lord, the God of Israel. 47Even the leaders
of the people and of the priests committed many acts of sacrilege and
lawlessness beyond all the unclean deeds of all the nations and polluted the
temple of the Lord in Jerusalem—the temple that God had made holy.
48The God of their ancestors sent his messenger to call them back, because
he would have spared them and his dwelling place. 49But they mocked his
messengers, and whenever the Lord spoke, they scoffed at his prophets,
until God, in his anger against his nation because of their ungodly acts, gave
the command to bring the kings of the Chaldeans against them.* 50The
Chaldeans killed their young men with the sword around their holy temple
and did not spare young man or young woman,[g] elder or child, for he gave
them all into their hands. 51They took all the holy vessels of the Lord, great
and small, the treasure chests of the Lord, and the royal stores and carried
them away to Babylon.* 52They burned the house of the Lord, broke down
the walls of Jerusalem, burned its towers with fire,* 53and utterly destroyed
all its glorious things. Nebuchadnezzar[h] led the survivors away to Babylon
with the sword, 54and they were servants to him and to his sons until the
Persians began to reign, in fulfillment of the word of the Lord by the mouth
of Jeremiah,* 55saying, "Until the land has enjoyed its Sabbaths, it shall
keep Sabbath all the time of its desolation until the completion of seventy
years."*

1 Esdras 2

CYRUS PERMITS THE EXILES TO RETURN

1 In the first year of Cyrus as king of the Persians, so that the word of the
Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished,* [2]the Lord stirred
up the spirit of King Cyrus of the Persians, and he made a proclamation
throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing:

3 "Thus says Cyrus king of the Persians: The Lord of Israel, the Lord
Most High, has made me king of the world, [4]and he has commanded me to
build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judea. [5]If any of you, therefore,
are of his nation, may your Lord be with you;[i] go up to Jerusalem, which is
in Judea, and build the house of the Lord of Israel—he is the Lord who
dwells in Jerusalem—[6]and let each of you, wherever you may live, be
helped by your neighbors with gold and silver, with gifts and with horses
and cattle, besides the other things added as votive offerings for the temple
of the Lord that is in Jerusalem."

7 Then arose the heads of families of the tribes of Judah and Benjamin,
and the priests and the Levites, and all whose spirit the Lord had stirred to
go up to build the house in Jerusalem for the Lord; [8]their neighbors helped
them with everything, with silver and gold, with horses and cattle, and with
a very great number of votive offerings from many whose hearts were
stirred.

9 King Cyrus also brought out the holy vessels of the Lord that
Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and stored in his temple
of idols.* [10]When King Cyrus of the Persians brought these out, he gave
them to Mithridates, his treasurer, [11]and by him they were given to
Sheshbazzar, the governor of Judea.* [12]The number of these was: one
thousand gold cups, one thousand silver cups, twenty-nine silver censers,
thirty gold bowls, two thousand four hundred ten silver bowls, and one
thousand other vessels.* [13]All the vessels were handed over, gold and silver,
five thousand four hundred sixty-nine,* [14]and they were carried back by
Sheshbazzar with the returning exiles from Babylon to Jerusalem.*

OPPOSITION TO REBUILDING JERUSALEM

15 In the time of King Artaxerxes of the Persians, Bishlam, Mithridates, Tabeel, Rehum, Beltethmus, the scribe Shimshai, and the rest of their associates living in Samaria and other places wrote him the following letter, against those who were living in Judea and Jerusalem:*

16 "To King Artaxerxes our lord, your servants the recorder Rehum and the scribe Shimshai and the other members of their council, and the judges in Coelesyria and Phoenicia:* [17]Let it now be known to our lord the king that the Jews who came up from you to us have gone to Jerusalem and are building that rebellious and wicked city, repairing its marketplaces and walls and laying the foundations for a temple. [18]Now if this city is built and the walls finished, they will not only refuse to pay tribute but will even resist kings. Since the building of the temple is now going on, we think it best not to neglect such a matter but to speak to our lord the king in order that, if it seems good to you, search may be made in the records of your ancestors. [19]You will find in the annals what has been written about them and will learn that this city was rebellious, troubling both kings and other cities, and that the Jews were rebels and kept setting up blockades in it from of old. That is why this city was laid waste. [20]Therefore we now make known to you, O lord and king, that if this city is built and its walls finished, you will no longer have access to Coelesyria and Phoenicia."*

21 Then the king, in reply to the recorder Rehum, Beltethmus, the scribe Shimshai, and the others associated with them and living in Samaria and Syria and Phoenicia, wrote as follows:*

22 "I have read the letter that you sent me. So I ordered search to be made, and it has been found that this city from of old has fought against kings, [23]that the people in it were given to rebellion and war, and that mighty and cruel kings ruled in Jerusalem and exacted tribute from Coelesyria and Phoenicia.* [24]Therefore I have now issued orders to prevent these people from building the city and to take care that nothing more be done and that such wicked proceedings go no further to the annoyance of kings."

25 Then, when the letter from King Artaxerxes was read, Rehum and the scribe Shimshai and their associates went quickly to Jerusalem, with cavalry and a large number of armed troops, and began to hinder the

builders. And the building of the temple in Jerusalem stopped until the second year of the reign of King Darius of the Persians.*

1 Esdras 3

THE DEBATE OF THE THREE BODYGUARDS

1 Now King Darius gave a great banquet for all who were under him, all
who were born in his house, and all the nobles of Media and Persia,* [2]and
all the satraps and generals and governors who were under him in the
hundred twenty-seven satrapies from India to Ethiopia.* [3]They ate and
drank, and when they were satisfied they went away, and King Darius went
to his bedroom; he went to sleep but woke up again.*

4 Then the three young men of the bodyguard who kept guard over the
person of the king said to one another, [5]"Let each of us state what one word
is strongest, and to the one whose statement seems wisest, King Darius will
give rich gifts and great honors of victory. [6]He shall be clothed in purple
and drink from gold cups and sleep on a gold bed[j] and have a chariot with
gold bridles and a turban of fine linen and a necklace around his neck,* [7]and
because of his wisdom he shall sit next to Darius and shall be called
Kinsman of Darius."*

8 Then each bodyguard wrote his own statement, and they sealed them
and put them under the pillow of King Darius and said, [9]"When the king
wakes, they will give him the writing, and to the one whose statement the
king and the three nobles of Persia judge to be wisest the victory shall be
given according to what is written."* [10]The first wrote, "Wine is strongest."
[11]The second wrote, "The king is strongest." [12]The third wrote, "Women
are strongest, but above all things truth is victor."[k]

13 When the king awoke, they took the writing and gave it to him, and he
read it. [14]Then he sent and summoned all the nobles of Persia and Media
and the satraps and generals and governors and prefects, and he took his
seat in the council chamber, and the writing was read in their presence.*
[15]He said, "Call the young men, and they shall explain their statements." So
they were summoned and came in. [16]They said to them, "Explain to us what
you have written."

THE SPEECH ABOUT WINE

Then the first, who had spoken of the strength of wine, began and said:
17"Gentlemen, how is wine the strongest? It leads astray the minds of all
who drink it.* 18It makes equal the mind of the king and the orphan, of the
slave and the free, of the poor and the rich. 19It turns every thought to
feasting and gladness and forgets all sorrow and debt.* 20It makes all hearts
feel rich, forgets kings and satraps, and makes everyone talk of extravagant
sums.[1] 21When people drink they forget to be friendly with friends and
kindred, and before long they draw their swords.* 22And when they recover
from the wine, they do not remember what they have done.* 23Gentlemen,
is not wine the strongest, since it forces people to do these things?" When
he had said this, he stopped speaking.

1 Esdras 4

THE SPEECH ABOUT THE KING

1 Then the second, who had spoken of the strength of the king, began to
speak: [2]"Gentlemen, are not men strongest, who rule over land and sea and
all that is in them?* [3]But the king is stronger; he is their lord and master,
and whatever he says to them they obey. [4]If he tells them to make war on
one another, they do it, and if he sends them out against the enemy, they go
and conquer mountains, walls, and towers. [5]They kill and are killed and do
not disobey the king's command; if they win the victory, they bring
everything to the king—whatever spoil they take and everything else.
[6]Likewise those who do not serve in the army or make war but till the soil;
whenever they sow and reap, they bring some to the king, and they compel
one another to pay taxes to the king.* [7]And yet he is only one man! If he
tells them to kill, they kill; if he tells them to release, they release;* [8]if he
tells them to attack, they attack; if he tells them to lay waste, they lay waste;
if he tells them to build, they build; [9]if he tells them to cut down, they cut
down; if he tells them to plant, they plant.* [10]All his people and his armies
obey him. Furthermore, he reclines, he eats and drinks and sleeps, [11]but
they keep watch around him, and no one may go away to attend to his own
affairs, nor do they disobey him. [12]Gentlemen, why is not the king the
strongest, since he is to be obeyed in this fashion?" And he stopped
speaking.

THE SPEECH ABOUT WOMEN

13 Then the third, who had spoken of women and truth (and this was
Zerubbabel), began to speak:* [14]"Gentlemen, is not the king great, and are
not men many, and is not wine strong? Who is it, then, who rules them or
has the mastery over them? Is it not women? [15]Women gave birth to the
king and to every people that rules over sea and land. [16]From women they
came, and women brought up the very men who plant the vineyards from
which comes wine. [17]Women make men's clothes; they bring men glory;
men cannot exist without women.* [18]If men gather gold and silver or any

other beautiful thing and then see a woman lovely in appearance and beauty, [19]they let all those things go and gape at her and with open mouths stare at her, and all prefer her to gold or silver or any other beautiful thing.* [20]A man leaves his own father, who brought him up, and his own region and clings to his wife.* [21]With his wife he ends his days, with no thought of his father or his mother or his region. [22]Therefore you must realize that women rule over you!

"Do you not labor and toil and bring everything and give it to women? [23]A man takes his sword and goes out to travel and rob and steal and to sail the sea and rivers; [24]he faces lions, and he walks in darkness, and when he steals and robs and plunders, he brings it back to the woman he loves.* [25]A man loves his wife more than his father or his mother.* [26]Many men have lost their minds because of women and have become slaves because of them.* [27]Many have perished or stumbled or sinned because of women.* [28]And now do you not believe me?

"Is not the king great in his authority? Do not all lands fear to touch him? [29]Yet I have seen him with Apame, the king's concubine, the daughter of the illustrious Bartacus; she would sit at the king's right hand [30]and take the crown from the king's head and put it on her own and slap the king with her left hand. [31]At this the king would gaze at her with mouth agape. If she smiles at him, he laughs; if she loses her temper with him, he flatters her, so that she may be reconciled to him.* [32]Gentlemen, why are not women strong, since they do such things?"

THE SPEECH ABOUT TRUTH

33 Then the king and the nobles looked at one another, and he began to speak about truth: [34]"Gentlemen, are not women strong? The earth is vast, and heaven is high, and the sun is swift in its course, for it makes the circuit of the heavens and returns to its place in one day.* [35]Is not the one who does these things great? But truth is great and stronger than all things.* [36]The whole earth calls upon truth, and heaven blesses it. All the works quake and tremble, and with it[m] there is nothing unrighteous. [37]Wine is unrighteous; the king is unrighteous; women are unrighteous; all humans are unrighteous; all their works are unrighteous and all such things. There is no

truth in them, and in their unrighteousness they will perish.* 38But truth endures and is strong forever and lives and prevails forever and ever. 39With it there is no partiality or preference, but it does what is righteous instead of anything that is unrighteous or wicked. Everyone approves its deeds,* 40and there is nothing unrighteous in its judgment. To it belongs the strength and the kingship and the power and the majesty of all the ages. Blessed be the God of truth!"* 41When he stopped speaking, all the people shouted and said, "Great is truth and strongest of all!"

ZERUBBABEL'S REWARD

42 Then the king said to Zerubbabel,[n] "Ask what you wish, even beyond what is written, and we will give it to you, for you have been found to be the wisest. You shall sit next to me and be called my Kinsman."* 43Then he said to the king, "Remember the vow that you made on the day when you became king, to build Jerusalem 44and to send back all the vessels that were taken from Jerusalem, which Cyrus set apart when he began[o] to destroy Babylon and vowed to send them back there.* 45You also vowed to build the temple, which the Edomites burned when Judea was laid waste by the Chaldeans.* 46And now, O lord the king, this is what I ask and request of you, and this befits your greatness. I pray, therefore, that you fulfill the vow whose fulfillment you vowed to the King of heaven with your own lips."*

47 Then King Darius got up and kissed him and wrote letters for him to all the treasurers and governors and generals and satraps, that they should give safe conduct to him and to all who were going up with him to build Jerusalem.* 48And he wrote letters to all the governors in Coelesyria and Phoenicia and to those in Lebanon, to bring cedar timber from Lebanon to Jerusalem and to help him build the city.* 49He wrote in behalf of all the Jews who were going up from his kingdom to Judea, in the interest of their freedom, that no officer or satrap or governor or treasurer should forcibly enter their doors; 50that all the region that they would occupy should be theirs without tribute; that the Idumeans should give up the villages of the Jews that they held;* 51that twenty talents a year should be given for the building of the temple until it was completed 52and an additional ten talents a year for burnt offerings to be offered on the altar every day, in accordance with the commandment to make seventeen offerings;* 53and that all who

came from Babylonia to build the city should have their freedom, they and their children and all the priests who came. [54]He wrote also concerning their support and the priests' vestments in which they were to minister. [55]He wrote that the support for the Levites should be provided until the day when the temple would be finished and Jerusalem built. [56]He wrote that land and wages should be provided for all who guarded the city.* [57]And he sent back from Babylon all the vessels that Cyrus had set apart; everything that Cyrus had ordered to be done, he also commanded to be done and to be sent to Jerusalem.*

ZERUBBABEL'S PRAYER

58 When the young man went out, he lifted up his face to heaven toward Jerusalem and praised the King of heaven, saying,* [59]"From you comes the victory; from you comes wisdom, and yours is the glory. I am your servant.* [60]Blessed are you, who have given me wisdom; I give you thanks, O Lord of our ancestors."*

61 So he took the letters and went to Babylon and told this to all his kindred. [62]And they praised the God of their ancestors because he had given them freedom and permission [63]to go up and build Jerusalem and the temple that is called by his name, and they feasted, with music and rejoicing, for seven days.*

1 Esdras 5

LIST OF THE RETURNING EXILES

1 After this the heads of ancestral houses were chosen to go up, according to their tribes, with their wives and sons and daughters and their male and female servants and their livestock. [2]And Darius sent with them a thousand cavalry to take them back to Jerusalem in safety, with the music of drums and flutes; [3]all their kindred were making merry. And he made them go up with them.

4 These are the names of the men who went up, according to their ancestral houses in the tribes, over their groups:* [5]the priests, the descendants of Phinehas son of Aaron; Jeshua son of Jozadak son of Seraiah and Joakim son of Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, of the house of David, of the lineage of Phares, of the tribe of Judah,* [6]who spoke wise words before King Darius of the Persians, in the second year of his reign, in the month of Nisan, the first month.*

7 These are the Judeans who came up out of their sojourn in exile, whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had carried away to Babylon* [8]and who returned to Jerusalem and the rest of Judea, each to his own town. They came with Zerubbabel and Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Resaiah, Eneneus, Mordecai, Beelsarus, Aspharasus, Borolias, Rehum, and Baanah, their leaders.

9 The number of those of the nation and their leaders: the descendants of Parosh, two thousand one hundred seventy-two. The descendants of Shephatiah, four hundred seventy-two. [10]The descendants of Arah, seven hundred fifty-six. [11]The descendants of Pahath-moab, of the descendants of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred twelve. [12]The descendants of Elam, one thousand two hundred fifty-four. The descendants of Zattu, nine hundred forty-five. The descendants of Chorbe, seven hundred five. The descendants of Bani, six hundred forty-eight. [13]The descendants of Bebai, six hundred twenty-three. The descendants of Azgad, one thousand three hundred twenty-two. [14]The descendants of Adonikam, six hundred sixty-seven. The descendants of Bigvai, two thousand sixty-six. The descendants

of Adin, four hundred fifty-four. [15]The descendants of Ater, namely, of Hezekiah, ninety-two. The descendants of Kilan and Azetas, sixty-seven. The descendants of Azaru, four hundred thirty-two. [16]The descendants of Annias, one hundred one. The descendants of Arom. The descendants of Bezai, three hundred twenty-three. The descendants of Arsiphurith, one hundred twelve. [17]The descendants of Baiterus, three thousand five. The descendants of Bethlomon, one hundred twenty-three. [18]Those from Netophah, fifty-five. Those from Anathoth, one hundred fifty-eight. Those from Bethasmoth, forty-two.* [19]Those from Kiriatharim, twenty-five. Those from Chephirah and Beeroth, seven hundred forty-three.* [20]The Chadiasans and Ammidians, four hundred twenty-two. Those from Kirama and Geba, six hundred twenty-one. [21]Those from Macalon, one hundred twenty-two. Those from Betolio, fifty-two. The descendants of Niphish, one hundred fifty-six. [22]The descendants of the other Calamolalus and Ono, seven hundred twenty-five. The descendants of Jerechus, three hundred forty-five. [23]The descendants of Senaah, three thousand three hundred thirty.

24 The priests: the descendants of Jedaiah son of Jeshua, of the descendants of Anasib, nine hundred seventy-two. The descendants of Immer, one thousand and fifty-two. [25]The descendants of Pashhur, one thousand two hundred forty-seven. The descendants of Charme, one thousand seventeen.

26 The Levites: the descendants of Jeshua and Kadmiel and Bannas and Sudias, seventy-four. [27]The temple singers: the descendants of Asaph, one hundred twenty-eight. [28]The gatekeepers: the descendants of Shallum, the descendants of Ater, the descendants of Talmon, the descendants of Akkub, the descendants of Hatita, the descendants of Shobai, in all one hundred thirty-nine.

29 The temple servants: the descendants of Esau, the descendants of Hasupha, the descendants of Tabbaoth, the descendants of Keros, the descendants of Sua, the descendants of Padon, the descendants of Lebanah, the descendants of Hagabah, [30]the descendants of Akkub, the descendants of Uthai, the descendants of Ketab, the descendants of Hagab, the descendants of Subai, the descendants of Hana, the descendants of Cathua, the descendants of Geddur, [31]the descendants of Jairus, the descendants of Daisan, the descendants of Noeba, the descendants of Chezib, the

descendants of Gazera, the descendants of Uzza, the descendants of Phinoe, the descendants of Hasrah, the descendants of Basthai, the descendants of Asnah, the descendants of Maani, the descendants of Nephisim, the descendants of Acuph, the descendants of Hakupha, the descendants of Asur, the descendants of Pharakim, the descendants of Bazluth, [32]the descendants of Mehida, the descendants of Cutha, the descendants of Charea, the descendants of Barkos, the descendants of Serar, the descendants of Temah, the descendants of Neziah, the descendants of Hatipha.

33 The descendants of Solomon's servants: the descendants of Assaphioth, the descendants of Peruda, the descendants of Jaalah, the descendants of Lozon, the descendants of Isdael, the descendants of Shephatiah, [34]the descendants of Agia, the descendants of Pochereth-hazzebaim, the descendants of Sarothie, the descendants of Masiah, the descendants of Gas, the descendants of Addus, the descendants of Subas, the descendants of Apherra, the descendants of Barodis, the descendants of Shaphat, the descendants of Allon.

35 All the temple servants and the descendants of Solomon's servants were three hundred seventy-two.*

36 The following are those who came up from Tel-melah and Tel-harsha, under the leadership of Cherub, Addan, and Immer, [37]though they could not prove by their ancestral houses or lineage that they belonged to Israel: the descendants of Delaiah son of Tobiah, and the descendants of Nekoda, six hundred fifty-two.

38 Of the priests the following had assumed the priesthood but were not found registered: the descendants of Habaiah, the descendants of Hakkoz, and the descendants of Jaddus who had married Agia, one of the daughters of Barzillai, and was called by his name. [39]When a search was made in the register and the genealogy of these men was not found, they were excluded from serving as priests. [40]And Nehemiah and Attharias[p] told them not to share in the holy things until a high priest[q] should appear wearing Urim and Thummim.[r,*]

41 All those of Israel, twelve or more years of age, besides male and female servants, were forty-two thousand three hundred sixty; their male and female servants were seven thousand three hundred thirty-seven; there

were two hundred forty-five musicians and singers. [42]There were four hundred thirty-five camels, seven thousand thirty-six horses, two hundred forty-five mules, and five thousand five hundred twenty-five donkeys.

43 Some of the heads of families, when they came to the temple of God that is in Jerusalem, vowed that, to the best of their ability, they would erect the house on its site [44]and that they would give to the sacred treasury for the work a thousand minas of gold, five thousand minas of silver, and one hundred priests' vestments.

45 The priests, the Levites, and some of the people[s] settled in Jerusalem and its region and the temple singers, the gatekeepers, and all Israel in their towns.*

WORSHIP BEGINS AGAIN

46 When the seventh month came and the Israelites were all in their own homes, they gathered with a single purpose in the square before the first gate toward the east.* [47]Then Jeshua son of Jozadak, with his fellow priests, and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, with his kinsmen, took their places and prepared the altar of the God of Israel,* [48]to offer burnt offerings upon it, in accordance with the directions in the book of Moses the man of God. [49]And some joined them from the other nations of the land. And they erected the altar in its place, for all the peoples of the land were hostile to them and were stronger than they, and they offered sacrifices at the proper times and burnt offerings to the Lord morning and evening.* [50]They kept the Festival of Booths,[t] as it is commanded in the law, and offered the proper sacrifices every day* [51]and thereafter the regular offerings and sacrifices on Sabbaths and at new moons and at all the consecrated feasts. [52]And all who had made any vow to God began to offer sacrifices to God, from the new moon of the seventh month, though the temple of God was not yet built. [53]They gave money to the masons and the carpenters and food and drink and carts[u] to the Sidonians and the Tyrians to bring cedar logs from Lebanon and convey them in rafts to the harbor of Joppa, according to the decree that they had in writing from King Cyrus of the Persians.*

THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE TEMPLE LAID

54 In the second year after their coming to the temple of God in Jerusalem, in the second month, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of Jozadak made a beginning, together with their kindred and the Levitical priests and all who had come back to Jerusalem from exile,* 55and they laid the foundation of the temple of God on the new moon of the second month in the second year after they came to Judea and Jerusalem. 56They appointed the Levites who were twenty or more years of age to have charge of the work of the Lord. And Jeshua arose and his sons and kindred and his brother Kadmiel and the sons of Jeshua Emadabun and the sons of Joda son of Iliadun, with their sons and kindred, all the Levites, pressing forward the work on the house of God with a single purpose.

So the builders built the temple of the Lord.* 57And the priests stood arrayed in their vestments, with musical instruments and trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, praising the Lord and blessing him, according to the directions of King David of Israel;* 58they sang hymns, giving thanks to the Lord, "For his goodness and his glory are forever upon all Israel." 59And all the people sounded trumpets and shouted with a great shout, praising the Lord for the erection of the house of the Lord. 60Some of the Levitical priests and heads of ancestral houses, old men who had seen the former house, came to the building of this one with outcries and loud weeping,* 61while many came with trumpets and a joyful noise, 62so that the people could not hear the trumpets because of the weeping of the people.

For the multitude sounded the trumpets loudly, so that the sound was heard far away, 63and when the enemies of the tribe of Judah and Benjamin heard it, they came to find out what the sound of the trumpets meant.* 64They learned that those who had returned from exile were building the temple for the Lord God of Israel. 65So they approached Zerubbabel and Jeshua and the heads of the ancestral houses and said to them, "We will build with you.* 66For we obey your Lord just as you do, and we have been sacrificing to him ever since the days of King Esar-haddon of the Assyrians, who brought us here."* 67But Zerubbabel and Jeshua and the heads of the ancestral houses in Israel said to them, "You have nothing to do with us in building the house for the Lord our God, 68for we alone will build it for the Lord of Israel, as Cyrus, the king of the Persians, has commanded us."

[69]But the nations of the land besieged[v] those in Judea, cut off their supplies, and hindered their building, [70]and by plots and demagoguery and uprisings they prevented the completion of the building as long as King Cyrus lived. They were kept from building for two years, until the reign of Darius.

1 Esdras 6

WORK ON THE TEMPLE BEGINS AGAIN

1 Now in the second year of the reign of Darius, the prophets Haggai and
Zechariah son of Iddo prophesied to the Jews who were in Judea and
Jerusalem; they prophesied to them in the name of the Lord God of Israel.*
2Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Jeshua son of Jozadak began to build
the house of the Lord that is in Jerusalem, with the help of the prophets of
the Lord who were with them.

3 At the same time Sisinnes the governor of Syria and Phoenicia and
Sathrabuzanes and their associates came to them and said,* 4"By whose
order are you building this house and this roof and finishing all the other
things? And who are the builders who are finishing these things?" 5Yet the
elders of the Jews were dealt with kindly, for the providence of the Lord
was over the captives;* 6they were not prevented from building until word
could be sent to Darius concerning them and a report made.

7 A copy of the letter that Sisinnes the governor of Syria and Phoenicia
and Sathrabuzanes and their associates the local rulers in Syria and
Phoenicia wrote and sent to Darius:

"To King Darius, greetings. 8Let it be fully known to our lord the king
that, when we went to the region of Judea and entered the city of Jerusalem,
we found the elders of the Jews, who had been in exile, building in the city
of Jerusalem a great new house for the Lord, of hewn stone, with costly
timber laid in the walls.* 9These operations are going on rapidly, and the
work is prospering in their hands and being completed with all splendor and
care. 10Then we asked these elders, 'At whose command are you building
this house and laying the foundations of this structure?'* 11In order that we
might inform you in writing who the leaders are, we questioned them and
asked them for a list of the names of those who are instigating the
disturbance. 12They answered us, 'We are the servants of the Lord who
created the heaven and the earth. 13The house was built many years ago by
a king of Israel who was great and strong, and it was finished. 14But when
our ancestors sinned against the Lord of Israel who is in heaven and

provoked him, he gave them over into the hands of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, king of the Chaldeans,* 15and they pulled down the house and burned it and carried the people away captive to Babylon.* 16But in the first year that Cyrus reigned over the region of Babylonia, King Cyrus wrote that this house should be rebuilt.* 17And the holy vessels of gold and of silver that Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the house in Jerusalem and stored in his own temple, these King Cyrus took out again from the temple in Babylon, and they were delivered to Zerubbabel and Sheshbazzar the governor* 18with the command that he should take all these vessels back and put them in the temple at Jerusalem and that this temple of the Lord should be rebuilt on its site. 19Then this Sheshbazzar, after coming here, laid the foundations of the house of the Lord that is in Jerusalem. Although it has been in process of construction from that time until now, it has not yet reached completion.'* 20Now therefore, O king, if it seems wise to do so, let search be made in the royal archives of our lord[w] the king that are in Babylon; 21if it is found that the building of the house of the Lord in Jerusalem was done with the consent of King Cyrus, and if it is approved by our lord the king, let him send us directions concerning these things."

OFFICIAL PERMISSION GRANTED

22 Then Darius commanded that search be made in the royal archives that were deposited in Babylon. And in Ecbatana, the fortress that is in the region of Media, a scroll[x] was found in which this was recorded:* 23"In the first year of the reign of King Cyrus, he ordered the building of the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, where they sacrifice with fire continuously:* 24its height sixty cubits and its width sixty cubits, with three courses of hewn stone and one course of new native timber; the cost to be paid from the treasury of King Cyrus; 25and the holy vessels of the house of the Lord, both of gold and of silver, that Nebuchadnezzar took out of the house in Jerusalem and carried away to Babylon to be restored to the house in Jerusalem, to be placed where they had been."*

26 So Darius[y] commanded Sisinnes the governor of Syria and Phoenicia and Sathrabuzanes and their associates and those who were appointed as local rulers in Syria and Phoenicia to keep away from the place and to permit Zerubbabel, the servant of the Lord and governor of Judea, and the

elders of the Jews to build this house of the Lord on its site.* 27"And I command that it be built completely and that full effort be made to help those who have returned from the exile of Judea until the house of the Lord is finished 28and that out of the tribute of Coelesyria and Phoenicia a portion be scrupulously given to these men, that is, to Zerubbabel the governor, for sacrifices to the Lord, for bulls and rams and lambs, 29and likewise wheat and salt and wine and oil, regularly every year, without quibbling, for daily use as the priests in Jerusalem may indicate, 30in order that libations may be made to the Most High God for the king and his children and prayers be offered for their lives."*

31 He commanded that if anyone should transgress or nullify any of the things herein written,z a beam should be taken out of the house of the perpetrator, who then should be impaled upon it and all property forfeited to the king.

32 "Therefore may the Lord, whose name is there called upon, destroy every king and nation that shall stretch out their hands to hinder or damage that house of the Lord in Jerusalem.

33 "I, King Darius, have decreed that it be done with all diligence as here prescribed."

1 Esdras 7

THE TEMPLE IS DEDICATED

1 Then Sisinnes the governor of Coelesyria and Phoenicia and Sathrabuzanes and their associates, following the orders of King Darius,* [2]supervised the holy work with very great care, assisting the elders of the Jews and the chief officers of the temple.* [3]The holy work prospered, while the prophets Haggai and Zechariah prophesied, [4]and they completed it by the command of the Lord God of Israel. So with the consent of Cyrus and Darius and Artaxerxes, kings of the Persians,* [5]the holy house was finished by the twenty-third day of the month of Adar, in the sixth year of King Darius.* [6]And the people of Israel, the priests, the Levites, and the rest of those who returned from exile who joined them did according to what was written in the book of Moses. [7]They offered at the dedication of the temple of the Lord one hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, [8]and twelve male goats for the sin of all Israel, according to the number of the twelve leaders of the tribes of Israel, [9]and the priests and the Levites stood arrayed in their vestments, according to divisions, for the services of the Lord God of Israel in accordance with the book of Moses, and the gatekeepers were at each gate.*

THE PASSOVER

10 The people of Israel who came from exile kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month, after the priests and the Levites were purified together. [11]Not all of the returned captives were purified, but the Levites were all purified together,[a] [12]and they sacrificed the Passover lamb for all the returned captives and for their kindred the priests and for themselves. [13]The people of Israel who had returned from exile ate it, all those who had separated themselves from the abominations of the nations of the land and sought the Lord. [14]They also kept the Festival of Unleavened Bread seven days, rejoicing before the Lord, [15]because he had changed the will of the king of the Assyrians concerning them, to strengthen their hands for the service of the Lord God of Israel.*

1 Esdras 8

EZRA ARRIVES IN JERUSALEM

1 After these things, when Artaxerxes, the king of the Persians, was reigning, Ezra came, the son of Seraiah, son of Azariah, son of Hilkiah, son of Shallum,* 2son of Zadok, son of Ahitub, son of Amariah, son of Uzzi, son of Bukki, son of Abishua, son of Phineas, son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the high[b] priest.* 3This Ezra came up from Babylon as a scribe skilled in the law of Moses, which was given by the God of Israel, 4and the king showed him honor, for he found favor before the king[c] in all his requests. 5There came up with him to Jerusalem some of the people of Israel and some of the priests and Levites and temple singers and gatekeepers and temple servants,* 6in the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes, in the fifth month (this was the king's seventh year), for they left Babylon on the new moon of the first month and arrived in Jerusalem on the new moon of the fifth month, by the successful journey that the Lord gave them.* 7For Ezra possessed great knowledge, so that he omitted nothing from the law of the Lord or the commandments but taught all Israel all the ordinances and judgments.

THE KING'S MANDATE

8 The following is a copy of the written decree from King Artaxerxes that was delivered to Ezra the priest and reader of the law of the Lord:*

9 "King Artaxerxes to Ezra the priest and reader of the law of the Lord, greeting.* 10In accordance with my gracious decision, I have given orders that those of the Jewish nation and of the priests and Levites and others in our realm, those who freely choose to do so, may go with you to Jerusalem. 11Let as many as are so disposed, therefore, leave with you, just as I and the seven Friends who are my counselors have decided,* 12in order to look into matters in Judea and Jerusalem, in accordance with what is in the law of the Lord, 13and to carry to Jerusalem the gifts for the Lord of Israel that I and my Friends have vowed, and to collect for the Lord in Jerusalem all the gold and silver that may be found in the region of Babylonia, together with

what is given by the nation for the temple of their Lord that is in Jerusalem, [14]both gold and silver for bulls and rams and lambs and what goes with them, [15]so as to offer sacrifices on the altar of their Lord that is in Jerusalem. [16]Whatever you and your kindred wish to do with the gold and silver, perform it in accordance with the will of your God; [17]deliver the holy vessels of the Lord that are given you for the use of the temple of your God that is in Jerusalem. And whatever else occurs to you as necessary for the temple of your God, [18]you may provide out of the royal treasury.

19 "I, King Artaxerxes, have commanded the treasurers of Syria and Phoenicia that whatever Ezra the priest and reader of the law of the Most High God sends for, they shall take care to give him, up to a hundred talents of silver,* [20]and likewise up to a hundred cors of wheat, a hundred baths of wine, and salt in abundance.* [21]Let all things prescribed in the law of God be scrupulously fulfilled for the Most High God, so that wrath may not come upon the kingdom of the king and his sons.* [22]You are also informed that no tribute or any other tax is to be laid on any of the priests or Levites or temple singers or gatekeepers or temple servants or persons employed in this temple and that no one has authority to impose any tax on them.*

23 "And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of God, appoint judges and justices to judge all those who know the law of your God throughout all Syria and Phoenicia, and you shall teach it to those who do not know it.* [24]All who transgress the law of your God or the law of the kingdom shall be strictly punished, whether by death or some other punishment, either fine or imprisonment."

EZRA PRAISES GOD

25 Then Ezra the scribe said,[d] "Blessed be the Lord alone, who put this into the heart of the king, to glorify his house that is in Jerusalem, [26]and who honored me in the sight of the king and his counselors and all his Friends and nobles. [27]I was encouraged by the help of the Lord my God, and I gathered men from Israel to go up with me."

THE LEADERS WHO RETURNED

28 These are the leaders, according to their ancestral houses and their groups, who went up with me from Babylon, in the reign of King Artaxerxes:* [29]Of the descendants of Phineas, Gershom. Of the descendants of Ithamar, Gamael. Of the descendants of David, Hattush son of Shecaniah. [30]Of the descendants of Parosh, Zechariah and with him a hundred fifty men enrolled. [31]Of the descendants of Pahath-moab, Eliehoenai son of Zerahiah and with him two hundred men. [32]Of the descendants of Zattu, Shecaniah son of Jahaziel and with him three hundred men. Of the descendants of Adin, Obed son of Jonathan and with him two hundred fifty men. [33]Of the descendants of Elam, Jeshaiah son of Gotholiah and with him seventy men. [34]Of the descendants of Shephatiah, Zeraiah son of Michael and with him seventy men. [35]Of the descendants of Joab, Obadiah son of Jehiel and with him two hundred twelve men. [36]Of the descendants of Bani, Shelomith son of Josiphiah and with him a hundred sixty men. [37]Of the descendants of Bebai, Zechariah son of Bebai and with him twenty-eight men. [38]Of the descendants of Azgad, Johanan son of Hakkatan and with him a hundred ten men. [39]Of the descendants of Adonikam, the last ones, their names being Eliphelet, Jeuel, and Shemaiah, and with them seventy men. [40]Of the descendants of Bigvai, Uthai son of Istalcurus and with him seventy men.

41 I assembled them at the river called Theras, and we encamped there three days, and I inspected them.* [42]When I found there none of the descendants of the priests or of the Levites, [43]I sent word to Eleazar, Iduel, Maasmas, Elnathan, Shemaiah, Jarib, Nathan, Elnathan, Zechariah, and Meshullam, who were leaders and men of understanding; [44]I told them to go to Iddo, who was the leading man at the place of the treasury, [45]and ordered them to tell Iddo and his kindred and the treasurers at that place to send us men to serve as priests in the house of our Lord. [46]And by the mighty hand of our Lord they brought us competent men of the descendants of Mahli son of Levi, son of Israel, namely, Sherebiah with his descendants and kinsmen, eighteen; [47]also Hashabiah and Annunus and his brother Jeshaiah, of the descendants of Hananiah, and their descendants, twenty men; [48]and of the temple servants whom David and the leaders had given for the service of the Levites, two hundred twenty temple servants; the list of all their names was reported.*

EZRA PROCLAIMS A FAST

49 There I proclaimed a fast for the young men before our Lord, [50]to seek from him a successful journey for ourselves and for our children and the livestock with us.* [51]For I was ashamed to ask the king for infantry and cavalry and an escort to keep us safe from our adversaries, [52]for we had said to the king, "The power of our Lord will be with those who seek him and will support them in every way." [53]And again we prayed to our Lord about these things, and we found him very merciful.

THE GIFTS FOR THE TEMPLE

54 Then I set apart twelve of the leaders of the priests, Sherebiah and Hashabiah and ten of their kinsmen with them, [55]and I weighed out to them the silver and the gold and the holy vessels of the house of our Lord that the king himself and his counselors and the nobles and all Israel had given.* [56]I weighed and gave to them six hundred fifty talents of silver, and silver vessels worth a hundred talents, and a hundred talents of gold, and twenty golden bowls, and twelve bronze vessels of fine bronze that glittered like gold.* [57]And I said to them, "You are holy to the Lord, and the vessels are holy, and the silver and the gold are vowed to the Lord, the Lord of our ancestors. [58]Be watchful and on guard until you deliver them to the leaders of the priests and the Levites and to the heads of the ancestral houses of Israel, in Jerusalem, in the chambers of the house of our Lord." [59]So the priests and the Levites who took the silver and the gold and the vessels that had been in Jerusalem carried them to the temple of the Lord.

THE RETURN TO JERUSALEM

60 We left the River Theras on the twelfth day of the first month, and we arrived in Jerusalem by the mighty hand of our Lord, which was upon us; he delivered us from every enemy on the way, and so we came to Jerusalem.* [61]When we had been there three days, the silver and the gold were weighed and delivered in the house of our Lord to the priest Meremoth son of Uriah;* [62]with him was Eleazar son of Phinehas, and with them were Jozabad son of Jeshua and Moeth son of Binnui, the Levites. The whole was counted and weighed, and the weight of everything was

recorded at that very time. 63And those who had returned from exile offered sacrifices to the Lord, the God of Israel, twelve bulls for all Israel, ninety-six rams, seventy-two lambs, and as a thank offering twelve male goats—all as a sacrifice to the Lord.* 64They delivered the king's orders to the royal stewards and to the governors of Coelesyria and Phoenicia, and these officials[e] honored the nation and the temple of the Lord.*

EZRA'S PRAYER

65 After these things had been done, the leaders came to me and said,* 66"The nation of Israel and the rulers and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the foreign nations of the land and their pollutions, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Edomites.* 67For they and their sons have married the daughters of these people,[f] and the holy seed has been mixed with the foreign nations of the land, and from the beginning of this matter the leaders and the nobles have been sharing in this iniquity."

68 As soon as I heard these things, I tore my garments and my holy vestments and pulled out hair from my head and beard and sat down in anxiety and grief.* 69And all who were ever moved at[g] the word of the Lord of Israel gathered around me, as I mourned over this iniquity, and I sat grief-stricken until the evening sacrifice.* 70Then I rose from my fast, with my garments and my holy vestments torn, and kneeling down and stretching out my hands to the Lord I said,

71 "O Lord, I am ashamed and dishonored before your face. 72For our sins have risen higher than our heads, and our mistakes have mounted up to heaven 73from the times of our ancestors, and we are in great sin to this day. 74Because of our sins and the sins of our ancestors, we with our kindred and our kings and our priests were given over to the kings of the earth, to the sword and exile and plundering, in shame until this day.* 75And now in some measure mercy has come to us from you, O Lord, to leave to us a root and a name in your holy place* 76and to uncover a light for us in the house of the Lord our God and to give us food in the time of our servitude. Even in our bondage we were not forsaken by our Lord,* 77but he brought us into favor with the kings of the Persians, so that they have given us food* 78and

glorified the temple of our Lord and raised Zion from desolation, to give us a stronghold in Judea and Jerusalem.

79 "And now, O Lord, what shall we say when we have these things? For we have transgressed your commandments that you gave by your servants the prophets, saying,* 80'The land that you are entering to possess is a land polluted with the pollution of the foreigners of the land, and they have filled it with their uncleanness. 81Therefore do not give your daughters in marriage to their sons, and do not take their daughters for your sons; 82do not seek ever to have peace with them, so that you may be strong and eat the good things of the land and leave it for an inheritance to your children forever.' 83And all that has happened to us has come about because of our evil deeds and our great sins. For you, O Lord, lifted the burden of our sins 84and gave us such a root as this, but we turned back again to transgress your law by mixing with the uncleanness of the nations of the land.* 85Were you not angry enough with us to destroy us without leaving a root or seed or name?* 86O Lord of Israel, you are faithful, for we are left as a root to this day.* 87See, we are now before you in our iniquities, for we can no longer stand in your presence because of these things."

THE PLAN FOR ENDING MIXED MARRIAGES

88 While Ezra was praying and making his confession, weeping and lying on the ground before the temple, there gathered around him a very great crowd of men and women and youths from Jerusalem, for there was great weeping among the multitude.* 89Then Shecaniah son of Jehiel, one of the men of Israel, called out and said to Ezra, "We have sinned against the Lord and have married foreign women from the nations of the land, but even now there is hope for Israel. 90Let us take an oath to the Lord about this, that we will put away all our foreign wives with their children, as seems good to you and to all who obey the law of the Lord. 91Rise up[h] and take action, for it is your task, and we are with you to take strong measures." 92Then Ezra rose up and made the leaders of the priests and Levites of all Israel swear that they would do this. And they swore to it.

1 Esdras 9

THE EXPULSION OF FOREIGN WIVES

1 Then Ezra set out and went from the court of the temple to the chamber of
Jehohanan son of Eliashib[*] [2]and spent the night there, and he did not eat
bread or drink water, for he was mourning over the great iniquities of the
multitude. [3]And a proclamation was made throughout Judea and Jerusalem
to all who had returned from exile that they should assemble at Jerusalem
[4]and that if any did not meet there within two or three days, in accordance
with the decision of the ruling elders, their livestock would be seized for
sacrifice and the men themselves[i] expelled from the multitude of those who
had returned from the captivity.

5 Then the men of the tribe of Judah and Benjamin assembled at
Jerusalem within three days; this was the ninth month, on the twentieth day
of the month.[*] [6]All the multitude sat in the open square before the temple,
shivering because of the bad weather that prevailed.[*] [7]Then Ezra stood up
and said to them, "You have broken the law and married foreign women
and so have increased the sin of Israel. [8]Now, then, make confession and
give glory to the Lord the God of our ancestors[*] [9]and do his will; separate
yourselves from the nations of the land and from your foreign wives."

10 Then all the multitude shouted and said with a loud voice, "We will do
as you have said. [11]But the multitude is great, and it is winter, and we are
not able to stand in the open air. This is not a work we can do in one day or
two, for we have sinned too much in these things. [12]So let the leaders of the
multitude stay, and let all those in our settlements who have foreign wives
come at the time appointed [13]with the elders and judges of each place, until
we are freed from the wrath of the Lord over this matter."

14 Jonathan son of Asahel and Jahzeiah son of Tikvah undertook the
matter on these terms, and Meshullam and Levi and Shabbethai served with
them as judges. [15]And those who had returned from exile acted in
accordance with all this.

16 Ezra the priest chose for himself the leading men of their ancestral
houses, all of them by name, and on the new moon of the tenth month they

began their sessions to investigate the matter. [17]And the cases of the men who had foreign wives were brought to an end by the new moon of the first month.*

18 Of the priests, those who were brought in and found to have foreign wives were: [19]of the descendants of Jeshua son of Jozadak and his kindred, Maaseiah, Eliezar, Jarib, and Jodan.* [20]They pledged themselves to put away their wives and to offer rams in expiation of their error. [21]Of the descendants of Immer: Hanani and Zebadiah and Maaseiah and Shemaiah and Jehiel and Azariah. [22]Of the descendants of Pashhur: Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, and Nathanael, and Gedaliah, and Salthas.

23 And of the Levites: Jozabad and Shimei and Kelaiah, who was Kelita, and Pethahiah and Judah and Jonah. [24]Of the temple singers: Eliashib and Zaccur. [25]Of the gatekeepers: Shallum and Telem.

26 Of Israel: of the descendants of Parosh: Ramiah, Izziah, Malchijah, Mijamin, and Eleazar, and Asibias, and Benaiah. [27]Of the descendants of Elam: Mattaniah and Zechariah, Jezrielus and Abdi, and Jeremoth and Elijah. [28]Of the descendants of Zamoth: Eliadas, Eliashib, Othoniah, Jeremoth, and Zabad and Zerdaiah. [29]Of the descendants of Bebai: Jehohanan and Hananiah and Zabbai and Emathis. [30]Of the descendants of Mani: Olamus, Mamuchus, Adaiah, Jashub, and Sheal and Jeremoth. [31]Of the descendants of Addi: Naathus and Moossias, Laccunus and Naidus, and Bescaspasmys and Sesthel, and Belnuus and Manasseas. [32]Of the descendants of Annan, Elionas and Asaias and Melchias and Sabbaias and Simon Chosamaeus. [33]Of the descendants of Hashum: Mattenai and Mattattah and Zabad and Eliphelet and Manasseh and Shimei. [34]Of the descendants of Bani: Jeremai, Momdius, Maerus, Joel, Mamdai and Bedeiah and Vaniah, Carabasion and Eliashib and Mamitanemus, Eliasis, Binnui, Elialis, Shimei, Shelemiah, Nethaniah. Of the descendants of Ezora: Shashai, Azarel, Azael, Samatus, Zambris, Joseph. [35]Of the descendants of Nooma: Mazitias, Zabad, Iddo, Joel, Benaiah. [36]All these had married foreign women, and they put them away together with their children.

EZRA READS THE LAW TO THE PEOPLE

37 The priests and the Levites and the Israelites settled in Jerusalem and
in the region. On the new moon of the seventh month, when the people of
Israel were in their settlements,* 38the whole multitude gathered with one
accord in the open square before the east gate of the temple;* 39they told
Ezra the chief priest and reader to bring the law of Moses that had been
given by the Lord God of Israel.* 40So Ezra the chief priest brought the law,
for all the multitude, men and women, and all the priests to hear the law, on
the new moon of the seventh month.* 41He read aloud in the open square
before the gate of the temple from early morning until midday, in the
presence of both men and women, and all the multitude gave attention to
the law.* 42Ezra the priest and reader of the law stood on the wooden
platform that had been prepared,* 43and beside him stood Mattathiah,
Shema, Ananias, Azariah, Uriah, Hezekiah, and Baalsamus on his right,
44and on his left Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Lothasubus, Nabariah, and
Zechariah. 45Then Ezra took up the book of the law in the sight of the
multitude, for he had the place of honor in the presence of all. 46When he
opened the law, they all stood erect. And Ezra blessed the Lord God Most
High, the God of hosts, the Almighty,* 47and the multitude answered,
"Amen." They lifted up their hands and fell to the ground and worshiped
God.[j] 48Jeshua and Anniuth and Sherebiah, Jadinus, Akkub, Shabbethai,
Hodiah, Maiannas and Kelita, Azariah and Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the
Levites, taught the law of the Lord,[k] at the same time explaining what was
read.*

49 Then Attharates[l] said to Ezra the chief priest[m] and reader and to the
Levites who were teaching the multitude and to all,* 50"This day is holy to
the Lord"—now they were all weeping as they heard the law—51"so go
your way, eat the fat and drink the sweet, and send portions to those who
have none,* 52for the day is holy to the Lord, and do not be sorrowful, for
the Lord will exalt you." 53The Levites commanded all the people, saying,
"This day is holy; do not be sorrowful." 54Then they all went their way, to
eat and drink and enjoy themselves and to give portions to those who had
none and to make great rejoicing, 55because they were inspired by the
words which they had been taught. And they came together.[n,*]

1 Esdras 1

* **1.1** 2 Kings 23.21; 2 Chr 35.1–19
* **1.2** v 15; 2 Chr 31.2; Lk 1.5, 8
* **1.3** 1 Kings 6.1–38; 1 Chr 9.2; 2 Chr 3.1
a **1.4** Gk lacks *and he said*
* **1.4** v 10; 2 Chr 35.3
b **1.5** Other ancient authorities read *holy place*
* **1.5** v 10; 1 Chr 23.6; 2 Chr 35.4; 1 Esd 5.4; 8.28
* **1.6** Ex 12.1–20
* **1.9** 2 Chr 35.9
* **1.10** vv 4, 5; 1 Esd 5.4; 8.28
* **1.11** Ex 12.8, 9; Deut 16.7; 2 Chr 35.13
* **1.14** 1 Chr 6.39; 2 Chr 35.15
* **1.15** 1 Chr 26.1–19; 2 Chr 35.15; Lk 1.5, 8
* **1.16** 2 Kings 23.21
* **1.17** Lk 22.1
* **1.18** 2 Kings 23.22, 23; 2 Chr 35.18
* **1.20** 2 Kings 23.23; 2 Chr 35.19
* **1.21** 2 Kings 23.24, 25
c **1.22** Gk *him*
* **1.22** 2 Kings 23.24–27
* **1.23** 2 Kings 23.29, 30; 2 Chr 35.20–27
* **1.25** 2 Chr 13.12
d **1.30** Or *their wives*
* **1.30** 2 Chr 35.25; Jer 22.20
* **1.32** 2 Kings 23.30–35; 2 Chr 36.1–4
e **1.33** Other ancient authorities read *Israel*
* **1.37** 2 Kings 23.36–24.6; 2 Chr 36.5–8
* **1.39** vv 43, 53; Dan 1.2
f **1.40** Gk *him*
* **1.41** 2 Kings 24.8–25.21; 2 Chr 36.9–21
* **1.43** vv 39, 53
* **1.44** Jer 52.1
* **1.45** Jer 37.2; 52.2
* **1.49** Gal 6.7
g **1.50** Gk *virgin*
* **1.51** vv 39, 43
* **1.52** 2 Kings 25.10; Neh 1.3; 2.13; 1 Esd 6.15
h **1.53** Gk *he*
* **1.54** Jer 25.11; 29.10

* **1.55** Lev 26.34, 35

1 Esdras 2

* **2.1** 2 Chr 36.22, 23; Ezra 1.1–11
i **2.5** Gk *him*
* **2.9** Dan 1.2; 1 Esd 1.39, 53; 4.44
* **2.11** Ezra 1.8; 1 Esd 6.17, 19
* **2.12** Ezra 1.9, 10
* **2.13** Ezra 1.11
* **2.14** Bar 1.8
* **2.15** vv 4, 7, 8, 21; Ezra 4.7–24
* **2.16** vv 20–25; 2 Macc 3.5; 1 Esd 4.48; 7.1; 8.64
* **2.20** v 16
* **2.21** vv 15, 16; Ezra 4.9
* **2.23** v 16
* **2.25** vv 15, 16, 21; 1 Esd 5.6

1 Esdras 3

* **3.1** v 14; Lk 5.29; Acts 2.9
* **3.2** v 14; Esth 1.1
* **3.3** Jdt 12.1; 13.1
j **3.6** Gk *on gold*
* **3.6** Gen 41.42; Dan 5.7, 29; 1 Macc 10.20; 11.58
* **3.7** 1 Macc 10.89; 1 Esd 4.42
* **3.9** Dan 6.2
k **3.12** Or *but truth triumphs over all things*
* **3.14** v 2; 1 Esd 4.47–49
* **3.17** Prov 20.1; 23.29–35; Isa 28.7
* **3.19** Ps 104.15; Prov 31.6, 7; Eccl 10.19; Sir 31.28
l **3.20** Gk *talents*
* **3.21** Sir 31.29
* **3.22** Prov 23.35

1 Esdras 4

* **4.2** Gen 1.26; 9.2
* **4.6** 1 Sam 8.12, 14
* **4.7** Dan 5.19
* **4.9** Deut 20.19, 20
* **4.13** Ezra 3.2; 1 Esd 5.5
* **4.17** Prov 31.13, 19

* **4.19** v 31; Sir 36.27
* **4.20** Gen 2.24
* **4.24** Job 24.13–17
* **4.25** Gen 2.24
* **4.26** Gen 29.20
* **4.27** Prov 2.18; 5.5; 7.26, 27; Sir 9.8
* **4.31** v 19
* **4.34** Ps 19.5, 6
* **4.35** Jn 14.6

m **4.36** That is, *heaven*

* **4.37** Ps 14.1; 2 Esd 8.35; Jn 8.44; 1 Jn 2.4
* **4.39** Deut 10.17; Sir 35.12–16
* **4.40** Deut 32.4; 1 Chr 29.11; Jer 10.10

n **4.42** Gk *him*

* **4.42** 1 Esd 3.5–7

o **4.44** Cn: Gk *vowed*

* **4.44** v 57; 1 Esd 1.39; 2.9; 6.17, 18
* **4.45** Ps 137.7; Ezek 35.5; Am 1.11; Ob 10–16
* **4.46** vv 42, 58; Dan 4.37; Tob 13.7, 11
* **4.47** v 49; 1 Esd 3.2, 14
* **4.48** 1 Kings 5.6; Ezra 3.7; 1 Esd 5.53
* **4.50** v 45; Ezek 36.5; Ob 13
* **4.52** 1 Esd 5.50
* **4.56** 1 Macc 3.28
* **4.57** v 44
* **4.58** v 46; 1 Kings 8.48; Dan 4.37; 6.10
* **4.59** 1 Chr 29.11; Sir 1.1; 2 Macc 13.15; Jas 1.5
* **4.60** 1 Kings 3.12; Prov 2.6; Wis 7.15
* **4.63** 1 Kings 8.29, 43; 1 Esd 5.2, 57

1 Esdras 5

* **5.4** 1 Esd 1.5, 10
* **5.5** vv 47, 56; Ezra 3.2; Neh 12.1, 10; Jdt 4.6; 15.8
* **5.6** 1 Esd 2.25; 4.13
* **5.7** Ezra 2.1–65; Neh 7.5–73
* **5.18** 1 Kings 2.26; Jer 32.7
* **5.19** Josh 9.17; 18.26
* **5.35** 1 Kings 9.21; 1 Esd 1.3; 8.5, 22, 48

p **5.40** Or *the governor*

q **5.40** Other ancient authorities read *priest*

r **5.40** Gk *Manifestation and Truth*

* **5.40** Ex 28.30; Ezra 2.63; Neh 8.9
s **5.45** Or *those who were of the people*
* **5.45** 1 Esd 9.37
* **5.46** Ezra 3.1–7; Neh 7.73; 8.1, 3; 1 Esd 9.6, 37, 38, 41
* **5.47** v 5
* **5.49** Ezra 6.21; Neh 10.28; 1 Esd 4.52
t **5.50** Or *Tabernacles*
* **5.50** Lev 23.33–36
u **5.53** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **5.53** 2 Chr 2.16; 1 Esd 4.48
* **5.54** Ezra 3.8
* **5.56** v 5; Ezra 3.8–11
* **5.57** v 2; 1 Esd 4.63
* **5.60** Ezra 3.12, 13
* **5.63** Ezra 4.1–5
* **5.65** v 5
* **5.66** Ezra 4.2
v **5.69** Meaning of Gk uncertain

1 Esdras 6

* **6.1** Ezra 4.24; 5.1–17; 1 Esd 5.70
* **6.3** Ezra 5.3
* **6.5** v 8; Lk 1.68
* **6.8** v 26; Ezra 5.7; Jdt 6.16; 1 Esd 7.2; 8.9
* **6.10** vv 5, 8, 26; Jdt 6.16; 1 Esd 7.2; 9.13
* **6.14** Heb 3.16
* **6.15** 1 Esd 1.52
* **6.16** 1 Esd 2.1
* **6.17** 1 Esd 2.9, 11; 4.44
* **6.19** 1 Esd 2.11
w **6.20** Other ancient authorities read *of Cyrus*
x **6.22** Other authorities read *passage*
* **6.22** Ezra 6.1–12
* **6.23** Ex 29.42; 30.8; Num 16.46; 28.6
* **6.25** 1 Esd 2.9
y **6.26** Gk *he*
* **6.26** vv 8, 28; 1 Esd 7.1
* **6.30** Jdt 13.18; Add Esth 16.16; 1 Esd 8.19, 21; Mk 5.7
z **6.31** Other authorities read *stated above* or *added in writing*

1 Esdras 7

* **7.1** Ezra 6.13–22; 1 Esd 2.16; 6.26
* **7.2** 1 Esd 6.8
* **7.4** 1 Esd 6.21
* **7.5** Ezra 6.15
* **7.9** v 15; Lk 1.68

a **7.11** Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **7.15** v 9; Ezra 6.22; Lk 1.68

1 Esdras 8

* **8.1** 1 Chr 6.4–14; Ezra 7.1–28; 2 Esd 1.1–3

b **8.2** Gk *the first*

* **8.2** Ezra 7.2–5

c **8.4** Gk *him*

* **8.5** vv 22, 48; 1 Esd 1.3; 5.29
* **8.6** v 49
* **8.8** 1 Esd 9.39, 42, 49
* **8.9** 1 Esd 6.7; 9.39, 42, 49
* **8.11** Esth 1.14; 1 Macc 2.18
* **8.19** 1 Esd 6.30; 9.39, 42, 49
* **8.20** Jn 2.6
* **8.21** 1 Esd 6.30
* **8.22** vv 5, 48
* **8.23** 1 Esd 2.16

d **8.25** Other ancient authorities lack *Then Ezra the scribe said*

* **8.28** Ezra 8.1–36
* **8.41** v 60; Ezra 8.15, 21, 31
* **8.48** vv 5, 22
* **8.50** v 6
* **8.55** vv 56, 61; Mt 26.15
* **8.56** vv 55, 61; Ezra 8.27; Mt 26.15
* **8.60** v 41
* **8.61** vv 55, 56; Mt 26.15
* **8.63** v 69; Ex 20.24; Ezra 8.35; 1 Esd 7.9; 9.39; Lk 1.68

e **8.64** Gk *they*

* **8.64** 1 Esd 2.16; 4.49
* **8.65** Ezra 9.1–15
* **8.66** Ezra 9.1; Neh 9.2

f **8.67** Gk *their daughters*

* **8.68** v 69

g **8.69** Or *zealous for*
* **8.69** 1 Esd 7.9; 9.39
* **8.74** Jdt 4.12
* **8.75** Isa 37.31
* **8.76** Ezra 9.8
* **8.77** Ezra 9.8
* **8.79** v 8
* **8.84** vv 75, 85, 86; Isa 27.6; 37.31
* **8.85** vv 75, 84, 86; Isa 27.6; 37.31; Mal 4.1
* **8.86** Isa 27.6; 37.31
* **8.88** Ezra 10.1–5
h **8.91** Other ancient authorities read *as seems good to you." And all who obeyed the law of the Lord rose and said to Ezra,* 95 *"Rise up*

1 Esdras 9

* **9.1** Ezra 10.6–8
i **9.4** Gk *he himself*
* **9.5** Ezra 10.9–44
* **9.6** vv 38, 41; 1 Esd 5.46
* **9.8** Josh 7.19
* **9.17** vv 37, 40; Ezra 10.17
* **9.19** 1 Esd 5.5
* **9.37** v 17; Neh 7.73; 1 Esd 5.46, 46
* **9.38** v 6; Neh 8.1–12; 1 Esd 5.46
* **9.39** 1 Esd 7.9; 8.8, 63
* **9.40** vv 17, 49
* **9.41** v 6; Neh 8.1, 3; 1 Esd 5.46
* **9.42** 1 Esd 8.8
* **9.46** 2 Sam 5.10; Am 4.13; 1 Esd 6.30
j **9.47** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
k **9.48** Other ancient authorities add *and read the law of the Lord to the multitude*
* **9.48** v 55
l **9.49** Or *the governor*
m **9.49** Other ancient authorities read *priest*
* **9.49** v 40; 1 Esd 8.8
* **9.51** 1 Cor 11.22
n **9.55** The Greek text ends abruptly
* **9.55** v 48

The Prayer of Manasseh

Prayer of Manasseh 1

ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE

[1]O Lord Almighty,
God of our ancestors,
of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob
and of their righteous offspring,*
[2]you who made heaven and earth
with all their order,
[3]who shackled the sea by your word of command,
who confined the deep
and sealed it with your terrible and glorious name,*
[4]at whom all things shudder
and tremble before your power,
[5]for your glorious splendor cannot be borne,
and the wrath of your threat to sinners is unendurable;
[6]yet immeasurable and unsearchable
is your promised mercy,*
[7]for you are the Lord Most High,
of great compassion, long-suffering, and very merciful,
and you relent at human suffering.
O Lord, according to your great goodness
you have promised repentance and forgiveness
to those who have sinned against you,
and in the multitude of your mercies
you have appointed repentance for sinners,

so that they may be saved.[a,*]

[8]Therefore you, O Lord, God of the righteous,
have not appointed repentance for the righteous,
for Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, who did not sin against you,
but you have appointed repentance for me, who am a sinner.*

CONFESSION OF SINS

[9]For the sins I have committed are more in number than the sand
of the sea;
my transgressions are multiplied, O Lord, they are multiplied!
I am not worthy to look up and see the height of heaven
because of the multitude of my iniquities.*

[10]I am weighted down with many an iron fetter,
so that I am rejected[b] because of my sins,
and I have no relief,
for I have provoked your wrath
and have done what is evil in your sight,
setting up abominations and multiplying offenses.*

SUPPLICATION FOR PARDON

[11]And now I bend the knee of my heart,
imploring you for your kindness.

[12]I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned,
and I acknowledge my transgressions.*

[13]I earnestly implore you,
forgive me, O Lord, forgive me!
Do not destroy me with my transgressions!
Do not be angry with me forever or store up evil for me;
do not condemn me to the depths of the earth.
For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent,*

[14]and in me you will manifest your goodness,
for, unworthy as I am, you will save me according to your great mercy,
[15]and I will praise you continually all the days of my life.
For all the host of heaven sings your praise,
and yours is the glory forever. Amen.*

Prayer of Manasseh 1

* **1** Ex 3.6; 2 Chr 33.12, 13; Sir 10.19; Mt 6.9; Lk 11.2
* **3** Job 38.8–11
* **6** Rom 11.33; Eph 3.8
a **7** Other ancient authorities lack *O Lord, according . . . be saved*
* **7** Ps 86.15; Joel 2.13; Sir 2.11; 2 Cor 7.10
* **8** Wis 12.19; Lk 15.7; 18.13
* **9** Ezra 9.6; Ps 40.12; Isa 59.12
b **10** Other ancient authorities read *so that I cannot lift up my head*
* **10** 2 Kings 21.2, 7, 11; 2 Chr 33.7, 11; Sir 17.25
* **12** Ps 51.3
* **13** Ps 63.9; 88.6
* **15** 1 Chr 29.11; Ps 103.21; 148.2; Song of Thr 38; 1 Esd 4.59

Psalm 151

This psalm is ascribed to David as his own composition (though it is outside the number[a]), after he had fought in single combat with Goliath.

[1]I was small among my brothers
and the youngest in my father's house;
I tended my father's sheep.*

[2]My hands made a harp;
my fingers fashioned a lyre.*

[3]And who will tell my Lord?
The Lord himself; it is he who hears.[b],*

[4]It was he who sent his messenger[c]
and took me from my father's sheep
and anointed me with his anointing oil.*

[5]My brothers were handsome and tall,
but the Lord was not pleased with them.*

[6]I went out to meet the foreigner,[d]
and he cursed me by his idols.*

[7]But I drew his own sword;
I beheaded him and removed disgrace from the people of Israel.*

Psalm 151

a **151.1** Other ancient authorities add *of the one hundred fifty* (psalms)
* **151.1** 1 Sam 16.11; 17.36–38
* **151.2** 1 Sam 16.23
b **151.3** Other ancient authorities add *everything*; others add *me*; others read *who will hear me*
* **151.3** Sir 16.20, 22
c **151.4** Gk: Q ms *prophet*
* **151.4** 1 Sam 16.1–11, 13
* **151.5** 1 Sam 16.7, 10
d **151.6** Gk: Q ms *Philistine*
* **151.6** 1 Sam 17.43
* **151.7** 1 Sam 17.51, 57

3 Maccabees

3 Maccabees 1

THE BATTLE OF RAPHIA

1 When Philopator learned from those who returned that the regions that he had controlled had been seized by Antiochus, he gave orders to all his forces, both infantry and cavalry, took with him his sister Arsinoë, and marched out to the region near Raphia, where the army of Antiochus was encamped.* [2]But a certain Theodotus, determined to carry out the plot he had devised, took with him the best of the Ptolemaic arms that had been previously issued to him[a] and crossed over by night to the tent of Ptolemy, intending single-handedly to kill him and thereby end the war. [3]But Dositheus, known as the son of Drimylus, a Jew by birth who later changed his customs and abandoned the ancestral traditions, had led the king away and arranged that a certain insignificant man should sleep in the tent, and so it turned out that this man incurred the punishment meant for the king.[b] [4]A fierce battle ensued, and when matters were turning out rather in favor of Antiochus, Arsinoë went to the troops with wailing and tears, her locks all disheveled, and exhorted them to defend themselves and their children and wives bravely, promising to give them each two minas of gold if they won the battle. [5]And so it came about that the enemy was routed in the action, and many captives also were taken. [6]Now that he had foiled the plot, Ptolemy[c] decided to visit the neighboring cities and encourage them. [7]By doing this and by endowing their sacred enclosures with gifts, he strengthened the morale of his subjects.*

PHILOPATOR ATTEMPTS TO ENTER THE TEMPLE

8 Since the Jews had sent some of their council and elders to greet him, to bring him gifts of welcome, and to congratulate him on what had happened, he was all the more eager to visit them as soon as possible.* [9]After he had arrived in Jerusalem, he offered sacrifice to the supreme God and made thank offerings and did what was fitting for the place. Then, upon

entering the place and being impressed by its excellence and its beauty,* 10he marveled at the good order of the temple and conceived a desire to enter the sanctuary. 11When they said that this was not permitted because not even members of their own nation were allowed to enter, not even all of the priests, but only the high priest who was preeminent over all—and he only once a year—the king was by no means persuaded. 12Even after the law had been read to him, he did not cease to maintain that he ought to enter, saying, "Even if those men are deprived of this honor, I ought not to be."* 13And he inquired why, when he entered every other temple,[d] no one there had stopped him. 14And someone answered thoughtlessly that it was wrong to place any significance in that.[e] 15"But since this has happened," the king[f] said, "why should not I at least enter, whether they wish it or not?"

JEWISH RESISTANCE TO PTOLEMY

16 Then the priests in all their vestments prostrated themselves and entreated the supreme God to aid in the present situation and to avert the violence of this evil design, and they filled the temple with cries and tears;* 17those who remained behind in the city were agitated and hurried out, supposing that something mysterious was occurring.* 18Young women who had been secluded in their chambers rushed out with their mothers, sprinkled their hair with dust,[g] and filled the streets with groans and lamentations.* 19Those women who had recently been arrayed for marriage abandoned the bridal chambers[h] prepared for wedded union and, neglecting proper modesty, in a disorderly rush flocked together in the city.* 20Mothers and nurses abandoned even newborn children here and there, some in houses and some in the streets, and without a backward look they crowded together at the most high temple. 21Various were the supplications of those gathered there because of what the king was profanely plotting.* 22In addition, the bolder of the citizens would not tolerate the completion of his plans or the fulfillment of his intended purpose. 23They shouted to their compatriots to take arms and die courageously for the ancestral law and created a considerable disturbance in the place, and, being barely restrained by the old men and the elders,[i] they resorted to the same posture of supplication as the others.* 24Meanwhile, the crowd, as before, was engaged in prayer, 25while the elders near the king tried in various ways to change

his arrogant mind from the plan that he had conceived.* 26But he, in his arrogance, took heed of nothing and began now to approach, determined to bring the aforesaid plan to a conclusion. 27When those who were around him observed this, they turned, together with our people, to call upon him who has all power to defend them in the present trouble and not to overlook this unlawful and haughty deed. 28The continuous, vehement, and concerted cry of the crowds[j] resulted in an immense uproar, 29for it seemed that not only the people but also the walls and the whole earth around echoed, because indeed all at that time[k] preferred death to the profanation of the place.*

3 Maccabees 2

THE PRAYER OF THE HIGH PRIEST SIMON

[[**1** Then the high priest Simon, facing the sanctuary, bending his knees, and extending his hands with calm dignity, prayed as follows:]][l,*] 2"Lord, Lord, king of the heavens and sovereign of all creation, holy among the holy ones, the only ruler, almighty, give attention to us who are suffering grievously from an impious and profane man, puffed up in his audacity and power. 3For you, the creator of all things and the governor of all, are a just ruler, and you judge those who have done anything in insolence and arrogance. 4You destroyed those who in the past committed injustice, among whom were even giants who trusted in their strength and boldness, whom you destroyed by bringing on them a boundless flood.* 5You consumed with fire and sulfur the people of Sodom who acted arrogantly, who were notorious for their vices,[m] and you made them an example to those who should come afterward.* 6By inflicting many and varied punishments on the audacious pharaoh who had enslaved your holy people Israel, you made known your sovereignty; thus you made known your great strength.* 7And when he pursued them with chariots and a mass of troops, you overwhelmed him in the depths of the sea but carried through safely those who had put their confidence in you, the Ruler over the whole creation.* 8And when they had seen the works of your hand, they praised you, the Almighty. 9You, O King, when you had created the boundless and immeasurable earth, chose this city and sanctified this place for your name, though you have no need of anything, and when you had glorified it by your magnificent manifestation, you made it a firm foundation for the glory of your great and honored name.* 10And because you love the house of Israel, you promised that, if we should have reverses and tribulation should overtake us, you would listen to our petition when we come to this place and pray.* 11And indeed you are faithful and true. 12And because oftentimes when our fathers were oppressed you helped them in their humiliation and rescued them from great evils,* 13see now, O holy King, that because of our many and great sins we are crushed with suffering, subjected to our enemies, and overtaken by helplessness. 14In our downfall this audacious and profane man

undertakes to violate the holy place on earth dedicated to your glorious name.* 15For your dwelling is the heaven of heavens, unapproachable by human beings.* 16But because you were pleased that your glory should dwell among your people Israel, you sanctified this place.* 17Do not punish us for the defilement committed by these men or call us to account for this profanation; otherwise the transgressors will boast in their wrath and exult in the arrogance of their tongue, saying, 18'We have trampled down the house of holiness as the houses of the abominations are trampled down.'* 19Wipe away our sins and disperse our errors and reveal your mercy at this hour. 20Speedily let your mercies overtake us, put praises in the mouths of those who are downcast and broken in spirit, and give us peace."

GOD'S PUNISHMENT OF PTOLEMY

21 Thereupon God, who oversees all things, the first Father of all, holy among the holy ones, having heard the lawful supplication, scourged him who had exalted himself in insolence and audacity.* 22He shook him on this side and that as a reed is shaken by the wind, so that he lay helpless on the ground and, besides being paralyzed in his limbs, was unable even to speak, since he was ensnared by a righteous judgment.* 23Then both Friends and bodyguards, seeing the severe punishment that had overtaken him and fearing that he would lose his life, quickly dragged him out, panic-stricken in their exceedingly great fear.* 24After a while he recovered, and though he had been punished, he by no means repented but went away uttering bitter threats.

HOSTILE MEASURES AGAINST THE JEWS

25 When he arrived in Egypt, he increased in his deeds of malice, abetted by the previously mentioned drinking companions and comrades who were strangers to everything just. 26He was not content with his uncounted licentious deeds but even continued with such audacity that he established an evil reputation in the various localities, and many of his Friends, intently observing the king's purpose, themselves also followed his will. 27He proposed to inflict public disgrace on the nation, and he set up a stone on the tower in the courtyard with this inscription: 28"None of those who do

not sacrifice shall enter their sanctuaries, and all Jews shall be subjected to a registration involving poll tax and to the status of slaves. Those who object to this are to be taken by force and put to death;* 29those who are registered are also to be branded on their bodies by fire with the ivy-leaf symbol of Dionysus, and they shall also be reduced to their former limited status."* 30In order that he might not appear to be an enemy of all, he inscribed below: "But if any of them prefer to join those who have been initiated into the mysteries, they shall have equal citizenship with the Alexandrians."*

31 Now some, with an obvious abhorrence of the price to be exacted for maintaining the piety of their city,[n] readily gave themselves up, since they expected to enhance their reputation by their future association with the king.* 32But the majority acted firmly with a courageous spirit and did not abandon their piety, and by paying money in exchange for life they boldly attempted to save themselves from the registration.* 33They remained resolutely hopeful of obtaining help, and they abhorred those who separated themselves from them, considering them to be enemies of the nation and depriving them of common fellowship and mutual help.

3 Maccabees 3

THE JEWS AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

1 When the impious king comprehended this situation, he became so infuriated that not only was he enraged against those Jews who lived in Alexandria but was still more bitterly hostile toward those in the countryside, and he ordered that all should promptly be gathered into one place and put to death by the most cruel means.* [2]While these matters were being arranged, a hostile rumor was circulated against the people by some who conspired to do them ill, a pretext being given by a report that they hindered others[o] from the observance of their customs.* [3]The Jews, however, continued to maintain goodwill and unswerving loyalty toward the dynasty, [4]but because they worshiped God and conducted themselves by his law, they kept their separateness with respect to foods. For this reason they appeared hateful to some,* [5]but since they adorned their style of life with the good deeds of upright people, they were established in good repute with everyone. [6]Nevertheless, foreigners paid no heed to the good conduct of the people, which was common talk among all; [7]instead, they gossiped about the differences in worship and foods, alleging that these people were loyal neither to the king nor to his authorities but were hostile and greatly opposed to his government. So it was no ordinary reproach that they attached to them.

8 The Greeks in the city, though wronged in no way, when they saw an unexpected tumult around these people and the crowds that suddenly were forming, were not strong enough to help them, for they lived under tyranny. They did try to console them, being grieved at the situation, and expected that matters would change,* [9]for such a great community ought not be left to its fate when it had committed no offense. [10]And already some of their neighbors and friends and business associates had taken some of them aside privately and were pledging to protect them and to do everything in their power to help.

PTOLEMY'S DECREE THAT ALL JEWS BE ARRESTED

11 Then the king, boastful of his present good fortune and not considering the might of the supreme God, but assuming that he would persevere constantly in his same purpose, wrote this letter against them:*

12 "King Ptolemy Philopator to his generals and soldiers in Egypt and all its districts, greetings and good health:

13 "I myself and our government are faring well. [14]When our expedition took place in Asia, as you yourselves know, it was brought to conclusion, according to plan, by the gods' deliberate alliance with us in battle, [15]and we considered that we should not rule the nations inhabiting Coelesyria and Phoenicia by the power of the spear but should cherish them with clemency and great benevolence, gladly treating them well. [16]And when we had granted very great revenues to the temples in the cities, we came on to Jerusalem also and went up to honor the temple of those wicked people, who never cease from their folly.* [17]They accepted our presence by word but insincerely by deed, because when we proposed to enter their inner temple and honor it with magnificent and most beautiful offerings,* [18]they were carried away by their traditional arrogance and excluded us from entering, but they were spared the exercise of our power because of the benevolence that we have toward all.* [19]By maintaining their manifest ill-will toward us, they become the only people among all nations who hold their heads high in defiance of kings and their own benefactors and are unwilling to regard any action as sincere.*

20 "But we, when we arrived in Egypt victorious, accommodated ourselves to their folly and did as was proper, since we treat all nations with benevolence. [21]Among other things, we made known to all our amnesty toward their compatriots here, both because of their alliance with us and the myriad affairs liberally entrusted to them from the beginning, and we ventured to make a change, by deciding both to deem them worthy of Alexandrian citizenship and to make them participants in our regular religious rites.p,* [22]But in their innate malice they took this in a contrary spirit and disdained what is good. Since they incline constantly to evil, [23]they not only spurn the priceless citizenship, but also both by speech and by silence they abhor those few among them who are sincerely disposed toward us; in every situation, in accordance with their infamous way of life, they secretly suspect that we may soon alter our policy.* [24]Therefore, fully

convinced by these indications that they are ill-disposed toward us in every way, we have taken precautions so that, if a sudden disorder later arises against us, we shall not have these impious people behind our backs as traitors and barbarous enemies. [25]Therefore we have given orders that, as soon as this letter arrives, you are to send to us those who live among you, together with their wives and children, with insulting and harsh treatment and bound securely with iron fetters, to suffer the sure and shameful death that befits enemies.* [26]For when all of these have been punished, we are sure that for the remaining time the government will be established for ourselves in good order and in the best state. [27]But those who shelter any of the Jews, whether old people or children or even infants, will be tortured to death with the most hateful torments, together with their families. [28]Any who are willing to give information will receive the property of those who incur the punishment, and also two thousand drachmas from the royal treasury, and will be awarded their freedom.ꝗ [29]Every place detected sheltering a Jew is to be made unapproachable and burned with fire and shall become useless for all time to any mortal creature.” [30]The letter was written in the above form.

3 Maccabees 4

THE JEWS DEPORTED TO ALEXANDRIA

1 In every place, then, where this decree arrived, a feast at public expense was arranged for the nations with shouts and gladness, for the inveterate enmity that had long ago been in their minds was now made evident and outspoken.* [2]But among the Jews there was indescribable mourning, lamentation, and tearful cries and groans; everywhere their hearts were burning, and they groaned because of the unexpected destruction that had suddenly been decreed for them.* [3]What district or city, or what habitable place at all, or what streets were not filled with mourning and wailing for them? [4]For with such a harsh and ruthless spirit were they being sent off, all together, by the generals in every city that at the sight of their unusual punishments even some of their enemies, perceiving the common object of pity before their eyes, reflected on the uncertainty of life and shed tears at the most miserable expulsion of these people. [5]For a multitude of gray-headed old men, sluggish and bent with age, was being led away, forced to march at a swift pace by the violence with which they were driven in such a shameful manner. [6]And young women who had just entered the bridal chamber[r] to share married life exchanged joy for wailing, their myrrh-perfumed hair sprinkled with ashes, and were carried away unveiled, all together raising a lament instead of a wedding song, as they were torn by the harsh treatment of foreign nations.* [7]In bonds and in public view they were violently dragged along as far as the place of embarkation. [8]Their husbands, in the prime of youth, their necks encircled with ropes instead of garlands, spent the remaining days of their marriage festival in lamentations instead of feasting and youthful revelry, seeing Hades already lying at their feet.* [9]They were brought on board like wild animals, driven under the constraint of iron bonds; some were fastened by the neck to the benches of the boats; others had their feet secured by unbreakable fetters, [10]and in addition they were confined under a solid deck, so that, with their eyes in total darkness, they would undergo treatment befitting traitors during the whole voyage.

THE JEWS IMPRISONED AT SCHEDIA

11 When these people had been brought to the place called Schedia and the voyage was concluded as the king had decreed, he commanded that they should be enclosed in the hippodrome that had been built with an immense perimeter wall in front of the city and that was well suited to make them an obvious spectacle to all coming back into the city and to those from the city[s] going out into the country, so that they could neither communicate with the king's forces nor in any way claim to be inside the circuit of the city.[t] 12And when this had happened, the king, hearing that the Jews' compatriots from the city frequently went out in secret to lament bitterly the ignoble misfortune of their kindred, 13ordered in his rage that these people be dealt with in precisely the same fashion as the others, not omitting any detail of their punishment. 14The entire people was to be registered individually, not for the hard labor that has been briefly mentioned before but to be tortured with the outrages that he had ordered and at the end to be destroyed in the space of a single day.[*] 15The registration of these people was therefore conducted with bitter haste and zealous intensity from the rising of the sun until its setting, coming to an end after forty days but still not completed.

16 The king was greatly and continually filled with joy, organizing banquets in honor of all his idols, with a mind alienated from truth and with a profane mouth, praising speechless things that are not able even to communicate or to come to one's help and uttering improper words against the supreme God.[*] 17But after the previously mentioned interval of time the scribes declared to the king that they were no longer able to take the census of the Jews because of their immense number, 18though most of them were still in the country, some still residing in their homes, and some at the place;[u] the task was impossible for all the generals in Egypt. 19After he had threatened them severely, charging that they had been bribed to contrive a means of escape, he was clearly convinced about the matter 20when they said and proved that both the papyrus and the reeds they used for writing had already given out. 21But this was an act of the invincible providence of him who was aiding the Jews from heaven.

3 Maccabees 5

EXECUTION OF THE JEWS IS TWICE THWARTED

1 Then the king, completely inflexible, was filled with overpowering anger
and wrath, so he summoned Hermon, keeper of the elephants, [2]and ordered
him on the following day to drug all the elephants—five hundred in number
—with large handfuls of frankincense and plenty of unmixed wine and to
drive them in, maddened by the lavish abundance of drink, so that the Jews
might meet their doom. [3]When he had given these orders he returned to his
feasting, together with those of his Friends and of the army who were
especially hostile toward the Jews.* [4]And Hermon, keeper of the elephants,
proceeded faithfully to carry out the orders.* [5]The officials in charge of the
Jews[v] went out in the evening and bound the hands of the wretched people
and arranged for their continued custody through the night, convinced that
the whole people would experience its final destruction.* [6]For to the nations
it appeared that the Jews were left without any aid, because in their bonds
they were forcibly confined on every side. [7]But with tears and a voice hard
to silence they all called upon the Almighty Lord and Ruler of all power,
their merciful God and Father, praying [8]that he avert the evil plot against
them and in a glorious manifestation rescue them from the fate now
prepared for them.* [9]So their entreaty ascended fervently to heaven.

10 Hermon, however, when he had drugged the pitiless elephants until
they had been filled with a great abundance of wine and satiated with
frankincense, presented himself at court early in the morning to report to the
king about these preparations.* [11]But the Lord[w] sent upon the king a portion
of sleep, that beneficence that from the beginning, night and day, is
bestowed by him who grants it to whomever he wishes. [12]And by the action
of the Lord he was overcome by so pleasant and deep a sleep[x] that he quite
failed in his lawless purpose and was completely frustrated in his inflexible
plan. [13]Then the Jews, since they had escaped the appointed hour, praised
their holy God and again implored him who is easily reconciled to show the
might of his all-powerful hand to the arrogant nations.

14 But now, since it was nearly the middle of the tenth hour, the person in charge of the invitations, seeing that the guests were assembled, approached the king and nudged him. [15]And when he had with difficulty roused him, he pointed out that the hour of the banquet was already slipping by, and he gave him an account of the situation. [16]The king, after considering this, returned to his drinking and ordered those present for the banquet to recline opposite him. [17]When this was done he urged them to give themselves over to feasting and to make the present portion of the banquet joyful by celebrating all the more. [18]After the party had been going on for some time, the king summoned Hermon and with bitter threats demanded to know why the Jews had been allowed to remain alive through the present day. [19]But when he, with the corroboration of the king's[y] Friends, pointed out that while it was still night he had carried out completely the order given him, [20]the king,[z] possessed by a savagery worse than that of Phalaris, said that the Jews[a] were benefited by today's sleep, "but," he added, "tomorrow without delay prepare the elephants in the same way for the destruction of the lawless Jews!"[*] [21]When the king had spoken, all those present readily and joyfully with one accord gave their approval, and all went to their own homes. [22]But they did not so much spend the duration of the night in sleep as in devising all sorts of insults for those they thought to be doomed.

23 Then, as soon as the cock had crowed in the early morning, Hermon, having equipped[b] the animals, began to move them along in the great colonnade. [24]The crowds of the city had been assembled for this most pitiful spectacle and were eagerly waiting for daybreak. [25]But the Jews, being at that very moment at their last gasp, stretched their hands toward heaven and with most tearful supplication and mournful dirges implored the supreme God to help them again at once.[*] [26]The rays of the sun were not yet shed abroad, and while the king was receiving his Friends, Hermon arrived and invited him to come out, indicating that what the king desired was ready for action. [27]But he, on receiving the report and being struck by the unusual invitation to come out—since he had been completely overcome by incomprehension—inquired what the matter was for which this had been so zealously completed for him. [28]This was the act of God who rules over all things, for he had implanted in the king's mind a forgetfulness of the things he had previously devised. [29]Then Hermon and

all the king's Friends[c] pointed out that the animals and the armed forces were ready, "O king, according to your eager purpose."[d,*] [30]But at these words he was filled with an overpowering wrath because by the providence of God his whole mind had been deranged concerning these matters, and with a threatening look he said, [31]"If your parents or children were present, I would have prepared them to be a rich feast for the savage animals instead of the Jews, who give me no ground for complaint and have exhibited to an extraordinary degree a full and firm loyalty to my ancestors. [32]In fact, you would have been deprived of life instead of these, were it not for the affection arising from our common upbringing and lifelong association."[*] [33]So Hermon suffered an unexpected and dangerous threat, and his eyes wavered and his face fell. [34]The Friends one by one sullenly slipped away and dismissed the assembled people to their own occupations. [35]Then the Jews, on hearing what the king had said, praised the manifest Lord God, King of kings, since this also was his aid that they had received.

36 The king, however, reconvened the banquet in the same manner and urged the guests to return to their celebrating.[*] [37]After summoning Hermon he said in a threatening tone, "How many times, you wretched man, must I give you orders about these things? [38]Equip[e] the elephants now once more for the destruction of the Jews tomorrow!" [39]But the Kinsmen who were at table with him, wondering at his instability of mind, remonstrated as follows: [40]"O king, how long will you put us to the test, as though we are idiots, ordering now for a third time that they be destroyed and again revoking your decree in the matter?[f] [41]As a result the city is in a tumult because of its expectation; it is crowded with mobs of people and also in constant danger of being plundered."[*]

42 At this the king, a Phalaris in everything and filled with madness, took no account of the changes of mind that had come about within him for the protection of the Jews, and he firmly swore an irrevocable oath that he would send them to Hades without delay, mangled by the knees and feet of the animals, [43]and would also march against Judea and rapidly level it to the ground with fire and spear, and by burning to the ground the temple inaccessible to him[g] would quickly render it forever empty of those who offered sacrifices there.[*] [44]Then the Friends and Kinsmen departed with

great joy, and they confidently posted the armed forces at the places in the city most favorable for keeping guard.

45 Now when the animals had been brought virtually to a state of madness, so to speak, by the very fragrant draughts of wine mixed with frankincense and had been equipped with frightful devices, the elephant keeper* [46]entered the court around dawn—the city now being filled with countless masses of people crowding their way into the hippodrome—and urged the king on to the matter at hand. [47]So he, when he had filled his impious mind with a deep rage, rushed out in full force along with the animals, wishing to witness, with invulnerable heart and with his own eyes, the grievous and pitiful destruction of the aforementioned people.

48 When the Jews saw the dust raised by the elephants going out at the gate and by the following armed forces, as well as by the trampling of the crowd, and heard the loud and tumultuous noise, [49]they thought that this was their last moment of life, the end of their most miserable suspense, and giving way to lamentation and groans they kissed each other, embracing relatives and falling into one another's arms[h]—parents and children, mothers and daughters, and others with babies at their breasts who were drawing their last milk. [50]Nevertheless, when they considered the help that they had received before from heaven, they prostrated themselves with one accord on the ground, removing the babies from their breasts, [51]and cried out in a very loud voice, imploring the Ruler over every power to manifest himself and be merciful to them, as they stood now at the gates of Hades.

3 Maccabees 6

THE PRAYER OF ELEAZAR

1 Then a certain Eleazar, famous among the priests of the country, who had attained a ripe old age and throughout his life had been adorned with every virtue, directed the elders around him to stop calling upon the holy God, and he prayed as follows:* [2]"King of great power, Almighty God Most High, governing all creation with mercy, [3]look upon the descendants of Abraham, O Father, upon the children of the consecrated Jacob, a people of your consecrated inheritance who are perishing as foreigners in a foreign land. [4]Pharaoh with his abundance of chariots, the former ruler of this Egypt, exalted with lawless insolence and boastful tongue, you destroyed together with his arrogant army by drowning them in the sea, manifesting the light of your mercy on the people of Israel. [5]Sennacherib exulting in his countless forces, oppressive king of the Assyrians, who had already gained control of the whole world by the spear and was lifted up against your holy city, speaking grievous words with boasting and insolence, you, O Lord, broke in pieces, showing your power to many nations.* [6]The three companions in Babylon who had voluntarily surrendered their lives to the flames so as not to serve vain things, you rescued unharmed, even to a hair, moistening the fiery furnace with dew and turning the flame against all their enemies.* [7]Daniel, who through envious slanders was thrown down into the ground to lions as food for wild animals, you brought up to the light unharmed.* [8]And Jonah, wasting away in the belly of a huge, sea-born monster, you, Father, watched over and restored[i] unharmed to all his family.* [9]And now, you who hate insolence, all-merciful and protector of all, reveal yourself quickly to those of the people of Israel[j] who are being outrageously treated by the abominable and lawless nations.

10 "Even if our lives have become entangled in impieties in our exile, rescue us from the hand of the enemy and destroy us, Lord, by whatever fate you choose. [11]Let not the vain-minded praise their vanities[k] at the destruction of your beloved ones, saying, 'Not even their god rescued them.'* [12]But you, O Eternal One, who have all might and all power, watch

over us now and have mercy on us who by the senseless insolence of the lawless are being deprived of life in the manner of traitors. [13]And let the nations cower today in fear of your invincible might, O honored One, who have power to save the people of Jacob. [14]The whole throng of infants and their parents entreat you with tears. [15]Let it be shown to all the nations that you are with us, O Lord, and have not turned your face from us, but just as you said, 'Not even when they were in the land of their enemies did I neglect them,' so accomplish it, O Lord."*

TWO ANGELS RESCUE THE JEWS

16 Just as Eleazar was ending his prayer, the king arrived at the hippodrome with the animals and all the arrogance of his forces. [17]And when the Jews observed this they raised great cries to heaven so that even the nearby valleys resounded with them and brought an uncontrollable terror upon the entire army.* [18]Then the most glorious, almighty, and true God revealed his holy face and opened the heavenly gates, from which two glorious angels of fearful aspect descended, visible to all but the Jews.* [19]They opposed the forces of the enemy and filled them with confusion and terror, binding them with immovable shackles.* [20]Even the body of the king began to shudder, and he forgot his sullen insolence. [21]The animals turned back upon the armed forces following them and began trampling and destroying them.*

22 Then the king's anger was turned to pity and tears because of the things that he had devised earlier. [23]For when he heard the shouting and saw them all lying prostrate for destruction, he wept and angrily threatened his Friends, saying, [24]"You are committing treason and surpassing tyrants in cruelty, and even me, your benefactor, you are now attempting to deprive of dominion and life by secretly devising acts of no advantage to the kingdom. [25]Who has driven from their homes those who faithfully kept our country's fortresses and contrary to reason has gathered every one of them here?* [26]Who is it that has so lawlessly encompassed with outrageous treatment those who from the beginning in every way surpassed all nations in their goodwill toward us and often have accepted willingly the worst of human dangers? [27]Loose and untie their unjust bonds! Send them back to their homes in peace, begging pardon for your former actions![1] [28]Release the

children of the almighty and living God of heaven, who from the time of our ancestors until now has granted uninterrupted stability and glory to our government." [29]These then were the things he said, and the Jews, immediately released, praised their holy God and Savior, since they now had escaped death.

THE JEWS CELEBRATE THEIR DELIVERANCE

30 Then the king, when he had returned to the city, summoned the official in charge of the revenues and ordered him to provide to the Jews both wines and everything else needed for a festival of seven days, deciding that they should celebrate a festival of deliverance with all joyfulness in that same place in which they had expected to meet their destruction.* [31]Accordingly, those disgracefully treated and near to Hades, or rather, who stood at its gates, arranged for a banquet of deliverance instead of a bitter and lamentable death, and full of joy they apportioned to groups of revelers the place that had been prepared for their destruction and burial. [32]They stopped their chanting of dirges and took up the song of their ancestors, praising God, their Savior and worker of wonders.[m] Putting an end to all mourning and wailing, they formed choruses[n] as a sign of peaceful joy. [33]Likewise also the king, after convening a lavish banquet to celebrate these events, gave thanks to heaven unceasingly and lavishly for the unexpected rescue that he[o] had experienced. [34]Those who had previously believed that the Jews would be destroyed and become food for birds and had joyfully registered them groaned as they themselves were overcome by disgrace and their fire-breathing boldness was ignominiously[p] quenched.

35 The Jews, as we have said before, arranged the aforementioned choral group[q] and passed the time in feasting to the accompaniment of joyous thanksgiving and psalms.* [36]And when they had ordained a public rite for these things for their whole community for generations to come, they instituted the observance of the aforesaid days as a festival, not for drinking and gluttony but because of the deliverance that had come to them through God.* [37]Then they petitioned the king, asking for dismissal to their homes. [38]So their registration was carried out from the twenty-fifth of Pachon to the fourth of Epeiph, for forty days, and their destruction was set for the fifth to the seventh of Epeiph, the three days* [39]on which the Lord of all most

gloriously revealed his mercy and rescued them all together and unharmed.
40Then they feasted, being provided with everything by the king, until the
fourteenth day, on which also they made the petition for their dismissal.*
41The king granted their request and wrote the following letter for them to
the generals in the cities, magnanimously expressing his concern:

3 Maccabees 7

PTOLEMY'S LETTER ON BEHALF OF THE JEWS

1 "King Ptolemy Philopator to the generals in Egypt and all in authority in his government, greetings and good health:

2 "We ourselves and our children are faring well, the great God guiding our affairs according to our desire. [3]Certain of our Friends, frequently urging us with malicious intent, persuaded us to gather together the Jews of the kingdom in a body and to punish them with extraordinary penalties as traitors, [4]for they declared that our government would never be firmly established until this was accomplished because of the ill-will that these people had toward all nations. [5]They also led them out with harsh treatment as slaves, or rather as traitors, and, girding themselves with a cruelty more savage than that of Scythian custom, they tried without any inquiry or examination to put them to death.[*] [6]But we very severely threatened them for these acts, and in accordance with the clemency that we have toward all people we barely spared their lives. Since we have come to realize that the God of heaven surely defends the Jews, always taking their part as a father does for his children,[*] [7]and since we have taken into account the friendly and firm goodwill that they have shown toward us and our ancestors, we justly have acquitted them of every charge of whatever kind. [8]We also have ordered all people to return to their own homes, with no one in any place[r] doing them harm at all or reproaching them for the irrational things that have happened. [9]For you should know that, if we devise any evil against them or cause them any grief at all, we always shall have not a mortal but the Ruler over every power, the Most High God, in everything and inescapably as an antagonist to avenge such acts. Farewell."

THE JEWS RETURN HOME WITH JOY

10 On receiving this letter the Jews[s] did not immediately hurry to make their departure, but they requested of the king that at their own hands those of the Jewish people who had willfully transgressed against the holy God and the law of God should receive the punishment they deserved. [11]They

declared that those who for the belly's sake had transgressed the divine commandments would never be favorably disposed toward the king's government. 12The king[t] then, admitting and approving the truth of what they said, granted them a general license so that freely and without royal authority or supervision they might destroy those everywhere in his kingdom who had transgressed the law of God. 13When they had applauded him in fitting manner, their priests and the whole multitude shouted the Hallelujah and joyfully departed. 14And so on their way they punished and put to a public and shameful death any whom they met of their compatriots who had become defiled. 15In that day they put to death more than three hundred men, and they kept the day as a joyful festival, since they had destroyed the profaners. 16But those who had held fast to God even to death and had received the full enjoyment of deliverance began their departure from the city crowned with all sorts of very fragrant flowers, joyfully and loudly giving thanks to the God of their ancestors, the eternal Savior[u] of Israel, in words of praise and all kinds of melodious songs.*

17 When they had arrived at Ptolemais, called "rose-bearing" because of its characteristic feature, the fleet waited for them, in accordance with the common desire, for seven days. 18There they celebrated their deliverance,[v] for the king had generously provided all things to them for their journey until all of them arrived at their own houses. 19And when they had all landed in peace with appropriate thanksgiving, there also in like manner they decided to observe these days as a joyous festival during the time of their stay.* 20Then, after inscribing them as holy on a pillar and dedicating a place of prayer at the site of the banquet, they departed unharmed, free, and overjoyed, since at the king's command they had all of them been brought safely by land and sea and river to their own homes. 21They also possessed greater prestige among their enemies, being held in honor and awe, and they were not subject at all to confiscation of their belongings by anyone. 22Besides, they all recovered all of their property, in accordance with the registration, so that those who held any of it restored it to them with extreme fear.[w] So the supreme God perfectly performed great deeds for their deliverance.* 23Blessed be the Deliverer of Israel through all times! Amen.*

3 Maccabees 1

* **1.1** Dan 11.11
a **1.2** Or *the best of the Ptolemaic soldiers previously put under his command*
b **1.3** Gk *that one*
c **1.6** Gk *he*
* **1.7** 2 Macc 5.16
* **1.8** 2 Macc 3.9
* **1.9** v 16; 2 Chr 4.19
* **1.12** Ex 30.10; Lev 16.34
d **1.13** Or *entered the temple precincts*
e **1.14** Gk *take that as a portent*
f **1.15** Gk *he*
* **1.16** v 9; Ex 28.2–5; 2 Macc 3.15
* **1.17** 2 Macc 3.18
g **1.18** Other ancient authorities add *and ashes*
* **1.18** 2 Macc 1.18; 3.19
h **1.19** Or *the canopies*
* **1.19** 3 Macc 4.6
* **1.21** 2 Macc 3.20
i **1.23** Other ancient authorities read *priests*
* **1.23** 1 Macc 1.63
* **1.25** v 10
j **1.28** Other ancient authorities read *vehement cry of the assembled crowds*
k **1.29** Other ancient authorities lack *at that time*
* **1.29** 1 Macc 1.63

3 Maccabees 2

l **2.1** Many ancient authorities lack 2.1
* **2.1** Sir 50.1–3
* **2.4** Gen 6.4–7; 7.21, 23; Jdt 16.6; Wis 14.6; Sir 16.7
m **2.5** Other ancient authorities read *secret in their vices*
* **2.5** Gen 19.24
* **2.6** Ex 5.1–12.51
* **2.7** Ex 14.21–31
* **2.9** Ex 15.1–18; 1 Macc 7.37, 38
* **2.10** 1 Kings 8.33–53
* **2.12** 2 Macc 8.19
* **2.14** 2 Macc 14.36
* **2.15** 2 Macc 5.15

* **2.16** 1 Kings 8.27–29
* **2.18** 1 Macc 6.7
* **2.21** Isa 63.16
* **2.22** 2 Macc 3.27; 9.4–10
* **2.23** 2 Macc 3.24
* **2.28** 2 Macc 6.9; 8.10
* **2.29** 2 Macc 6.7
* **2.30** 2 Macc 4.9
n **2.31** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **2.31** 1 Macc 1.15; 2 Macc 4.10; 3 Macc 3.21
* **2.32** v 28

3 Maccabees 3

* **3.1** 4 Macc 4.23
o **3.2** Gk *them*
* **3.2** Esth 3.8
* **3.4** 4 Macc 5.2, 3
* **3.8** 1 Macc 12.21
* **3.11** 3 Macc 1.9, 16; 5.25; 7.22
* **3.16** 3 Macc 1.9
* **3.17** 3 Macc 1.10
* **3.18** 3 Macc 1.11
* **3.19** Esth 3.8
p **3.21** Other ancient authorities read *partners of our regular priests*
* **3.21** 3 Macc 5.31
* **3.23** 2 Macc 4.9
* **3.25** Ex 1.10
q **3.28** Gk *crowned with freedom*

3 Maccabees 4

* **4.1** Esth 3.15
* **4.2** Esth 4.3
r **4.6** Or *the canopy*
* **4.6** 1 Macc 1.27; 3 Macc 1.18, 19
* **4.8** 1 Macc 1.27
s **4.11** Gk *those of them*
t **4.11** Or *claim protection of the walls*; meaning of Gk uncertain
* **4.14** 3 Macc 2.28
* **4.16** Wis 15.15
u **4.18** Other ancient authorities read *on the way*

3 Maccabees 5

* **5.3** 1 Macc 2.18
* **5.4** 3 Macc 6.1
v **5.5** Gk *them*
* **5.5** 3 Macc 3.25; 4.9
* **5.8** 2 Macc 2.21
* **5.10** v 2
w **5.11** Gk *he*
x **5.12** Other ancient authorities add *from evening until the ninth hour*
y **5.19** Gk *his*
z **5.20** Gk *he*
a **5.20** Gk *they*
* **5.20** v 2
b **5.23** Or *armed*
* **5.25** 3 Macc 1.9; 3.11; 4.16
c **5.29** Gk *all the Friends*
d **5.29** Other ancient authorities read *pointed to the beasts and the armed forces, saying, "They are ready, O king, according to your eager purpose."*
* **5.29** 1 Macc 2.18
* **5.32** 3 Macc 3.21
* **5.36** v 18
e **5.38** Or *Arm*
f **5.40** Other ancient authorities read *when the matter is in hand*
* **5.41** v 24
g **5.43** Gk *us*
* **5.43** 2 Macc 9.4
* **5.45** v 2
h **5.49** Gk *falling upon their necks*

3 Maccabees 6

* **6.1** 2 Macc 6.18; 3 Macc 1.16; 5.4; 4 Macc 6.5; 7.1
* **6.5** 2 Kings 19.35
* **6.6** Dan 3.27
* **6.7** Dan 6.24
i **6.8** Other ancient authorities read *rescued and restored*; others, *mercifully restored*
* **6.8** Jon 1.17–2.9
j **6.9** Other ancient authorities read *to the holy ones of Israel*
k **6.11** Or *bless their vain gods*
* **6.11** Ps 115.2; Wis 2.16–24
* **6.15** Lev 26.44

* **6.17** 2 Macc 3.24; 3 Macc 1.29
* **6.18** 2 Macc 3.26; 5.4; 10.29
* **6.19** Wis 18.3, 15, 17; 2 Macc 3.24–26; 10.29
* **6.21** 3 Macc 5.42
* **6.25** 3 Macc 3.1
l **6.27** Other ancient authorities read *revoking your former commands*
* **6.30** 2 Macc 10.6
m **6.32** Other ancient authorities read *praising Israel and the wonder-working God*; or *praising Israel's Savior, the wonder-working God*
n **6.32** Or *dances*
o **6.33** Other ancient authorities read *they*
p **6.34** Other ancient authorities read *completely*
q **6.35** Or *dance*
* **6.35** 1 Macc 13.51
* **6.36** Esth 9.18; 1 Macc 4.56; 2 Macc 10.6; 15.36
* **6.38** 3 Macc 4.15
* **6.40** v 30

3 Maccabees 7

* **7.5** 2 Macc 4.47; 4 Macc 10.7
* **7.6** 2 Macc 3.39
r **7.8** Other ancient authorities read *way*
s **7.10** Gk *they*
t **7.12** Gk *He*
u **7.16** Other ancient authorities read *the holy Savior*; others, *the holy one*
* **7.16** Esth 8.17
v **7.18** Gk *they made a cup of deliverance*
* **7.19** 3 Macc 6.36
w **7.22** Other ancient authorities read *with a very large supplement*
* **7.22** 3 Macc 1.9, 16; 3.11; 4.16; 5.25
* **7.23** Tob 14.15; 4 Macc 18.24

(c) The following book is included in the Slavonic Bible as 3 Esdras but is not found in the Greek. It is included in the Appendix to the Latin Vulgate Bible as 4 Esdras.

2 Esdras

Comprising what is sometimes called 5 Ezra (chapters 1–2), 4 Ezra (chapters 3–14), and 6 Ezra (chapters 15–16)

2 Esdras 1

THE GENEALOGY OF EZRA

1 The book[a] of the prophet Ezra son of Seraiah, son of Azariah, son of Hilkiah, son of Shallum, son of Zadok, son of Ahitub,* 2son of Ahijah, son of Phinehas, son of Eli, son of Amariah, son of Azariah, son of Meraimoth, son of Arna, son of Uzzi, son of Borith, son of Abishua, son of Phinehas, son of Eleazar, 3son of Aaron, of the tribe of Levi, who was a captive in the country of the Medes in the reign of Artaxerxes, king of the Persians.

EZRA'S PROPHETIC CALL

4 The word of the Lord came to me, saying, 5"Go, declare to my people their evil deeds and to their children the iniquities that they have committed against me, so that they may tell their children's children* 6that the sins of their parents have increased in them, for they have forgotten me and have offered sacrifices to strange gods.* 7Was it not I who brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage? But they have angered me and despised my counsels.* 8Now you, pull out the hair of your head and hurl[b] all evils upon them, for they have not obeyed my law—they are a rebellious people.* 9How long shall I endure them, on whom I have bestowed such great benefits?* 10For their sake I have overthrown many kings; I struck down Pharaoh with his servants and all his army.* 11I destroyed all nations before them and scattered in the east the peoples of two provinces,[c] Tyre and Sidon; I killed all their enemies.*

GOD'S MERCIES TO ISRAEL

12 "But speak to them and say: Thus says the Lord: [13]Surely it was I who
brought you through the sea and made safe highways for you where there
was no road; I gave you Moses as leader and Aaron as priest;* [14]I provided
light for you from a pillar of fire and did great wonders among you. Yet you
have forgotten me, says the Lord.*

15 "Thus says the Lord Almighty:[d] The quails were a sign to you; I gave
you camps for your protection, and in them you complained.* [16]You have
not exulted in my name at the destruction of your enemies, but to this day
you still complain.[e] [17]Where are the benefits that I bestowed on you? When
you were hungry and thirsty in the wilderness, did you not cry out to me,
[18]saying, 'Why have you led us into this wilderness to kill us? It would
have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in this
wilderness.'* [19]I pitied your groanings and gave you manna for food; you
ate the bread of angels.* [20]When you were thirsty, did I not split the rock so
that waters flowed in abundance? Because of the heat I clothed you with the
leaves of trees.[f,*] [21]I divided fertile lands among you; I drove out the
Canaanites,[g] the Perizzites, and the Philistines[h] before you. What more can
I do for you? says the Lord.* [22]Thus says the Lord Almighty:[i] When you
were in the wilderness, at the bitter stream, thirsty and blaspheming my
name,* [23]I did not send fire on you for your blasphemies but threw a tree
into the water and made the stream sweet.*

ISRAEL'S DISOBEDIENCE AND REJECTION

24 "What shall I do to you, O Jacob? You, Judah, would not obey me. I
will turn to other nations and will give them my name, so that they may
keep my statutes.* [25]Because you have forsaken me, I also will forsake you.
When you beg mercy of me, I will show you no mercy.* [26]When you call to
me, I will not listen to you, for you have defiled your hands with blood, and
your feet are swift to commit murder.* [27]It is not as though you had
forsaken me; you have forsaken yourselves, says the Lord.

28 "Thus says the Lord Almighty: Have I not entreated you as a father
entreats his sons or a mother her daughters or a nurse her children, [29]so that
you should be my people and I should be your God and that you should be

my children and I should be your father?* 30I gathered you as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But now, what shall I do to you? I will cast you out from my presence.* 31When you offer oblations to me, I will turn my face from you, for I have rejected your[j] festal days and new moons and circumcisions of the flesh.[k],* 32I sent you my servants the prophets, but you have taken and killed them and torn their bodies[l] in pieces; I will require their blood of you, says the Lord.*

33 "Thus says the Lord Almighty: Your house is desolate; I will drive you out as the wind drives straw,* 34and your sons will have no children, because with you[m] they have neglected my commandment and have done what is evil in my sight.* 35I will give your houses to a people that will come, who without having heard me will believe. Those to whom I have shown no signs will do what I have commanded.* 36They have seen no prophets, yet will recall their former state.[n] 37I call to witness the gratitude of the people that is to come, whose children rejoice with gladness;[o] though they do not see me with bodily eyes, yet with the spirit they will believe the things I have said.*

38 "And now, father,[p] look with pride and see the people coming from the east;* 39to them I will give as leaders Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and Hosea and Amos and Micah and Joel and Obadiah and Jonah* 40and Nahum and Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi, who is also called the messenger of the Lord.[q]

2 Esdras 2

GOD'S JUDGMENT ON ISRAEL

1 "Thus says the Lord: I brought this people out of bondage, and I gave
them commandments through my servants the prophets, but they would not
listen to them and made my counsels void.* [2]The mother who bore them
says to them, 'Go, my children, because I am a widow and forsaken.* [3]I
brought you up with gladness, but with mourning and sorrow I have lost
you, because you have sinned before the Lord God and have done what is
evil in my sight.[r] [4]But now what can I do for you? For I am a widow and
forsaken. Go, my children, and ask for mercy from the Lord.'* [5]Now I call
upon you, father, as a witness in addition to the mother of the children,
because they would not keep my covenant, [6]so that you may bring
confusion on them and bring their mother to ruin, so that they may have no
offspring.* [7]Let them be scattered among the nations; let their names be
blotted out from the earth, because they have despised my covenant.*

8 "Woe to you, Assyria, who conceal the unrighteous within you!
O wicked nation, remember what I did to Sodom and Gomorrah,* [9]whose
land lies in lumps of pitch and heaps of ashes.[s] That is what I will do to
those who have not listened to me, says the Lord Almighty."

10 Thus says the Lord to Ezra: "Tell my people that I[t] will give them the
kingdom of Jerusalem, which I was going to give to Israel. [11]Moreover, I
will take back to myself their glory and will give to them the everlasting
habitations, which I had prepared for Israel. [12]The tree of life shall give
them fragrant perfume, and they shall neither toil nor become weary.* [13]Go[u]
and you will receive; pray that your days may be few, that they may be
shortened. The kingdom is already prepared for you; be on the watch!*
[14]Call, O call heaven and earth to witness: I set aside evil and created good,
for I am the Living One, says the Lord.

EXHORTATION TO GOOD WORKS

15 "Mother, embrace your children; bring them up with gladness, as does
a dove; strengthen their feet, because I have chosen you, says the Lord.*
16And I will raise up the dead from their places and bring them out from
their tombs, because I recognize my name in them.* 17Do not fear, mother
of children, for I have chosen you, says the Lord. 18I will send you help: my
servants Isaiah and Jeremiah. According to their counsel I have consecrated
and prepared for you twelve trees loaded with various fruits* 19and the same
number of springs flowing with milk and honey and seven mighty
mountains on which roses and lilies grow; by these I will fill your children
with joy.*

20 "Guard the rights of the widow, secure justice for the ward, give to the
needy, defend the orphan, clothe the naked,* 21care for the injured and the
weak, do not ridicule the lame, protect the maimed, and let the blind have a
vision of my splendor. 22Protect the old and the young within your walls.[v]
23When you find any who are dead, commit them to the grave and mark it,[w]
and I will give you the first place in my resurrection.* 24Pause and be quiet,
my people, because your rest will come.*

25 "Good nurse, nourish your children; strengthen their feet. 26Not one of
the servants whom I have given you will perish, for I will require them from
among your number. 27Do not be anxious, for when the day of tribulation
and anguish comes, others shall weep and be sorrowful, but you shall
rejoice and have abundance.* 28The nations shall envy you, but they shall
not be able to do anything against you, says the Lord.* 29My power will
protect[x] you, so that your children may not see Gehenna.[y]

30 "Rejoice, O mother, with your children, because I will deliver you,
says the Lord.* 31Remember your children who sleep, because I will bring
them out of the hiding places of the earth and will show mercy to them, for
I am merciful, says the Lord Almighty. 32Embrace your children until I
come, and proclaim mercy to them, because my springs run over, and my
grace will not fail."

EZRA ON MOUNT HOREB

33 I, Ezra, received a command from the Lord on Mount Horeb to go to
Israel. When I came to them, they rejected me and refused the Lord's

commandment.* 34Therefore I say to you, O nations that hear and understand, “Wait for your shepherd; he will give you everlasting rest, because he who will come at the end of the age is close at hand.* 35Be ready for the rewards of the kingdom, because perpetual light will shine on you forevermore.* 36Flee from the shadow of this age; receive the joy of your glory; I publicly call on my savior to witness.z,* 37Receive what the Lord has entrusted to you and be joyful, giving thanks to him who has called you to the celestial kingdoms.* 38Rise, stand erect, and see the number of those who have been sealed at the feast of the Lord.* 39Those who have departed from the shadow of this age have received glorious garments from the Lord.* 40Take again your full number, O Zion, and close the list of your people who are clothed in white, who have fulfilled the law of the Lord.* 41The number of your children, whom you desired, is now complete; implore the Lord’s authority that your people, who have been called from the beginning, may be made holy.”*

EZRA SEES THE SON OF GOD

42 I, Ezra, saw on Mount Zion a great multitude that I could not number, and they all were praising the Lord with songs.* 43In their midst was a young man of great stature, taller than any of the others, and on the head of each of them he placed a crown, but he was more exalted than they. And I was held spellbound.* 44Then I asked an angel, “Who are these, my lord?”* 45He answered and said to me, “These are they who have put off mortal clothing and have put on the immortal and have confessed the name of God. Now they are being crowned and receive palms.”* 46Then I said to the angel, “Who is that young man who is placing crowns on them and putting palms in their hands?” 47He answered and said to me, “He is the Son of God, whom they confessed in the world.” So I began to praise those who had stood valiantly for the name of the Lord.a,* 48Then the angel said to me, “Go, tell my people how great and how many are the wonders of the Lord God that you have seen.”

2 Esdras 3

EZRA'S PRAYER OF COMPLAINT

1 In the thirtieth year after the destruction of the city, I was in Babylon—I,
Salathiel, who am also called Ezra. I was troubled as I lay on my bed, and
my thoughts welled up in my heart[*] [2]because I saw the desolation of Zion
and the wealth of those who lived in Babylon. [3]My spirit was greatly
agitated, and I began to speak anxious words to the Most High and said,
[4]"O sovereign Lord, did you not speak at the beginning when you planted[b]
the earth—and that without help—and commanded the dust[c] [5]and it gave
you Adam, a lifeless body? Yet he was the creation of your hands, and you
breathed into him the breath of life, and he was made alive in your
presence.[*] [6]And you led him into the garden that your right hand had
planted before the earth appeared.[*] [7]And you laid upon him one
commandment of yours, but he transgressed it, and immediately you
appointed death for him and for his descendants. From him there sprang
nations and tribes, peoples and clans without number.[*] [8]And every nation
walked after its own will; they did ungodly things in your sight and rejected
your commands, and you did not hinder them.[*] [9]But again, in its time you
brought the flood upon the inhabitants of the world and destroyed them.[*]
[10]And the same fate befell all of them: just as death came upon Adam, so
the flood upon them. [11]But you left one of them, Noah with his household,
and all the righteous who have descended from him.[*]

12 "When those who lived on earth began to multiply, they produced
children and peoples and many nations, and again they began to be more
ungodly than were their ancestors. [13]And when they were committing
iniquity in your sight, you chose for yourself one of them, whose name was
Abraham;[*] [14]you loved him, and to him alone you revealed the end of the
times, secretly by night.[*] [15]You made an everlasting covenant with him and
promised him that you would never forsake his descendants, and you gave
him Isaac, and to Isaac you gave Jacob and Esau.[*] [16]You set apart Jacob for
yourself, but Esau you rejected, and Jacob became a great multitude.[*]
[17]And when you led his descendants out of Egypt, you brought them to

Mount Sinai.* [18]You bent down the heavens and shook[d] the earth and moved the world and caused the depths to tremble and troubled the times.* [19]Your glory passed through the four gates of fire and earthquake and wind and ice, to give the law to the descendants of Jacob and your commandment to the posterity of Israel.*

20 "Yet you did not take away their evil heart from them, so that your law might produce fruit in them.* [21]For the first Adam, burdened with an evil heart, transgressed and was overcome, as were also all who were descended from him.* [22]Thus the disease became permanent; the law was in the hearts of the people along with the evil root, but what was good departed, and the evil remained.* [23]So the times passed and the years were completed, and you raised up for yourself a servant named David.* [24]You commanded him to build a city for your name and there to offer you oblations from what is yours.* [25]This was done for many years, but the inhabitants of the city transgressed, [26]in everything doing just as Adam and all his descendants had done, for they also had the evil heart. [27]So you handed over your city to your enemies.

BABYLON COMPARED WITH ZION

28 "Then I said in my heart, Are the deeds of those who inhabit Babylon any better? Is that why it has gained dominion over Zion? [29]For when I came here I saw ungodly deeds without number, and my soul has seen many sinners during these thirty years.[e] And my heart failed me [30]because I have seen how you endure those who sin and have spared those who act wickedly and have destroyed your people and have protected your enemies* [31]and have not shown to anyone how your way may be comprehended.[f] Are the deeds of Babylon better than those of Zion? [32]Or has another nation known you besides Israel? Or what tribes have so believed the covenants as these tribes of Jacob? [33]Yet their reward has not appeared, and their labor has borne no fruit. For I have traveled widely among the nations and have seen that they abound in wealth, though they are unmindful of your commandments. [34]Now therefore weigh in a balance our iniquities and those of the inhabitants of the world, and it will be found which way the arrow of the scale tips.* [35]When have the inhabitants of the earth not sinned

in your sight? Or what nation has kept your commandments so well? [36]You may indeed find individuals who have kept your commandments, but nations you will not find.”*

2 Esdras 4

LIMITATIONS OF THE HUMAN MIND

1 Then the angel that had been sent to me, whose name was Uriel, answered* 2and said to me, "Your understanding has utterly failed regarding this world, and do you think you can comprehend the way of the Most High?"* 3Then I said, "Yes, my lord." And he replied to me, "I have been sent to show you three ways and to put before you three problems.* 4If you can solve one of them for me, then I will show you the way you desire to see and will teach you why the heart is evil."

5 I said, "Speak, my lord."

And he said to me, "Go, weigh for me the weight of fire, or measure for me a blast[g] of wind, or call back for me the day that is past."*

6 I answered and said, "Who of those that have been born can do that, that you should ask me about such things?"

7 And he said to me, "If I had asked you, 'How many dwellings are in the heart of the sea, or how many streams are at the source of the deep, or how many streams are above the firmament, or which are the exits of Hades, or which are the entrances[h] of paradise?'* 8perhaps you would have said to me, 'I never went down into the deep, nor as yet into Hades, neither did I ever ascend into heaven.'* 9But now I have asked you only about fire and wind and the day, things that you have experienced and from which you cannot be separated, and you have given me no answer about them."* 10He said to me, "You cannot understand the things with which you have grown up; 11how, then, can your mind comprehend the way of the Most High?[i] And how can one who is already worn out by the corrupt world understand incorruption?"[j] When I heard this, I fell on my face[k],* 12and said to him, "It would have been better for us not to be here than to come here and live in ungodliness and to suffer and not understand why."*

PARABLE OF THE FOREST AND THE SEA

13 He answered me and said, "I went into a forest of trees of the plain,
and they made a plan* [14]and said, 'Come, let us go and make war against
the sea, so that it may recede before us and so that we may make for
ourselves more forests.' [15]In like manner the waves of the sea also made a
plan and said, 'Come, let us go up and subdue the forest of the plain so that
there also we may gain more territory for ourselves.' [16]But the plan of the
forest was in vain, for the fire came and consumed it;* [17]likewise also the
plan of the waves of the sea was in vain,[l] for the sand stood firm and
blocked it.* [18]If now you were a judge between them, which would you
undertake to justify and which to condemn?"

19 I answered and said, "Each made a foolish plan, for the land has been
assigned to the forest and the locale of the sea a place to carry its waves."*

20 He answered me and said, "You have judged rightly, but why have
you not judged so in your own case? [21]For as the land has been assigned to
the forest and the sea to its waves, so also those who inhabit the earth can
understand only what is on the earth, and he who is[m] above the heavens can
understand what is above the height of the heavens."*

THE NEW AGE WILL MAKE ALL THINGS CLEAR

22 Then I answered and said, "I implore you, my lord, why[n] have I been
endowed with the power of understanding? [23]For I did not wish to inquire
about the ways above but about those things that we daily experience: why
Israel has been given over to the nations in disgrace; why the people whom
you loved has been given over to godless tribes and the law of our ancestors
has been brought to destruction and the written covenants no longer exist.*
[24]We pass from the world like locusts, and our life is like a mist,[o] and we
are not worthy to obtain mercy.* [25]But what will he do for his[p] name that is
invoked over us? It is about these things that I have asked."*

26 He answered me and said, "If you are alive, you will see, and if you
live long,[q] you will often marvel, because the age is hurrying swiftly to its
end.* [27]It will not be able to bring the things that have been promised to the
righteous in their appointed times, because this age is full of sadness and
infirmities.* [28]For the evil about which you ask me has been sown, but the
harvest of it has not yet come. [29]If therefore that which has been sown is not

reaped, and if the place where the evil has been sown does not pass away, the field where the good has been sown will not come. [30]For a grain of evil seed was sown in Adam's heart from the beginning, and how much ungodliness it has produced until now—and will produce until the time of threshing comes![*] [31]Consider now for yourself how much fruit of ungodliness a grain of evil seed has produced. [32]When heads of grain without number are sown, how great a threshing floor they will fill!"

WHEN WILL THE NEW AGE COME?

33 Then I answered and said, "How long?[r] When will these things be? Why are our years few and evil?"[*] [34]He answered me and said, "Do not be in a greater hurry than the Most High. You, indeed, are in a hurry for yourself,[s] but the Highest is in a hurry on behalf of many.[*] [35]Did not the souls of the righteous in their chambers ask about these matters, saying, 'How long are we to remain here?[t] And when will the harvest of our reward come?'[*] [36]And the archangel Jeremiel answered and said, 'When the number of those like yourselves[u] is completed, for he has weighed the age in the balance,[*] [37]and measured the times by measure, and numbered the times by number, and he will not move or arouse them until that measure is fulfilled.' "[*]

38 Then I answered and said, "But, O sovereign Lord, all of us also are full of ungodliness.[*] [39]It is perhaps on account of us that the time of threshing is delayed for the righteous—on account of the sins of those who inhabit the earth."

40 He answered me and said, "Go and ask a pregnant woman whether, when her nine months have been completed, her womb can keep the fetus within her any longer."

41 And I said, "No, lord, it cannot."

He said to me, "In Hades the chambers of the souls are like the womb.[*] [42]For just as a woman who is in labor makes haste to escape the pangs of birth, so also do these places hasten to give back those things who were committed to them from the beginning. [43]Then the things that you desire to see will be disclosed to you."

HOW MUCH TIME REMAINS?

44 I answered and said, “If I have found favor in your sight, and if it is possible, and if I am worthy,* 45show me this also: whether more time is to come than has passed or whether for us the greater part has gone by.* 46For I know what has gone by, but I do not know what is to come.”

47 And he said to me, “Stand at my right side, and I will show you the interpretation of a parable.”

48 So I stood and looked, and a flaming furnace passed by before me, and when the flame had gone by I looked, and the smoke remained. 49And after this a cloud full of water passed before me and poured down a heavy and violent rain, and when the violent rainstorm had passed, drops still remained in it.

50 He said to me, “Consider it for yourself, for just as the rain is more than the drops and the fire is greater than the smoke, so the quantity that passed was far greater, but drops and smoke remained.”*

51 Then I prayed and said, “Do you think that I shall live until those days? Or who will be alive in those days?”

52 He answered me and said, “Concerning the signs about which you ask me, I can tell you in part, but I was not sent to tell you concerning your life, for I do not know.*

2 Esdras 5

SIGNS OF THE END

1 "Now concerning the signs: behold, the days are coming when those who
inhabit the earth shall be seized with great terror,[v] and the way of truth shall
be hidden, and the land shall be barren of faith.[*] [2]Unrighteousness shall be
increased beyond what you yourself see and beyond what you heard of
formerly. [3]And the land that you now see ruling shall be a trackless waste,
and people shall see it desolate. [4]But if the Most High grants that you live,
you shall see it thrown into confusion after the third period,[w]

and the sun shall suddenly begin to shine at night
and the moon during the day.[*]

[5]Blood shall drip from wood,
and the stone shall utter its voice;
the peoples shall be troubled,
and the skies shall be changed.[x,*]

[6]"And one shall reign whom those who inhabit the earth do not expect, and
the birds shall fly away together, [7]and the sea of Sodom shall cast up fish,
and one whom the many do not know shall make his voice heard by night,
and all shall hear his voice.[y] [8]There shall be chaos also in many places, fire
shall often break out, the wild animals shall roam beyond their haunts, and
menstruous women shall bring forth monsters. [9]Salt waters shall be found
in the sweet, and all friends shall conquer one another; then shall reason
hide itself, and wisdom shall withdraw into its chamber,[*] [10]and it shall be
sought by many but shall not be found, and unrighteousness and unrestraint
shall increase on earth. [11]One country shall ask its neighbor, 'Has
righteousness or anyone who does right passed through you?' And it will
answer, 'No.' [12]At that time people shall hope but not obtain; they shall
labor, but their ways shall not prosper. [13]These are the signs that I am
permitted to tell you, and if you pray again and weep as you do now and
fast for seven days, you shall hear yet greater things than these."[*]

CONCLUSION OF THE VISION

14 Then I woke up, and my body shuddered violently, and my soul was so troubled that it fainted.* 15But the angel who had come and talked with me held me and strengthened me and set me on my feet.*

16 Now on the second night Phaltiel, a chief of the people, came to me and said, "Where have you been? And why is your face sad?* 17Or do you not know that Israel has been entrusted to you in the land of their exile? 18Rise therefore and eat some bread, and do not forsake us like a shepherd who leaves the flock in the power of savage wolves."*

19 Then I said to him, "Go away from me and do not come near me for seven days; then you may come to me."

He heard what I said and left me.* 20So I fasted seven days, mourning and weeping, as the angel Uriel had commanded me.*

EZRA'S SECOND PRAYER OF COMPLAINT

21 After seven days the thoughts of my heart were very grievous to me again.* 22Then my soul recovered the spirit of understanding, and I began once more to speak words in the presence of the Most High.* 23I said, "O sovereign Lord, from every forest of the earth, and from all its trees you have chosen one vine,* 24and from all the lands of the world you have chosen for yourself one region,[z] and from all the flowers of the world you have chosen for yourself one lily,* 25and from all the depths of the sea you have filled for yourself one river, and from all the cities that have been built you have consecrated Zion for yourself,* 26and from all the birds that have been created you have named for yourself one dove, and from all the flocks that have been made you have provided for yourself one sheep,* 27and from all the multitude of peoples you have gotten for yourself one people, and to this people, whom you have loved, you have given the law that is approved by all.* 28And now, O Lord, why have you handed the one over to the many and dishonored[a] the one root beyond the others and scattered your only one among the many?* 29And those who opposed your promises have trampled on those who believed your covenants. 30If you really hate your people, they should be punished at your own hands."*

RESPONSE TO EZRA'S COMPLAINTS

31 When I had spoken these words, the angel who had come to me on a previous night was sent to me.* [32]He said to me, "Listen to me, and I will instruct you; pay attention to me, and I will tell you more."

33 Then I said, "Speak, my lord." And he said to me, "Are you greatly disturbed in mind over Israel? Or do you love him more than his Maker does?"*

34 I said, "No, my lord, but because of my grief I have spoken, for every hour I suffer agonies of heart while I strive to understand the way of the Most High and to search out some part of his judgment."*

35 He said to me, "You cannot." And I said, "Why not, my lord? Why, then, was I born? Or why did not my mother's womb become my grave, so that I would not see the travail of Jacob and the exhaustion of the people of Israel?"*

36 He said to me, "Count up for me those who have not yet come, and gather for me the scattered raindrops, and make the withered flowers bloom again for me;* [37]open for me the closed chambers, and bring out for me the winds shut up in them, or show me the picture of a voice, and then I will explain to you the travail that you ask to see."*

38 I said, "O sovereign Lord, who is able to know these things except him whose dwelling is not with mortals?* [39]As for me, I am without wisdom, and how can I speak concerning the things that you have asked me?"*

40 He said to me, "Just as you cannot do one of the things that were mentioned, so you cannot discover my judgment or the goal of the love that I have promised to my people."*

WHY SUCCESSIVE GENERATIONS HAVE BEEN CREATED

41 I said, "Yet, O Lord, you have charge of those who are alive at the end, but what will those do who lived before me, or we ourselves, or those who come after us?"

42 He said to me, "I shall liken my judgment to a circle;[b] just as for those who are last there is no slowness, so for those who are first there is no haste."

43 Then I answered and said, "Could you not have created at one time those who have been and those who are and those who will be, so that you might show your judgment the sooner?"*

44 He replied to me and said, "The creation cannot move faster than the Creator, nor can the world hold at one time those who have been created in it."*

45 I said, "How have you said to your servant that you[c] will certainly give life at one time to your creation? If therefore all creatures will live at one time[d] and the creation will sustain them, it might even now be able to support all of them present at one time."

46 He said to me, "Ask a woman's womb, and say to it, 'If you bear ten children, why one after another?' Request it therefore to produce ten at one time."

47 I said, "Of course it cannot, but only each in its own time."

48 He said to me, "Even so I have given the womb of the earth to those who from time to time are sown in it.* [49]For as an infant does not bring forth, and a woman who has become old does not bring forth any longer, so I have made the same rule for the world that I created."*

WHEN AND HOW WILL THE END COME?

50 Then I inquired and said, "Since you have now given me the opportunity, let me speak before you. Is our mother, of whom you have told me, still young, or is she now approaching old age?"*

51 He replied to me, "Ask a woman who bears children, and she will tell you. [52]Say to her, 'Why are those whom you have borne recently not like those whom you bore before, but smaller in stature?'* [53]And she herself will answer you, 'Those born in the strength of youth are different from those born during the time of old age, when the womb is failing.' [54]Therefore you also should consider that you and your contemporaries are smaller in stature than those who were before you,* [55]and those who come after you will be smaller than you, as born of a creation that already is aging and passing the strength of youth."

56 I said, "I implore you, O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, show your servant through whom you will visit your creation."*

2 Esdras 6

1 He said to me, “At the beginning of the circle of the earth, before[e] the portals of the world were in place, and before the assembled winds blew,[*] [2]and before the rumblings of thunder sounded, and before the flashes of lightning shone, and before the foundations of paradise were laid, [3]and before the beautiful flowers were seen, and before the powers of movements[f] were established, and before the innumerable hosts of angels were gathered together,[*] [4]and before the heights of the air were lifted up, and before the measures of the firmaments were named, and before the footstool of Zion was established,[*] [5]and before the present years were reckoned, and before the imaginations of those who now sin were estranged, and before those who stored up treasures of faith were sealed[*] — [6]then I planned these things, and they were made through me alone and not through another, just as the end shall come through me alone and not through another.”[*]

THE DIVIDING OF THE TIMES

7 I answered and said, “What will be the dividing of the times, or when will be the end of the first age and the beginning of the age that follows?”

8 He said to me, “From Abraham to Isaac,[g] because from him were born Jacob and Esau, for Jacob’s hand held Esau’s heel from the beginning.[*] [9]Now Esau is the end of this age, and Jacob is the beginning of the age that follows. [10]The beginning of a person is the hand, and the end of a person is the heel;[h] seek for nothing else, Ezra, between the heel and the hand, Ezra!”

MORE SIGNS OF THE END

11 I answered and said, “O sovereign Lord, if I have found favor in your sight,[*] [12]show your servant the last of your signs of which you showed me a part on a previous night.”[*]

13 He answered and said to me, “Rise to your feet, and you will hear a full, resounding voice.[*] [14]And if the place where you are standing is greatly

shaken* 15while the voice is speaking, do not be terrified, because the word concerns the end, and the foundations of the earth will understand 16that the speech concerns them. They will tremble and be shaken, for they know that their end must be changed."

17 When I heard this, I got to my feet and listened; a voice was speaking, and its sound was like the sound of mighty[i] waters.* 18It said, "The days are coming when I draw near to visit the inhabitants of the earth,* 19and when I require from the doers of iniquity the penalty of their iniquity, and when the humiliation of Zion is complete.* 20When the seal is placed upon the age that is about to pass away, then I will show these signs: the books shall be opened before the face of the firmament, and all shall see my judgment[j] together.* 21Children a year old shall speak with their voices, and pregnant women shall give birth to premature children at three and four months, and these shall live and leap about. 22Sown places shall suddenly appear unsown, and full storehouses shall suddenly be found to be empty; 23the trumpet shall sound aloud, and when all hear it they shall suddenly be terrified.* 24At that time friends shall make war on friends like enemies, the earth and those who inhabit it shall be terrified, and the springs of the fountains shall stand still, so that for three hours they shall not flow.*

25 "It shall be that whoever remains after all that I have foretold to you shall be saved and shall see my salvation and the end of my world.* 26And they shall see those who were taken up, who from their birth have not tasted death, and the heart of the earth's[k] inhabitants shall be changed and converted to a different spirit.* 27For evil shall be blotted out, and deceit shall be quenched; 28faithfulness shall flourish, and corruption shall be overcome, and the truth, which has been so long without fruit, shall be revealed."*

CONCLUSION OF THE SECOND VISION

29 While he spoke to me, little by little the place where I was standing began to rock to and fro. 30And he said to me, "I have come to show you these things this night.[l] 31If therefore you will pray again and fast again for seven days, I will again declare to you greater things than these,[m,*] 32because your voice has surely been heard by the Most High, for the

Mighty One has seen your uprightness and has also observed the purity that you have maintained from your youth.* 33Therefore he sent me to show you all these things and to say to you: 'Believe and do not be afraid!* 34Do not be quick to think vain thoughts concerning the former times; then you will not act hastily in the last times.' "*

THE THIRD VISION

35 Now after this I wept again and fasted seven days in the same way as before, in order to complete the three weeks that had been prescribed for me.* 36Then on the eighth night my heart was troubled within me again, and I began to speak in the presence of the Most High.* 37My spirit was greatly aroused, and my soul was in distress.*

GOD'S WORK IN CREATION

38 I said, "O Lord, you spoke at the beginning of creation and said on the first day, 'Let heaven and earth be made,' and your word accomplished the work.* 39Then the spirit was blowing, and darkness and silence embraced everything; the sound of human voices was not yet there.[n],* 40Then you commanded a ray of light to be brought out from your storehouses, so that your works could be seen.*

41 "Again, on the second day, you created the spirit of the firmament and commanded it to divide and separate the waters, so that one part might move upward and the other part remain beneath.*

42 "On the third day you commanded the waters to be gathered together in a seventh part of the earth; six parts you dried up and kept so that some of them might be planted and cultivated and be of service before you.* 43For your word went forth, and at once the work was done. 44Immediately fruit came forth in endless abundance and of varied appeal to the taste, and flowers of inimitable color, and odors of inexpressible fragrance. These were made on the third day.*

45 "On the fourth day you commanded the brightness of the sun, the light of the moon, and the arrangement of the stars to come into being,* 46and you commanded them to serve the human who was about to be formed.

47 “On the fifth day you commanded the seventh part, where the water had been gathered together, to bring forth living creatures, birds, and fishes, and so it was done.* 48The dumb and lifeless water produced living creatures, as it was commanded, so that therefore the nations might declare your wondrous works.

49 “Then you kept in existence two living creatures that you created;[o] the one you called Behemoth[p] and the name of the other Leviathan.* 50And you separated one from the other, for the seventh part where the water had been gathered together could not hold them both.* 51And you gave Behemoth[q] one of the parts that had been dried up on the third day, to live in it, where there are a thousand mountains,* 52but to Leviathan you gave the seventh part, the watery part, and you have kept them to be eaten by whom you wish and when you wish.*

53 “On the sixth day you commanded the earth to bring forth before you cattle, wild animals, and creeping things,* 54and over these you placed Adam, as ruler over all the works that you had made, and from him we have all come, the people whom you have chosen.*

WHY DO GOD’S PEOPLE SUFFER?

55 “All this I have spoken before you, O Lord, because you have said that it was for us that you created this world.[r,*] 56As for the other nations that have descended from Adam, you have said that they are nothing and that they are like spittle, and you have compared their abundance to a drop from a bucket.* 57And now, O Lord, these nations, which are reputed to be as nothing, domineer over us and devour us.* 58But we your people, whom you have called your firstborn, only begotten, zealous for you,[s] and most dear, have been given into their hands.* 59If the world has indeed been created for us, why do we not possess our world as an inheritance? How long will this be so?”*

2 Esdras 7

RESPONSE TO EZRA'S QUESTIONS

1 When I had finished speaking these words, the angel who had been sent to
me on the former nights was sent to me again.* [2]He said to me, "Rise, Ezra,
and listen to the words that I have come to speak to you."

3 I said, "Speak, my lord." And he said to me, "There is a sea set in a
wide expanse so that it is deep and vast, [4]but it has an entrance set in a
narrow place, so that it is like a river. [5]If there are those who wish to reach
the sea, to look at it or to navigate it, how can they come to the broad part
unless they pass through the narrow part?* [6]Another example: There is a
city built and set on a plain, and it is full of all good things, [7]but the
entrance to it is narrow and set in a precipitous place, so that there is fire on
the right hand and deep water on the left.* [8]There is only one path lying
between them, that is, between the fire and the water, so that only one
person can walk on the path. [9]If now the city is given to someone as an
inheritance, how will the heir receive the inheritance unless by passing
through the appointed danger?"

10 I said, "That is right, lord." He said to me, "So also is Israel's portion.
[11]For I made the world for their sake, and when Adam transgressed my
statutes, what had been made was judged.* [12]And so the entrances of this
world were made narrow and sorrowful and toilsome; they are few and evil,
full of dangers and involved in great hardships.* [13]But the entrances of the
greater world are broad and safe and yield the fruit of immortality.*
[14]Therefore unless the living pass through the difficult and futile
experiences, they can never receive those things that have been reserved for
them.* [15]Now, therefore, why are you disturbed, seeing that you are to
perish? Why are you moved, seeing that you are mortal? [16]Why have you
not considered in your mind what is to come rather than what is now
present?"

THE FATE OF THE UNGODLY

17 Then I answered and said, "O sovereign Lord, you have ordained in your law that the righteous shall inherit these things but that the ungodly shall perish.* 18The righteous, therefore, can endure difficult circumstances while hoping for easier ones, but those who have done wickedly have suffered the difficult circumstances and will never see the easier ones."*

19 He said to me, "You are not a better judge than the Lord[t] or wiser than the Most High!* 20Let many perish who are now living rather than that the law of God that is set before them be disregarded! 21For the Lord[u] strictly commanded those who came into the world, when they came, what they should do to live and what they should observe to avoid punishment.* 22Nevertheless, they were not obedient and spoke against him;

they devised for themselves vain thoughts*
23and proposed to themselves wicked frauds;
they even declared that the Most High does not exist,
and they ignored his ways.*
24They scorned his law
and denied his covenants;
they have been unfaithful to his statutes
and have not performed his works.*

25"That is the reason, Ezra, that empty things are for the empty and full things are for the full.*

THE TEMPORARY MESSIANIC KINGDOM

26 "For indeed the time will come when the signs that I have foretold to you will come to pass, that the city that now is not seen shall appear[v] and the land that now is hidden shall be disclosed.* 27Everyone who has been delivered from the evils that I have foretold shall see my wonders.* 28For my son the Messiah[w] shall be revealed with those who are with him, and those who remain shall rejoice four hundred years.* 29After those years my son the Messiah shall die, and all who draw human breath.[x],* 30Then the world shall be turned back to primeval silence for seven days, as it was at the first beginnings, so that no one shall be left.* 31After seven days the

world that is not yet awake shall be roused, and that which is corruptible shall perish. 32The earth shall give up those who are asleep in it and the dust those who rest there in silence, and the chambers shall give up the souls that have been committed to them.* 33The Most High shall be revealed on the seat of judgment, and compassion shall pass away, and patience shall be withdrawn.[y,*] 34Only judgment shall remain, truth shall stand, and faithfulness shall grow strong.* 35Recompense shall follow, and the reward shall be manifested; righteous deeds shall awake, and unrighteous deeds shall not sleep.* 36The pit[z] of torment shall appear, and opposite it shall be the place of rest, and the furnace of Gehenna shall be disclosed, and opposite it the paradise of delight.* 37Then the Most High will say to the nations that have been raised from the dead, 'Look now, and understand whom you have denied, whom you have not served, whose commandments you have despised. 38Look on this side and on that; here are delight and rest, and there are fire and torments.' Thus he will speak to them on the day of judgment,* 39a day that has no sun or moon or stars,* 40or cloud or thunder or lightning, or wind or water or air, or darkness or evening or morning, 41or summer or spring or heat or winter[a] or frost or cold, or hail or rain or dew, 42or noon or night, or dawn or shining or brightness or light, but only the splendor of the glory of the Most High, by which all shall see what has been destined.* 43It will last as though for a week of years. 44This is my judgment and its prescribed order, and to you alone I have shown these things."*

ONLY A FEW WILL BE SAVED

45 I answered and said, "O sovereign Lord, I said then and[b] I say now: Blessed are those who are alive and keep your commandments!* 46But what of those for whom I prayed? For who among the living is there who has not sinned, or who is there among mortals who has not transgressed your covenant?* 47And now I see that the world to come will bring delight to few but torments to many.* 48For an evil heart has grown up in us that has alienated us from these and has brought us into corruption and the ways of death and has shown us the paths of perdition and removed us far from life —and that not merely for a few but for almost all who have been created."*

49 He answered me and said, "Listen to me, Ezra,[c] and I will instruct you
and will admonish you once more. [50]For this reason the Most High has
made not one world but two.* [51]Inasmuch as you have said that the
righteous are not many but few, while the ungodly abound, hear the
explanation for this.

52 "If you have just a few precious stones, will you add to them lead and
clay?"[d] [53]I said, "Lord, how could that be?" [54]And he said to me, "Not only
that, but ask the earth, and she will tell you; defer to her, and she will
declare it to you.* [55]Say to her, 'You produce gold and silver and bronze
and also iron and lead and clay,* [56]but silver is more abundant than gold,
and bronze than silver, and iron than bronze, and lead than iron, and clay
than lead.' [57]Judge therefore which things are precious and desirable, those
that are abundant or those that are rare?"

58 I said, "O sovereign Lord, what is plentiful is of less worth, for what
is more rare is more precious."

59 He answered me and said, "Consider within yourself what you have
thought, for the person who has what is hard to get rejoices more than the
person who has what is plentiful. [60]So also will be the judgment[e] that I have
promised, for I will rejoice over the few who shall be saved because it is
they who have made my glory to prevail now, and through them my name
has now been honored.* [61]I will not grieve over the great number of those
who perish, for it is they who are now like a mist and are similar to a flame
and smoke—they are set on fire and burn hotly and are extinguished."*

LAMENTATION OF EZRA, WITH RESPONSE

62 I replied and said, "O earth, what have you brought forth, if the mind
is made out of the dust like the other created things? [63]For it would have
been better if the dust itself had not been born, so that the mind might not
have been made from it.* [64]But now the mind grows with us, and therefore
we are tormented, because we perish and we know it. [65]Let the human race
lament, but let the wild animals of the field be glad; let all who have been
born lament, but let the cattle and the flocks rejoice. [66]It is much better with
them than with us, for they do not look for a judgment, and they do not
know of any torment or salvation promised to them after death. [67]What

does it profit us that we shall be preserved alive but cruelly tormented? [68]For all who have been born are entangled in[f] iniquities and are full of sins and burdened with transgressions. [69]And if after death we were not to come into judgment, perhaps it would have been better for us."*

70 He answered me and said, "When the Most High made the world and Adam and all who have come from him, he first prepared the judgment and the things that pertain to the judgment.* [71]But now, understand from your own words, for you have said that the mind grows with us.* [72]For this reason, therefore, those who live on earth shall be tormented, because though they had understanding they committed iniquity, and though they received the commandments they did not keep them, and though they obtained the law they dealt unfaithfully with what they received.* [73]What, then, will they have to say in the judgment, or how will they answer in the last times? [74]How long the Most High has been patient with those who inhabit the world!—and not for their sake but because of the times that he has foreordained."*

STATE OF THE DEAD BEFORE JUDGMENT

75 I answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, show this also to your servant: whether after death, as soon as everyone of us yields up the soul, we shall be kept in rest until those times come when you will renew the creation, or whether we shall be tormented at once?"*

76 He answered me and said, "I will show you that also, but do not include yourself with those who have shown scorn, or number yourself among those who are tormented. [77]For you have a treasure of works stored up with the Most High, but it will not be shown to you until the last times.* [78]Now concerning death, the teaching is: When the decisive decree has gone out from the Most High that a person shall die, as the spirit leaves the body to return again to him who gave it, first of all it adores the glory of the Most High.* [79]If it is one of those who have shown scorn and have not kept the way of the Most High, who have despised his law and hated those who fear God, [80]such spirits shall not enter into habitations but shall immediately wander about in torments, always grieving and sad, in seven ways.* [81]The first way: because they have scorned the law of the Most High. [82]The second way: because they cannot now make a good repentance

so that they may live. [83]The third way: they shall see the reward laid up for those who have trusted the covenants of the Most High.* [84]The fourth way: they shall consider the torment laid up for themselves in the last days. [85]The fifth way: they shall see how the habitations of the others are guarded by angels in profound quiet.* [86]The sixth way: they shall see how some of them will cross over[g] into torments. [87]The seventh way, which is worse than all the ways that have been mentioned: because they shall utterly waste away in confusion and be consumed with shame[h] and shall wither with fear at seeing the glory of the Most High in whose presence they sinned while they were alive and in whose presence they are to be judged in the last times.

88 "Now this is the order of those who have kept the ways of the Most High, when they shall be separated from their mortal body.[i] [89]During the time that they lived in it,[j] they laboriously served the Most High and withstood danger every hour so that they might keep the law of the Lawgiver perfectly.* [90]Therefore this is the teaching concerning them: [91]First of all, they shall see with great joy the glory of him who receives them, for they shall have rest in seven orders.* [92]The first order: because they have striven with great effort to overcome the evil thought that was formed with them, so that it might not lead them astray from life into death.* [93]The second order: because they see the perplexity in which the souls of the ungodly wander and the punishment that awaits them.* [94]The third order: they see the witness that he who formed them bears concerning them, that throughout their life they kept the law with which they were entrusted.* [95]The fourth order: they understand the rest that they now enjoy, being gathered into their chambers and guarded by angels in profound quiet and the glory waiting for them in the last days.* [96]The fifth order: they rejoice that they have now escaped what is corruptible and shall inherit what is to come; moreover, they see the straits and toil from which they have been delivered and the spacious liberty that they are to receive and enjoy in immortality.* [97]The sixth order: when it is shown them how their face is to shine like the sun and how they are to be made like the light of the stars, being incorruptible from then on.* [98]The seventh order, which is greater than all that have been mentioned: because they shall rejoice with boldness and shall be confident without confusion and shall be glad without

fear, for they press forward to see the face of him whom they served in life and from whom they are to receive their reward when glorified.* 99This is the order of the souls of the righteous, as henceforth is announced,[k] and the previously mentioned are the ways of torment that those who would not give heed shall suffer hereafter."

100 Then I answered and said, "Will time therefore be given to the souls, after they have been separated from the bodies, to see what you have described to me?"

101 He said to me, "They shall have freedom for seven days, so that during these seven days they may see the things of which you have been told, and afterward they shall be gathered in their habitations."*

NO INTERCESSION FOR THE UNGODLY

102 I answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, show further to me, your servant, whether on the day of judgment the righteous will be able to intercede for the ungodly or to entreat the Most High for them*—103fathers for sons or sons for parents, brothers for brothers, relatives for their kindred, or friends for those who are most dear."

104 He answered me and said, "Since you have found favor in my sight, I will show you this also. The day of judgment is decisive[l] and displays to all the seal of truth. Just as now a father does not send his son, or a son his father, or a master his servant, or a friend his dearest friend, to be ill[m] or sleep or eat or be healed in his place,* 105so no one shall ever pray for another on that day, neither shall anyone lay a burden on another,[n] for then all shall bear their own righteousness and unrighteousness."*

106 I answered and said, "How, then, do we find that first Abraham prayed for the people of Sodom, and Moses for our ancestors who sinned in the desert,* 107and Joshua after him for Israel in the days of Achan,* 108and Samuel in the days of Saul,[o] and David for the plague, and Solomon for those at the dedication,* 109and Elijah for those who received the rain and for the one who was dead, that he might live,* 110and Hezekiah for the people in the days of Sennacherib, and many others prayed for many?* 111So if now, when corruption has increased and unrighteousness has

multiplied, the righteous have prayed for the ungodly, why will it not be so then as well?"

112 He answered me and said, "This present world is not the end; the glory of God[p] does not[q] remain in it; therefore those who were strong prayed for the weak. [113]But the day of judgment will be the end of this age and the beginning[r] of the immortal age to come, in which corruption has passed away,* [114]sinful indulgence has come to an end, unbelief has been cut off, and righteousness has increased, and truth has appeared.* [115]Therefore no one will then be able to have mercy on someone who has been condemned in the judgment or to harm[s] someone who is victorious."*

LAMENTATION OVER THE FATE OF MOST PEOPLE

116 I answered and said, "This is my first and last comment: it would have been better if the earth had not produced Adam or else, when it had produced him, had restrained him from sinning.* [117]For what good is it to all that they live in sorrow now and expect punishment after death?* [118]O Adam, what have you done? For though it was you who sinned, the fall was not yours alone but ours also who are your descendants.* [119]For what good is it to us, if an immortal time has been promised to us, but we have done deeds that bring death?* [120]And what good is it that an everlasting hope has been promised to us, but we have miserably failed? [121]Or that safe and healthful habitations have been reserved for us, but we have lived wickedly? [122]Or that the glory of the Most High will defend those who have led a pure life, but we have walked in the most wicked ways? [123]Or that a paradise shall be revealed, whose fruit remains unspoiled and in which are abundance and healing, but we shall not enter it* [124]because we have lived in perverse places? [125]Or that the faces of those who practiced self-control shall shine more than the stars, but our faces shall be blacker than darkness?* [126]For while we lived and committed iniquity we did not consider what we should suffer after death."

127 He answered and said, "This is the significance of the contest that all who are born on earth shall wage:* [128]if they are defeated they shall suffer what you have said, but if they are victorious they shall receive what I have said.[t] [129]For this is the way of which Moses, while he was alive, spoke to

the people, saying, 'Choose life for yourself, so that you may live!'* [130]But they did not believe him or the prophets after him or even myself who have spoken to them.* [131]Therefore there shall not be[u] grief at their destruction so much as joy over those to whom salvation is assured."*

EZRA APPEALS TO GOD'S MERCY

132 I answered and said, "I know, O Lord, that the Most High is now called merciful because he has mercy on those who have not yet come into the world; [133]and gracious because he is gracious to those who turn in repentance to his law; [134]and patient because he shows patience toward those who have sinned, since they are his own creatures;* [135]and bountiful because he would rather give than take away;[v] [136]and abundant in compassion because he makes his compassions abound more and more to those now living and to those who are gone and to those yet to come— [137]for if he did not make them abound, the world with those who inhabit it would not have life— [138]and he is called the giver because if he did not give out of his goodness so that those who have committed iniquities might be relieved of them, not one ten-thousandth of humankind could have life;* [139]and the judge because if he did not pardon those who were created by his word and blot out the multitude of their sins,[w],* [140]there would probably be left only very few of the innumerable multitude."

2 Esdras 8

1 He answered me and said, “The Most High made this world for the sake
of many but the world to come for the sake of only a few.* 2But I tell you a
parable, Ezra. Just as, when you ask the earth, it will tell you that it provides
a large amount of clay from which earthenware is made but only a little dust
from which gold comes, so is the course of the present world.* 3Many have
been created, but only a few shall be saved.”*

EZRA AGAIN APPEALS TO GOD’S MERCY

4 I answered and said, “Then drink your fill of[x] understanding, O my
soul, and drink wisdom, O my heart. 5For not of your own will did you
come into the world,[y] and against your will you depart, for you have been
given only a short time to live.* 6O Lord above us, grant to your servant that
we may pray before you, and give us a seed for our heart and cultivation of
our understanding so that fruit may be produced, by which every mortal
who bears the likeness[z] of a human may be able to live.* 7For you alone
exist, and we are a work of your hands, as you have declared.* 8And
because you give life to the body that is now fashioned in the womb and
furnish it with members, what you have created is preserved amid fire and
water, and for nine months the womb[a] endures your creature that has been
created in it.* 9But that which keeps and that which is kept shall both be
kept by your keeping. And when the womb gives up again what has been
created in it, 10you have commanded that from the members themselves
(that is, from the breasts) milk, the fruit of the breasts, should be supplied,
11so that what has been fashioned may be nourished for a time, and
afterward you will still guide it in your mercy. 12You have nurtured it in
your righteousness and instructed it in your law and reproved it in your
wisdom. 13You put it to death as your creation and make it live as your
work.* 14If then you will suddenly and quickly[b] destroy what with so great
labor was fashioned by your command, to what purpose was it made?*
15And now I will speak out: About all humankind you know best, but I will
speak about your people, for whom I am grieved, 16and about your

inheritance, for whom I lament, and about Israel, for whom I am sad, and about the seed of Jacob, for whom I am troubled. [17]Therefore I will pray before you for myself and for them, for I see the failings of us who inhabit the earth,* [18]and now also[c] I have heard of the swiftness of the judgment that is to come.* [19]Therefore hear my voice and understand my words, and I will speak before you."

EZRA'S PRAYER

The beginning of the words of Ezra's prayer,[d] before he was taken up. He said:* [20]"O Lord, you who inhabit eternity,[e] whose eyes[f] are exalted and whose upper chambers are in the air, [21]whose throne is beyond measure and whose glory is beyond comprehension, before whom the hosts of angels stand trembling* [22]and at whose command they are changed to wind and fire,[g] whose word is sure and whose utterances are certain, whose command is strong and whose ordinance is terrible,* [23]whose look dries up the depths and whose indignation makes the mountains melt away, and whose truth is established[h] forever*—[24]hear, O Lord, the prayer of your servant, and give ear to the petition of your creature; attend to my words. [25]For as long as I live I will speak, and as long as I have understanding I will answer. [26]O do not look on the sins of your people but on those who serve you in truth. [27]Do not take note of the endeavors of those who act wickedly but of the endeavors of those who have kept your covenants amid afflictions.* [28]Do not think of those who have lived wickedly in your sight, but remember those who have willingly acknowledged that you are to be feared.* [29]Do not will the destruction of those who have the ways of cattle, but regard those who have gloriously taught your law.[i] [30]Do not be angry with those who are deemed worse than wild animals, but love those who have always put their trust in your glory. [31]For we and our ancestors have passed our lives in ways that bring death,[j] but it is because of us sinners that you are called merciful.* [32]For if you have desired to have pity on us, who have no works of righteousness, then you will be called merciful.* [33]For the righteous, who have many works laid up with you, shall receive their reward in consequence of their own deeds.* [34]But what are mortals that you are angry with them, or what is a corruptible race that you are so bitter against it?

35For in truth there is no one among those who have been born who has not acted wickedly; among those who have existed there is no one who has not done wrong.* 36For in this, O Lord, your righteousness and goodness will be declared: when you are merciful to those who have no store of good works."*

RESPONSE TO EZRA'S PRAYER

37 He answered me and said, "Some things you have spoken rightly, and it will turn out according to your words. 38For indeed I will not concern myself about the fashioning of those who have sinned or about their death, their judgment, or their destruction,* 39but I will rejoice over the creation of the righteous, over their pilgrimage also, and their salvation, and their receiving their reward.* 40As I have spoken, therefore, so it shall be.

41 "For just as the farmer sows many seeds in the ground and plants a multitude of seedlings and yet not all that have been sown will come up[k] in due season and not all that were planted will take root, so also those who have been sown in the world will not all be saved."

42 I answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, let me speak.* 43If the farmer's seed does not come up because it has not received your rain in due season or if it has been ruined by too much rain, it perishes.[l] 44But people, who have been formed by your hands and are called your own image because they are made like you and for whose sake you have formed all things, have you also made them like the farmer's seed?* 45Surely not, O Lord[m] above! But spare your people and have mercy on your inheritance, for you have mercy on your own creation."*

EZRA'S FINAL APPEAL FOR MERCY

46 He answered me and said, "Things that are present are for those who live now, and things that are future are for those who will live hereafter. 47For you come far short of being able to love my creation more than I love it. But you have often compared yourself[n] to the unrighteous. Never do so! 48But even in this respect you will be praiseworthy before the Most High, 49because you have humbled yourself, as is becoming for you, and have not considered yourself to be among the righteous. You will receive the greatest

glory, [50]for many miseries will affect those who inhabit the world in the last times because they have walked in great pride.* [51]But think of your own case, and inquire concerning the glory of those who are like yourself,* [52]because it is for you that paradise is opened, the tree of life is planted, the age to come is prepared, plenty is provided, a city is built, rest is appointed,[o] goodness is established, and wisdom is perfected beforehand.* [53]The root of evil[p] is sealed up from you, illness is banished from you, and death[q] is hidden; Hades has fled, and corruption has been forgotten;[r,*] [54]sorrows have passed away, and in the end the treasure of immortality is made manifest.* [55]Therefore do not ask any more questions about the great number of those who perish. [56]For when they had opportunity to choose, they despised the Most High and were contemptuous of his law and abandoned his ways.* [57]Moreover, they have even trampled on his righteous ones [58]and said in their hearts that there is no God—though they knew well that they must die.* [59]For just as the things that I have predicted await[s] you, so the thirst and torment that are prepared await them. For the Most High did not intend that anyone should be destroyed,* [60]but those who were created have themselves defiled the name of him who made them and have been ungrateful to him who prepared life for them now. [61]Therefore my judgment is now drawing near;* [62]I have not shown this to all people but only to you and a few like you."

Then I answered and said,* [63]"O Lord, you have already shown me a great number of the signs that you will do in the last times, but you have not shown me when you will do them."*

2 Esdras 9

MORE ABOUT THE SIGNS OF THE END

1 He answered me and said, "Measure carefully in your mind, and when
you see that some of the predicted signs have occurred, [2]then you will know
that it is the very time when the Most High is about to visit the world that
he has made.* [3]So when there shall appear in the world earthquakes, tumult
of peoples, intrigues of nations, wavering of leaders, confusion of princes,*
[4]then you will know that it was of these that the Most High spoke from the
days that were of old, from the beginning.* [5]For just as with everything that
has occurred in the world, the beginning is evident[t] and the end manifest;
[6]so also are the times of the Most High: the beginnings are manifest in
wonders and mighty works and the end in penalties[u] and in signs.

7 "It shall be that all who will be saved and will be able to escape on
account of their works or on account of the faith by which they have
believed* [8]will survive the dangers that have been predicted and will see my
salvation in my land and within my borders, which I have sanctified for
myself from the beginning.* [9]Then those who have now abused my ways
shall be amazed, and those who have rejected them with contempt shall live
in torments.* [10]For as many as did not acknowledge me in their lifetime,
though they received my benefits,* [11]and as many as scorned my law while
they still had freedom [12]and did not understand but despised it while an
opportunity of repentance was still open to them, these must in torment
acknowledge it[v] after death.* [13]Therefore, do not continue to be curious
about how the ungodly will be punished, but inquire how the righteous will
be saved, those to whom the age belongs and for whose sake the age was
made."[w],*

THE ARGUMENT RECAPITULATED

14 I answered and said, [15]"I said before, and I say now and will say it
again: there are more who perish than those who will be saved,* [16]as a wave
is greater than a drop of water."

17 He answered me and said, "As is the field, so is the seed, and as are the flowers, so are the colors, and as is the work, so is the product, and as is the farmer, so is the threshing floor.* [18]For there was a time in this age when I was preparing for those who now exist, before the world was made for them to live in, and no one opposed me then, for no one existed, [19]but now those who have been created in this world, which is supplied both with an unfailing table and an inexhaustible pasture,[x] have become corrupt in their ways.* [20]So I considered my world and saw that it was lost. I saw that my earth was in peril because of the devices of those who[y] had come into it.* [21]And I saw and spared some[z] with great difficulty and saved for myself one grape out of a cluster and one plant out of a great forest.[a,*] [22]So let the multitude perish that has been born in vain, but let my grape and my plant be saved, because with much labor I have perfected them.

23 "Now, if you will let seven days more pass—do not, however, fast during them,* [24]but go into a field of flowers where no house has been built, and eat only of the flowers of the field, and taste no meat and drink no wine but eat only flowers*—[25]and pray to the Most High continually, then I will come and talk with you."

THE ABIDING GLORY OF THE MOSAIC LAW

26 So I went, as he directed me, into the field that is called Ardat;[b] there I sat among the flowers and ate of the plants of the field, and the nourishment they afforded satisfied me. [27]After seven days, while I lay on the grass, my heart was troubled again as it was before.* [28]Then my mouth was opened, and I began to speak before the Most High and said,* [29]"O Lord, you showed yourself among us to our ancestors in the wilderness when they came out from Egypt and when they came into the untrodden and unfruitful wilderness,* [30]and you said, 'Hear me, O Israel, and give heed to my words, O descendants of Jacob. [31]For I sow my law in you, and it shall bring forth fruit in you, and you shall be glorified through it forever.'* [32]But though our ancestors received the law, they did not keep it and did not observe the[c] statutes, yet the fruit of the law did not perish, for it could not, because it was yours.* [33]Yet those who received it perished because they did not keep what had been sown in them. [34]Now this is the general rule, that when the

ground has received seed or the sea a ship or any dish food or drink, and when it comes about that what was sown or what was launched or what was put in is destroyed, [35]they are destroyed, but the things that held them remain, yet with us it has not been so. [36]For we who have received the law and sinned will perish, as well as our hearts that received it;* [37]the law, however, does not perish but survives in its glory."*

THE VISION OF A WEEPING WOMAN

38 When I said these things in my heart, I looked around,[d] and on my right I saw a woman; she was mourning and weeping with a loud voice and was deeply grieved at heart; her clothes were torn, and there were ashes on her head.* [39]Then I dismissed the thoughts with which I had been engaged and turned to her* [40]and said to her, "Why are you weeping, and why are you grieved at heart?"

41 She said to me, "Let me alone, my lord, so that I may weep for myself and continue to mourn, for I am greatly embittered in spirit and deeply distressed."

42 I said to her, "What has happened to you? Tell me."

43 And she said to me, "Your servant was barren and had no child, though I lived with my husband for thirty years.* [44]Every hour and every day during those thirty years I prayed to the Most High, night and day.* [45]And after thirty years God heard your servant and looked upon my low estate and considered my distress and gave me a son. I rejoiced greatly over him, I and my husband and all my neighbors,[e] and we gave great glory to the Mighty One.* [46]And I brought him up with much care. [47]So when he grew up and I came to take a wife for him, I set a day for the marriage feast.*

2 Esdras 10

1 “But it happened that, when my son entered his wedding chamber, he fell
down and died. [2]So all of us put out our lamps, and all my neighbors[f]
attempted to console me; I remained quiet until the evening of the second
day.* [3]But when all of them had stopped consoling me, encouraging me to
be quiet, I got up in the night and fled, and I came to this field, as you see.
[4]And now I intend not to return to the town but to stay here; I will neither
eat nor drink but will mourn and fast continually until I die.”*

5 Then I broke off the reflections with which I was still engaged and
answered her in anger and said,* [6]“‘You most foolish of women, do you not
see our mourning and what has happened to us? [7]For Zion, the mother of us
all, is in deep grief and great distress.* [8]It is most appropriate to mourn now,
because we are all mourning, and to be sorrowful, because we are all
sorrowing; you are sorrowing for one son.[g] [9]Now ask the earth, and she will
tell you that it is she who ought to mourn over so many who have come into
being upon her.* [10]From the beginning all have been born of her, and others
will come, and, behold, almost all walk to perdition, and a multitude of
them will come to doom.* [11]Who, then, ought to mourn the more: she who
lost so great a multitude or you who are grieving for one alone? [12]But if you
say to me, ‘My lamentation is not like the earth’s, for I have lost the fruit of
my womb, which I brought forth in pain and bore in sorrow,* [13]but it is with
the earth according to the way of the earth: the multitude that is now in it
goes as it came,’ [14]then I say to you, ‘Just as you brought forth in sorrow, so
the earth also has from the beginning given her fruit, that is, humankind, to
him who made her.’* [15]Now, therefore, keep your sorrow to yourself, and
bear bravely the troubles that have come upon you. [16]For if you
acknowledge the decree of God to be just, you will receive your son back in
due time and will be praised among women.* [17]Therefore go into the town
to your husband.”

18 She said to me, “I will not do so; I will not go into the city, but I will
die here.”*

19 So I spoke again to her and said, [20]"Do not do that, but let yourself be persuaded—for how many are the adversities of Zion?—and be consoled because of the sorrow of Jerusalem. [21]For you see how our sanctuary has been laid waste, our altar thrown down, our temple destroyed;* [22]our harp has been laid low, our song has been silenced, and our rejoicing has been ended; the light of our lampstand has been put out, the ark of our covenant has been plundered, our holy things have been polluted, and the name by which we are called has been almost profaned; our children[h] have suffered abuse, our priests have been burned to death, our Levites have gone into exile, our virgins have been defiled, and our wives have been ravished; our righteous men[i] have been carried off, our little ones have been cast out, our young men have been enslaved and our strong men made powerless.* [23]And, worst of all, the seal of Zion has been deprived of its glory and given over into the hands of those who hate us.* [24]Therefore shake off your great sadness and lay aside your many sorrows, so that the Mighty One may be merciful to you again and the Most High may give you rest, a respite from your troubles."

25 While I was talking to her, her face suddenly began to shine exceedingly; her countenance flashed like lightning, so that I was too frightened to approach her, and my heart was terrified. While[j] I was wondering what this meant, [26]she suddenly uttered a loud and fearful cry so that the earth shook at the sound. [27]When I looked up, the woman was no longer visible to me, but a city was being built,[k] and a place of huge foundations showed itself. I was afraid and cried with a loud voice and said,* [28]"Where is the angel Uriel, who came to me at first? For it was he who brought me into this overpowering bewilderment; my end has become corruption and my prayer a reproach."*

URIEL'S INTERPRETATION OF THE VISION

29 While I was speaking these words, the angel who had come to me at first came to me, and when he saw me* [30]lying there like a corpse, deprived of my understanding, he grasped my right hand and strengthened me and set me on my feet and said to me,* [31]"What is the matter with you? And why are you troubled? And why are your understanding and the thoughts of your mind troubled?"

32 I said, “It was because you abandoned me. I did as you directed and went out into the field, and behold, what I have seen and can still see, I am unable to explain.”*

33 He said to me, “Stand up like a man, and I will instruct you.”*

34 I said, “Speak, my lord; only do not forsake me, so that I may not die before my time.[l] 35For I have seen what I did not know, and I hear[m] what I do not understand 36—or is my mind deceived and my soul dreaming?* 37Now therefore I beg you to give your servant an explanation of this bewildering vision.”

38 He answered me and said, “Listen to me, and I will teach you and tell you about the things that you fear, for the Most High has revealed many secrets to you.* 39He has seen your righteous conduct and that you have sorrowed continually for your people and mourned greatly over Zion.* 40This therefore is the meaning of the vision. 41The woman who appeared to you a little while ago, whom you saw mourning and whom you began to console* 42(you do not now see the form of a woman, but there appeared to you a city being built)[n],* 43and who told you about the misfortune of her son —this is the interpretation: 44The woman whom you saw is Zion, which you now behold as a city being built.[o],* 45And as for her telling you that she was barren for thirty years, the reason is that there were three thousand[p] years in the world before any offering was offered in it.[q],* 46And after three thousand[r] years Solomon built the city and offered offerings; then it was that the barren woman bore a son.* 47And as for her telling you that she brought him up with much care, that was the period of residence in Jerusalem. 48And as for her saying to you, ‘My son died as he entered his wedding chamber,’ and that misfortune had overtaken her,[s] this was the destruction that befell Jerusalem.* 49So you saw her likeness, how she mourned for her son, and you began to console her for what had happened.[t],* 50For now the Most High, seeing that you are sincerely grieved and profoundly distressed for her, has shown you the brilliance of her glory and the loveliness of her beauty. 51Therefore I told you to remain in the field where no house had been built,* 52for I knew that the Most High would reveal these things to you. 53Therefore I told you to go into the field where there was no foundation of any building,* 54because no work of

human construction could endure in a place where the city of the Most High was to be revealed.

55 "Therefore do not be afraid, and do not let your heart be terrified, but go in and see the splendor or[u] the vastness of the building, as far as it is possible for your eyes to see it,* 56and afterward you will hear as much as your ears can hear. 57For you are more blessed than many, and you have been called to be with[v] the Most High as few have been.* 58But tomorrow night you shall remain here, 59and the Most High will show you in those dream visions what the Most High will do to those who inhabit the earth in the last days."

So I slept that night and the following one, as he had told me.*

2 Esdras 11

THE VISION OF THE EAGLE

1 On the second night I had a dream: I saw rising from the sea an eagle that had twelve feathered wings and three heads.* 2I saw it spread its wings over[w] the whole earth, and all the winds of heaven blew upon it, and the clouds were gathered around it.[x,*] 3I saw that out of its wings there grew opposing wings, but they became little, puny wings.* 4But its heads were at rest; the middle head was larger than the other heads, but it, too, was at rest with them.* 5Then I saw that the eagle flew with its wings, and it reigned over the earth and over those who inhabit it. 6And I saw how all things under heaven were subjected to it, and no one spoke against it—not a single creature that was on the earth. 7Then I saw the eagle rise upon its talons, and it uttered a cry to its wings, saying, 8"Do not all watch at the same time; let each sleep in its own place, and watch in its turn, 9but let the heads be reserved for the last."

10 I looked again and saw that the voice did not come from its heads but from the middle of its body.* 11I counted its rival wings, and there were eight of them.* 12As I watched, one wing on the right side rose up, and it reigned over all the earth. 13And after a time its reign came to an end, and it disappeared, so that even its place was no longer visible. Then the next wing rose up and reigned, and it continued to reign a long time.* 14While it was reigning its end came also, so that it disappeared like the first. 15And a voice sounded, saying to it, 16"Listen to me, you who have ruled the earth all this time; I announce this to you before you disappear. 17After you no one shall rule as long as you have ruled, not even half as long."*

18 Then the third wing raised itself up and held the rule as the earlier ones had done, and it also disappeared. 19And so it went with all the wings; they wielded power one after another and then were never seen again. 20I kept looking, and in due time the wings that followed[y] also rose up on the right[z] side, in order to rule. There were some of them that ruled, yet

disappeared suddenly, [21]and others of them rose up but did not hold the rule.

22 And after this I looked and saw that the twelve wings and the two little wings had disappeared,* [23]and nothing remained on the eagle's body except the three heads that were at rest and six little wings.*

24 As I kept looking I saw that two little wings separated from the six and remained under the head that was on the right side, but four remained in their place.* [25]Then I saw that these little wings[a] planned to set themselves up and hold the rule.* [26]As I kept looking, one was set up but suddenly disappeared;* [27]a second also, and this disappeared more quickly than the first.* [28]While I continued to look, the two that remained were planning between themselves to reign together;* [29]and while they were planning, one of the heads at rest (the one that was in the middle) suddenly awoke; it was greater than the other two heads.* [30]And I saw how it allied the two heads with itself* [31]and how the head turned with those that were with it and devoured the two little wings[b] that were planning to reign.* [32]Moreover, this head gained control of the whole earth and with much oppression dominated its inhabitants; it had greater power over the world than all the wings that had gone before.*

33 After this I looked again and saw the head in the middle suddenly disappear, just as the wings had done.* [34]But the two heads remained, which also in like manner ruled over the earth and its inhabitants.* [35]And while I looked, I saw the head on the right side devour the one on the left.*

A LION ROUSED FROM THE FOREST

36 Then I heard a voice saying to me, "Look in front of you and consider what you see." [37]When I looked, I saw what seemed to be a lion roused from the forest, roaring, and I heard how it uttered a human voice to the eagle and spoke, saying,* [38]"Listen, and I will speak to you. The Most High says to you, [39]'Are you not the one that remains of the four beasts that I had made to reign in my world, so that the end of my times might come through them?* [40]You, the fourth that has come, have conquered all the beasts that have gone before, and you have held sway over the world with great terror and over all the earth with grievous oppression, and for so long you have

lived on the earth with deceit.[c,*] [41]You have judged the earth but not with truth, [42]for you have oppressed the meek and injured the peaceable; you have hated those who tell the truth and have loved liars; you have destroyed the homes of those who brought forth fruit and have laid low the walls of those who did you no harm. [43]Your insolence has come up before the Most High and your pride to the Mighty One. [44]The Most High has looked at his times; now they have ended, and his ages have reached completion. [45]Therefore you, eagle, will surely disappear, you and your terrifying wings, your most evil little wings, your malicious heads, your most evil talons, and your whole worthless body,[*] [46]so that the whole earth, freed from your violence, may be refreshed and relieved and may hope for the judgment and mercy of him who made it.' "

2 Esdras 12

1 While the lion was saying these words to the eagle, I looked [2]and saw that the remaining head had disappeared. The two wings that had gone over to it rose up and[d] set themselves up to reign, and their reign was brief and full of tumult.* [3]When I looked again, they were already vanishing. The whole body of the eagle was burned, and the earth was exceedingly terrified.

Then I woke up in great perplexity of mind and great fear, and I said to my spirit, [4]"You have brought this upon me because you search out the ways of the Most High.* [5]I am still weary in mind and very weak in my spirit, and not even a little strength is left in me because of the great fear with which I have been terrified tonight.* [6]Therefore I will now entreat the Most High that he may strengthen me to the end."

THE INTERPRETATION OF THE VISION

7 Then I said, "O sovereign Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, and if I have been accounted righteous before you beyond many others, and if my prayer has indeed come up before your face,* [8]strengthen me and show me, your servant, the interpretation and meaning of this terrifying vision so that you may fully comfort my soul. [9]For you have judged me worthy to be shown the end of the times and the last events of the times."*

10 He said to me, "This is the interpretation of this vision that you have seen: [11]The eagle that you saw coming up from the sea is the fourth kingdom that appeared in a vision to your brother Daniel.* [12]But it was not explained to him as I now explain to you or have explained it. [13]The days are coming when a kingdom shall rise on earth, and it shall be more terrifying than all the kingdoms that have been before it. [14]And twelve kings shall reign in it, one after another.* [15]But the second that is to reign shall hold sway for a longer time than any other one of the twelve.* [16]This is the interpretation of the twelve wings that you saw.*

17 "As for your hearing a voice that spoke, coming not from the eagle's[e] heads but from the midst of its body, [18]this is the interpretation:* In the

midst of the time of that kingdom great struggles shall arise, and it shall be in danger of falling; nevertheless, it shall not fall then but shall regain its former power.[g,f] [19]As for your seeing eight little wings[h] clinging to its wings, this is the interpretation:* [20]Eight kings shall arise in it whose times shall be short and their years swift; [21]two of them shall perish when the middle of its time draws near, and four shall be kept for the time when its end approaches, but two shall be kept until the end.*

22 "As for your seeing three heads at rest, this is the interpretation:* [23]In its last days the Most High will raise up three kings,[i] and they[j] shall renew many things in it and shall rule the earth* [24]and its inhabitants more oppressively than all who were before them. Therefore they are called the heads of the eagle,* [25]because it is they who shall sum up his wickedness and perform his last actions. [26]As for your seeing that the large head disappeared, one of the kings[k] shall die in his bed but in agonies.* [27]But as for the two who remained, the sword shall devour them. [28]For the sword of one shall devour him who was with him, but he also shall fall by the sword in the last days.*

29 "As for your seeing two little wings[l] passing over to[m] the head that was on the right side,* [30]this is the interpretation: It is these whom the Most High has kept for the eagle's[n] end; this was the reign that was brief and full of tumult, as you have seen.*

31 "And as for the lion whom you saw rousing up out of the forest and roaring and speaking to the eagle and reproving him for his unrighteousness, and as for all his words that you have heard,* [32]this is the Messiah whom the Most High has kept until the end of days, who will arise from the offspring of David and will come and speak[o] with them. He will denounce them for their ungodliness and for their wickedness and will display before them their contemptuous dealings.* [33]For first he will bring them alive before his judgment seat, and when he has reproved them, then he will destroy them. [34]But in mercy he will set free the remnant of my people, those who have been saved throughout my borders, and he will make them joyful until the end comes, the day of judgment, of which I spoke to you at the beginning.* [35]This is the dream that you saw, and this is its interpretation. [36]And you alone were worthy to learn this secret of the

Most High.* 37Therefore write all these things that you have seen in a book, put it[p] in a hidden place,* 38and you shall teach them to the wise among your people, whose hearts you know are able to comprehend and keep these secrets.* 39But as for you, wait here seven days more, so that you may be shown whatever it pleases the Most High to show you." Then he left me.*

THE PEOPLE COME TO EZRA

40 When all the people heard that the seven days were past and I had not returned to the city, they all gathered together, from the least to the greatest, and came to me and spoke to me, saying,* 41"How have we offended you, and what harm have we done you, that you have forsaken us and sit in this place? 42For of all the prophets you alone are left to us, like a cluster of grapes from the vintage and like a lamp in a dark place and like a haven for a ship saved from a storm.* 43Are not the disasters that have befallen us enough? 44Therefore if you forsake us, how much better it would have been for us if we also had been consumed in the burning of Zion.* 45For we are no better than those who died there." And they wept with a loud voice.

Then I answered them and said,* 46"Take courage, O Israel, and do not be sorrowful, O house of Jacob, 47for the Most High has you in remembrance, and the Mighty One has not forgotten you in your struggle. 48As for me, I have neither forsaken you nor withdrawn from you, but I have come to this place to pray on account of the desolation of Zion and to seek mercy on account of the humiliation of our[q] sanctuary.* 49Now go to your homes, every one of you, and after these days I will come to you." 50So the people went into the city, as I told them to do. 51But I sat in the field seven days, as the angel[r] had commanded me, and I ate only of the flowers of the field, and plants were my food plants during those days.*

2 Esdras 13

THE MAN FROM THE SEA

1 After seven days I dreamed a dream in the night.* [2]And behold, a wind
arose from the sea and stirred up[s] all its waves.* [3]As I kept looking the wind
made something like the figure of a man come up out of the heart of the sea.
And I saw[t] that this man flew[u] with the clouds of heaven, and wherever he
turned his face to look, everything under his gaze trembled,* [4]and whenever
his voice issued from his mouth, all who heard his voice melted as wax
melts when it feels the fire.

5 After this I looked and saw that an innumerable multitude of people
were gathered together from the four winds of heaven to make war against
the man who came up out of the sea.* [6]And I looked and saw that he carved
out for himself a great mountain and flew up on to it.* [7]And I tried to see
the region or place from which the mountain was carved, but I could not.

8 After this I looked and saw that all who had gathered together against
him to wage war with him were filled with fear, yet they dared to fight.
[9]When he saw the onrush of the approaching multitude, he neither lifted his
hand nor held a spear or any weapon of war, [10]but I saw only how he sent
forth from his mouth something like a stream of fire and from his lips a
flaming breath and from his tongue he shot forth a storm of sparks. All
these were mingled together, the stream of fire and the flaming breath and
the great storm,* [11]and fell on the onrushing multitude that was prepared to
fight and burned up all of them, so that suddenly nothing was seen of the
innumerable multitude but only the dust of ashes and the smell of smoke.
When I saw it, I was amazed.*

12 After this I saw the same man come down from the mountain and call
to himself another multitude that was peaceable.* [13]Then the forms of many
people appeared to him, some of whom were joyful and some sorrowful;
some of them were bound, and some were bringing others as offerings.

THE INTERPRETATION OF THE VISION

Then I woke up in great terror and prayed to the Most High and said,
14"From the beginning you have shown your servant these wonders and
have deemed me worthy to have my prayer heard by you; 15now show me
the interpretation of this dream also. 16For as I consider it in my mind, alas
for those who will be left in those days! And still more, alas for those who
are not left![*] 17For those who are not left will be sad 18because they
understand the things that are reserved for the last days but cannot attain
them. 19But alas for those also who are left and for that very reason! For
they shall see great dangers and much distress, as these dreams show.[*] 20Yet
it is better[v] to come into these things,[w] though incurring peril, than to pass
from the world like a cloud and not to see what will happen in the last
days."

He answered me and said,[*] 21"I will tell you the interpretation of the
vision, and I will also explain to you the things that you have mentioned.
22As for what you said about those who survive, and concerning those who
do not survive,[x] this is the interpretation:[*] 23The one who brings the peril at
that time will protect those who fall into peril, who have works and faith
toward the Almighty.[*] 24Understand, therefore, that those who are left are
more blessed than those who have died.

25 "This is the interpretation of the vision: As for your seeing a man
come up from the heart of the sea,[*] 26this is he whom the Most High has
been keeping for many ages, who will himself deliver his creation, and he
will direct those who are left. 27And as for your seeing wind and fire and a
storm coming out of his mouth[*] 28and as for his not holding a spear or
weapon of war, yet destroying the onrushing multitude that came to conquer
him, this is the interpretation:[*] 29The days are coming when the Most High
will deliver those who are on the earth. 30And bewilderment of mind shall
come over those who inhabit the earth.[*] 31They shall plan to make war
against one another, city against city, place against place, people against
people, and kingdom against kingdom.[*] 32When these things take place and
the signs occur that I showed you before, then my Son will be revealed,
whom you saw as a man coming up from the sea.[y,*]

33 "Then, when all the nations hear his voice, all the nations shall leave
their own lands and the warfare that they have against one another, 34and an
innumerable multitude shall be gathered together, as you saw, wishing to

come and conquer him.* 35But he shall stand on the top of Mount Zion.* 36And Zion shall come and be made manifest to all people, prepared and built, as you saw the mountain carved out without hands.* 37Then he, my Son, will reprove the assembled nations for their ungodliness (this was symbolized by the storm)* 38and will reproach them to their face with their evil thoughts and the torments with which they are to be tortured (which were symbolized by the flames) and will destroy them without effort by means of the law[z] (which was symbolized by the fire).*

39 "And as for your seeing him gather to himself another multitude that was peaceable,* 40these are the nine[a] tribes that were taken away from their own land into exile in the days of King Hoshea, whom Shalmaneser, king of the Assyrians, made captives; he took them across the river, and they were taken into another land.* 41But they formed this plan for themselves, that they would leave the multitude of the nations and go to a more distant region where no humans had ever lived, 42so that there at least they might keep their statutes that they had not kept in their own land. 43And they went in by the narrow passages of the River Euphrates.* 44For at that time the Most High performed signs for them and stopped the channels of the river until they had crossed over.* 45Through that region there was a long way to go, a journey of a year and a half, and that country is called Arzareth.

46 "Then they lived there until the last times, and now, when they are about to come again, 47the Most High will stop[b] the channels of the river again, so that they may be able to cross over. Therefore you saw the multitude gathered together in peace.* 48But those who are left of your people, who are found within my holy borders, shall be saved.[c,*] 49Therefore when he destroys the multitude of the nations that are gathered together, he will defend the people who remain. 50And then he will show them very many wonders."

51 I said, "O sovereign Lord, explain this to me: Why did I see the man coming up from the heart of the sea?"*

52 He said to me, "Just as no one can explore or know what is in the depths of the sea, so no one on earth can see my Son or those who are with him, except in the time of his day.[d,*] 53This is the interpretation of the dream that you saw. And you alone have been enlightened about this, 54because you have forsaken your own ways and have applied yourself to

mine and have searched out my law,* 55for you have devoted your life to wisdom and called understanding your mother.* 56Therefore I have shown you these things, for there is a reward laid up with the Most High. For it will be that after three more days I will tell you other things and explain weighty and wondrous matters to you."*

57 Then I got up and walked in the field, giving great glory and praise to the Most High for the wonders that he did from time to time 58and because he governs the times and whatever things come to pass in their seasons. And I stayed there three days.*

2 Esdras 14

THE LORD COMMISSIONS EZRA

1 On the third day, while I was sitting under an oak, suddenly a voice came
out of a bush opposite me and said, “Ezra, Ezra!”* 2And I answered, “Here
I am, Lord,” and I rose to my feet. 3Then he said to me, “I revealed myself
in a bush and spoke to Moses when my people were in bondage in Egypt,*
4and I sent him and led[e] my people out of Egypt, and I led him up on Mount
Sinai, where I kept him with me many days.* 5I told him many wondrous
things and showed him the secrets of the times and declared to him[f] the end
of the times. Then I commanded him, saying, 6‘These words you shall
publish openly, and these you shall keep secret.’ 7And now I say to you:
8Lay up in your heart the signs that I have shown you, the dreams that you
have seen, and the interpretations that you have heard, 9for you shall be
taken up from among humankind, and henceforth you shall live with my
Son and with those who are like you, until the times are ended.* 10The age
has lost its youth, and the times begin to grow old.* 11For the age is divided
into twelve parts, and nine[g] of its parts have already passed, 12as well as
half of the tenth part; so two of its parts remain, besides half of the tenth
part.[h] 13Now, therefore, set your house in order, and reprove your people;
comfort the lowly among them, and instruct those who are wise.[i] And now
renounce the life that is corruptible,* 14and put away from you mortal
thoughts; cast away from you the burdens of humankind, and divest
yourself now of your weak nature;* 15lay to one side the thoughts that are
most grievous to you, and hurry to escape from these times. 16For evils
worse than those that you have now seen happen shall take place hereafter.*
17For the weaker the world becomes through old age, the more shall evils
be increased upon its inhabitants. 18Truth shall go farther away, and
falsehood shall come near. For the eagle[j] that you saw in the vision is
already hurrying to come.”*

EZRA’S CONCERN TO RESTORE THE SCRIPTURES

19 Then I answered and said, "Let me speak[k] in your presence, Lord.
[20]For I will go, as you have commanded me, and I will reprove the people
who are now living, but who will warn those who will be born hereafter?
For the world lies in darkness, and its inhabitants are without light.* [21]For
your law has been burned, so no one knows the things that have been done
or will be done by you.* [22]If then I have found favor with you, send the
holy spirit into me, and I will write everything that has happened in the
world from the beginning, the things that were written in your law, so that
people may be able to find the path and that those who want to live in the
last days may do so."*

23 He answered me and said, "Go and gather the people, and tell them
not to seek you for forty days.* [24]But prepare for yourself many writing
tablets, and take with you Sarea, Dabria, Selemia, Ethanus, and Asiel—
these five, who are trained to write rapidly,* [25]and you shall come here, and
I will light in your heart the lamp of understanding, which shall not be put
out until what you are about to write is finished.* [26]And when you have
finished, some things you shall make public, and some you shall deliver in
secret to the wise; tomorrow at this hour you shall begin to write."*

EZRA'S LAST WORDS TO THE PEOPLE

27 Then I went as he commanded me, and I gathered all the people
together and said, [28]"Hear these words, O Israel.* [29]At first our ancestors
lived as aliens in Egypt, and they were liberated from there* [30]and received
the law of life, which they did not keep, which you also have transgressed
after them.* [31]Then land was given to you for a possession in the land of
Zion, but you and your ancestors committed iniquity and did not keep the
ways that the Most High commanded you. [32]And since he is a righteous
judge, in due time he took from you what he had given.* [33]And now you are
here, and your people[l] are farther in the interior.[m] [34]If you, then, will rule
over your minds and discipline your hearts, you shall be kept alive, and
after death you shall obtain mercy. [35]For after death the judgment will
come, when we shall live again, and then the names of the righteous shall
become manifest, and the deeds of the ungodly shall be disclosed.* [36]But let
no one come to me now, and let no one seek me for forty days."*

THE RESTORATION OF THE SCRIPTURES

37 So I took the five men, as he had commanded me, and we proceeded to the field and remained there.* [38]And on the next day a voice called me, saying, “Ezra, open your mouth and drink what I give you to drink.”* [39]So I opened my mouth, and a full cup was offered to me; it was full of something like water, but its color was like fire. [40]I took it and drank, and when I had drunk it, my heart poured forth understanding, and wisdom increased in my breast, for my spirit retained its memory, [41]and my mouth was opened and was no longer closed.* [42]Moreover, the Most High gave understanding to the five men, and by turns they wrote what was dictated, using characters that they did not know.[n] They sat forty days; they wrote during the daytime and ate their bread at night.* [43]But as for me, I spoke in the daytime and was not silent at night. [44]So during the forty days, ninety-four[o] books were written.* [45]And when the forty days were ended, the Most High spoke to me, saying, “Make public the twenty-four[p] books that you wrote first, and let the worthy and the unworthy read them,* [46]but keep the seventy that were written last, in order to give them to the wise among your people. [47]For in them is the spring of understanding, the fountain of wisdom, and the river of knowledge.”* [48]And I did so.[q]

2 Esdras 15

VENGEANCE ON THE WICKED

1 [r]Speak in the ears of my people the words of the prophecy that I will put in your mouth, says the Lord,* [2]and cause them to be written on paper, for they are trustworthy and true.* [3]Do not fear the plots against you, and do not be troubled by the unbelief of those who oppose you. [4]For all unbelievers shall die in their unbelief.[s],*

5 Beware, says the Lord, I am bringing evils upon the world, the sword and famine, death and destruction,* [6]because iniquity has spread throughout every land, and their harmful doings have reached their limit.* [7]Therefore, says the Lord, [8]I will be silent no longer concerning their ungodly acts that they impiously commit, neither will I tolerate their wicked practices. Innocent and righteous blood cries out to me, and the souls of the righteous cry out continually.* [9]I will surely avenge them, says the Lord, and will receive to myself all the innocent blood from among them. [10]See, my people are being led like a flock to the slaughter; I will not allow them to live any longer in the land of Egypt,* [11]but I will bring them out with a mighty hand and with an uplifted arm and will strike Egypt with plagues, as before, and will destroy all its land.*

12 Let Egypt mourn and its foundations, because of the plague of chastisement and castigation that the Lord will bring upon it.* [13]Let the farmers that who the ground mourn because their seed shall fail to grow[t] and their trees shall be ruined by blight and hail and by a terrible tempest.* [14]Alas for the world and for those who live in it!* [15]For the sword and misery draw near them, and nation shall rise up to fight against nation, with swords in their hands.* [16]For there shall be unrest among people; growing strong against one another, they shall in their might have no respect for their king or the chief of their leaders.* [17]For a person will desire to go into a city and shall not be able to do so. [18]Because of their pride the cities shall be in confusion, the houses shall be destroyed, and people shall be afraid. [19]People shall have no pity for their neighbors but shall make an assault

upon[u] their houses with the sword and plunder their goods because of hunger for bread and because of great tribulation.*

20 See how I am calling together all the kings of the earth to turn to me, says God, from the rising sun and from the south, from the east and from Lebanon, to turn and repay what they have given them. [21]Just as they have done to my elect until this day, so I will do and will pay it back into their laps. Thus says the Lord God:* [22]My right hand will not spare the sinners, and my sword will not cease from those who shed innocent blood on earth.* [23]And a fire went forth from his wrath and consumed the foundations of the earth and the sinners, like burnt straw.* [24]Alas for those who sin and do not observe my commandments, says the Lord;[v] [25]I will not spare them. Depart, you faithless children! Do not pollute my sanctuary. [26]For God[w] knows all who sin against him; therefore he will hand them over to death and slaughter. [27]Already calamities have come upon the whole earth, and you shall remain in them; God[x] will not deliver you, because you have sinned against him.

A TERRIFYING VISION OF WARFARE

28 What a terrifying sight, appearing from the east! [29]The nations of the dragons of Arabia shall come out with many chariots, and from the day that they set out their hissing shall spread over the earth, so that all who hear them will fear and tremble.* [30]Also the Carmonians, raging in wrath, shall go forth like wild boars[y] from the forest, and with great power they shall come and engage them in battle, and with their tusks they shall devastate a portion of the land of the Assyrians with their teeth.* [31]And then the dragons,[z] remembering their origin, shall become still stronger, and if they combine in great power and turn to pursue them, [32]then these shall be disorganized and silenced by their power and shall turn and flee.[a] [33]And from the land of the Assyrians an enemy in ambush shall attack them and destroy one of them, and fear and trembling shall come upon their army and indecision upon their kings.*

JUDGMENT ON BABYLON

34 See the clouds from the east and from the north to the south! Their appearance is exceedingly threatening, full of wrath and storm.* 35They shall clash against one another and shall pour out a heavy tempest on the earth and their own tempest,[b] and there shall be blood from the sword as high as a horse's belly* 36and a man's thigh and a camel's hock. 37And there shall be fear and great trembling on the earth; those who see that wrath shall be horror-stricken, and they shall be seized with trembling. 38After that, heavy storm clouds shall be stirred up from the south and from the north and another part from the west.* 39But the winds from the east shall prevail over the cloud that was[c] raised in wrath and shall dispel it, and the tempest[d] that was to cause destruction by the east wind shall be driven violently toward the south and west.* 40Great and mighty clouds full of wrath and tempest[e] shall rise and destroy all the earth and its inhabitants and shall pour out upon every high and lofty place[f] a terrible tempest,[g,*] 41fire and hail and flying swords and floods of water, so that all the fields and all the streams shall be filled with the abundance of those waters. 42They shall destroy cities and walls, mountains and hills, trees of the forests, and grass of the meadows and their grain. 43They shall go on steadily to Babylon and blot it out.* 44They shall come to it and surround it; they shall pour out on it the tempest[h] and all its fury;[i] then the dust and smoke shall reach the sky, and all who are around it shall mourn for it.* 45And those who survive shall serve those who have destroyed it.

JUDGMENT ON ASIA

46 And you, Asia, who share in the splendor of Babylon and the glory of her person,* 47woe to you, miserable wretch! For you have made yourself like her; you have decked out your daughters for prostitution to please and glory in your lovers, who have always lusted after you. 48You have imitated that hateful one in all her deeds and devices.[j] Therefore, God[k] says, 49I will send evils upon you: widowhood, poverty, famine, sword, and pestilence, bringing ruin to your houses, bringing destruction and death.* 50And the glory of your strength shall wither like a flower when the heat shall rise that is sent upon you.* 51You shall be weakened like a wretched woman who is beaten and wounded, so that you cannot receive your mighty lovers. 52Would I have dealt with you so violently, says the Lord, 53if you had not

killed my chosen people continually, exulting and clapping your hands and talking about their death when you were drunk?*

54 Beautify your face!* [55]The reward of a prostitute is in your lap; therefore you shall receive your recompense. [56]As you will do to my chosen people, says the Lord, so God will do to you and will hand you over to adversities. [57]Your children shall die of hunger, and you shall fall by the sword; your cities shall be wiped out, and all your people who are in the open country shall fall by the sword. [58]Those who are in the mountains and highlands[l] shall perish of hunger, and they shall eat their own flesh in hunger for bread and drink their own blood in thirst for water.* [59]Unhappy above all others, you shall come and suffer fresh miseries. [60]As they pass by they shall crush the hateful[m] city and shall destroy a part of your land and abolish a portion of your glory, when they return from devastated Babylon. [61]You shall be broken down by them like stubble,[n] and they shall be like fire to you.* [62]They shall devour you and your cities, your land and your mountains; they shall burn with fire all your forests and your fruitful trees. [63]They shall carry your children away captive, plunder your wealth, and mar the glory of your face.*

2 Esdras 16

FURTHER DENUNCIATIONS

1 Woe to you, Babylon and Asia! Woe to you, Egypt and Syria![*] [2]Bind on
sackcloth and cloth of goats' hair,[o] and wail for your children, and lament
for them, for your destruction is at hand.[*] [3]The sword has been sent upon
you, and who is there to turn it back? [4]A fire has been sent upon you, and
who is there to quench it?[*] [5]Calamities have been sent upon you, and who
is there to drive them away?[*] [6]Can one drive off a hungry lion in the forest
or quench a fire in the stubble once it has started to burn?[p,*] [7]Can one turn
back an arrow shot by a strong archer?[*] [8]The Lord God sends calamities,
and who will drive them away?[*] [9]Fire will go forth from his wrath, and who
is there to quench it?[*] [10]He will flash lightning, and who will not be afraid?
He will thunder, and who will not be terrified?[*] [11]The Lord will threaten,
and who will not be utterly shattered at his presence? [12]The earth and its
foundations quake, the sea is churned up from the depths, and its waves and
the fish with them shall be troubled at the presence of the Lord and the
glory of his power.[*] [13]For his right hand that bends the bow is strong, and
his arrows that he shoots are sharp, and when they are shot to the ends of
the world they will not miss once.[*] [14]Calamities are sent forth and shall not
return until they come over the earth. [15]The fire is kindled and shall not be
put out until it consumes the foundations of the earth.[*] [16]Just as an arrow
shot by a mighty archer does not return, so the calamities that are sent upon
the earth shall not return.[*] [17]Alas for me! Alas for me! Who will deliver me
in those days?

THE HORROR OF THE LAST DAYS

18 The beginning of sorrows, when there shall be much lamentation; the
beginning of famine, when many shall perish; the beginning of wars, when
the powers shall be terrified; the beginning of calamities, when all shall
tremble. [19]What shall they do when the calamities come?[*] [20]Famine and
plague, tribulation and anguish are sent as scourges for the correction of

humankind.* 21Yet for all this they will not turn from their iniquities or ever
be mindful of the scourges. 22Indeed, provisions will be so cheap upon earth
that people will imagine that peace is assured for them, and then calamities
shall spring up on the earth—the sword, famine, and great confusion.* 23For
many of those who live on the earth shall perish by famine, and those who
survive the famine shall die by the sword. 24And the dead shall be thrown
out like dung, and there shall be no one to console them, for the earth shall
be left desolate, and its cities shall be demolished.* 25No one shall be left to
cultivate the earth or to sow it. 26The trees shall bear fruit, but who will
gather it? 27The grapes shall ripen, but who will tread them? For in all
places there shall be great solitude;* 28a person will long to see another
human or even to hear a human voice. 29For ten shall be left out of a city,
and two out of the field, those who have hidden themselves in thick groves
and clefts in the rocks.* 30Just as in an olive orchard three or four olives
may be left on every tree,* 31or just as, when a vineyard is gathered, some
clusters may be left[q] by those who search carefully through the vineyard,*
32so in those days three or four shall be left by those who search their
houses with the sword.* 33The earth shall be left desolate, and its fields shall
be plowed up,[r] and its roads and all its paths shall bring forth thorns,
because no sheep will go along them.* 34Virgins shall mourn because they
have no bridegrooms; women shall mourn because they have no husbands;
their daughters shall mourn because they have no help.* 35Their
bridegrooms shall be killed in war, and their husbands shall perish of
famine.

GOD'S PEOPLE MUST PREPARE FOR THE END

36 Listen now to these things, and understand them, you who are
servants of the Lord. 37This is the word of the Lord; receive it and do not
disbelieve what the Lord says.[s] 38The calamities draw near and are not
delayed. 39Just as a pregnant woman, in the ninth month when the time of
her delivery draws near, has great pains around her womb for two or three
hours beforehand, but when the child comes forth from the womb, there
will not be a moment's delay,* 40so the calamities will not delay in coming
upon the earth, and the world will groan, and pains will seize it on every
side.

41 Hear my words, O my people; prepare for battle, and in the midst of
the calamities be like strangers on the earth.* 42Let the one who sells be like
one who will flee; let the one who buys be like one who will lose;* 43let the
one who does business be like one who will not make a profit; and let the
one who builds a house be like one who will not live in it; 44let the one who
sows be like one who will not reap; so also the one who prunes the vines,
like one who will not gather the grapes; 45those who marry, like those who
will have no children; and those who do not marry, like those who are
widowed. 46Because of this, those who labor, labor in vain, 47for strangers
shall gather their fruits and plunder their goods, overthrow their houses, and
take their children captive, for in captivity and famine they will produce
their children.[t,*] 48Those who conduct business do so only to have it
plundered; the more they adorn their cities, their houses and possessions,
and their persons, 49the more angry I will be with them for their sins, says
the Lord. 50Just as a respectable and virtuous woman abhors a prostitute,
51so righteousness shall abhor iniquity when she decks herself out and shall
accuse her to her face when he comes to defend the one who searches out
every sin on earth.*

THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD

52 Therefore do not be like her or her works. 53For in a very short time
iniquity will be removed from the earth, and righteousness will reign over
us.* 54Sinners must not say that they have not sinned,[u] for coals of fire will
burn on the head of everyone who says, "I have not sinned before God and
his glory."* 55The Lord[v] certainly knows everything that people do; he
knows their imaginations and their thoughts and their hearts.* 56He said,
"Let the earth be made," and it was made, and "Let the heaven be made,"
and it was made.* 57At his word the stars were fixed in their places, and he
knows the number of the stars.* 58He searches the abyss and its treasures;
he has measured the sea and its contents;* 59he has confined the sea in the
midst of the waters;[w] and by his word he has suspended the earth over the
water.* 60He has spread out the heaven like a dome and made it secure upon
the waters;* 61he has put springs of water in the desert and pools on the tops
of the mountains, so as to send rivers from the heights to water the earth.*

62 He formed humans and put a heart in the midst of each body and gave each person breath and life and understanding* 63 and the spirit[x] of Almighty God,[y] who surely made all things and searches out hidden things in hidden places. 64 He knows your imaginations and what you think in your hearts! Woe to those who sin and want to hide their sins!* 65 The Lord will strictly examine all their works and will make a public spectacle of all of you. 66 You shall be put to shame when your sins come out before others, and your own iniquities shall stand as your accusers on that day.* 67 What will you do? Or how will you hide your sins before the Lord and his glory?* 68 Indeed, God[z] is the judge; fear him! Cease from your sins and forget your iniquities, never to commit them again, so God[a] will lead you forth and deliver you from all tribulation.*

IMPENDING PERSECUTION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

69 The burning wrath of a great multitude is kindled over you; they shall drag some of you away and force you to eat what was sacrificed to idols.* 70 And those who consent to eat shall be held in derision and contempt and shall be trampled under foot. 71 For in many places[b] and in neighboring cities there shall be a great uprising against those who fear the Lord. 72 They shall[c] be like maniacs, sparing no one, but plundering and destroying those who continue to fear the Lord.[d] 73 For they shall destroy and plunder their goods and drive them out of house and home. 74 Then the tested quality of my elect shall be manifest, like gold that is tested by fire.*

PROMISE OF DIVINE DELIVERANCE

75 Listen, my elect ones, says the Lord; the days of tribulation are at hand, but I will deliver you from them.* 76 Do not fear or doubt, for God[e] is your guide.* 77 You who keep my commandments and precepts, says the Lord God, must not let your sins weigh you down or your iniquities prevail over you.* 78 Woe to those who are choked by their sins and overwhelmed by their iniquities! They are like a field choked with underbrush and its path[f] overwhelmed with thorns, so that no one can pass through. It is shut off and given up to be consumed by fire.*

2 Esdras 1

a **1.1** Other ancient authorities read *The second book*

* **1.1** 1 Chr 6.4–14; Ezra 7.1–5; 1 Esd 8.1, 2

* **1.5** Isa 58.1

* **1.6** Jer 5.19; 7.9; Hos 3.1

* **1.7** Ex 20.2; Mic 6.4

b **1.8** Other ancient authorities read *and shake out*

* **1.8** Ezra 9.3; Ezek 2.3; 5.7

* **1.9** Mt 17.17

* **1.10** Ex 14.27, 28; Ps 135.10

c **1.11** Other ancient authorities read *Did I not destroy the city of Bethsaida because of you and to the south burn two cities . . . ?*

* **1.11** Josh 12.1–24; Ezek 26.3

* **1.13** Ex 3.10; 4.14

* **1.14** Ex 13.21; Jer 2.32; 1 Cor 10.1

d **1.15** Other ancient authorities lack *Almighty*

* **1.15** Ex 16.13; Num 11.31; Ps 78.27, 28

e **1.16** Other ancient authorities read *I sank your pursuer with his army in the sea, but still the people complain about their own destruction*.

* **1.18** Ex 14.12; Num 14.2, 3

* **1.19** Ex 16.14, 15; Ps 78.25; Wis 16.20; Jn 6.31

f **1.20** Other ancient authorities read *I made for you trees with leaves*

* **1.20** Ex 17.6; Wis 11.4; Bar 5.8; 1 Cor 10.4

g **1.21** Other ancient authorities add *the Hittites*

h **1.21** Other ancient authorities read *and their children*

* **1.21** Gen 34.30; Ex 3.8; Judg 1.5

i **1.22** Other ancient authorities lack *Almighty*

* **1.22** Ex 15.23

* **1.23** Ex 15.25

* **1.24** Ex 32.8, 10; Mt 21.43; Acts 13.46

* **1.25** 2 Chr 15.2; 24.20

* **1.26** Isa 1.15; 59.7; Rom 3.15

* **1.29** Jer 24.7; Zech 8.8; Heb 8.10

* **1.30** Mt 23.37; Lk 13.34

j **1.31** Other ancient authorities read *I did not command for you*

k **1.31** Other ancient authorities lack *of the flesh*

* **1.31** Isa 1.13, 14

l **1.32** Other ancient authorities read *the bodies of the apostles*

* **1.32** 2 Chr 36.15, 16; 2 Esd 2.1; Lk 11.50, 51

* **1.33** Job 21.18; Ps 1.4; 83.13; Mt 23.38

m **1.34** Other ancient authorities lack *with you*

* **1.34** Deut 28.18; 2 Esd 2.6

* **1.35** Isa 52.15; Rom 15.21

n **1.36** Other ancient authorities read *their iniquities*

o **1.37** Other ancient authorities read *The apostles bear witness to the coming people with joy*

* **1.37** Jn 20.29; 1 Pet 1.8; 1 Jn 4.20

p **1.38** Other ancient authorities read *brother*

* **1.38** Bar 4.36, 37

* **1.39** Sir 49.10; Mt 8.11

q **1.40** Other ancient authorities read *and Jacob, Elijah and Enoch, Zechariah and Hosea, Amos, Joel, Micah, Obadiah, Zephaniah,* [40]*Nahum, Jonah, Mattia* (or *Mattathias*), *Habakkuk, and twelve angels with flowers*

2 Esdras 2

* **2.1** Deut 4.20; Am 2.10; Mic 6.4; 2 Esd 1.7, 32

* **2.2** vv 17, 30; Bar 4.8, 12, 19

r **2.3** Other ancient authorities read *in his sight*

* **2.4** Bar 4.17, 19, 21

* **2.6** 2 Esd 1.34

* **2.7** Lev 26.33; Deut 4.27; Ezek 12.15

* **2.8** Gen 19.24; Jude 7

s **2.9** Other ancient authorities read *Gomorrah, whose land descends to hell*

t **2.10** Other ancient authorities add *have prepared for them to eat, and I*

* **2.12** Prov 3.18; 2 Esd 8.52; Rev 22.14

u **2.13** Other ancient authorities read *Seek*

* **2.13** Mt 24.22; 25.34

* **2.15** Deut 7.6; Isa 60.8

* **2.16** Ezek 37.12, 13; Jn 5.28, 29

* **2.18** Mt 16.14; Rev 22.2

* **2.19** Ex 3.8

* **2.20** Isa 1.17; 58.7; Mt 25.36

v **2.22** Other ancient authorities add *Watch over your infants. Let enslaved and free alike be joyful, and your whole company will be happy*

w **2.23** Other ancient authorities read *When I find your dead, I will raise them; I will watch for signs*

* **2.23** Tob 1.17, 18; Mt 19.28

* **2.24** Ex 14.14; Isa 30.15

* **2.27** Jn 16.20, 22

* **2.28** Isa 54.17

x **2.29** Lat *hands will cover*

y **2.29** Other ancient authorities read *All tremble because of me; my eyes see Gehenna*

* **2.30** vv 2, 15, 17

* **2.33** Ex 3.1; Deut 4.10, 15; Sir 48.7
* **2.34** Mt 11.2, 9; Jn 10.11; Heb 10.37
* **2.35** Isa 60.19, 20; Rev 21.23
z **2.36** Other ancient authorities read *I testify that my savior has been commissioned by the Lord*
* **2.36** v 39; 1 Chr 29.15
* **2.37** 1 Thess 2.12; 1 Pet 5.10
* **2.38** 2 Esd 6.5; Rev 7.4
* **2.39** Isa 61.10
* **2.40** Isa 61.10; Rev 3.5
* **2.41** 2 Esd 4.36; Eph 1.4; Rev 6.11
* **2.42** Rev 7.9
* **2.43** v 46; Rev 2.10; 4.4
* **2.44** Rev 7.13, 14
* **2.45** 1 Cor 15.53, 54; Rev 2.10; 4.4; 7.9
a **2.47** Other ancient authorities read *to praise and glorify the Lord*
* **2.47** Mt 10.32; Lk 12.8; Rev 3.5

2 Esdras 3

* **3.1** 2 Kings 25.8–11; Dan 4.5
b **3.4** Other ancient authorities read *formed*
c **3.4** Syr Ethiop Georg: Lat *people* or *world*
* **3.5** Gen 2.7; Acts 17.25; 1 Cor 15.45
* **3.6** Gen 2.8
* **3.7** Gen 2.17; 3.19; 6.3; 2 Esd 7.11
* **3.8** Gen 6.11, 12; Acts 14.16
* **3.9** Gen 7.10
* **3.11** Gen 8.1; 1 Pet 3.20; 2 Pet 2.5
* **3.13** Gen 12.1; 17.5
* **3.14** Gen 15.12; 2 Chr 20.7
* **3.15** Gen 17.7; 21.2; 25.25, 26; Rom 9.6–8
* **3.16** Gen 27.39; Mal 1.2, 3; Rom 9.13
* **3.17** Ex 19.1; Deut 4.10
d **3.18** Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Georg: Lat *set fast*
* **3.18** Ex 19.18; 2 Sam 22.10; Ps 77.16
* **3.19** Ex 19.16, 18; Ps 18.7–15
* **3.20** 2 Esd 4.30, 31; 7.48, 118
* **3.21** 2 Esd 4.30; 7.48
* **3.22** Deut 29.18; 2 Esd 8.53; Rom 7.7–13
* **3.23** 1 Sam 16.11–13
* **3.24** 2 Sam 7.5, 12, 13; 1 Chr 29.14, 16
e **3.29** Ethiop Arab 1 Arm: Lat Syr *in this thirtieth year*

* **3.30** Jer 12.1; Mal 3.15
f **3.31** Syr; compare Ethiop: Lat *how this way should be forsaken*
* **3.34** Job 31.6; Dan 5.27; Rev 6.5
* **3.36** Acts 10.35

2 Esdras 4

* **4.1** 2 Esd 5.20; 7.1; 10.28
* **4.2** v 11; 2 Esd 5.34
* **4.3** v 5
g **4.5** Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arab 2 Georg *a measure*
* **4.5** Prov 30.4; Isa 40.12
h **4.7** Syr Compare Ethiop Arab 2 Arm: Lat lacks *of Hades, or which are the entrances*
* **4.7** Job 38.16; 2 Esd 7.36, 123; 8.52
* **4.8** Rom 10.6, 7
* **4.9** Eccl 11.5; Wis 9.16; Jn 3.12
i **4.11** Syr Ethiop add *For the way of the Most High is created immeasurable*
j **4.11** Syr Ethiop *the way of the incorruptible?*
k **4.11** Syr Ethiop Arab 1: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **4.11** v 2; Ezek 1.28; 3.23
* **4.12** 2 Esd 7.46, 47
* **4.13** 2 Chr 25.18
* **4.16** Judg 9.15
l **4.17** Lat lacks *was in vain*
* **4.17** Job 38.8, 10, 11; Ps 104.9; Jer 5.22
* **4.19** Gen 1.9
m **4.21** Arab 2 Arm Georg *those who are*
* **4.21** Isa 55.8, 9; Jn 3.31; 1 Cor 2.13–15
n **4.22** Syr Ethiop Arm Georg: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **4.23** Ps 79.4; Bar 2.4; 3.8; 2 Esd 3.31–36
o **4.24** Lat mss Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Georg: Lat *terror*
* **4.24** Job 4.19; Ps 109.23; Jas 4.14
p **4.25** Ethiop adds *holy*
* **4.25** Josh 7.9
q **4.26** Syr: Lat *live*
* **4.26** 2 Esd 6.20; 1 Cor 7.31
* **4.27** 1 Jn 5.19
* **4.30** 2 Esd 3.20–22; 7.48; Mt 3.12; 13.30, 39; Rev 14.15
r **4.33** Syr Ethiop: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **4.33** 2 Esd 7.12; Rev 6.10
s **4.34** Syr Ethiop Arab Arm: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **4.34** 2 Esd 5.44; 6.34; Heb 10.37; 2 Pet 3.9

t **4.35** Syr Ethiop Arab 2 Georg: Lat *How long do I hope thus?*

* **4.35** v 41; 2 Esd 5.9, 37; 7.32; Rev 6.9, 10

u **4.36** Syr Ethiop Arab 2: Lat *number of seeds*

* **4.36** 2 Esd 2.41; 5.43; 1 Thess 4.16; Rev 6.11

* **4.37** Wis 11.20

* **4.38** 2 Esd 7.17

* **4.41** v 35; 2 Esd 5.9, 37; 7.32

* **4.44** 2 Esd 5.56; 6.11; 8.42; 12.7

* **4.45** v 50

* **4.50** v 45; 2 Esd 14.11, 12

* **4.52** 2 Esd 5.1, 13; 6.12; 7.26; 8.63

2 Esdras 5

v **5.1** Syr Georg Ethiop: Meaning of Lat uncertain

* **5.1** 2 Esd 4.52; Lk 21.26

w **5.4** Ethiop *three months*; Arm *the third vision*; Georg *the third day*; Arab 1 *three signs*

* **5.4** Zech 14.7

x **5.5** Syr Georg Arab 1 Arab 2 Arm; Ethiop *and the stars shall fall*: Meaning of Lat uncertain

* **5.5** Hab 2.11; Lk 19.40

y **5.7** Cn: Lat *fish, and it shall make its voice heard by night, which the many have not known, but all shall hear its voice*.

* **5.9** 2 Esd 6.24; Mt 10.21; Jas 3.11, 12

* **5.13** vv 1, 20; 2 Esd 4.52; 6.31, 35

* **5.14** v 22; 2 Esd 12.5

* **5.15** Dan 10.10, 11; 2 Esd 10.30

* **5.16** Neh 2.2

* **5.18** Zech 11.16, 17; Jn 10.12

* **5.19** 2 Esd 6.31, 35

* **5.20** 2 Esd 6.31, 35

* **5.21** 2 Esd 6.36, 37; 9.27

* **5.22** v 14; 2 Esd 6.36, 37; 9.27

* **5.23** Ps 80.8; 2 Esd 9.21; Jn 15.1

z **5.24** Syr: Lat *pit*

* **5.24** Deut 11.12; Song 2.1, 2; Hos 14.5

* **5.25** Deut 12.11; Ps 46.4

* **5.26** Ps 74.1, 19; 79.13; Jn 1.29

* **5.27** Deut 7.8

a **5.28** Syr Ethiop Arab: Lat *prepared*

* **5.28** Lev 26.33; 2 Esd 4.23; 6.57

* **5.30** 2 Sam 24.14; Sir 2.17

* **5.31** 2 Esd 4.1; 7.1

* **5.33** 2 Esd 8.47
* **5.34** 2 Esd 4.2; 12.4
* **5.35** Job 3.11; Jer 20.17
* **5.36** Sir 1.2
* **5.37** 2 Esd 4.35
* **5.38** v 23; Dan 2.11; 2 Esd 4.38
* **5.39** Jer 1.6
* **5.40** Eph 3.19

b **5.42** Or *crown*

* **5.43** 2 Esd 2.41; 4.36
* **5.44** 2 Esd 4.34; 6.34

c **5.45** Syr Ethiop Arab 1: Meaning of Lat uncertain

d **5.45** Syr: Lat lacks *If . . . one time*

* **5.48** 2 Esd 10.10–14
* **5.49** Gen 18.12, 13; Lk 1.18
* **5.50** v 48
* **5.52** Gen 6.4; Num 13.33; 1 Sam 17.4; 2 Sam 21.16–22
* **5.54** Gen 6.4; Num 13.33
* **5.56** 2 Esd 4.44; 6.18; 9.2

2 Esdras 6

e **6.1** Meaning of Lat uncertain: Compare Syr *The beginning is by the hand of humankind, but the end is by my own hands. For as before the land of the world existed there, and before*; Ethiop: *At first by the Son of Man, and afterwards I myself. For before the earth and the lands were created, and before*

* **6.1** Gen 1.1; Prov 8.23–25

f **6.3** Or *earthquakes*

* **6.3** v 44; Heb 12.22
* **6.4** v 41; Gen 1.1, 6, 7; 1 Chr 28.2
* **6.5** 2 Esd 2.38; Mt 6.20
* **6.6** Prov 8.22–30

g **6.8** Syr: Lat *to Abraham*

* **6.8** Gen 17.5; 25.26; Hos 12.3

h **6.10** Syr: Meaning of Lat uncertain

* **6.11** 2 Esd 4.44
* **6.12** 2 Esd 5.1–13
* **6.13** v 17; Ezek 2.1, 2; Dan 8.18; 10.6; 2 Esd 10.33
* **6.14** v 29

i **6.17** Lat *many*

* **6.17** v 13; Ezek 1.24; 43.2; Rev 1.15; 14.2
* **6.18** 2 Esd 5.56; 9.2

* **6.19** Isa 40.2; Jer 16.18
j **6.20** Syr: Lat lacks *my judgment*
* **6.20** Dan 7.10; 2 Esd 4.26; Rev 20.12
* **6.23** Am 3.6; Zech 9.14; Mt 24.31; 1 Cor 15.52
* **6.24** 2 Esd 5.9; Mt 10.21, 22; 24.10; Lk 21.26
* **6.25** 2 Esd 9.8; Mt 10.22
k **6.26** Syr Compare Ethiop Arab 1 Arm: Lat lacks *earth's*
* **6.26** Mt 16.28; Mk 9.1; Lk 9.27; Jn 8.52
* **6.28** 2 Esd 7.34, 113
l **6.30** Syr Compare Ethiop: Meaning of Lat uncertain
m **6.31** Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arm: Lat adds *by day*
* **6.31** 2 Esd 5.13, 20; 13.56
* **6.32** Dan 10.12; 2 Esd 10.39
* **6.33** Josh 1.9; Dan 9.23; 2 Esd 7.44
* **6.34** 1 Sam 12.21; 2 Esd 4.34; 5.44
* **6.35** 2 Esd 5.13, 20; 9.23
* **6.36** 2 Esd 5.21; 9.27
* **6.37** 2 Esd 5.21; 9.27
* **6.38** Gen 1.1; Sir 42.15
n **6.39** Syr Ethiop: Lat *was not yet from you*
* **6.39** Gen 1.2; 2 Esd 7.30
* **6.40** Gen 1.3; Ps 135.7
* **6.41** v 4; Gen 1.6
* **6.42** vv 50–52; Gen 1.9
* **6.44** v 3; Gen 1.11, 12
* **6.45** Gen 1.14–16
* **6.47** vv 50, 52; Gen 1.20
o **6.49** Syr Ethiop: Lat lacks *that you created*
p **6.49** Other Lat authorities read *Enoch*
* **6.49** Job 40.15; 41.1; Ps 74.14
* **6.50** v 42
q **6.51** Other Lat authorities read *Enoch*
* **6.51** v 42; Job 40.15; Ps 50.10
* **6.52** v 42; Ps 74.14
* **6.53** Gen 1.24
* **6.54** Gen 1.26; Wis 9.2
r **6.55** Syr Ethiop Arab 2: Lat *the firstborn world*
* **6.55** v 59; 2 Esd 7.11; 8.44
* **6.56** Isa 40.15, 17
* **6.57** Isa 40.17; 2 Esd 4.23; 5.28
s **6.58** Lat lacks *for you*

* **6.58** Ex 4.22; Hos 11.1
* **6.59** v 55; Ps 74.10

2 Esdras 7

* **7.1** 2 Esd 4.1; 5.31
* **7.5** Mt 7.14; Lk 13.24
* **7.7** 2 Esd 8.8; Mt 7.14; Lk 13.24
* **7.11** 2 Esd 3.7; 6.55
* **7.12** Job 5.7; 14.1; 2 Esd 4.33
* **7.13** Gen 2.9
* **7.14** Mt 7.14
* **7.17** Deut 4.1; 6.24; 8.1; 2 Esd 4.38
* **7.18** Rom 8.18, 24; 2 Cor 4.17, 18

t **7.19** Other ancient authorities read *God*; Ethiop Georg *the only One*

* **7.19** 2 Esd 4.34; 5.44

u **7.21** Other ancient authorities read *God*

* **7.21** Deut 30.15; Acts 10.35; Rom 2.13–15
* **7.22** 2 Kings 17.15; Rom 1.21
* **7.23** 2 Esd 8.58
* **7.24** Num 15.31
* **7.25** Mt 13.12; Mk 4.25; Lk 8.18; 2 Cor 9.6

v **7.26** Arm: Lat Syr *that the bride shall appear, even the city appearing*

* **7.26** 2 Esd 4.52; Rev 21.2
* **7.27** 2 Esd 6.25

w **7.28** Syr Arab 1: Ethiop *my Messiah*; Arab 2 *the Messiah*; Arm *the Messiah of God*; Lat *my son Jesus*

* **7.28** 2 Esd 13.32, 37, 52; 14.9

x **7.29** Arm *all who have continued in faith and in patience*

* **7.29** Dan 9.26
* **7.30** 2 Esd 6.39
* **7.32** Isa 26.19; Dan 12.2; Jn 5.28, 29

y **7.33** Lat *shall gather together*

* **7.33** Dan 7.9, 10; Mt 25.31; Lk 13.25
* **7.34** 2 Esd 6.28
* **7.35** Eccl 12.14; 2 Esd 13.56; Mt 16.27

z **7.36** Syr Ethiop: Lat *place*

* **7.36** v 38; 2 Esd 4.7; 6.2; Rev 20.14, 15
* **7.38** v 36
* **7.39** v 42

a **7.41** Or *storm*

* **7.42** Isa 60.19, 20; Rev 22.5

* **7.44** v 104; 2 Esd 6.33; 13.53, 56
b **7.45** Syr: Lat *And I answered, "I said then, O Lord, and*
* **7.45** Ps 1.1, 2; 119.2
* **7.46** 2 Esd 8.17, 35
* **7.47** 2 Esd 8.1; 9.15
* **7.48** v 92; 2 Esd 3.20–22; 4.30, 31
c **7.49** Syr Arab 1 Georg: Lat Ethiop lack *Ezra*
* **7.50** 2 Esd 8.1
d **7.52** Arab 1: Meaning of Lat Syr Ethiop uncertain
* **7.54** 2 Esd 8.2; 10.9
* **7.55** 2 Esd 8.2
e **7.60** Syr Arab 1: Lat *creation*
* **7.60** 2 Esd 8.39
* **7.61** v 131; 2 Esd 8.38
* **7.63** Eccl 4.3
f **7.68** Syr *defiled with*
* **7.69** v 117
* **7.70** Mt 20.23; 25.34, 41; Mk 10.40
* **7.71** v 64
* **7.72** vv 21–24
* **7.74** Rom 2.4; 2 Pet 3.9
* **7.75** Isa 65.17; Mt 19.28; Acts 3.21; Rev 21.1, 5
* **7.77** Tob 4.9; Mt 6.20; Lk 12.33
* **7.78** v 91; Eccl 12.7
* **7.80** vv 85, 95, 101
* **7.83** Wis 5.2; Lk 16.23
* **7.85** vv 80, 95, 101
g **7.86** Cn: Meaning of Lat uncertain
h **7.87** Syr Ethiop: Meaning of Lat uncertain
i **7.88** Lat *the corruptible vessel*
j **7.89** Syr Ethiop: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **7.89** 1 Cor 15.30; Jas 4.12
* **7.91** v 78
* **7.92** v 48
* **7.93** Rev 14.10
* **7.94** Mt 10.32; Lk 12.8; Rev 3.5
* **7.95** vv 32, 80, 85, 101; 2 Esd 4.35
* **7.96** Rom 7.24; 8.18; 1 Cor 15.53, 54
* **7.97** v 125; Dan 12.3; Mt 13.43
* **7.98** 1 Jn 3.2; Rev 22.4, 12
k **7.99** Syr: Meaning of Lat uncertain

* **7.101** vv 80, 85, 95
* **7.102** 2 Esd 4.44
l **7.104** Lat *bold*
m **7.104** Syr Ethiop Arm: Lat *to understand*
* **7.104** v 44; Joel 3.14
n **7.105** Syr Ethiop: Lat lacks *on that . . . another*
* **7.105** Ezek 18.20; Gal 6.7, 8
* **7.106** Gen 18.23–32; Ex 32.11–13
* **7.107** Josh 7.6–9
o **7.108** Syr Ethiop Arab 1: Lat Arab 2 Arm lack *in the days of Saul*
* **7.108** 1 Sam 7.9; 2 Sam 24.17; 1 Kings 8.22; 2 Chr 6.13
* **7.109** 1 Kings 17.21; 18.42; Jas 5.18
* **7.110** 2 Kings 19.15–19; Isa 37.15–20
p **7.112** Syr Ethiop Georg: Lat lacks *of God*
q **7.112** Syr: Lat lacks *not*
r **7.113** Syr Ethiop: Lat lacks *the beginning*
* **7.113** 2 Esd 6.27, 28; 1 Cor 15.53, 54
* **7.114** v 34
s **7.115** Syr Ethiop: Lat *overwhelm*
* **7.115** v 128; Rev 3.5
* **7.116** 2 Esd 3.5; 6.53, 54
* **7.117** v 69; Eccl 2.22, 23; 2 Esd 4.12
* **7.118** v 11; 2 Esd 3.21; 4.30; Rom 5.18
* **7.119** 2 Esd 8.31; Rom 6.23
* **7.123** 2 Esd 4.7; Rev 2.7; 22.2
* **7.125** v 97; Lam 4.8; Mt 13.43
* **7.127** Eph 6.10–17; 1 Tim 6.12
t **7.128** Syr Ethiop Arab 1: Lat *what I say*
* **7.129** Deut 30.19
* **7.130** 2 Esd 1.32
u **7.131** Syr: Lat *there was not*
* **7.131** vv 60, 61; Lk 15.7, 10
* **7.134** Wis 11.24, 26; Rom 2.4
v **7.135** Or *he is ready to give according to requests*
* **7.138** Ps 130.3; 143.2
w **7.139** Lat *contempts*
* **7.139** Ps 51.1, 9; Isa 43.25; 44.22; Acts 3.19

2 Esdras 8

* **8.1** vv 3, 55; 2 Esd 7.47; 9.15; Mt 7.14; Lk 13.24
* **8.2** 2 Esd 7.54; 10.9

* **8.3** v 1
x **8.4** Syr: Lat *release*
y **8.5** Syr: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **8.5** 1 Cor 15.32
z **8.6** Syr: Lat *place*
* **8.6** 2 Esd 9.31; Mt 13.23; Mk 4.20, 26, 27; Lk 8.15
* **8.7** Isa 45.9; 64.8
a **8.8** Lat *what you have formed*
* **8.8** Ps 139.13–16; 2 Esd 7.7
* **8.13** Rom 8.11, 13; Col 3.5
b **8.14** Syr: Lat *will with a light command*
* **8.14** Job 10.8
* **8.17** 2 Esd 7.46
c **8.18** Syr: Lat *but*
* **8.18** v 61; Mal 3.5; Jas 5.9; Rev 22.12
d **8.19** Syr Ethiop: Lat *beginning of Ezra's words*
* **8.19** 2 Esd 6.26; 14.9, 36–48
e **8.20** Or *you who abide forever*
f **8.20** Another Lat text reads *heavens*
* **8.21** Isa 6.2
g **8.22** Syr: Lat *they whose service takes the form of wind and fire*
* **8.22** Ps 104.4; Heb 1.7
h **8.23** Arab 2: Lat *truth bears witness*
* **8.23** 2 Sam 22.16; Ps 18.15; 74.15; 104.32; Nah 1.4, 5
* **8.27** Gen 18.23–25
* **8.28** Prov 1.7
i **8.29** Syr *have received the brightness of your law*
j **8.31** Syr Ethiop: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **8.31** v 36; 2 Esd 7.119
* **8.32** Titus 3.5
* **8.33** 2 Esd 7.77; 9.7; 13.23; Rom 2.6, 10
* **8.35** Ps 14.2, 3
* **8.36** v 31
* **8.38** Gen 6.5; 2 Esd 7.61; 9.12
* **8.39** 2 Esd 7.60; 13.56
k **8.41** Syr Ethiop *will live*; Lat *will be saved*
* **8.42** 2 Esd 4.44
l **8.43** Cn: Compare Syr Arab 1 Arm Georg 2: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **8.44** Gen 1.26, 27; 2 Esd 6.55
m **8.45** Ethiop Arab Compare Syr: Lat lacks *O Lord*
* **8.45** Joel 2.17; Add Esth 13.15

n **8.47** Syr Ethiop: Lat *brought yourself near*
* **8.50** v 63; 2 Esd 10.59; 12.23, 24; 2 Tim 3.2
* **8.51** v 62; 2 Esd 4.36
o **8.52** Syr Ethiop: Lat *allowed*
* **8.52** 2 Esd 2.12; 7.26; 10.27; Heb 11.16; Rev 22.14
p **8.53** Lat lacks *of evil*
q **8.53** Syr Ethiop Arm: Lat lacks *death*
r **8.53** Syr: Lat *Hades and corruption have fled into oblivion*; or *corruption has fled into Hades to be forgotten*
* **8.53** 2 Esd 2.38; Rev 20.14
* **8.54** Rev 21.4
* **8.56** 2 Esd 9.11
* **8.58** Ps 14.1; 53.1; 2 Esd 7.23
s **8.59** Syr: Lat *will receive*
* **8.59** Ezek 18.22; Wis 1.13; Lk 16.24
* **8.61** v 18
* **8.62** 2 Esd 7.44
* **8.63** v 50; 2 Esd 4.52; 5.1

2 Esdras 9

* **9.2** 2 Esd 5.56; 6.18; Mt 24.33; Mk 13.29; Lk 21.31
* **9.3** Mt 24.7; Mk 13.8; Lk 21.10, 11
* **9.4** Mt 24.33; Mk 13.29; Lk 21.31
t **9.5** Syr: Ethiop *is in the word*; meaning of Lat uncertain
u **9.6** Syr: Lat Ethiop *in effects*
* **9.7** 2 Esd 8.33; 13.23; Rom 3.28
* **9.8** 2 Esd 6.25; 12.34; 13.48
* **9.9** Wis 5.2
* **9.10** Lk 16.25
v **9.12** Or *me*
* **9.12** 2 Esd 8.38, 56; Heb 12.17
w **9.13** Syr: Lat *saved, and whose is the age and for whose sake the age was made and when*
* **9.13** 1 Cor 3.22
* **9.15** 2 Esd 7.47; 8.1
* **9.17** 1 Cor 3.12–15
x **9.19** Cn: Lat *law*
* **9.19** Ps 23.5; 78.19
y **9.20** Cn: Lat *devices that*
* **9.20** Gen 6.12
z **9.21** Lat *them*
a **9.21** Syr Ethiop Arab 1: Lat *tribe*

* **9.21** Mal 3.17; 2 Esd 5.23
* **9.23** 2 Esd 6.35
* **9.24** 2 Esd 10.32, 51; 12.51
b **9.26** Syr Ethiop *Arpad*; Arm *Ardab*
* **9.27** 2 Esd 5.21; 6.36, 37
* **9.28** 2 Esd 14.41
* **9.29** Ex 19.9; 24.10; Deut 4.12; Jer 2.6
* **9.31** 2 Esd 8.6
c **9.32** Lat *my*
* **9.32** v 37; 2 Esd 14.30; Acts 7.53
* **9.36** vv 19, 33; Rom 7.10
* **9.37** v 32; Isa 40.8; Mt 5.18; Lk 16.17
d **9.38** Syr Arab Arm: Lat *I looked about me with my eyes*
* **9.38** Josh 7.6; Esth 4.1; Jdt 4.11; 2 Esd 10.41, 44
* **9.39** 2 Esd 10.5
* **9.43** 2 Esd 10.45
* **9.44** 1 Sam 1.10, 11
e **9.45** Lat *all my fellow citizens*
* **9.45** Lk 1.48, 58
* **9.47** Tob 8.19; 11.18; Mt 22.2

2 Esdras 10

f **10.2** Lat *all my fellow citizens*
* **10.2** Job 2.11; Jn 11.19
* **10.4** v 18
* **10.5** 2 Esd 9.39
* **10.7** Gal 4.26
g **10.8** Syr adds *but we, the whole world, for our mother*
* **10.9** 2 Esd 7.54; 8.2
* **10.10** Wis 7.1; 2 Esd 9.15
* **10.12** Gen 3.16; Jn 16.21
* **10.14** Gen 3.16; Jn 16.21
* **10.16** 1 Sam 3.18; Ps 145.17
* **10.18** v 4
* **10.21** 2 Chr 36.19; Lam 2.7; 2 Esd 12.48
h **10.22** Ethiop *free men*
i **10.22** Syr *our seers*
* **10.22** Isa 24.8; Lam 5.10–18; Ezek 7.21; 1 Macc 1.21
* **10.23** Ps 106.41; Jer 22.24; Hag 2.23; Lk 1.71
j **10.25** Syr Ethiop Arab 1: Lat lacks *I was too . . . terrified. While*
k **10.27** Lat: Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arab 2 Arm *but there was an established city*

* **10.27** vv 42, 44; Rev 21.10, 14
* **10.28** 2 Esd 4.1
* **10.29** Dan 9.20, 21
* **10.30** Dan 8.17, 18; 2 Esd 5.14, 15; Rev 1.17
* **10.32** 2 Esd 9.24
* **10.33** 2 Esd 6.13
l **10.34** Syr Ethiop Arab: Lat *die to no purpose*
m **10.35** Other ancient authorities read *have heard*
* **10.36** Sir 34.2
* **10.38** 2 Esd 12.36
* **10.39** 2 Esd 6.32
* **10.41** v 49; 2 Esd 9.38
n **10.42** Lat: Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arab 2 Arm *an established city*
* **10.42** v 27
o **10.44** Cn: Lat *an established city*
* **10.44** v 27; 2 Esd 9.38
p **10.45** Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arab 2: Most Lat mss read *three*
q **10.45** Cn: Lat Syr Arab Arm *her*
* **10.45** 2 Esd 9.43
r **10.46** Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arm: Lat *three*
* **10.46** 1 Kings 8.62; 2 Chr 7.4
s **10.48** Or *him*
* **10.48** v 1
t **10.49** Lat mss Syr Ethiop Arab 1: Most Lat mss add *These were the things to be opened to you*
* **10.49** v 41
* **10.51** v 32; 2 Esd 9.24
* **10.53** v 32; 2 Esd 9.24
u **10.55** Other ancient authorities read *and*
* **10.55** Ps 48.12, 13
v **10.57** Or *been named by*
* **10.57** 2 Esd 12.7
* **10.59** 2 Esd 8.50

2 Esdras 11

* **11.1** Deut 28.49; Ezek 17.3, 7; Dan 7.3, 4; 2 Esd 12.16
w **11.2** Arab 2 Arm: Lat Syr Ethiop *in*
x **11.2** Syr: Compare Ethiop Arab: Lat lacks *the clouds* and *around it*
* **11.2** Dan 7.2
* **11.3** vv 11, 22–24
* **11.4** v 29; 2 Esd 12.22
* **11.10** 2 Esd 12.17

* **11.11** vv 3, 22, 23
* **11.13** Ps 103.16
* **11.17** 2 Esd 12.15
y **11.20** Syr Arab 2 *the little wings*
z **11.20** Some Ethiop mss read *left*
* **11.22** vv 1, 3, 11, 23
* **11.23** vv 4, 11, 29; 2 Esd 12.2
* **11.24** vv 3, 26–28, 31
a **11.25** Syr: Lat *underwings*
* **11.25** vv 3, 31
* **11.26** vv 24, 27, 28, 31
* **11.27** vv 24, 26, 28, 31
* **11.28** vv 24, 26, 27, 31
* **11.29** vv 4, 23; 2 Esd 12.22
* **11.30** v 1
b **11.31** Syr: Lat *underwings*
* **11.31** vv 3, 24, 26–28, 30
* **11.32** v 40; 2 Esd 12.24
* **11.33** 2 Esd 12.26
* **11.34** 2 Esd 12.24
* **11.35** 2 Esd 12.27, 28
* **11.37** 2 Esd 12.31; Rev 5.5
* **11.39** Dan 7.3, 7
c **11.40** Syr Arab Arm: Lat Ethiop *The fourth came, however, and conquered . . . and held sway . . . and for so long lived*
* **11.40** v 32; Dan 7.7, 19, 23; 2 Esd 12.11, 24
* **11.45** vv 1, 3, 4, 29

2 Esdras 12

d **12.2** Ethiop: Lat lacks *rose up and*
* **12.2** vv 21, 29, 30; 2 Esd 11.23, 24, 35
* **12.4** 2 Esd 4.2; 5.34
* **12.5** 2 Esd 5.14
* **12.7** 2 Esd 4.44; 10.57
* **12.9** 2 Esd 7.44; 8.50; 10.59; 13.14
* **12.11** Dan 7.7; 2 Esd 11.1, 40
* **12.14** 2 Esd 11.19
* **12.15** 2 Esd 11.17
* **12.16** 2 Esd 11.1
e **12.17** Lat *his*
* **12.18** Deut 4.12; 2 Esd 11.10

f **12.18** Syr Arm: Lat *After*
g **12.18** Ethiop Arab 1 Arm: Lat Syr *its beginning*
h **12.19** Syr: Lat *underwings*
* **12.19** 2 Esd 11.3, 11
* **12.21** vv 2, 29, 30; 2 Esd 11.22, 24, 25–28
* **12.22** 2 Esd 11.1, 4, 24
i **12.23** Syr Ethiop Arab Arm: Lat *kingdoms*
j **12.23** Syr Ethiop Arm: Lat *he*
* **12.23** 2 Esd 8.50
* **12.24** 2 Esd 11.32, 40
k **12.26** Lat *them*
* **12.26** 2 Esd 11.33
* **12.28** vv 2, 3; 2 Esd 11.35
l **12.29** Arab 1: Lat *underwings*
m **12.29** Syr Ethiop: Lat lacks *to*
* **12.29** v 21; 2 Esd 11.24
n **12.30** Lat *his*
* **12.30** vv 2, 21
* **12.31** 2 Esd 11.37–46
o **12.32** Syr: Lat lacks *of days . . . and speak*
* **12.32** 2 Esd 7.29; 13.37
* **12.34** 2 Esd 7.33; 8.38; 9.8; 13.48
* **12.36** 2 Esd 7.44
p **12.37** Ethiop Arab 1 Arab 2 Arm: Lat Syr *them*
* **12.37** 2 Esd 14.26; Rev 1.19
* **12.38** 2 Esd 14.26
* **12.39** v 51; 2 Esd 6.35; 9.23
* **12.40** 2 Esd 5.16–19
* **12.42** Ps 107.30; Isa 24.13; Mic 7.1; 2 Pet 1.19
* **12.44** Ex 14.12; Neh 1.3; 2.3, 13; 2 Esd 3.2
* **12.45** 1 Kings 19.4
q **12.48** Syr Ethiop: Lat *your*
* **12.48** 2 Esd 3.2; 10.21
r **12.51** Lat *he*
* **12.51** v 39; 2 Esd 9.24

2 Esdras 13

* **13.1** 2 Esd 12.39, 51
s **13.2** Other ancient authorities read *I saw a wind arise from the sea and stir up*
* **13.2** Dan 7.2
t **13.3** Syr: Lat lacks *the wind . . . I saw*

u **13.3** Syr Ethiop Arab Arm: Lat *grew strong*
* **13.3** vv 25, 32; Dan 7.13; Rev 20.11
* **13.5** Rev 20.8, 9
* **13.6** vv 35, 36
* **13.10** Isa 11.4; 2 Thess 2.8; Rev 11.5
* **13.11** Ezek 28.18; Mal 4.3
* **13.12** v 39; Isa 66.20
* **13.16** v 22
* **13.19** v 22
v **13.20** Ethiop Compare Arab 2: Lat *easier*
w **13.20** Syr: Lat *this*
* **13.20** vv 16, 23; Job 7.9; 2 Esd 8.50
x **13.22** Syr Arab 1: Lat lacks *and . . . not survive*
* **13.22** vv 16, 19
* **13.23** v 20; 2 Esd 8.33; 9.7; 1 Jn 5.18; Rev 3.10
* **13.25** vv 3, 5
* **13.27** v 10
* **13.28** vv 5, 8, 10
* **13.30** 2 Esd 12.3; Lk 21.26
* **13.31** Isa 19.2; 2 Esd 15.15; Mk 13.8
y **13.32** Syr and most Lat mss lack *from the sea*
* **13.32** vv 3, 5, 37; 2 Esd 5.4–9; 6.18–28; 7.28
* **13.34** v 5; Rev 19.19; 20.8
* **13.35** Ps 2.6; Rev 14.1
* **13.36** vv 6, 7; Dan 2.34; 2 Esd 8.52
* **13.37** vv 10, 11; 2 Esd 12.32
z **13.38** Syr: Lat *effort and the law*
* **13.38** vv 10, 11
* **13.39** v 12
a **13.40** Other Lat mss *ten*; Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arm *nine and a half*
* **13.40** 2 Kings 17.3, 6
* **13.43** Rev 9.14; 16.12
* **13.44** v 47; Ex 14.21; Josh 3.15, 16
b **13.47** Syr: Lat *stops*
* **13.47** v 44; Isa 11.15, 16
c **13.48** Syr: Lat lacks *shall be saved*
* **13.48** 2 Esd 9.8; 12.34
* **13.51** vv 3, 5, 25
d **13.52** Syr: Ethiop *except when his time and his day have come*; Lat lacks *his*
* **13.52** vv 32, 37; 2 Esd 14.9; Lk 17.22, 24
* **13.54** 2 Esd 6.32

* **13.55** Prov 7.4; Sir 15.2
* **13.56** 2 Esd 2.35; 7.35, 44; 8.39; 14.1
* **13.58** 2 Esd 14.1; Acts 17

2 Esdras 14

* **14.1** 2 Esd 13.56, 58
* **14.3** Ex 3.2–8
e **14.4** Syr Arab 1 Arab 2 *he led*
* **14.4** Ex 24.18
f **14.5** Syr Ethiop Arab Arm: Lat lacks *declared to him*
* **14.9** 2 Esd 7.28; 8.19, 62; 13.32, 52
* **14.10** 2 Esd 4.26; 6.20
g **14.11** Cn: Lat Ethiop *ten*
h **14.12** Syr lacks 14.11, 12: Ethiop *For the world is divided into ten parts, and has come to the tenth, and half of the tenth remains. Now . . .*
i **14.13** Lat lacks *and . . . wise*
* **14.13** v 20; 2 Kings 20.1
* **14.14** 2 Cor 5.4; Heb 12.1
* **14.16** Mt 24.8; Mk 13.8
j **14.18** Syr Ethiop Arab Arm: Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **14.18** 2 Esd 5.1; 11.1
k **14.19** Most Lat mss lack *Let me speak*
* **14.20** v 13
* **14.21** 2 Esd 10.22
* **14.22** 2 Esd 4.44; 2 Pet 1.21
* **14.23** vv 36, 44, 45; Ex 24.18
* **14.24** vv 37, 42
* **14.25** Ps 119.105; Prov 6.23; 20.27
* **14.26** vv 45, 46; 2 Esd 12.38
* **14.28** Deut 5.1; 6.4
* **14.29** Gen 47.4; Ex 22.21
* **14.30** 2 Esd 9.32; Acts 7.53
* **14.32** Ps 7.11; 2 Macc 12.6, 41; 2 Tim 4.8
l **14.33** Lat *brothers*
m **14.33** Syr Ethiop Arm: Lat *are among you*
* **14.35** Eccl 12.14; Dan 12.1, 2; Wis 5.15
* **14.36** vv 23, 45
* **14.37** v 24
* **14.38** Ezek 2.8; 3.1, 2
* **14.41** Ezek 24.27; 2 Esd 9.28
n **14.42** Syr Compare Ethiop Arab 2 Arm: Meaning of Lat uncertain

* **14.42** v 24

o **14.44** Syr Ethiop Arab 1 Arm: Meaning of Lat uncertain

* **14.44** vv 23, 36

p **14.45** Syr Arab 1: Lat lacks *twenty-four*

* **14.45** vv 23, 26, 36

* **14.47** Sir 24.30, 31; Bar 3.12

q **14.48** Syr adds *in the seventh year of the sixth week, five thousand years and three months and twelve days after creation. At that time Ezra was caught up, and taken to the place of those who are like him, after he had written all these things. And he was called the scribe of the knowledge of the Most High for ever and ever.* Ethiop Arab 1 Arm have a similar ending

2 Esdras 15

r **15.1** Chapters 15 and 16 (except 15.57–59, which has been found in Greek) are extant only in Lat

* **15.1** Num 23.5

* **15.2** Rev 22.6

s **15.4** Other ancient authorities add *and all who believe shall be saved by their faith*

* **15.4** Ezek 3.19; Jn 3.36

* **15.5** Ezek 14.21

* **15.6** Mt 23.32

* **15.8** Gen 4.10; Rev 6.10; 19.2

* **15.10** Ps 44.22

* **15.11** Deut 4.34; Wis 16.16

* **15.12** Isa 19.1–15; Ezek 32.2–16; 2 Esd 16.1

t **15.13** Lat lacks *to grow*

* **15.13** vv 35, 40

* **15.14** Rev 8.13; 12.12

* **15.15** Isa 19.2; 2 Esd 13.31

* **15.16** v 33

u **15.19** Cn: Lat *shall empty*

* **15.19** Deut 28.54, 55

* **15.21** vv 53, 56; Ps 79.12

* **15.22** v 8

* **15.23** Deut 32.22; 2 Esd 16.9, 15

v **15.24** Other ancient authorities read *God*

w **15.26** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*

x **15.27** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*

* **15.29** Isa 30.6

y **15.30** Other ancient authorities lack *like wild boars*

* **15.30** Ps 80.13

z **15.31** Cn: Lat *dragon*

a **15.32** Other ancient authorities read *turn their face to the north*

* **15.33** v 16
* **15.34** v 40
b **15.35** Meaning of Lat uncertain
* **15.35** vv 13, 39, 40; Rev 14.20
* **15.38** Dan 7.2
c **15.39** Lat *that he*
d **15.39** Lat *star*
* **15.39** vv 13, 34, 35, 40
e **15.40** Lat *star*
f **15.40** Or *eminent person*
g **15.40** Lat *star*
* **15.40** vv 13, 34, 35; Rev 8.7
* **15.43** v 60; Rev 18.2
h **15.44** Lat *star*
i **15.44** Other ancient authorities add *until they destroy it to its foundations*
* **15.44** v 40; Rev 18.9; 19.3
* **15.46** 2 Esd 16.1; Rev 17.4
j **15.48** Other ancient authorities read *devices, and you have followed after that one about to gratify her magnates and leaders so that you may be made proud and be pleased by her fornications*
k **15.48** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
* **15.49** Rev 18.7, 8
* **15.50** Job 15.30; Ps 90.6; Jas 1.11
* **15.53** v 56; Rev 17.6
* **15.54** Jer 4.30; 2 Esd 16.50
l **15.58** Gk: Lat omits *and highlands*
* **15.58** Deut 28.53; Isa 9.20; 49.26
m **15.60** Other ancient authorities read *idle* or *tranquil*
n **15.61** Other ancient authorities read *like dry straw*
* **15.61** Isa 47.14; 2 Esd 16.6
* **15.63** Rev 18.15–17

2 Esdras 16

* **16.1** 2 Esd 15.12, 46
o **16.2** Other ancient authorities lack *cloth of goats' hair*
* **16.2** 2 Sam 3.31; 1 Kings 20.31; Rev 6.12
* **16.4** vv 9, 15
* **16.5** v 8
p **16.6** Other ancient authorities read *fire when dry straw has been set on fire*
* **16.6** Isa 31.4; 2 Esd 15.61
* **16.7** Zech 9.14
* **16.8** v 5

* **16.9** 2 Esd 15.23
* **16.10** 2 Sam 22.14, 15
* **16.12** 2 Sam 22.8; Ezek 38.20
* **16.13** 2 Sam 22.14, 15; Ps 45.5; 89.13
* **16.15** Isa 30.33; 2 Esd 15.23
* **16.16** v 7; Zech 9.14
* **16.19** 2 Macc 6.12; Mt 24.8; Mk 13.8
* **16.20** Jdt 8.27; Rom 2.9; 8.35
* **16.22** 1 Thess 5.3
* **16.24** 2 Kings 9.37
* **16.27** Job 24.11; Isa 16.10
* **16.29** Isa 2.21; Am 5.3
* **16.30** Isa 17.6; 24.13

q **16.31** Other ancient authorities read *a cluster may remain exposed*

* **16.31** Ob 5
* **16.32** Am 1.11

r **16.33** Other ancient authorities read *be for briers*

* **16.33** Isa 7.23
* **16.34** Ps 78.63; Jer 7.34; Rev 18.23

s **16.37** Cn: Lat *do not believe the gods of whom the Lord speaks*

* **16.39** Isa 13.8; Jer 6.24; 50.43; Jn 16.21; 1 Thess 5.3
* **16.41** 2 Esd 7.127
* **16.42** 1 Cor 7.29–31

t **16.47** Other ancient authorities read *therefore those who are married may know that they will produce children for captivity and famine*

* **16.47** Deut 28.30–33; Am 5.11
* **16.51** Jer 4.30; 2 Esd 15.54
* **16.53** Heb 10.37

u **16.54** Other ancient authorities add *or the unjust done injustice*

* **16.54** Ps 140.10; Prov 25.22; Jer 2.35; 1 Jn 1.8

v **16.55** Other ancient authorities read *Lord God*

* **16.55** v 63; 1 Sam 16.7; Lk 16.15
* **16.56** Gen 1.1; Ps 148.5
* **16.57** Ps 147.4
* **16.58** Isa 40.12

w **16.59** Other ancient authorities read *confined the world between the waters and the waters*

* **16.59** Job 26.7, 10; 38.11; Ps 104.9
* **16.60** Gen 1.7; Job 9.8
* **16.61** Ps 107.35
* **16.62** Gen 2.7

x **16.63** Or *breath*

y **16.63** Other ancient authorities read *of the Lord Almighty*

* **16.64** v 54; 1 Sam 16.7; Prov 28.13
* **16.66** 1 Cor 4.5
* **16.67** Mt 25.31
z **16.68** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
a **16.68** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
* **16.68** v 74; Ps 75.7
* **16.69** Acts 15.29; 1 Cor 8.10; Rev 2.14, 20
b **16.71** Meaning of Lat uncertain
c **16.72** Other ancient authorities read *For people, because of their misfortunes, shall*
d **16.72** Other ancient authorities read *fear God*
* **16.74** Prov 17.3; 2 Esd 15.53; 1 Pet 1.7
* **16.75** v 67; 2 Tim 4.18
e **16.76** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
* **16.76** Ps 48.14
* **16.77** Ps 38.4
f **16.78** Other ancient authorities read *seed*
* **16.78** Prov 22.5; Hos 2.6; Lk 8.7; Heb 6.8

(d) The following book appears in an appendix to the Greek Bible.

4 Maccabees

4 Maccabees 1

THE AUTHOR'S DEFINITION OF HIS TASK

1 The subject that I am about to discuss is most philosophical, that is, whether pious reason is sovereign over the passions. So it is right for me to advise you to pay earnest attention to philosophy.* [2]For the subject is essential to everyone who is seeking knowledge, and in addition it includes the praise of the highest virtue—I mean, of course, rational judgment. [3]If, then, it is evident that reason rules over those passions that hinder self-control, namely, gluttony and lust,* [4]it is also clear that it masters the passions that hinder one from justice, such as malice, and those that stand in the way of courage, namely, anger, fear, and pain. [5]Some might perhaps ask, "If reason rules the passions, why is it not sovereign over forgetfulness and ignorance?" Their attempt at argument is ridiculous!* [6]For reason does not rule its own passions but those that are opposed to justice, courage, and self-control,[a] and it is not for the purpose of destroying them but so that one may not give way to them.

7 I could prove to you from many and various examples that reason[b] is absolute ruler over the passions,* [8]but I can demonstrate it best from the noble bravery of those who died for the sake of virtue: Eleazar and the seven brothers and their mother.* [9]All of these, by despising sufferings that bring death, demonstrated that reason controls the passions. [10]On the anniversary of these events it is fitting for me to praise for their virtues those who, with their mother, died for the sake of nobility and goodness, and I would also call them blessed for the honor in which they are held. [11]All people, even their torturers, marveled at their courage and endurance, and they became the cause of the downfall of tyranny over their nation. By their endurance they conquered the tyrant, and thus their native land was purified through them.* [12]I shall shortly have an opportunity to speak of this, but, as my custom is, I shall begin by stating my main principle, and then I shall turn to their story, giving glory to the all-wise God.

THE SUPREMACY OF REASON

13 Our inquiry, accordingly, is whether reason is sovereign over the passions. [14]We shall decide just what reason is and what passion is, how many kinds of passions there are, and whether reason rules over all these. [15]Now reason is the mind that with sound logic prefers the life of wisdom. [16]Wisdom, next, is the knowledge of divine and human matters and the causes of these.* [17]This, in turn, is education in the law, by which we learn divine matters reverently and human affairs to our advantage.* [18]Now the kinds of wisdom are rational judgment, justice, courage, and self-control. [19]Rational judgment is supreme over all of these, since by means of it reason rules over the passions. [20]The two most comprehensive types of the passions are pleasure and pain, and each of these is by nature concerned with both body and soul. [21]There are many sequences of passions with both pleasure and pain. [22]Thus desire precedes pleasure, and delight follows it. [23]Fear precedes pain, and sorrow comes after. [24]Anger, as a person will see by reflecting on this experience, is a passion embracing pleasure and pain.* [25]In pleasure there exists even a malevolent tendency, which is the most complex of all the passions. [26]In the soul it is boastfulness, love of money, thirst for honor, rivalry, and malice; [27]in the body, indiscriminate eating, gluttony, and eating alone.

28 Just as pleasure and pain are two plants growing from the body and the soul, so there are many offshoots of these plants,[c] [29]each of which the master cultivator, reason, weeds and prunes and ties up and waters and thoroughly irrigates and so tames the jungle of habits and passions.* [30]For reason is the guide of the virtues, but over the passions it is sovereign.

Observe now, first of all, that rational judgment is sovereign over the passions by virtue of the restraining power of self-control.* [31]Self-control, then, is dominance over the desires. [32]Some desires belong to the soul, others to the body, and reason obviously rules over both. [33]Otherwise, how is it that when we are attracted to forbidden foods we abstain from the pleasure to be had from them? Is it not because reason is able to rule over appetites? I for one think so. [34]Therefore when we crave seafood and fowl and animals and all sorts of foods that are forbidden to us by the law, we abstain because of domination by reason. [35]For the passions of the appetites

are restrained, checked by the temperate mind, and all the impulses of the body are bridled by reason.*

4 Maccabees 2

COMPATIBILITY OF THE LAW WITH REASON

1 And why is it amazing that the desires of the soul for the enjoyment of beauty are rendered powerless? [2]It is for this reason, certainly, that the temperate Joseph is praised, because by mental effort[d] he overcame the prospect of pleasure. [3]For when he was young and in his prime for intercourse, by reason he nullified the frenzy[e] of the passions.* [4]Reason is proved to rule not only over the frenzied urge of sexual desire but also over every desire.[f] [5]Thus the law says, "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or anything that is your neighbor's."* [6]In fact, since the law has told us not to covet, I could prove to you all the more that reason is able to control desires.

Just so it is with the passions that hinder one from justice. [7]Otherwise how could it be that someone who is habitually a solitary eater, a glutton, or even a drunkard can learn a better way, unless reason is clearly lord of the passions?* [8]Thus, as soon as one adopts a way of life in accordance with the law, even though a lover of money, one is forced to act contrary to natural ways and to lend without interest to those who plead for assistance and to cancel the debt when the seventh year arrives.* [9]If one is greedy, one is ruled by the law through reason so that one neither gleans the harvest nor gathers the last grapes from the vineyard.

In other matters we can recognize that reason rules the passions.* [10]For the law prevails even over affection for parents, so that virtue is not abandoned for their sakes. [11]It overrules love for one's wife so that one rebukes her when she breaks the law. [12]It overrules love for children so that one punishes them for misdeeds. [13]It is sovereign over the relationship of friends so that one rebukes friends when they act wickedly. [14]Do not consider it paradoxical when reason, through the law, can prevail even over enmity. The fruit trees of the enemy are not cut down, but one preserves the property of enemies from marauders and helps raise up what has fallen.[g,*]

15 It is evident that reason rules even[h] the more violent passions: lust for power, vanity, boasting, arrogance, and malice. [16]For the temperate mind

repels all these malicious passions, just as it repels anger—for it is sovereign over even this. [17]When Moses was angry with Dathan and Abiram, he did nothing against them in anger but controlled his anger by reason.* [18]For, as I have said, the temperate mind is able to get the better of the passions, to correct some and to render others powerless. [19]Why else did Jacob, our most wise father, censure the households of Simeon and Levi for their irrational slaughter of the entire tribe of the Shechemites, saying, "Cursed be their anger"?* [20]For if reason could not control anger, he would not have spoken thus. [21]Now when God fashioned humans, he planted in them passions and inclinations, [22]but at the same time he enthroned the mind among the senses as a sacred governor over them all. [23]To the mind he gave the law, and one who lives subject to this will rule a kingdom that is temperate, just, good, and courageous.

24 How is it then, one might say, that if reason is master of the passions, it does not control forgetfulness and ignorance?*

4 Maccabees 3

1 But this argument is entirely ridiculous, for it is evident that reason rules
not over its own passions but over those of the body. [2]No one of us can
eradicate that kind of desire, but reason can provide a way for us not to be
enslaved by desire. [3]No one of you can eradicate anger from the mind, but
reason can help to deal with anger.[*] [4]No one of us can eradicate malice, but
reason can fight at our side so that we are not overcome by malice. [5]For
reason does not uproot the passions but is their antagonist.

KING DAVID'S THIRST

6 Now this can be explained more clearly by the story of King David's
thirst. [7]David had been attacking the Philistines all day long and together
with the soldiers of his nation had killed many of them.[*] [8]Then when
evening fell, he[i] came, sweating and quite exhausted, to the royal tent,
around which the whole army of our ancestors had encamped. [9]Now all the
rest were at dinner, [10]but the king was extremely thirsty, and though springs
were plentiful there, he could not satisfy his thirst from them. [11]But a
certain irrational desire for the water in the enemy's territory tormented and
inflamed him, undid and consumed him. [12]When his guards complained
bitterly because of the king's craving, two staunch young soldiers,
respecting[j] the king's desire, armed themselves fully and taking a pitcher
climbed over the enemy's ramparts. [13]Eluding the sentinels at the gates,
they went searching throughout the enemy camp [14]and found the spring and
from it boldly brought the king a drink. [15]But David,[k] though he was
burning with thirst, considered it an altogether fearful danger to his soul to
drink what was regarded as equivalent to blood. [16]Therefore, opposing
reason to desire, he poured out the drink as an offering to God. [17]For the
temperate mind can conquer the drives of the passions and quench the
flames of frenzied desires; [18]it can overthrow bodily agonies even when
they are extreme and by nobility of reason spurn all domination by the
passions.

AN ATTEMPT ON THE TEMPLE TREASURY

19 The present occasion now invites us to a narrative demonstration of temperate reason.

20 At a time when our ancestors were enjoying profound peace because of their observance of the law and were prospering, so that even Seleucus Nicanor, king of Asia, had both appropriated money to them for the temple service and recognized their way of life—[21]just at that time certain persons attempted a revolution against the public harmony and caused many and various disasters.[*]

4 Maccabees 4

1 Now there was a certain Simon, a political opponent of the noble and
good man Onias, who then held the high priesthood for life. When, despite
bringing charges against him on behalf of the nation, he was unable to
injure Onias, he fled the country with the purpose of betraying it.* 2So he
came to Apollonius, governor of Syria, Phoenicia, and Cilicia, and said,* 3"I
have come here because I am loyal to the king's government, to report that
in the Jerusalem treasuries there are deposited tens of thousands in private
funds that are not the property of the temple but belong to King Seleucus."*
4When Apollonius learned the details of these things, he praised Simon for
his service to the king and went up to Seleucus to inform him of the rich
treasure.* 5On receiving authority to deal with this matter, he proceeded
quickly to our country accompanied by the accursed Simon and a very
strong military force. 6He said that he had come with the king's authority to
seize the private funds in the treasury.* 7The people indignantly protested
his words, considering it outrageous that those who had committed deposits
to the sacred treasury should be deprived of them, and did all that they
could to prevent it.* 8But, uttering threats, Apollonius went on to the
temple. 9While the priests together with women and children were
imploring God in the temple to shield the holy place that was being treated
so contemptuously,* 10and while Apollonius was going up with his armed
forces to seize the money, angels on horseback with lightning flashing from
their weapons appeared from heaven, instilling in them great fear and
trembling.* 11Then Apollonius fell down half-dead in the temple area that
was open to all, stretched out his hands toward heaven, and with tears
begged the Hebrews to pray for him and propitiate the wrath of the
heavenly army.* 12For he said that he had committed a sin deserving of
death and that if he were spared he would praise the blessedness of the holy
place before all people.* 13Moved by these words, although otherwise
cautious lest King Seleucus suppose that Apollonius had been overcome by
human treachery and not by divine justice, the high priest Onias prayed for
him. 14So Apollonius,[1] having been saved beyond all expectations, went
away to report to the king what had happened to him.

ANTIOCHUS'S PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS

15 When King Seleucus died, his son Antiochus Epiphanes succeeded to
the throne, an arrogant and terrible man* 16who removed Onias from the
priesthood and appointed Onias's[m] brother Jason as high priest.* 17Jason[n]
agreed that if the office were conferred on him he would pay the king three
thousand six hundred sixty talents annually.* 18So the king appointed him
high priest and ruler of the nation. 19Jason[o] changed the nation's customs
and altered its form of government in complete violation of the law,* 20so
that he not only constructed a gymnasium at the very citadel[p] of our native
land but also abolished the temple service.* 21The divine justice was
angered by these acts and caused Antiochus himself to make war on them.*
22For when he was warring against Ptolemy in Egypt, he heard that a rumor
of his death had spread and that the people of Jerusalem had rejoiced
greatly. He speedily marched against them,* 23and after he had ravaged
them he issued a decree that if any of them were found observing the
ancestral law they should die.* 24When, by means of his decrees, he had not
been able in any way to put an end to the people's observance of the law but
saw that all his threats and punishments were being disregarded, 25even to
the extent that women, because they had circumcised their sons, were
thrown headlong from heights along with their infants, though they had
known beforehand that they would suffer this,* 26when, I say, his decrees
were despised by the people, he himself tried through torture to compel
everyone in the nation to renounce Judaism by eating defiling foods.*

4 Maccabees 5

ANTIOCHUS'S ENCOUNTER WITH ELEAZAR

1 The tyrant Antiochus, sitting in state with his counselors on a certain high
place and with his armed soldiers standing around him, [2]ordered the guards
to seize each and every Hebrew and to compel them to eat pork and food
sacrificed to idols. [3]If any were not willing to eat defiling food, they were to
be broken on the wheel and killed. [4]When many persons had been rounded
up, one[q] man, Eleazar by name, leader of the flock, was brought[r] before the
king. He was a man of priestly family, learned in the law, advanced in age,
and known to many in the tyrant's court because of his long career.[*]

5 When Antiochus saw him he said, [6]"Before I begin to torture you, old
man, I would advise you to save yourself by eating pork, [7]for I respect your
age and your gray hairs. Although you have had them for so long a time, it
does not seem to me that you are a philosopher when you observe the
religion of the Jews.[*] [8]When nature has granted it to us, why should you
abhor eating the very excellent meat of this animal? [9]It is senseless not to
enjoy delicious things that are not shameful and wrong to spurn the gifts of
nature. [10]It seems to me that you will do something even more senseless if,
by holding a vain opinion concerning the truth, you continue to despise me
to your own hurt. [11]Will you not awaken from your foolish philosophy,
dispel the emptiness of your reasonings, adopt a mind appropriate to your
years, philosophize according to the truth of what is beneficial, [12]and have
compassion on your old age by honoring my humane advice? [13]For
consider this: if there is some power watching over this religion of yours, it
will excuse you from any transgression that arises out of compulsion."

14 When the tyrant urged him in this fashion to eat meat unlawfully,
Eleazar asked to have a word. [15]When he had received permission to speak,
he began to address the people as follows: [16]"We, O Antiochus, who have
been persuaded to govern our lives by the divine law think that there is no
compulsion more powerful than our obedience to the law.[*] [17]Therefore we
consider that we should not transgress it in any respect. [18]Even if, as you
suppose, our law were not truly divine and we had wrongly held it to be

divine, not even so would it be right for us to invalidate our reputation for piety. [19]Therefore do not suppose that it would be a petty sin if we were to eat defiling food; [20]to transgress the law in matters either small or great is of equal seriousness,* [21]for in either case the law is equally despised. [22]You scoff at our philosophy as though living by it were irrational, [23]but it teaches us self-control, so that we master all pleasures and desires, and it also trains us in courage, so that we endure any suffering willingly;* [24]it instructs us in justice, so that in all our dealings we give what is due;[s] and it teaches us piety, so that with proper reverence we worship the only living God.

25 "Therefore we do not eat defiling food, for since we believe that the law was established by God, we know that the Creator of the world in giving us the law has shown sympathy toward us in accordance with nature. [26]He has permitted us to eat what will be most suitable for our lives,[t] but he has forbidden us to eat meats that would be contrary to this.* [27]It would be tyrannical for you to compel us not only to transgress the law but also to eat in such a way that you may deride us for eating defiling foods, which are most hateful to us. [28]But you shall have no such occasion to laugh at me, [29]nor will I transgress the sacred oaths of my ancestors concerning the keeping of the law, [30]not even if you gouge out my eyes and burn my entrails. [31]I am not so old and cowardly as not to be young in reason on behalf of piety. [32]Therefore get your torture wheels ready and fan the fire more vehemently! [33]I do not so pity my old age as to overthrow the ancestral law by my own act. [34]I will not play false to you, O law that trained me, nor will I renounce you, beloved self-control. [35]I will not put you to shame, philosophical reason, nor will I reject you, honored priesthood and knowledge of the law. [36]You, O king,[u] shall not defile the honorable mouth of my old age nor my long life lived lawfully. [37]My ancestors will receive me as pure, as one who does not fear your violence even to death.* [38]You will tyrannize the ungodly, but you shall not dominate my reasonings on behalf of piety, either by words or through deeds."

4 Maccabees 6

MARTYRDOM OF ELEAZAR

1 When Eleazar in this manner had made eloquent response to the exhortations of the tyrant, the guards who were standing by dragged him violently to the instruments of torture. [2]First they stripped the old man, though he remained adorned with the gracefulness of his piety. [3]After they had tied his arms behind him, they flogged him from both sides, [4]while a herald who faced him cried out, "Obey the king's commands!" [5]But the courageous and noble man, like a true Eleazar,[v] was unmoved, as though being tortured in a dream, [6]yet while the old man's eyes were raised to heaven, his flesh was being torn by scourges, his blood flowing, and his sides were being cut to pieces. [7]Although he fell to the ground because his body could not endure the agonies, he kept his reason upright and unswerving. [8]One of the cruel guards rushed at him and began to kick him in the side to make him get up again after he fell. [9]But he bore the pains and scorned the punishment and endured the tortures. [10]Like a noble athlete the old man, while being beaten, was victorious over his torturers; [11]in fact, with his face bathed in sweat and gasping heavily for breath, he amazed even his torturers by his courageous spirit.

12 At that point, partly out of pity for his old age,[*] [13]partly out of sympathy from their acquaintance with him, partly out of admiration for his endurance, some of the king's retinue came to him and said, [14]"Eleazar, why are you so irrationally destroying yourself through these evil things? [15]We will set before you some cooked meat; save yourself by pretending to eat pork."[*]

16 But Eleazar, as though more bitterly tormented by this counsel, cried out, [17]"Never may we, the children of Abraham, think so basely that out of cowardice we feign a role unbecoming to us! [18]For it would be irrational if, having lived in accordance with truth up to old age and having guarded the reputation of a life lived lawfully, we should now change our course [19]and ourselves become a pattern of impiety to the young by setting them an example in the eating of defiling food.[*] [20]It would be shameful if we should

survive for a little while and during that time be a laughingstock to all for our cowardice [21]and be despised by the tyrant as unmanly by not contending even to death for our divine law. [22]Therefore, O children of Abraham, die nobly for the sake of piety! [23]And you, guards of the tyrant, why do you delay?"*

24 When they saw that he was so courageous in the face of the afflictions and that he had not been changed by their compassion, the guards brought him to the fire. [25]There they burned him with maliciously contrived instruments, threw him down, and poured stinking liquids into his nostrils. [26]When he was now burned to his very bones and about to expire, he lifted up his eyes to God and said, [27]"You know, O God, that, though I might have saved myself, I am dying in burning torments for the sake of the law.* [28]Be merciful to your people, and let our punishment suffice for them. [29]Make my blood their purification, and take my life in exchange for theirs." [30]After he said this, the holy man died nobly in his tortures; even in the tortures of death he resisted, by virtue of reason, for the sake of the law.*

31 Admittedly, then, pious reason is sovereign over the passions. [32]For if the passions had prevailed over reason, we would have testified to their domination. [33]But now that reason has conquered the passions, we properly attribute to it the power to govern. [34]It is right for us to acknowledge the dominance of reason when it masters even external agonies. It would be ridiculous to deny it.[w] [35]I have proved not only that reason has mastered agonies but also that it masters pleasures and in no respect yields to them.

4 Maccabees 7

AN ENCOMIUM ON ELEAZAR

1 For like a most skillful pilot, the reason of our father Eleazar steered the
ship of piety over the sea of the passions, [2]and though buffeted by the
stormings of the tyrant and overwhelmed by the mighty waves of tortures,
[3]in no way did he turn the rudder of piety until he sailed into the haven of
immortal victory. [4]No city besieged with many ingenious war machines has
ever held out as did that most holy man. Although his sacred life was
consumed by tortures and racks, he conquered the besiegers because reason
was shielding his piety. [5]For in setting his mind firm like a jutting cliff, our
father Eleazar broke the maddening waves of the passions. [6]O priest,
worthy of the priesthood, you neither defiled your sacred teeth nor profaned
your stomach, which had room only for reverence and purity, by eating
defiling foods.* [7]O man in harmony with the law and philosopher of divine
life! [8]Such should be those who are administrators of the law, shielding it
with their own blood and noble sweat in sufferings even to death. [9]You,
father, validated our obedience to the law through your endurance unto
glory, and you did not abandon the holiness that you praised, but by your
deeds you made your words of divine[x] philosophy credible. [10]O aged man,
more powerful than tortures; O elder, fiercer than fire; O supreme king over
the passions, Eleazar! [11]For just as our father Aaron, armed with the censer,
ran through the multitude of the people and conquered the fiery angel,* [12]so
the descendant of Aaron, Eleazar, though being consumed by the fire,
remained unmoved in his reason. [13]Most amazing, indeed, though he was
an old man, his body no longer tense and firm,[y] his muscles flabby, his
sinews feeble, he became young again* [14]in spirit through reason, and by
reason like that of Isaac he rendered the many-headed rack ineffective.
[15]O man of blessed age and of venerable gray hair and of law-abiding life,
whom the faithful seal of death has perfected!

16 If, therefore, because of piety an aged man despised tortures even to
death, most certainly pious reason is governor of the passions. [17]Some
perhaps might say, “Not all have full command of their passions, because

not all have prudent reason." [18]But as many as attend to piety with a whole heart, these alone are able to control the passions of the flesh,* [19]since they believe that they, like our patriarchs Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, do not die to God but live to God.* [20]No contradiction therefore arises when some persons appear to be dominated by their passions because of the weakness of their reason. [21]What person who lives[z] as a philosopher by the whole rule of philosophy and trusts in God [22]and knows that it is blessed to endure any suffering for the sake of virtue would not be able to overcome the passions through godliness? [23]For only the wise[a] and courageous are masters of their passions.

4 Maccabees 8

SEVEN BROTHERS DEFY THE TYRANT

1 For this is why even the very young, by following a philosophy in
accordance with pious reason, have prevailed over the most painful
instruments of torture. [2]For when the tyrant was conspicuously defeated in
his first attempt, being unable to compel an aged man to eat defiling foods,
then in violent rage he commanded that others of the Hebrew captives be
brought and that any who ate defiling food would be freed after eating, but
if any were to refuse, they would be tortured even more cruelly.*

3 When the tyrant had given these orders, seven brothers—handsome,
modest, noble, and accomplished in every way—were brought before him
along with their aged mother.* [4]When the tyrant saw them, grouped about
their mother as though a chorus, he was pleased with them. And struck by
their appearance and nobility, he smiled at them and summoned them nearer
and said, [5]"Young men, with favorable feelings I admire each and every one
of you and greatly respect the beauty and the number of such brothers. Not
only do I advise you not to display the same madness as that of the old man
who has just been tortured, but I also exhort you to yield to me and enjoy
my friendship. [6]Just as I am able to punish those who disobey my orders, so
I can be a benefactor to those who are disposed to obey me. [7]Trust me, then,
and you will receive positions of authority in my government if you will
renounce the ancestral tradition of your national life.* [8]Enjoy your youth by
adopting the Greek way of life and by changing your manner of living.*
[9]But if by disobedience you rouse my anger, you will compel me to destroy
each and every one of you with dreadful punishments through tortures.
[10]Therefore take pity on yourselves. Even I, your enemy, have compassion
for your youth and handsome appearance. [11]Will you not consider this, that
if you disobey, nothing remains for you but to die on the rack?"

12 When he had said these things, he ordered the instruments of torture
to be brought forward so as to persuade them out of fear to eat the defiling
food. [13]When the guards had placed before them wheels and joint-
dislocators, rack and hooks[b] and catapults and caldrons, braziers and

thumbscrews and iron claws and wedges and bellows, the tyrant resumed speaking: [14]"Be afraid, young fellows; whatever justice you revere will be merciful to you when you transgress under compulsion."

15 But when they had heard the inducements and saw the dreadful devices, not only were they not afraid, but they also opposed the tyrant with their own philosophy and by their right reasoning nullified his tyranny. [16]Let us consider, on the other hand, what arguments might have been used if some of them had been cowardly and unmanly. Would they not have been the following? [17]"O wretches that we are and so senseless! Since the king has summoned and exhorted us to accept kind treatment if we obey him, [18]why do we take pleasure in vain resolves and venture upon a disobedience that brings death? [19]O men and brothers, should we not fear the instruments of torture and consider the threats of torments and give up this vanity and this arrogance that threatens to destroy us? [20]Let us take pity on our youth and have compassion on our mother's age, [21]and let us seriously consider that if we disobey we are dead! [22]Also, divine justice will excuse us for fearing the king when we are under compulsion. [23]Why do we banish ourselves from this most pleasant life and deprive ourselves of this delightful world? [24]Let us not struggle against compulsion[c] or take hollow pride in being put to the rack. [25]Not even the law itself would consent to put us to death for fearing the instruments of torture. [26]Why does such contentiousness excite us and such a fatal stubbornness please us, when we can live in peace if we obey the king?"

27 But the youths, though about to be tortured, neither said any of these things nor even seriously considered them. [28]For they were contemptuous of the passions and sovereign over agonies, [29]so that as soon as the tyrant had ceased counseling them to eat defiling food, all with one voice together, as from one mind, said:

4 Maccabees 9

1 "Why do you delay, O tyrant? For we are ready to die rather than
transgress our ancestral commandments;* [2]we are obviously putting our
forebears to shame unless we should practice ready obedience to the law
and to Moses[d] our counselor. [3]Tyrant and counselor of lawlessness, in your
hatred for us do not pity us more than we pity ourselves.[e] [4]For we consider
this pity of yours, which ensures our safety through transgression of the
law, to be more grievous than death itself. [5]You are trying to terrify us by
threatening us with death by torture, as though a short time ago you learned
nothing from Eleazar.* [6]And if, on account of piety, the aged men of the
Hebrews fulfilled their pious duty while enduring torture, it would be even
more fitting that we young men should die despising your coercive tortures,
which our aged instructor also overcame. [7]Therefore, tyrant, put us to the
test, and if you take our lives because of our piety, do not suppose that you
can injure us by torturing us. [8]For we, through this severe suffering and
endurance, shall have the prizes of virtue and shall be with God, on whose
account we suffer;* [9]but you, because of your bloodthirstiness toward us,
will deservedly undergo from the divine justice eternal torment by fire."

THE TORTURE OF THE FIRST AND SECOND BROTHERS

10 When they had said these things, the tyrant was not only indignant, as
at those who are disobedient, but also infuriated, as at those who are
ungrateful. [11]Then at his command the guards brought forward the eldest,
and having torn off his tunic, they bound his hands and arms with straps on
each side. [12]When they had worn themselves out beating him with scourges,
without accomplishing anything, they placed him upon the wheel. [13]When
the noble youth was stretched out around this, his limbs were dislocated,
[14]and with every member disjointed he denounced the tyrant, saying,
[15]"Most abominable tyrant, enemy of heavenly justice, savage of mind, you
are mangling me in this manner not because I am a murderer or as one who
acts impiously but because I protect the divine law." [16]And when the guards
said, "Agree to eat so that you may be released from the tortures,"* [17]he

replied, “You abominable lackeys, your wheel is not so powerful as to strangle my reason. Cut my limbs, burn my flesh, and twist my joints; [18]through all these tortures I will convince you that children of the Hebrews alone are invincible when virtue is at stake.” [19]While he was saying these things, they spread fire under him, and while fanning the flames[f] they tightened the wheel further. [20]The wheel was completely smeared with blood, and the heap of coals was being quenched by the drippings of gore, and pieces of flesh were falling off the axles of the machine. [21]Although the ligaments joining his bones were already severed, the courageous youth, worthy of Abraham, did not groan, [22]but as though transformed by fire into immortality he nobly endured the rackings.* [23]“Imitate me, brothers,” he said. “Do not leave your post in my struggle[g] or renounce our courageous family ties. [24]Fight the sacred and noble battle for piety. Thereby the just Providence of our ancestors may become merciful to our nation and take vengeance on the accursed tyrant.” [25]When he had said this, the devout youth broke the thread of life.

26 While all were marveling at his courageous spirit, the guards brought forward the next eldest, and after fitting themselves with iron gauntlets having sharp hooks, they bound him to the torture machine and catapult. [27]Before torturing him, they inquired if he were willing to eat, and they heard his noble decision.* [28]These leopard-like beasts tore out his sinews with the iron hands, flayed all his flesh up to his chin, and tore away his scalp. But he steadfastly endured this agony and said, [29]“How sweet is any kind of death for our ancestral piety!” [30]To the tyrant he said, “Do you not think, you most savage tyrant, that you are being tortured more than I, as you see the arrogant design of your tyranny being defeated by our endurance for the sake of piety? [31]I lighten my pain by the joys that come from virtue, [32]but you suffer torture by the threats that come from impiety. You will not escape, you most abominable tyrant, the penalties of the divine wrath.”*

4 Maccabees 10

THE TORTURE OF THE THIRD AND FOURTH BROTHERS

1 When he, too, had endured a glorious death, the third was brought
forward, and many repeatedly urged him to save himself by tasting the
meat. [2]But he shouted, "Do you not know that the same father begot me as
well as those who died and the same mother bore me and that I was brought
up on the same teachings? [3]I do not renounce the noble kinship that binds
me to my brothers."[h] [5]Enraged by the man's boldness, they disjointed his
hands and feet with their instruments, dismembering him by prying his
limbs from their sockets, [6]and breaking his fingers and arms and legs and
elbows. [7]Since they were unable in any way to break his spirit,[i] they
abandoned the instruments[j] and scalped him with their fingernails in a
Scythian fashion. [8]They immediately brought him to the wheel, and while
his vertebrae were being dislocated by this, he saw his own flesh torn all
around and drops of blood flowing from his entrails. [9]When he was about to
die, he said, [10]"We, most abominable tyrant, are suffering because of our
godly training and virtue, [11]but you, because of your impiety and
bloodthirstiness, will undergo unceasing torments."

12 When he, too, had died in a manner worthy of his brothers, they
dragged forward the fourth, saying, [13]"As for you, do not give way to the
same insanity as your brothers, but obey the king and save yourself." [14]But
he said to them, "You do not have a fire hot enough to make me play the
coward. [15]No, by the blessed death of my brothers, by the eternal
destruction of the tyrant, and by the everlasting[k] life of the pious, I will not
renounce our noble family ties. [16]Contrive tortures, tyrant, so that you may
learn from them that I am a brother to those who have just now been
tortured." [17]When he heard this, the bloodthirsty, murderous, and utterly
abominable Antiochus gave orders to cut out his tongue. [18]But he said,
"Even if you remove my organ of speech, God hears also those who are
mute.[*] [19]See, here is my tongue; cut it off, for in spite of this you will not
make our reason speechless.[*] [20]Gladly, for the sake of God, we let our

bodily members be mutilated. [21]God will visit you swiftly, for you are cutting out a tongue that has been melodious with divine hymns.”*

4 Maccabees 11

THE TORTURE OF THE FIFTH AND SIXTH BROTHERS

1 When he, too, died, after being cruelly tortured, the fifth leaped up,
saying, [2]"I will not refuse, tyrant, to be tortured for the sake of virtue. [3]I
have come of my own accord so that by murdering me you will incur
punishment from the heavenly justice for even more crimes. [4]Hater of
virtue, hater of humankind, for what act of ours are you destroying us in
this way? [5]Is it because[l] we revere the Creator of all things and live
according to his virtuous law? [6]But these deeds deserve honors, not
tortures."[m] [9]While he was saying these things, the guards bound him and
dragged him to the catapult; [10]they tied him to it on his knees, and fitting
iron clamps on them, they twisted his back[n] around the wedge on the
wheel,[o] so that he was completely curled back like a scorpion, and all his
members were disjointed. [11]In this condition, gasping for breath and in
anguish of body, [12]he said, "Tyrant, they are splendid favors that you grant
us against your will, because through these noble sufferings you give us an
opportunity to show our endurance for the law."

13 When he, too, had died, the sixth, a mere boy, was led forward. When
the tyrant inquired whether he was willing to eat and be released, he said,
[14]"I am younger in age than my brothers, but I am their equal in mind.
[15]Since to this end we were born and bred, we ought likewise to die for the
same principles. [16]So if you intend to torture me for not eating defiling
foods, go on torturing!" [17]When he had said this, they led him to the wheel.
[18]He was carefully stretched tight upon it, his back was broken, and he was
roasted from underneath. [19]To his back they applied sharp spits that had
been heated in the fire and pierced his ribs so that his entrails were burned
through. [20]While being tortured he said, "O contest befitting holiness, in
which so many of us brothers have been summoned to an arena of
sufferings for the sake of piety and in which we have not been defeated!
[21]For pious knowledge, O tyrant, is invincible. [22]I also, equipped with
nobility, will die with my brothers, [23]and I myself will bring a great avenger
upon you, you inventor of tortures and enemy of those who are truly pious.

[24]We six boys have overthrown your tyranny. [25]Since you have not been able to persuade us to change our mind or to force us to eat defiling foods, is not this your downfall? [26]Your fire is cold to us, and the catapults painless, and your violence powerless. [27]For it is not the guards of the tyrant but those of the divine law that are set over us; therefore we hold fast to invincible reason."

4 Maccabees 12

THE TORTURE OF THE SEVENTH BROTHER

1 When he, too, thrown into the caldron, had died a blessed death, the seventh and youngest of all came forward. [2]Even though the tyrant had been vehemently reproached by the brothers, he felt strong compassion for this child when he saw that he was already in fetters. He summoned him to come nearer and tried to persuade him, saying, [3]"You see the result of your brothers' stupidity, for they died in torments because of their disobedience. [4]You, too, if you do not obey, will be miserably tortured and die before your time, [5]but if you yield to persuasion you will be my friend and a leader in the government of the kingdom."* [6]When he had thus appealed to him, he sent for the boy's mother to show compassion on her who had been bereaved of so many sons and to influence her to persuade the surviving son to obey and save himself.* [7]But after his mother had exhorted him in the Hebrew language, as we shall tell a little later,* [8]he said, "Let me loose, let me speak to the king and to all his Friends who are with him."* [9]Extremely pleased by the boy's declaration, they freed him at once. [10]Running to the nearest of the braziers, [11]he said, "You profane tyrant, most impious of all the wicked, since you have received good things and also your kingdom from God, were you not ashamed to murder his servants and torture on the wheel the athletes of piety? [12]Because of this, justice[p] has laid up for you a more intense and eternal fire and tortures, and these throughout all time will never let you go. [13]As a man, were you not ashamed, you most savage beast, to cut out the tongues of people who have feelings like yours and are made of the same elements as you and to maltreat and torture them in this way? [14]Surely they by dying nobly fulfilled their pious duty to God, but you will wail bitterly for having killed without cause the contestants for virtue." [15]Then because he, too, was about to die, he said, [16]"I do not desert the excellent example[q] of my brothers, [17]and I call on the God of our ancestors to be merciful to our nation,[r] [18]but on you he will take vengeance both in this present life and when you are dead." [19]After he had uttered these imprecations, he flung himself into the braziers and so ended his life.[s]

4 Maccabees 13

REASON'S SOVEREIGNTY IN THE SEVEN

1 Since, then, the seven brothers despised sufferings even unto death,
everyone must concede that pious reason is sovereign over the passions.
[2]For if they had been slaves to their passions and had eaten defiling food,
we would say that they had been conquered by these passions. [3]But in fact
it was not so. Instead, by reason, which is praised before God, they
prevailed over their passions. [4]The supremacy of the mind over these
cannot be overlooked, for the brothers[t] mastered both passions and pains.
[5]How, then, can one fail to confess the sovereignty of right reason over
passion in those who were not turned back by fiery agonies?* [6]For just as
towers jutting out over harbors hold back the threatening waves and make it
calm for those who sail into the inner basin, [7]so the seven-towered right
reason of the youths, by fortifying the harbor of piety, conquered the
tempest of the passions.* [8]For they constituted a holy chorus of piety and
emboldened one another, saying, [9]"Brothers, let us die like brothers for the
sake of the law; let us imitate the three youths in Assyria who despised the
same ordeal[u] of the furnace.* [10]Let us not be cowardly in the demonstration
of our piety." [11]While one said, "Courage, brother," another said, "Bear up
nobly," [12]and another reminded them, "Remember whence you came, and
the father by whose hand Isaac would have submitted to being slain for the
sake of piety."* [13]Each of them and all of them together looking at one
another, cheerful and undaunted, said, "Let us with all our hearts consecrate
ourselves to God, who gave us our lives,[v] and let us use our bodies as a
bulwark for the law. [14]Let us not fear him who thinks he is killing us, [15]for
great is the soul's contest and the danger of eternal torment lying before
those who transgress the commandment of God.* [16]Therefore let us put on
the full armor of mastery of the passions that divine reason provides.* [17]For
if we so die,[w] Abraham and Isaac and Jacob will welcome us, and all the
fathers will praise us."* [18]Those who were left behind said to each of the
brothers who were being dragged away, "Do not put us to shame, brother,
or betray the brothers who have died before us."

19 You are not ignorant of the affection of family ties, which the divine and all-wise Providence has bequeathed through the fathers to their descendants and which was implanted in the mother's womb.* [20]There the brothers spent the same length of time and were shaped during the same period of time, and growing from the same blood and through the same life, they were brought to the light of day. [21]When they were born after an equal time of gestation, they drank milk from the same fountains. From such embraces brotherly loving souls are nourished, [22]and they grow stronger from this common nurture and daily companionship and from both general education and our discipline in the law of God.

23 Therefore, when sympathy and brotherly affection had been so established, the seven brothers were the more sympathetic to one another. [24]Since they had been educated by the same law and trained in the same virtues and brought up together in right living, they loved one another all the more. [25]A common zeal for nobility strengthened their goodwill toward one another and their concord, [26]because they could make their brotherly love more fervent with the aid of piety. [27]But although nature and companionship and virtuous habits had augmented the affection of family ties, those who were left endured for the sake of piety, watching their brothers being maltreated and tortured to death.

4 Maccabees 14

1 Furthermore, they encouraged them to face the torture so that they not only despised their agonies but also mastered the passions of brotherly love.

2 O reason,[x] more royal than kings and freer than the free![*] [3]O sacred harmony of the seven brothers, well-tuned in regard to piety! [4]None of the seven youths proved coward or shrank from death, [5]but all of them, as though running the course toward immortality, hastened to death by torture. [6]Just as the hands and feet are moved in harmony with the guidance of the mind, so those holy youths, as though moved by an immortal spirit of piety, agreed to go to death for its sake. [7]O most holy seven, brothers in harmony! For just as the seven days of creation move in choral dance around piety, [8]so these youths, forming a chorus of seven,[y] encircled the fear of tortures and dissolved it. [9]Even now, we ourselves shudder as we hear of the suffering of these young men; they not only saw what was happening, not only heard the direct word of threat, but also bore the sufferings steadfastly, and in agonies of fire at that. [10]What could be more excruciatingly painful than this? For the power of fire is intense and swift, and it consumed their bodies quickly.

AN ENCOMIUM ON THE MOTHER OF THE SEVEN

11 Do not consider it amazing that reason had full command over these men in their tortures, since even the mind of woman despised more diverse agonies, [12]for the mother of the seven young men bore up under the rackings of each one of her children.

13 Observe how complex is a mother's love for her children, which draws everything toward a sympathy felt in her inmost parts. [14]Even unreasoning animals, as well as humans, have a sympathy and parental love for their offspring. [15]For example, among birds, the ones that are tame protect their young by building on the housetops, [16]and the others, by building at the tops of mountains and the depths of chasms, in holes of trees, and on treetops, hatch the nestlings and ward off the intruder. [17]If they are not able to keep the intruder[z] away, they do what they can to help their

young by flying in circles around them in the anguish of love, warning them with their own calls. [18]And why is it necessary to demonstrate sympathy for children by the example of unreasoning animals, [19]since even bees at the time for making honeycombs defend themselves against intruders and, as though with an iron dart, sting those who approach their hive and defend it even to the death? [20]But sympathy for her children did not sway the mother of the young men; she was of the same mind as Abraham.*

4 Maccabees 15

1 O reason of the children, tyrant over the passions! O piety, more desirable
to the mother than her children! [2]Two courses were open to this mother, that
of piety and that of preserving her seven sons for a time, as the tyrant had
promised. [3]She loved piety more, the piety that preserves them for eternal
life according to God's promise.[a] [4]In what manner might I express the
passions of parents who love their children? We impress upon the character
of a small child a wondrous likeness both of mind and of form. Especially is
this true of mothers, who because of their birth pangs have a deeper
sympathy toward their offspring than do the fathers. [5]For to the extent that
mothers are of tender spirit and bear more children, so much the more
attached are they to their children. [6]The mother of the seven boys, more
than any other mother, loved her children. In seven pregnancies she had
implanted in herself tender love toward them, [7]and because of the many
pains she suffered with each of them she had sympathy for them, [8]yet
because of the fear of God she disdained the temporary safety of her
children. [9]Not only so, but also because of the nobility of her sons and their
ready obedience to the law, she felt a greater tenderness toward them. [10]For
they were just and self-controlled and courageous and magnanimous and
loved their brothers and their mother so that they obeyed her even to death
in keeping the ordinances.

11 Nevertheless, though so many factors influenced the mother to suffer
with them out of love for her children, in the case of none of them were the
various tortures strong enough to pervert her reason. [12]But each child
separately and all of them together the mother urged on to death for piety's
sake.[*] [13]O sacred nature, parental affection, tender love toward offspring,
nursing, and indomitable maternal passions! [14]This mother, who saw them
tortured and burned one by one, for piety's sake did not change her attitude.
[15]She watched the flesh of her children being consumed by fire, their toes
and fingers scattered[b] on the ground, and the flesh of the head to the chin
exposed like masks.

16 O mother, tried now by more bitter pains than even the birth pangs
you suffered for them! [17]O woman, who alone gave birth to such perfect
piety! [18]Neither when the firstborn breathed his last, it did not turn you
aside, nor when the second in torments looked at you piteously nor when
the third expired, [19]nor did you weep when you looked at the eyes of each
one in his tortures gazing boldly at the same agonies and saw in their
nostrils the signs of the approach of death. [20]When you saw the flesh of
children burned[c] upon the flesh of other children, severed hands upon
hands, scalped heads upon heads, and corpses fallen on other corpses, and
when you saw the place filled with many spectators because of the
children's torments, you did not shed tears. [21]Neither the melodies of sirens
nor the songs of swans attract the attention of their hearers as did the voices
of the children in torture calling to their mother. [22]How great and how many
torments the mother then suffered as her sons were tortured on the wheel
and with the hot irons! [23]But pious reason, giving her heart a man's courage
in the very midst of her passions, strengthened her to disregard, for the
time, her parental love.[*]

24 Although she witnessed the destruction of seven children and the
ingenious and various rackings, this noble mother disregarded all these[d]
because of faith in God. [25]For as in the council chamber of her own soul she
saw mighty advocates—nature, family, parental love, and the instruments of
torture awaiting her children—[26]this mother held two ballots, one bearing
death and the other deliverance for her children.[*] [27]She did not approve the
deliverance that would preserve the seven sons for a short time, [28]but as the
daughter of God-fearing Abraham she remembered his fortitude.

29 O mother of the nation, vindicator of the law, and defender of piety
who carried away the prize of the contest in your heart! [30]O more noble
than males in steadfastness and more courageous than men in endurance!
[31]Just as Noah's ark, carrying the world in the universal flood, stoutly
endured the waves,[*] [32]so you, O guardian of the law, overwhelmed from
every side by the flood of your passions and the violent winds—the torture
of your sons—endured nobly and withstood the wintry storms raging on
piety's account.

4 Maccabees 16

1 If, then, a woman advanced in years and mother of seven sons endured
seeing her children tortured to death, it must be admitted that pious reason
is sovereign over the passions. [2]Thus I have demonstrated not only that men
have ruled over the passions but also that a woman has despised the fiercest
tortures. [3]The lions surrounding Daniel were not so savage nor was the
raging fiery furnace of Mishael so intensely hot as was her innate parental
love consuming her as she saw her seven sons tortured in such varied
ways.[*] [4]But the mother quenched so many and such great passions by pious
reason.

5 Consider this also: If this woman, though a mother, had been
fainthearted, she would have mourned over them and perhaps spoken as
follows: [6]"O how wretched am I and thrice-wretched over and over! After
bearing seven children, I am now the mother of none! [7]O seven childbirths
all in vain, seven profitless pregnancies, fruitless nurturings and wretched
nursings! [8]In vain, my sons, I endured many birth pangs for you and the
more grievous anxieties of your upbringing. [9]Alas for my children, some
unmarried, others married and without offspring.[e] I shall not see your
children or have the happiness of being called grandmother. [10]Alas, I who
had so many and beautiful children am a widow and alone, with many
sorrows.[f] [11]And when I die, I shall have none of my sons to bury me."

12 Yet that holy and God-fearing mother did not wail with such a lament
for any of them, nor did she dissuade any of them from dying, nor did she
grieve as they were dying. [13]On the contrary, as though having a mind like
adamant and giving rebirth for immortality to the whole number of her
sons, she implored them and urged them on to death for the sake of piety.[*]
[14]O mother, soldier of God in the cause of piety, elder and woman! By
steadfastness you have conquered even a tyrant, and in word and deed you
have proved more powerful than a man. [15]For when you and your sons were
arrested together, you stood and watched Eleazar being tortured and said to
your sons in the Hebrew language,[*] [16]"My sons, noble is the contest to
which you are called to bear witness for the nation. Fight zealously for our

ancestral law. [17]For it would be shameful if, while an aged man endures such agonies for the sake of piety, you young men were to be terrified by tortures. [18]Remember that it is through God that you have had a share in the world and have enjoyed life, [19]and therefore you ought to endure every suffering for the sake of God. [20]For his sake also our father Abraham was zealous to sacrifice his son Isaac, the ancestor of our nation, and when Isaac saw his father's hand wielding a knife[g] and descending upon him, he did not cower.[*] [21]Daniel the righteous was thrown to the lions, and Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael were hurled into the fiery furnace and endured it for the sake of God.[*] [22]You, too, must show the same faithfulness toward God and not be grieved. [23]It is unreasonable for people who have knowledge of piety not to withstand pain."

24 By these words the mother of the seven encouraged and persuaded each of her sons to die rather than violate God's commandment. [25]They knew also that those who die for the sake of God live to God, as do Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the patriarchs.[*]

4 Maccabees 17

1 Some of the guards said that when she also was about to be seized and put to death she threw herself into the flames so that no one might touch her body.[*]

2 O mother, who with your seven sons nullified the violence of the tyrant, frustrated his evil designs, and showed the nobility of your faith! [3]Nobly set like a roof on the pillars of your sons, you held firm and unswerving against the earthquake of the tortures. [4]Take courage, therefore, O holy-minded mother, maintaining firm an enduring hope in God. [5]The moon in heaven with the stars is not so majestic as you, who, after lighting the way of your star-like seven sons to piety, stand in honor before God and are firmly set in heaven with them. [6]For your children were true descendants of father Abraham.[h]

THE EFFECT OF THE MARTYRDOMS

7 If it were possible for us to paint the history of your piety as an artist might, would not those who beheld it shudder as they saw the mother of the seven children enduring their varied tortures to death for the sake of piety? [8]Indeed, it would be proper to inscribe on their tomb these words as a reminder to the people of our nation:[i]

9 "Here lie buried an aged priest and an aged woman and seven children because of the violence of the tyrant who wished to destroy the way of life of the Hebrews. [10]They vindicated their nation, looking to God and enduring torture even to death."

11 Truly the contest in which they were engaged was divine, [12]for on that day virtue gave the awards and tested them for their endurance. The prize was immortality in endless life. [13]Eleazar was the first contestant, the mother of the seven sons entered the competition, and the brothers contended.[*] [14]The tyrant was the antagonist, and the world and the human race were the spectators.[*] [15]Reverence for God was victor and gave the crown to its own athletes. [16]Who did not admire the athletes of the divine[j] legislation? Who were not amazed?

17 The tyrant himself and all his council marveled at their endurance,
[18]because of which they now stand before the divine throne and live the life
of eternal blessedness. [19]For Moses says, “All who are consecrated are
under your hands.” [20]These, then, who have been consecrated for the sake
of God are honored not only with this honor but also by the fact that
because of them our enemies did not rule over our nation, [21]the tyrant was
punished, and the homeland purified—they having become, as it were, a
ransom for the sin of our nation.* [22]And through the blood of those pious
ones and their death as an atoning sacrifice, divine Providence preserved
Israel that previously had been mistreated.

23 For the tyrant Antiochus, when he saw the courage of their virtue and
their endurance under the tortures, proclaimed their endurance to his
soldiers as an example, [24]and this made them high-minded and courageous
for infantry battle and siege, and he ravaged and conquered all his enemies.

4 Maccabees 18

1 O Israelite children, offspring of the seed of Abraham, obey this law and exercise piety in every way, [2]knowing that pious reason is master of the passions, not only of sufferings from within but also of those from without.

3 Therefore those who gave over their bodies in suffering for the sake of piety were not only admired by mortals but also were deemed worthy to share in a divine inheritance. [4]Because of them the nation gained peace, and by reviving observance of the law in the homeland they ravaged the enemy. [5]The tyrant Antiochus was both punished on earth and is being chastised after his death. Since in no way whatever was he able to compel the Israelites to adopt foreign ways and to abandon their ancestral customs, he left Jerusalem and marched against the Persians.*

THE MOTHER'S ADDRESS TO HER CHILDREN

6 The mother of seven sons expressed also these principles to her children:* [7]"I was a pure virgin and did not go outside my father's house, but I guarded the rib from which woman was made.[k],* [8]No seducer corrupted me on a desert plain, nor did the destroyer, the deceitful serpent, defile the purity of my virginity.* [9]In the time of my maturity I remained with my husband, and when these sons had grown up their father died. A fortunate man was he, who lived out his life with good children and did not have the grief of bereavement. [10]While he was still with you, he taught you the Law and the Prophets. [11]He read to you about Abel slain by Cain and Isaac who was offered as a burnt offering and about Joseph in prison.* [12]He told you of the zeal of Phinehas, and he taught you about Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael in the fire.* [13]He praised Daniel in the den of the lions and blessed him.* [14]He reminded you of the scripture of Isaiah, which says, 'Even though you go through the fire, the flame shall not consume you.'* [15]He sang to you songs of the psalmist David, who said, 'Many are the afflictions of the righteous.'* [16]He recounted to you Solomon's proverb, 'There[l] is a tree of life for those who do his will.'* [17]He confirmed the query of Ezekiel, 'Shall these dry bones live?'* [18]For he did not forget to

teach you the song that Moses taught, which says, [19]'I kill, and I make alive; this is your life and the length of your days.' "*

20 O bitter was that day—and yet not bitter—when that bitter tyrant of the Greeks quenched fire with fire in his cruel caldrons and in his burning rage brought those seven sons of the daughter of Abraham to the catapult and back again to more[m] tortures, [21]pierced the pupils of their eyes and cut out their tongues, and put them to death with various tortures. [22]For these crimes divine justice pursued and will pursue the accursed tyrant. [23]But the sons of Abraham with their victorious mother are gathered together into the chorus of the fathers and have received pure and immortal souls from God, [24]to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

4 Maccabees 1

* **1.1** Sir 14.20
* **1.3** Sir 18.30
* **1.5** 4 Macc 2.24
a **1.6** Other ancient authorities add *and rational judgment*
b **1.7** Other ancient authorities read *devout reason*
* **1.7** 4 Macc 17.1, 13
* **1.8** 2 Macc 6.18–7.41
* **1.11** 2 Macc 7.38
* **1.16** Sir 3.25
* **1.17** Sir 6.37; 19.24
* **1.24** Sir 6.2
c **1.28** Another reading is *these passions*
* **1.29** Sir 27.6
* **1.30** Wis 8.7; Sir 23.2
* **1.35** Sir 37.29

4 Maccabees 2

d **2.2** Another ancient authority adds *in reasoning*
e **2.3** Gk *he swatted the gadfly*
* **2.3** Gen 39.7–12
f **2.4** Or *all covetousness*
* **2.5** Ex 20.17
* **2.7** Titus 2.12
* **2.8** Lev 25.36, 40
* **2.9** Deut 15.9; 23.20
g **2.14** Or *the beasts that have fallen*
* **2.14** Ex 23.4; Deut 20.19
h **2.15** Other ancient authorities read *through*
* **2.17** Num 16.23–30
* **2.19** Gen 34.30; 49.7
* **2.24** 4 Macc 1.5

4 Maccabees 3

* **3.3** Sir 6.2
* **3.7** 2 Sam 23.13–17; 1 Chr 11.15–19
i **3.8** Other ancient authorities read *he hurried and*
j **3.12** Or *embarrassed because of*

k **3.15** Gk *he*
* **3.21** Ex 30.12; 2 Chr 24.6; 2 Macc 14.26

4 Maccabees 4

* **4.1** 2 Macc 3.4
* **4.2** 2 Macc 3.5
* **4.3** 2 Macc 3.6
* **4.4** 2 Macc 3.7–34
* **4.6** 2 Macc 3.13
* **4.7** 2 Macc 3.15
* **4.9** 2 Macc 3.21
* **4.10** 2 Macc 3.25, 26; 3 Macc 6.18
* **4.11** 2 Macc 3.27
* **4.12** 2 Macc 3.36
l **4.14** Gk *he*
* **4.15** 2 Macc 4.7
m **4.16** Gk *his*
* **4.16** 2 Macc 4.7
n **4.17** Gk *He*
* **4.17** 2 Macc 4.8–10
o **4.19** Gk *He*
* **4.19** 2 Macc 4.11
p **4.20** Or *high place*
* **4.20** 2 Macc 4.12, 14
* **4.21** 2 Macc 4.16
* **4.22** 2 Macc 4.21
* **4.23** 2 Macc 6.11
* **4.25** 2 Macc 6.10
* **4.26** 2 Macc 6.18

4 Maccabees 5

q **5.4** Other ancient authorities add *Hebrew*
r **5.4** Or *was the first of the flock to be brought*
* **5.4** 2 Macc 6.18
* **5.7** 2 Macc 6.23
* **5.16** 2 Macc 6.24
* **5.20** Gal 3.10; Jas 2.10
* **5.23** Wis 8.7
s **5.24** Or *so that we hold in balance all our habitual inclinations*
t **5.26** Or *souls*

* **5.26** Lev 11.1–23
u **5.36** Gk lacks *O king*
* **5.37** Gen 15.15

4 Maccabees 6

v **6.5** *Eleazar* means *God helps*
* **6.12** 2 Macc 6.29
* **6.15** 2 Macc 6.21
* **6.19** 2 Macc 6.28
* **6.23** 4 Macc 9.1
* **6.27** 2 Macc 6.30
* **6.30** 4 Macc 1.11; 9.5; 18.4
w **6.34** Syr: Meaning of Gk uncertain

4 Maccabees 7

* **7.6** 2 Macc 6.19
x **7.9** Other ancient authorities lack *divine*
* **7.11** Num 16.46, 47; Wis 18.20–25
y **7.13** Gk *the tautness of the body already loosed*
* **7.13** 4 Macc 6.10
* **7.18** 4 Macc 3.17
* **7.19** 4 Macc 16.25; Mk 12.26; Rom 6.10; 14.8; Gal 2.19
z **7.21** Another ancient authority adds *piously*
a **7.23** Another ancient authority adds *prudent*

4 Maccabees 8

* **8.2** 2 Macc 6.29
* **8.3** 2 Macc 7.1–42
* **8.7** 2 Macc 7.24
* **8.8** 2 Macc 4.10
b **8.13** Meaning of Gk uncertain
c **8.24** Or *fate*

4 Maccabees 9

* **9.1** 4 Macc 6.23
d **9.2** Other ancient authorities read *knowledge*
e **9.3** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **9.5** 4 Macc 6.30
* **9.8** 2 Macc 7.9

* **9.16** 2 Macc 7.7

f **9.19** Meaning of Gk uncertain

* **9.22** Mal 3.2

g **9.23** Other ancient authorities read *post forever*

* **9.27** v 16

* **9.32** 2 Macc 7.19

4 Maccabees 10

h **10.3** Other ancient authorities add 10.4, *So if you have any instrument of torture, apply it to my body; for you cannot touch my soul, even if you wish."*

i **10.7** Gk *to strangle him*

j **10.7** Other ancient authorities read *they tore off his skin*

k **10.15** Another ancient authority reads *celebrated*

* **10.18** Isa 53.7

* **10.19** 2 Macc 7.10

* **10.21** Isa 35.6

4 Maccabees 11

l **11.5** Other ancient authorities read *Or does it seem evil to you that*

m **11.6** Other authorities add 11.7 and 8, *7If you but understood human feelings and had hope of salvation from God—8but, as it is, you are a stranger to God and make war against those who serve him."*

n **11.10** Gk *loins*

o **11.10** Meaning of Gk uncertain

4 Maccabees 12

* **12.5** 2 Macc 7.24

* **12.6** 4 Macc 17.1

* **12.7** 2 Macc 7.27

* **12.8** 2 Macc 7.30–40

p **12.12** Another ancient authority reads *divine justice*

q **12.16** Other ancient authorities read *the witness*

r **12.17** Other ancient authorities read *my people*

s **12.19** Gk *and so gave up*

4 Maccabees 13

t **13.4** Gk *they*

* **13.5** Dan 3.17

* **13.7** Prov 18.10

u **13.9** Cn: Gk *citizen rights*
* **13.9** Dan 3.28
* **13.12** Gen 22.10
v **13.13** Or *souls*
* **13.15** Mt 10.28
* **13.16** Eph 6.11
w **13.17** Other ancient authorities read *suffer*
* **13.17** Mt 8.11
* **13.19** 2 Macc 7.22

4 Maccabees 14

x **14.2** Or *O minds*
* **14.2** Wis 6.21
y **14.8** Meaning of Gk uncertain
z **14.17** Gk *it*
* **14.20** 2 Macc 7.41

4 Maccabees 15

a **15.3** Gk *according to God*
* **15.12** 2 Macc 7.21, 29
b **15.15** Or *quivering*
c **15.20** Other ancient authorities read *the amputated flesh of children*
* **15.23** 2 Macc 7.21
d **15.24** Other ancient authorities read *having bidden them farewell, surrendered them*
* **15.26** Add Esth 9.26
* **15.31** Gen 7.7

4 Maccabees 16

* **16.3** Dan 3.11; 6.7
e **16.9** Gk *without benefit*
f **16.10** Or *much to be pitied*
* **16.13** 2 Macc 7.9
* **16.15** 2 Macc 6.19; 7.27
g **16.20** Gk *sword*
* **16.20** Gen 22.10
* **16.21** Dan 3.21; 6.16
* **16.25** Ex 3.6; 4 Macc 7.19; Mk 12.26

4 Maccabees 17

* **17.1** 2 Macc 7.41; 4 Macc 1.7; 12.6

h **17.6** Gk *For your childbearing was from Abraham the father*; other ancient authorities read *For . . . Abraham the servant*

i **17.8** Or *as a memorial to the heroes of our people*

* **17.13** 2 Macc 6.31

* **17.14** 1 Cor 4.9

j **17.16** Other ancient authorities read *true*

* **17.21** 2 Macc 9.5, 17, 28

4 Maccabees 18

* **18.5** 2 Macc 9.1, 28

* **18.6** 2 Macc 7.1

k **18.7** Gk *the rib that was built*

* **18.7** Gen 2.22

* **18.8** Gen 3.1–7

* **18.11** Gen 4.8; 22.10; 39.20

* **18.12** Num 25.11; Dan 3.19

* **18.13** Dan 6.22

* **18.14** Isa 43.2

* **18.15** Ps 34.19

l **18.16** Or *He*

* **18.16** Prov 3.18

* **18.17** Ezek 37.3

* **18.19** Deut 32.39

m **18.20** Other ancient authorities read *to all his*

The New Testament

The Gospel according to

Matthew

Matthew 1

THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS THE MESSIAH

1 An account[a] of the genealogy[b] of Jesus the Messiah,[c] the son of David,
the son of Abraham.[*]

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and
Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,[*] [3]and Judah the father of Perez
and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father
of Aram,[*] [4]and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of
Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, [5]and Salmon the father of
Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father
of Jesse, [6]and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah,[*] [7]and
Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and
Abijah the father of Asaph,[d,*] [8]and Asaph[e] the father of Jehoshaphat, and
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, [9]and
Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the
father of Hezekiah, [10]and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh
the father of Amos,[f] and Amos[g] the father of Josiah,[*] [11]and Josiah the father
of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.[*]

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of
Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel,[*] [13]and Zerubbabel the
father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of
Azor, [14]and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and
Achim the father of Eliud, [15]and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the
father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, [16]and Jacob the father
of Joseph the husband of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the
Messiah.[h,*]

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah,[i] fourteen generations.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS THE MESSIAH

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah[j] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit.* 19Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly.* 20But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."* 22All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

> 23"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
> and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us."* 24When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife 25but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son,[k] and he named him Jesus.*

Matthew 2

THE VISIT OF THE MAGI

1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,
magi[l] from the east came to Jerusalem,[*] [2]asking, "Where is the child who
has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east[m] and
have come to pay him homage."[*] [3]When King Herod heard this, he was
frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, [4]and calling together all the chief
priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah[n]
was to be born. [5]They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been
written by the prophet:[*]

[6]'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd[o] my people Israel.' "[*]

7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi[p] and learned from them the
exact time when the star had appeared. [8]Then he sent them to Bethlehem,
saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found
him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." [9]When
they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star
that they had seen in the east,[q] until it stopped over the place where the
child was. [10]When they saw that the star had stopped,[r] they were
overwhelmed with joy. [11]On entering the house, they saw the child with
Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening
their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and
myrrh.[*] [12]And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they
left for their own country by another road.[*]

THE ESCAPE TO EGYPT

13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a
dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt,

and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."* 14Then Joseph[s] got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt* 15and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

THE MASSACRE OF THE INFANTS

16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi,[t] he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi.[u] 17Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

18"A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."*

THE RETURN FROM EGYPT

19 When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 20"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." 21Then Joseph[v] got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. 22But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee.* 23There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."[w,*]

Matthew 3

THE PROCLAMATION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

1 In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea,
proclaiming, [2]"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."[x,*] [3]This
is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.' "*

[4]Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his
waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.* [5]Then Jerusalem and all
Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, [6]and they
were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.*

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his[y]
baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee
from the coming wrath?* [8]Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance,* [9]and
do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,'
for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to
Abraham.* [10]Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore
every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the
fire.*

11 "I baptize you with[z] water for repentance, but the one who is coming
after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals.
He will baptize you with[a] the Holy Spirit and fire.* [12]His winnowing fork is
in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat
into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."*

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by
him.* [14]John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by
you, and do you come to me?" [15]But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now,

for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. 16And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him.* 17And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved,[b] with whom I am well pleased."*

Matthew 4

THE TESTING OF JESUS

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. [2]He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished.* [3]The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."* [4]But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "*

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple,* [6]saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'

and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "*

[7]Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "*

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, [9]and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." [10]Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him.' "*

[11]Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.*

JESUS BEGINS HIS MINISTRY IN GALILEE

12 Now when Jesus[c] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. [13]He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in

the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, [14]so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

[15]"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles
—*

[16]the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."*

[17]From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."[d,*]

JESUS CALLS THE FIRST DISCIPLES

18 As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers.* [19]And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." [20]Immediately they left their nets and followed him.* [21]As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. [22]Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

JESUS MINISTERS TO CROWDS OF PEOPLE

23 Jesus[e] went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news[f] of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.* [24]So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, people possessed by demons or having epilepsy or afflicted with paralysis, and he cured them.* [25]And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.*

Matthew 5

THE BEATITUDES

1 When Jesus[g] saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.* [2]And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*

7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely[h] on my account.* [12]Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

SALT AND LIGHT

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.*

14 "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.* [15]People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.* [16]In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*

THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I
have come not to abolish but to fulfill.* 18For truly I tell you, until heaven
and earth pass away, not one letter,[i] not one stroke of a letter, will pass from
the law until all is accomplished.* 19Therefore, whoever breaks[j] one of the
least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be
called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches
them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.* 20For I tell you, unless
your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never
enter the kingdom of heaven.

CONCERNING ANGER

21 "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall
not murder,' and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.'* 22But I
say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister,[k] you will be liable
to judgment, and if you insult[l] a brother or sister, you will be liable to the
council, and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell[m] of fire.*
23So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your
brother or sister has something against you,* 24leave your gift there before
the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come
and offer your gift. 25Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you
are on the way to court[n] with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the
judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.*
26Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

CONCERNING ADULTERY

27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'*
28But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has
already committed adultery with her in his heart.* 29If your right eye causes
you to sin,[o] tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of
your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.[p],* 30And if
your right hand causes you to sin,[q] cut it off and throw it away; it is better

for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.[r]

CONCERNING DIVORCE

31 "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'* [32]But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

CONCERNING OATHS

33 "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'* [34]But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,* [35]or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. [36]And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. [37]Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.[s]

CONCERNING RETALIATION

38 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'* [39]But I say to you: Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also,* [40]and if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, give your coat as well, [41]and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. [42]Give to the one who asks of you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.*

LOVE FOR ENEMIES

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'* [44]But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,* [45]so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.* [46]For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

[47]And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing
than others? Do not even the gentiles do the same? [48]Be perfect, therefore,
as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

Matthew 6

CONCERNING ALMSGIVING

1 “Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen
by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.*

2 “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the
hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be
praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.* 3But
when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is
doing, 4so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees
in secret will reward you.t,*

CONCERNING PRAYER

5 “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to
stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may
be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.* 6But
whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your
Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward
you.u,*

7 “When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the gentiles
do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.* 8Do
not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

9 “Pray, then, in this way:

Our Father in heaven,
may your name be revered as holy.
10May your kingdom come.
May your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.*
11Give us today our daily bread.v,*
12And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

13 And do not bring us to the time of trial,[w]
but rescue us from the evil one.[x,*]
14 "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also
forgive you,* 15 but if you do not forgive others,[y] neither will your Father
forgive your trespasses.*

CONCERNING FASTING

16 "And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for
they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you,
they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head
and wash your face, 18 so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by
your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward
you.[z]

CONCERNING TREASURES

19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and
rust[a] consume and where thieves break in and steal,* 20 but store up for
yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust[b] consumes and
where thieves do not break in and steal.* 21 For where your treasure is, there
your heart will be also.

THE EYE

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is healthy, your whole
body will be full of light,* 23 but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body
will be full of darkness. If, then, the light in you is darkness, how great is
the darkness!

SERVING TWO MASTERS

24 "No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and
love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot
serve God and wealth.[c,*]

DO NOT WORRY

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat
or what you will drink,[d] or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life
more than food and the body more than clothing?[*] [26]Look at the birds of the
air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly
Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?[*] [27]And which of
you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?[e] [28]And why do
you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;
they neither toil nor spin, [29]yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was
not clothed like one of these. [30]But if God so clothes the grass of the field,
which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not
much more clothe you—you of little faith? [31]Therefore do not worry,
saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we
wear?' [32]For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your
heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. [33]But seek first the
kingdom of God[f] and his[g] righteousness, and all these things will be given
to you as well.[*]

34 "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of
its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Matthew 7

JUDGING OTHERS

1 "Do not judge, so that you may not be judged.* [2]For the judgment you
give will be the judgment you get, and the measure you give will be the
measure you get. [3]Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye but do
not notice the log in your own eye? [4]Or how can you say to your neighbor,
'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye?
[5]You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see
clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

PROFANING THE HOLY

6 "Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before
swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.*

ASK, SEARCH, KNOCK

7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and
the door will be opened for you.* [8]For everyone who asks receives, and
everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will
be opened.* [9]Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for bread,
would give a stone? [10]Or if the child asked for a fish, would give a snake?
[11]If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,
how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who
ask him!

THE GOLDEN RULE

12 "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this
is the Law and the Prophets.*

THE NARROW GATE

13 "Enter through the narrow gate, for the gate is wide and the road is easy[h] that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it.* [14]For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

A TREE AND ITS FRUIT

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.* [16]You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns or figs from thistles?* [17]In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. [18]A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. [19]Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.* [20]Thus you will know them by their fruits.

CONCERNING SELF-DECEPTION

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.* [22]On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'* [23]Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you who behave lawlessly.'*

HEARERS AND DOERS

24 "Everyone, then, who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.* [25]The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall because it had been founded on rock. [26]And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. [27]The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"

28 Now when Jesus had finished saying these words, the crowds were astounded at his teaching,* [29]for he taught them as one having authority and not as their scribes.

Matthew 8

JESUS CLEANSES A MAN

1 When Jesus[i] had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed
him, [2]and there was a man with a skin disease who came to him and knelt
before him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."* [3]He
stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing. Be made
clean!" Immediately his skin disease was cleansed. [4]Then Jesus said to him,
"See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest, and
offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."*

JESUS HEALS A CENTURION'S SERVANT

5 When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to
him [6]and saying, "Lord, my servant[j] is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible
distress." [7]And he said to him, "I will come and cure him." [8]The centurion
answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but
only speak the word, and my servant[k] will be healed.* [9]For I also am a man
under authority, with soldiers under me, and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes,
and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the
slave does it." [10]When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those
who followed him, "Truly I tell you, in no one[l] in Israel have I found such
faith. [11]I tell you, many will come from east and west and will take their
places at the banquet with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of
heaven,* [12]while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer
darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."* [13]And Jesus
said to the centurion, "Go; let it be done for you according to your faith."
And the servant[m] was healed in that hour.

JESUS HEALS MANY AT PETER'S HOUSE

14 When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in
bed with a fever;* [15]he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got
up and began to serve him. [16]That evening they brought to him many who

were possessed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and cured all who were sick. 17This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."*

WOULD-BE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

18 Now when Jesus saw great crowds[n] around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side.* 19A scribe then approached and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." 20And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." 21Another of his disciples said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." 22But Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."*

JESUS STILLS THE STORM

23 And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. 24A windstorm suddenly arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves, but he was asleep. 25And they went and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" 26And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a dead calm.* 27They were amazed, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

JESUS HEALS TWO MEN

28 When he came to the other side, to the region of the Gadarenes,[o] two men possessed by demons came out of the tombs and met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way. 29Suddenly they shouted, "What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?"* 30Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. 31The demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine." 32And he said to them, "Go!" So they came out and entered the swine, and suddenly, the whole herd stampeded down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the water. 33The swineherds ran off, and, going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to

the men possessed by demons. [34]Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus, and when they saw him they begged him to leave their region.

Matthew 9

1 And after getting into a boat he crossed the sea and came to his own town.*

JESUS HEALS A PARALYTIC

2 And some people were carrying to him a paralyzed man lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, child; your sins are forgiven."* [3]Then some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." [4]But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?* [5]For which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? [6]But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic—"Stand up, take your bed, and go to your home." [7]And he stood up and went to his home. [8]When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.*

THE CALL OF MATTHEW

9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

10 And as he sat at dinner[p] in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting[q] with Jesus and his disciples. [11]When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"* [12]But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. [13]Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."*

THE QUESTION ABOUT FASTING

14 Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often,[r] but your disciples do not fast?"* [15]And Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.* [16]No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. [17]Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are ruined, but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."

A GIRL RESTORED TO LIFE AND A WOMAN HEALED

18 While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live."* [19]And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. [20]Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak,* [21]for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well."* [22]Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment.* [23]When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,* [24]he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him.* [25]But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. [26]And the report of this spread through all of that district.

JESUS HEALS TWO BLIND MEN

27 As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, crying loudly, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"* [28]When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you have faith that I can do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." [29]Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith, let it be done to you." [30]And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus sternly ordered them, "See that no one knows of this."* [31]But they went away and spread the news about him through all of that district.*

JESUS HEALS ONE WHO WAS MUTE

32 After they had gone away, a demon-possessed man who was mute was
brought to him.* [33]And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had
been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed and said, “Never has
anything like this been seen in Israel.” [34]But the Pharisees were saying, “By
the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons.”*

THE HARVEST IS GREAT, THE LABORERS FEW

35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their
synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing
every disease and every sickness.* [36]When he saw the crowds, he had
compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep
without a shepherd.* [37]Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is
plentiful, but the laborers are few;* [38]therefore ask the Lord of the harvest
to send out laborers into his harvest.”

Matthew 10

THE TWELVE APOSTLES

1 Then Jesus[s] summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over
unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every
sickness.[*] [2]These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also
known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his
brother John; [3]Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax
collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus;[t] [4]Simon the Cananaean
and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.[*]

THE MISSION OF THE TWELVE

5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not
take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town,[*] [6]but go
rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.[*] [7]As you go, proclaim the
good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'[u,*] [8]Cure the sick; raise
the dead; cleanse those with a skin disease; cast out demons. You received
without payment; give without payment. [9]Take no gold, or silver, or copper
in your belts, [10]no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff,
for laborers deserve their food.[*] [11]Whatever town or village you enter, find
out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. [12]As you enter the
house, greet it. [13]If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if
it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. [14]If anyone will not welcome
you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave
that house or town.[*] [15]Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land
of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.[*]

COMING PERSECUTIONS

16 "I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise
as serpents and innocent as doves.[*] [17]Beware of them, for they will hand
you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues, [18]and you will be
dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them

and the gentiles.* 19When they hand you over, do not worry about how you
are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to
you at that time, 20for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father
speaking through you.* 21Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father
his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death,
22and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who
endures to the end will be saved.* 23When they persecute you in this town,
flee to the next, for truly I tell you, you will not have finished going through
all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

24 "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master;* 25it
is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master.
If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will
they malign those of his household!*

WHOM TO FEAR

26 "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be
uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known.* 27What I say to
you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim
from the housetops. 28Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill
the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.[v]
29Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to
the ground apart from your Father. 30And even the hairs of your head are all
counted.* 31So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

32 "Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will
acknowledge before my Father in heaven,* 33but whoever denies me before
others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

NOT PEACE, BUT A SWORD

34 "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not
come to bring peace but a sword.*

35For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,*

[36]and one's foes will be members of one's own household.*

[37]"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me,* [38]and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.* [39]Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.*

REWARDS

40 "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.* [41]Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, [42]and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."*

Matthew 11

1 Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on
from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities.

MESSENGERS FROM JOHN THE BAPTIST

2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah[w] was doing, he sent word
by his[x] disciples[*] 3and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are
we to wait for another?"[*] 4Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what
you hear and see: 5the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a
skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor
have good news brought to them.[*] 6And blessed is anyone who takes no
offense at me."[*]

JESUS PRAISES JOHN THE BAPTIST

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John:
"What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the
wind?[*] 8What, then, did you go out to see? Someone[y] dressed in soft robes?
Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. 9What, then, did you
go out to see? A prophet?[z] Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.[*] 10This
is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'[*]

11"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater
than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than
he. 12From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven
has suffered violence,[a] and violent people take it by force.[*] 13For all the
Prophets and the Law prophesied until John came, 14and if you are willing
to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.[*] 15Let anyone with ears[b] listen![*]

16 "But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting
in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

17 ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’
18 “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a
demon’; 19 the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a
glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom
is vindicated by her deeds.”[c,*]

WOES TO UNREPENTANT CITIES

20 Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of
power had been done because they did not repent. 21 “Woe to you, Chorazin!
Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been
done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth
and ashes.[*] 22 But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable
for Tyre and Sidon than for you.[*] 23 And you, Capernaum,
will you be exalted to heaven?
No, you will be brought down to Hades.
“For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would
have remained until this day.[*] 24 But I tell you that on the day of judgment it
will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you.”[*]

JESUS THANKS HIS FATHER

25 At that time Jesus said, “I thank[d] you, Father, Lord of heaven and
earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the
intelligent and have revealed them to infants;[*] 26 yes, Father, for such was
your gracious will.[e] 27 All things have been handed over to me by my
Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the
Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.[*]

28 “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.[*] 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for
I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.[*]
30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 12

PLUCKING GRAIN ON THE SABBATH

1 At that time Jesus went through the grain fields on the Sabbath; his
disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat.*
2When the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, "Look, your disciples are
doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath."* 3He said to them, "Have
you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?*
4How he entered the house of God, and they[f] ate the bread of the Presence,
which it was not lawful for him or his companions to eat, but only for the
priests?* 5Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in
the temple break the Sabbath and yet are guiltless?* 6I tell you, something
greater than the temple is here.* 7But if you had known what this means, 'I
desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the
guiltless.* 8For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

THE MAN WITH A WITHERED HAND

9 He left that place and entered their synagogue; 10a man was there with
a withered hand, and they asked him, "Is it lawful to cure on the Sabbath?"
so that they might accuse him.* 11He said to them, "Suppose one of you has
only one sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath; will you not lay hold of
it and lift it out?* 12How much more valuable is a human being than a
sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath."* 13Then he said to the
man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and it was restored, as
sound as the other. 14But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him,
how to destroy him.*

GOD'S CHOSEN SERVANT

15 When Jesus became aware of this, he departed. Many[g] followed him,
and he cured all of them,* 16and he ordered them not to make him known.*
17This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

[18]"Here is my servant, whom I have chosen,
my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased.
I will put my Spirit upon him,
and he will proclaim justice to the gentiles.*
[19]He will not wrangle or cry aloud,
nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets.
[20]He will not break a bruised reed
or quench a smoldering wick
until he brings justice to victory.
[21]And in his name the gentiles will hope."

JESUS AND BEELZEBUL

22 Then they brought to him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see.* [23]All the crowds were amazed and were saying, "Can this be the Son of David?"* [24]But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, that this man casts out the demons."* [25]He knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand.* [26]If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how, then, will his kingdom stand? [27]If I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own exorcists[h] cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.* [28]But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.* [29]Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the house can be plundered. [30]Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.* [31]Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.* [32]Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.*

A TREE AND ITS FRUIT

33 "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit.* 34You brood of vipers! How can you speak good things when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.* 35The good person brings good things out of a good treasure, and the evil person brings evil things out of an evil treasure. 36I tell you, on the day of judgment you will have to give an account for every careless word you utter, 37for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

THE SIGN OF JONAH

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."* 39But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.* 40For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth.* 41The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and indeed something greater than Jonah is here!* 42The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and indeed something greater than Solomon is here!*

THE RETURN OF THE UNCLEAN SPIRIT

43 "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through waterless regions looking for a resting place, but it finds none. 44Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' When it returns, it finds it empty, swept, and put in order. 45Then it goes and brings along seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and live there, and the last state of that person is worse than the first. So will it be also with this evil generation."*

THE TRUE KINDRED OF JESUS

46 While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him.* 47Someone told him, "Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you."[i] 48But to the one who had told him this, Jesus[j] replied, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" 49And pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 50For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."*

Matthew 13

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. [2]Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.* [3]And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. [4]And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. [5]Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. [6]But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. [7]Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. [8]Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.* [9]If you have ears,[k] hear!"*

THE PURPOSE OF THE PARABLES

10 Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" [11]He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets[l] of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.* [12]For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.* [13]The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.'* [14]With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says:

'You will indeed listen but never understand,
and you will indeed look but never perceive.*
[15]For this people's heart has grown dull,
and their ears are hard of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
so that they might not look with their eyes,
and hear with their ears

and understand with their heart and turn—
and I would heal them.'*
16"But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.*
17Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what
you see but did not see it and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.*

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER EXPLAINED

18 "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. 19When anyone hears the word
of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches
away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.* 20As for
what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and
immediately receives it with joy, 21yet such a person has no root but
endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account
of the word, that person immediately falls away.[m,*] 22As for what was sown
among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this[n] age
and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.* 23But as for
what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and
understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold,
in another sixty, and in another thirty."*

THE PARABLE OF WEEDS AMONG THE WHEAT

24 He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be
compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,* 25but while
everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat
and then went away. 26So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the
weeds appeared as well. 27And the slaves of the householder came and said
to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did
these weeds come from?' 28He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The
slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' 29But he
replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along
with them. 30Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at
harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in
bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "*

THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

31 He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;* 32it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."*

THE PARABLE OF THE YEAST

33 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with[o] three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."*

THE USE OF PARABLES

34 Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing.* 35This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:[p]

"I will open my mouth to speak in parables;
I will proclaim what has been hidden since the foundation."[q,*]

JESUS EXPLAINS THE PARABLE OF THE WEEDS

36 Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." 37He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,* 39and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.* 40Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.* 41The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin[r] and all evildoers,* 42and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.* 43Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears[s] listen!*

THREE PARABLES

44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.*

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; 46on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;* 48when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous* 50and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

TREASURES NEW AND OLD

51 "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." 52And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." 53When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.*

THE REJECTION OF JESUS AT NAZARETH

54 He came to his hometown and began to teach the people[t] in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these deeds of power?* 55Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?* 56And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all this?" 57And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor except in their own hometown and in their own house."* 58And he did not do many deeds of power there, because of their unbelief.

Matthew 14

THE DEATH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

1 At that time Herod the ruler heard reports about Jesus,* [2]and he said to his
servants, "This is John the Baptist; he has been raised from the dead, and
for this reason these powers are at work in him." [3]For Herod had arrested
John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother
Philip's wife,* [4]because John had been telling him, "It is not lawful for you
to have her."* [5]Though Herod[u] wanted to put him to death, he feared the
crowd, because they regarded him as a prophet.* [6]But when Herod's
birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company, and
she pleased Herod [7]so much that he promised on oath to grant her whatever
she might ask. [8]Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me the head of
John the Baptist here on a platter." [9]The king was grieved, yet out of regard
for his oaths and for the guests, he commanded it to be given; [10]he sent and
had John beheaded in the prison. [11]His head was brought on a platter and
given to the girl, who brought it to her mother. [12]His disciples came and
took the body and buried him; then they went and told Jesus.

FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a
deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him
on foot from the towns. [14]When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and
he had compassion for them and cured their sick.* [15]When it was evening,
the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is
now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and
buy food for themselves." [16]Jesus said to them, "They need not go away;
you give them something to eat." [17]They replied, "We have nothing here
but five loaves and two fish."* [18]And he said, "Bring them here to me."
[19]Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five
loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the
loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the

crowds.* 20And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. 21And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

JESUS WALKS ON THE WATER

22 Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,* 24but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land,[v] for the wind was against them. 25And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. 26But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.* 27But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."*

28 Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." 29He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. 30But when he noticed the strong wind,[w] he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" 31Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"* 32When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."*

JESUS HEALS THE SICK IN GENNESARET

34 When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. 35After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word to that whole surrounding region, and people brought all who were sick to him 36and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.*

Matthew 15

THE TRADITION OF THE ELDERS

1 Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said,
2 "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not
wash their hands before they eat."* 3 He answered them, "And why do you
break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? 4 For God
said,[x] 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'Whoever speaks evil of
father or mother must surely die.'* 5 But you say that whoever tells father or
mother, 'Whatever support you might have had from me is given to God,'[y]
then that person need not honor the father.[z,*] 6 So, for the sake of your
tradition, you nullify the word[a] of God. 7 You hypocrites! Isaiah prophesied
rightly about you when he said:

8 'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;*
9 in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.' "*

THINGS THAT DEFILE

10 Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and
understand: 11 it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it
is what comes out of the mouth that defiles."* 12 Then the disciples
approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense
when they heard what you said?" 13 He answered, "Every plant that my
heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.* 14 Let them alone; they
are blind guides of the blind.[b] And if one blind person guides another, both
will fall into a pit."* 15 But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us."*
16 Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding?* 17 Do you not
see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into
the sewer? 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and
this is what defiles.* 19 For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder,

adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.* 20These are what
defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

THE CANAANITE WOMAN'S FAITH

21 Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.
22Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started
shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is
tormented by a demon."* 23But he did not answer her at all. And his
disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps
shouting after us." 24He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the
house of Israel."* 25But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help
me."* 26He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it
to the dogs." 27She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that
fall from their masters'c table." 28Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great
is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was
healed from that moment.*

JESUS CURES MANY PEOPLE

29 After Jesus had left that place, he passed along the Sea of Galilee, and
he went up the mountain, where he sat down. 30Great crowds came to him,
bringing with them the lame, the blind, the maimed, the mute, and many
others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them,* 31so that the crowd
was amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed whole, the lame
walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.*

FEEDING THE FOUR THOUSAND

32 Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion
for the crowd because they have been with me now for three days and have
nothing to eat, and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might
faint on the way."* 33The disciples said to him, "Where are we to get
enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?" 34Jesus asked them,
"How many loaves have you?" They said, "Seven, and a few small fish."
35Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, 36he took the seven
loaves and the fish, and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to

the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.* 37And all of them ate and were filled, and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. 38Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children. 39After sending away the crowds, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan.d

Matthew 16

THE DEMAND FOR A SIGN

1 The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test Jesus[e] they asked him to
show them a sign from heaven.* [2]He answered them, "When it is evening,
you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' [3]And in the morning, 'It
will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to
interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the
times.[f] [4]An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will
be given to it except the sign of Jonah." Then he left them and went away.*

THE YEAST OF THE PHARISEES AND SADDUCEES

5 When the disciples reached the other side, they had forgotten to bring
any bread. [6]Jesus said to them, "Watch out, and beware of the yeast of the
Pharisees and Sadducees."* [7]They said to one another, "It is because we
have brought no bread." [8]And becoming aware of it, Jesus said, "You of
little faith, why are you talking about having no bread?* [9]Do you still not
perceive? Do you not remember the five loaves for the five thousand and
how many baskets you gathered?* [10]Or the seven loaves for the four
thousand and how many baskets you gathered?* [11]How could you fail to
perceive that I was not speaking about bread? Beware of the yeast of the
Pharisees and Sadducees!" [12]Then they understood that he had not told
them to beware of the yeast of bread but of the teaching of the Pharisees
and Sadducees.

PETER'S DECLARATION ABOUT JESUS

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked
his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" [14]And they said,
"Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or
one of the prophets."* [15]He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
[16]Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah,[g] the Son of the living
God."* [17]And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!

For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven.* 18And I tell you, you are Peter,[h] and on this rock[i] I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.* 19I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."* 20Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was[j] the Messiah.[k,*]

JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised.* 22And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." 23But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance[l] to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

THE CROSS AND SELF-DENIAL

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.* 25For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. 26For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.* 28Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."*

Matthew 17

THE TRANSFIGURATION

1 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John
and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.* [2]And he was transfigured
before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright
as light. [3]Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with
him. [4]Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you
wish, I[m] will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for
Elijah." [5]While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud
overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the
Beloved;[n] with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"* [6]When the disciples
heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. [7]But Jesus
came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid."* [8]And when
they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no
one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the
dead."* [10]And the disciples asked him, "Why, then, do the scribes say that
Elijah must come first?"* [11]He replied, "Elijah is indeed coming and will
restore all things,* [12]but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did
not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the
Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands."* [13]Then the disciples
understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.

JESUS CURES A BOY WITH A DEMON

14 When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him,
[15]and said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he has epilepsy and suffers
terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water. [16]And I brought
him to your disciples, but they could not cure him." [17]Jesus answered, "You
faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you?
How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him here to me." [18]And
Jesus rebuked the demon,[o] and it[p] came out of him, and the boy was cured

from that moment. [19]Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" [20]He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a[q] mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."[r,*]

JESUS AGAIN FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

22 As they were gathering[s] in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands,[*] [23]and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised." And they were greatly distressed.

JESUS AND THE TEMPLE TAX

24 When they reached Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax came to Peter and said, "Does your teacher not pay the temple tax?"[*] [25]He said, "Yes, he does." And when he came home, Jesus spoke of it first, asking, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tribute? From their children or from others?"[*] [26]When Peter[t] said, "From others," Jesus said to him, "Then the children are free. [27]However, so that we do not give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook; take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth you will find a coin; take that and give it to them for you and me."[*]

Matthew 18

TRUE GREATNESS

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in
the kingdom of heaven?" [2]He called a child, whom he put among them,
[3]and said, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children,
you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.* [4]Whoever becomes humble
like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. [5]Whoever welcomes
one such child in my name welcomes me.*

TEMPTATIONS TO SIN

6 "If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me to sin,[u]
it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your
neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea.* [7]Woe to the world
because of things that cause sin![v] Such things are bound to come, but woe
to the one through whom they come!*

8 "If your hand or your foot causes you to sin,[w] cut it off and throw it
away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than to have two
hands or two feet and to be thrown into the eternal fire.* [9]And if your eye
causes you to sin,[x] tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter
life with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into the hell[y] of
fire.*

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

10 "Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell
you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in
heaven.[z,*] [12]What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep and one
of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains
and go in search of the one that went astray? [13]And if he finds it, truly I tell
you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went
astray. [14]So it is not the will of your[a] Father in heaven that one of these little
ones should be lost.

REPROVING ANOTHER WHO SINS

15 "If your brother or sister sins against you,[b] go and point out the fault
when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that
one.* [16]But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you,
so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three
witnesses.* [17]If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church,
and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to
you as a gentile and a tax collector.* [18]Truly I tell you, whatever you bind
on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be
loosed in heaven.* [19]Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth
about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.*
[20]For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

FORGIVENESS

21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins
against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" [22]Jesus
said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven[c] times.

THE PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king
who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. [24]When he began the
reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him,
[25]and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his
wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. [26]So the
slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I
will pay you everything.' [27]And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave
released him and forgave him the debt. [28]But that same slave, as he went
out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii,
and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' [29]Then his
fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I
will pay you.' [30]But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison
until he would pay the debt. [31]When his fellow slaves saw what had
happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their
lord all that had taken place. [32]Then his lord summoned him and said to

him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. [33]Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ [34]And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. [35]So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Matthew 19

TEACHING ABOUT DIVORCE

1 When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to
the region of Judea beyond the Jordan.* [2]Large crowds followed him, and
he cured them there.*

3 Some Pharisees came to him, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful
for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?"* [4]He answered, "Have you
not read that the one who made them at the beginning 'made them male and
female,'* [5]and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother
and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?* [6]So they
are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let
no one separate." [7]They said to him, "Why then did Moses command us to
give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?"* [8]He said to them, "It
was because you were so hard-hearted that Moses allowed you to divorce
your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. [9]And I say to you,
whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries
another commits adultery, and he who marries a divorced woman commits
adultery."[d,*]

10 The[e] disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife,
it is better not to marry." [11]But he said to them, "Not everyone can accept
this teaching, but only those to whom it is given.* [12]For there are eunuchs
who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made
eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves
eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let anyone accept this who
can."

JESUS BLESSES LITTLE CHILDREN

13 Then children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his
hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought
them, [14]but Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them,

for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."* 15And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

THE RICH YOUNG MAN

16 Then someone came to him and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?"* 17And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." 18He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness.* 19Honor your father and mother. Also, you shall love your neighbor as yourself."* 20The young man said to him, "I have kept all these;[f] what do I still lack?" 21Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money[g] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."* 22When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven.* 24Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." 25When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?" 26But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."*

27 Then Peter said in reply, "Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?"* 28Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.* 29And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or[h] children or fields for my name's sake will receive a hundredfold[i] and will inherit eternal life. 30But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.*

Matthew 20

THE LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the
morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.* [2]After agreeing with the laborers
for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. [3]When he went
out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, [4]and
he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever
is right.' So they went. [5]When he went out again about noon and about
three o'clock, he did the same. [6]And about five o'clock he went out and
found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing
here idle all day?' [7]They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He
said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' [8]When evening came, the
owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them
their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.'* [9]When those
hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. [10]Now
when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of
them also received a denarius. [11]And when they received it, they grumbled
against the landowner, [12]saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you
have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the
scorching heat.'* [13]But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you
no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?* [14]Take what belongs
to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. [15]Am I
not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you
envious because I am generous?'[j,*] [16]So the last will be first, and the first
will be last."[k,*]

A THIRD TIME JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

17 While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples
aside by themselves and said to them on the way, [18]"Look, we are going up
to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests

and scribes, and they will condemn him to death;* 19then they will hand him over to the gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and on the third day he will be raised."*

THE REQUEST OF THE MOTHER OF JAMES AND JOHN

20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him.* 21And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom."* 22But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?"[l] They said to him, "We are able."* 23He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."*

24 When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers.* 25But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.* 26It will not be so among you, but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant,* 27and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave, 28just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."*

JESUS HEALS TWO BLIND MEN

29 As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. 30There were two blind men sitting by the roadside. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, "Lord,[m] have mercy on us, Son of David!"* 31The crowd sternly ordered them to be quiet, but they shouted even more loudly, "Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!" 32Jesus stood still and called them, saying, "What do you want me to do for you?" 33They said to him, "Lord, let our eyes be opened." 34Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him.

Matthew 21

JESUS'S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

1 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the
Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, [2]saying to them, "Go into the
village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt
with her; untie them and bring them to me. [3]If anyone says anything to you,
just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately."[n]
[4]This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

[5]"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."[*]

[6]The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; [7]they brought the
donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. [8]A
very large crowd[o] spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches
from the trees and spread them on the road.[*] [9]The crowds that went ahead
of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"[*]

[10]When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who
is this?" [11]The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from
Nazareth in Galilee."[*]

JESUS CLEANSES THE TEMPLE

12 Then Jesus entered the temple[p] and drove out all who were selling and
buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers
and the seats of those who sold doves.[*] [13]He said to them, "It is written,

'My house shall be called a house of prayer,'

but you are making it a den of robbers."*

14 The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. 15But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did and heard[q] the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became angry* 16and said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read,

'Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise for yourself'?"*

17He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

JESUS CURSES THE FIG TREE

18 In the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. 19And seeing a fig tree by the side of the road, he went to it and found nothing at all on it but leaves. Then he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once. 20When the disciples saw it, they were amazed, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?" 21Jesus answered them, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' it will be done.* 22Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive."*

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS QUESTIONED

23 When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"* 24Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. 25Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' 26But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet."* 27So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

28 "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and
said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'* [29]He answered, 'I will not,'
but later he changed his mind and went. [30]The father[r] went to the second
and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. [31]Which
of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to
them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into
the kingdom of God ahead of you.* [32]For John came to you in the way of
righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the
prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your
minds and believe him.*

THE PARABLE OF THE WICKED TENANTS

33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a
vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a
watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away.* [34]When the
harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his
produce.* [35]But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another,
and stoned another.* [36]Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and
they treated them in the same way. [37]Then he sent his son to them, saying,
'They will respect my son.' [38]But when the tenants saw the son, they said to
themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'*
[39]So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. [40]Now
when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"
[41]They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and
lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the
harvest time."*

42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;[s]
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?*

43 “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you
and given to a people that produces its fruits.* 44 The one who falls on this
stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”t

45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they
realized that he was speaking about them. 46 They wanted to arrest him, but
they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.*

Matthew 22

THE PARABLE OF THE WEDDING BANQUET

1 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: [2]"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.* [3]He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come.* [4]Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.'* [5]But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, [6]while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. [7]The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.* [8]Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.* [9]Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' [10]Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.*

11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,* [12]and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless.* [13]Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'* [14]For many are called, but few are chosen."

THE QUESTION ABOUT PAYING TAXES

15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. [16]So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality.* [17]Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"* [18]But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? [19]Show me the coin used for the

tax." And they brought him a denarius. [20]Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" [21]They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."* [22]When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

THE QUESTION ABOUT THE RESURRECTION

23 The same day some Sadducees came to him saying there is no resurrection,[u] and they asked him a question:* [24]"Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies childless, his brother shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.'* [25]Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married and died childless, leaving the widow to his brother. [26]The second did the same, so also the third, down to the seventh. [27]Last of all, the woman herself died. [28]In the resurrection, then, whose wife of the seven will she be? For all of them had married her."

29 Jesus answered them, "You are wrong because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God.* [30]For in the resurrection people neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels of God[v] in heaven. [31]And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, [32]'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is God not of the dead but of the living."* [33]And when the crowds heard it, they were astounded at his teaching.*

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, [35]and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him.* [36]"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" [37]He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'* [38]This is the greatest and first commandment. [39]And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'* [40]On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."*

THE QUESTION ABOUT DAVID'S SON

41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them
this question: [42]"What do you think of the Messiah?[w] Whose son is he?"
They said to him, "The son of David."* [43]He said to them, "How is it then
that David by the Spirit[x] calls him Lord, saying,

[44]'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet" '?*

[45]"If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" [46]No one was able
to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any
more questions.*

Matthew 23

JESUS DENOUNCES SCRIBES AND PHARISEES

1 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, [2]"The scribes and the
Pharisees sit on Moses's seat;* [3]therefore, do whatever they teach you and
follow it, but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach.
[4]They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear,[y] and lay them on the shoulders of
others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them.*
[5]They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their
phylacteries broad and their fringes long.* [6]They love to have the place of
honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues* [7]and to be greeted
with respect in the marketplaces and to have people call them rabbi. [8]But
you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all
brothers and sisters.* [9]And call no one your father on earth, for you have
one Father, the one in heaven.* [10]Nor are you to be called instructors, for
you have one instructor, the Messiah.[z] [11]The greatest among you will be
your servant.* [12]All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who
humble themselves will be exalted.*

13 "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you lock
people out of the kingdom of heaven. For you do not go in yourselves, and
when others are going in you stop them.[a,*] [15]Woe to you, scribes and
Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cross sea and land to make a single convert,
and you make the new convert twice as much a child of hell[b] as yourselves.

16 "Woe to you, blind guides who say, 'Whoever swears by the sanctuary
is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gold of the sanctuary is
bound by the oath.'* [17]You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the
sanctuary that has made the gold sacred?* [18]And you say, 'Whoever swears
by the altar is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gift that is on
the altar is bound by the oath.' [19]How blind you are! For which is greater,
the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred?* [20]So whoever swears by the
altar swears by it and by everything on it, [21]and whoever swears by the
sanctuary swears by it and by the one who dwells in it, [22]and whoever

swears by heaven swears by the throne of God and by the one who is seated upon it.*

23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others.* [24]You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!

25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. [26]You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and of the plate,[c] so that the outside also may become clean.

27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful but inside are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of uncleanness. [28]So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

29 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous, [30]and you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' [31]Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets. [32]Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors. [33]You snakes, you brood of vipers! How can you escape the judgment of hell?[d] [34]For this reason I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, [35]so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. [36]Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation.

THE LAMENT OVER JERUSALEM

37 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

[38]See, your house is left to you, desolate.[e] [39]For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”*

Matthew 24

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE FORETOLD

1 As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple.* [2]Then he asked them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."*

SIGNS OF THE END OF THE AGE

3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" [4]Jesus answered them, "Beware that no one leads you astray.* [5]For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!'[f] and they will lead many astray. [6]And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. [7]For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines[g] and earthquakes in various places:* [8]all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

PERSECUTIONS FORETOLD

9 "Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name.* [10]Then many will fall away,[h] and they will betray one another and hate one another.* [11]And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.* [12]And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. [13]But the one who endures to the end will be saved.* [14]And this good news[i] of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

THE DESOLATING SACRILEGE

15 "So when you see the desolating sacrilege, spoken of by the prophet
Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),* [16]then those
in Judea must flee to the mountains; [17]the one on the housetop must not go
down to take things from the house; [18]the one in the field must not turn
back to get a coat. [19]Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are
nursing infants in those days! [20]Pray that your flight may not be in winter or
on a Sabbath. [21]For at that time there will be great suffering, such as has not
been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.*
[22]And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved, but for
the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.* [23]Then if anyone says to
you, 'Look! Here is the Messiah!'[j] or 'There he is!'—do not believe it.*
[24]For false messiahs[k] and false prophets will appear and produce great signs
and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.* [25]Take note, I have
told you beforehand. [26]So, if they say to you, 'Look! He is in the
wilderness,' do not go out. If they say, 'Look! He is in the inner rooms,' do
not believe it. [27]For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far
as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.* [28]Wherever the
corpse is, there the eagles will gather.

THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN

29 "Immediately after the suffering of those days
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from heaven,
and the powers of heaven will be shaken.*

[30]"Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the
tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see 'the Son of Man coming on
the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory.* [31]And he will send out
his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the
four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

THE LESSON OF THE FIG TREE

32 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes
tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. [33]So also,
when you see all these things, you know that he[l] is near, at the very gates.
[34]Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things
have taken place.* [35]Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will
not pass away.*

THE NECESSITY FOR WATCHFULNESS

36 "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of
heaven, nor the Son,[m] but only the Father. [37]For as the days of Noah were,
so will be the coming of the Son of Man.* [38]For as in the days before the
flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until
the day Noah entered the ark, [39]and they knew nothing until the flood came
and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man.
[40]Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left.*
[41]Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one
will be left. [42]Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day[n]
your Lord is coming.* [43]But understand this: if the owner of the house had
known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed
awake and would not have let his house be broken into.* [44]Therefore you
also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not
expect.*

THE FAITHFUL OR THE UNFAITHFUL SLAVE

45 "Who, then, is the faithful and wise slave whom his master has put in
charge of his household, to give the other slaves[o] their allowance of food at
the proper time?* [46]Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work
when he arrives.* [47]Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his
possessions.* [48]But if that wicked slave says to himself, 'My master is
delayed,' [49]and begins to beat his fellow slaves and eats and drinks with
drunkards, [50]the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not
expect him and at an hour that he does not know. [51]He will cut him in
pieces[p] and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth.*

Matthew 25

THE PARABLE OF THE TEN BRIDESMAIDS

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women[q] took
their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.[r,*] 2Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise.[*] 3When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil
with them, 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the
bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.[*] 6But at
midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to
meet him.' 7Then all those young women[s] got up and trimmed their lamps.[*]
8The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are
going out.' 9But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and
for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10And
while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready
went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut.[*] 11Later
the other young women[t] came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'[*] 12But
he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13Keep awake, therefore,
for you know neither the day nor the hour.[u,*]

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and
entrusted his property to them;[*] 15to one he gave five talents, to another
two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At
once[*] 16the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with
them and made five more talents. 17In the same way, the one who had the
two talents made two more talents. 18But the one who had received the one
talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.
19After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts
with them.[*] 20Then the one who had received the five talents came forward,
bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five
talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21His master said to him, 'Well
done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few

things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'* 22And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter,* 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.* 28So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.* 30As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.* 32All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,* 33and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world,* 35for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,* 36I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'* 37Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as

you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’* 41Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels,* 42for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ 44Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ 45Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’* 46And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”*

Matthew 26

THE PLOT TO KILL JESUS

1 When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples,[*]
[2]"You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man
will be handed over to be crucified."[*]

3 Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the
courtyard of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas,[*] [4]and they conspired
to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him.[*] [5]But they said, "Not during the
festival, or there may be a riot among the people."[*]

THE ANOINTING AT BETHANY

6 Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper,[v,*] [7]a
woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she
poured it on his head as he sat at the table. [8]But when the disciples saw it,
they were angry and said, "Why this waste? [9]For this ointment could have
been sold for a large sum and the money given to the poor." [10]But Jesus,
aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? She has
performed a good service for me. [11]For you always have the poor with you,
but you will not always have me.[*] [12]By pouring this ointment on my body
she has prepared me for burial.[*] [13]Truly I tell you, wherever this good
news[w] is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in
remembrance of her."

JUDAS AGREES TO BETRAY JESUS

14 Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the
chief priests [15]and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?"
They paid him thirty pieces of silver.[*] [16]And from that moment he began to
look for an opportunity to betray him.

THE PASSOVER WITH THE DISCIPLES

17 On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus,
saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the
Passover?" [18]He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him,
'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house
with my disciples.' "* [19]So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and
they prepared the Passover meal.*

20 When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve disciples,[x]
[21]and while they were eating he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will
betray me." [22]And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him
one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" [23]He answered, "The one who has
dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.* [24]The Son of Man
goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is
betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."
[25]Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You
have said so."

THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

26 While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing
it[y] he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my
body."* [27]Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them,
saying, "Drink from it, all of you, [28]for this is my blood of the[z] covenant,
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.* [29]I tell you, I will
never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new
with you in my Father's kingdom."*

30 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

PETER'S DENIAL FORETOLD

31 Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away[a] because of me this
night, for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'*

[32]"But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."* [33]Peter said
to him, "Even if all fall away[b] because of you, I will never fall away."[c]

[34]Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."* [35]Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.*

JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE

36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." [37]He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated.* [38]Then he said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."* [39]And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want."* [40]Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?* [41]Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;[d] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."* [42]Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."* [43]Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. [44]So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. [45]Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Now the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.* [46]Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS

47 While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. [48]Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." [49]At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.* [50]Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do."[e] Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.* [51]Suddenly one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. [52]Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place, for all who

take the sword will die by the sword.* 53Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?* 54But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?"* 55At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a rebel? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. 56But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.*

JESUS BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST

57 Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. 58But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end.* 59Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, 60but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward* 61and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.' "* 62The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" 63But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah,[f] the Son of God."* 64Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you,

> From now on you will see the Son of Man
> seated at the right hand of Power
> and coming on the clouds of heaven."*

65Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy.* 66What do you think?" They answered, "He deserves death."* 67Then they spat in his face and struck him, and some slapped him,* 68saying, "Prophesy to us, you Messiah![g] Who is it that struck you?"

PETER'S DENIAL OF JESUS

69 Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A female servant came
to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” [70]But he denied it
before all of them, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.”
[71]When he went out to the porch, another female servant saw him, and she
said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus the Nazarene.”[h] [72]Again
he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” [73]After a little while the
bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them,
for your accent betrays you.” [74]Then he began to curse, and he swore an
oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed. [75]Then
Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will
deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.[*]

Matthew 27

JESUS BROUGHT BEFORE PILATE

1 When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people
conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. [2]They
bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.*

THE SUICIDE OF JUDAS

3 When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus[i] was condemned, he repented
and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the
elders.* [4]He said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent[j] blood." But they
said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself."* [5]Throwing down the pieces of
silver in the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.* [6]But the
chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them
into the treasury, since they are blood money." [7]After conferring together,
they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. [8]For
this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.* [9]Then
was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah,[k] "And
they took[l] the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price
had been set,[m] on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price,* [10]and
they gave[n] them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

PILATE QUESTIONS JESUS

11 Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him,
"Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." [12]But when he
was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer.* [13]Then
Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make
against you?"* [14]But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so
that the governor was greatly amazed.*

BARABBAS OR JESUS?

15 Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner
for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. [16]At that time they had a
notorious prisoner called Jesus[o] Barabbas. [17]So after they had gathered,
Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus[p]
Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"[q] [18]For he realized that it was
out of jealousy that they had handed him over. [19]While he was sitting on the
judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that
innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream
about him."* [20]Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to
ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed.* [21]The governor again said to
them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they
said, "Barabbas." [22]Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus
who is called the Messiah?"[r] All of them said, "Let him be crucified!"
[23]Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the
more, "Let him be crucified!"

PILATE HANDS JESUS OVER TO BE CRUCIFIED

24 So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing but rather that a riot was
beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd,
saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood;[s] see to it yourselves."* [25]Then
the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!"*
[26]So he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him
over to be crucified.*

THE SOLDIERS MOCK JESUS

27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's
headquarters,[t] and they gathered the whole cohort around him.* [28]They
stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, [29]and after twisting some thorns
into a crown they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and
knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"*
[30]They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head.* [31]After
mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him.
Then they led him away to crucify him.*

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

32 As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon;
they compelled this man to carry his cross.* 33And when they came to a
place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), 34they offered him
wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.*
35And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among
themselves by casting lots;[u],* 36then they sat down there and kept watch
over him.* 37Over his head they put the charge against him, which read,
"This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

38 Then two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on
his left.* 39Those who passed by derided[v] him, shaking their heads* 40and
saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save
yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."* 41In the
same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were
mocking him, saying, 42"He saved others; he cannot save himself.[w] He is
the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will
believe in him.* 43He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to,
for he said, 'I am God's Son.' "* 44The rebels who were crucified with him
also taunted him in the same way.

THE DEATH OF JESUS

45 From noon on, darkness came over the whole land[x] until three in the
afternoon.* 46And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli,
Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken
me?"* 47When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is
calling for Elijah." 48At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it
with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink.* 49But the
others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."[y]
50Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.[z] 51At that
moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The
earth shook, and the rocks were split.* 52The tombs also were opened, and
many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. 53After his
resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and
appeared to many. 54Now when the centurion and those with him, who were

keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"[a,*]

55 Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him.[*] [56]Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph,[b] and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.[*]

THE BURIAL OF JESUS

57 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who also was himself a disciple of Jesus.[*] [58]He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. [59]So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth [60]and laid it in his new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.[*] [61]Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

THE GUARD AT THE TOMB

62 The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate [63]and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.'[*] [64]Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise, his disciples may go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." [65]Pilate said to them, "You have a guard[c] of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can."[d,*] [66]So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.[*]

Matthew 28

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

1 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary
Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.* [2]And suddenly there
was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven,
came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.* [3]His appearance was like
lightning and his clothing white as snow. [4]For fear of him the guards shook
and became like dead men. [5]But the angel said to the women, "Do not be
afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified.* [6]He is
not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he[e]
lay.* [7]Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the
dead,[f] and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see
him.' This is my message for you."* [8]So they left the tomb quickly with
fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. [9]Suddenly Jesus met them
and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and
worshiped him.* [10]Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell
my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."*

THE REPORT OF THE GUARD

11 While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told
the chief priests everything that had happened.* [12]After the priests[g] had
assembled with the elders, they devised a plan to give a large sum of money
to the soldiers, [13]telling them, "You must say, 'His disciples came by night
and stole him away while we were asleep.' [14]If this comes to the governor's
ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble."* [15]So they took the
money and did as they were directed. And this story is still told among the
Judeans to this day.

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE DISCIPLES

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which
Jesus had directed them.* [17]When they saw him, they worshiped him, but

they doubted. 18And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven
and on earth has been given to me.* 19Go therefore and make disciples of all
nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit* 20and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded
you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”h

Matthew 1

a **1.1** Or *A book*
b **1.1** Or *birth*
c **1.1** Or *Jesus Christ*
* **1.1** Gen 12.3; 22.18; Ps 132.11; Isa 11.1; Lk 1.32; Jn 7.42; Acts 2.30; 13.23; Rom 1.3; Gal 3.16
* **1.2** Gen 21.1, 3; 25.26; 29.35
* **1.3** Gen 38.27ff; Ruth 4.18ff; 1 Chr 2.5, 9ff
* **1.6** 1 Sam 16.1; 17.12; 2 Sam 12.14
d **1.7** Other ancient authorities read *Asa*
* **1.7** 1 Chr 3.10
e **1.8** Other ancient authorities read *Asa*
f **1.10** Other ancient authorities read *Amon*
g **1.10** Other ancient authorities read *Amon*
* **1.10** 2 Kings 20.21; 1 Chr 3.13
* **1.11** 2 Kings 24.14–16; Jer 27.20; 39.9
* **1.12** 1 Chr 3.17, 19
h **1.16** Or *the Christ*
* **1.16** Lk 1.27
i **1.17** Or *the Christ*
j **1.18** Or *Jesus Christ*
* **1.18** Lk 1.27, 35
* **1.19** Deut 22.13–21
* **1.21** Lk 2.21; Jn 1.29; Acts 4.12; 13.23, 38
* **1.23** Isa 7.14
k **1.25** Other ancient authorities read *her firstborn son*
* **1.25** Ex 13.2; Lk 2.21

Matthew 2

l **2.1** Or *astrologers*
* **2.1** Lk 1.5; 2.4–7
m **2.2** Or *at its rising*
* **2.2** Jer 23.5; Zech 9.9; Mk 15.2; Jn 1.49
n **2.4** Or *the Christ*
* **2.5** Jn 7.42
o **2.6** Or *rule*
* **2.6** Mic 5.2; Jn 21.16
p **2.7** Or *astrologers*
q **2.9** Or *at its rising*
r **2.10** Gk *saw the star*

* **2.11** Ps 72.10; Isa 60.6; Mt 1.18
* **2.12** v 22
* **2.13** vv 19, 20
s **2.14** Gk *he*
* **2.14** Hos 11.1
t **2.16** Or *astrologers*
u **2.16** Or *astrologers*
* **2.18** Jer 31.15
v **2.21** Gk *he*
* **2.22** Mt 3.13; Lk 2.39
w **2.23** Gk *Nazorean*
* **2.23** Mk 1.24; Lk 1.26

Matthew 3

x **3.2** Or *is at hand*
* **3.2** Dan 2.44; Mt 4.17; 10.7
* **3.3** Isa 40.3; Mk 1.3; Lk 1.76; 3.4; Jn 1.23
* **3.4** Lev 11.22; 2 Kings 1.8
* **3.6** Acts 19.4, 18
y **3.7** Other ancient authorities lack *his*
* **3.7** Mt 12.34; 23.33; Rom 5.9; 1 Thess 1.10
* **3.8** Acts 26.20
* **3.9** Jn 8.33, 39; Acts 13.26; Rom 4.1, 11, 16
* **3.10** Mt 7.19
z **3.11** Or *in*
a **3.11** Or *in*
* **3.11** Isa 4.4; Acts 1.5; 2.3, 4; 11.16; 19.4
* **3.12** Mal 3.3; Mt 13.30
* **3.13** Jn 1.31–34
* **3.16** Isa 11.2; 42.1; Jn 1.32
b **3.17** Or *my beloved Son*
* **3.17** Ps 2.7; Mt 12.18; 17.5; Mk 9.7; Lk 9.35

Matthew 4

* **4.2** Ex 34.28; 1 Kings 19.8
* **4.3** 1 Thess 3.5
* **4.4** Deut 8.3
* **4.5** Neh 11.1; Dan 9.24; Mt 27.53; Rev 21.10
* **4.6** Ps 91.11, 12
* **4.7** Deut 6.16

* **4.10** Deut 6.13; 1 Chr 21.1
* **4.11** Mt 26.53; Lk 22.43; Heb 1.14
c **4.12** Gk *he*
* **4.15** Isa 9.1, 2
* **4.16** Isa 42.7; Lk 2.32
d **4.17** Or *is at hand*
* **4.17** Mt 3.2; 10.7
* **4.18** Jn 1.35–42
* **4.20** Lk 18.28
e **4.23** Gk *He*
f **4.23** Gk *gospel*
* **4.23** Mt 9.35; 13.54; Mk 1.21, 34, 39; Lk 4.15, 44
* **4.24** Mt 8.6, 16, 28, 33; 9.2, 6; 17.15; Mk 1.32; Lk 2.2; 8.36
* **4.25** Mk 3.7, 8; Lk 6.17

Matthew 5

g **5.1** Gk *he*
* **5.1** Mk 3.13; Jn 6.3
* **5.3** Mk 10.14; Lk 22.29
* **5.4** Isa 61.2, 3
* **5.6** Isa 55.1, 2
* **5.8** Heb 12.14; 1 Jn 3.2
* **5.9** Rom 8.14
* **5.10** 1 Pet 3.14
h **5.11** Other ancient authorities lack *falsely*
* **5.11** 1 Pet 4.14
* **5.12** Acts 7.52; 1 Thess 2.15; Jas 5.10
* **5.13** Mk 9.50; Lk 14.34, 35
* **5.14** Phil 2.15
* **5.15** Mk 4.21; Lk 8.16
* **5.16** 1 Pet 2.12
* **5.17** Rom 3.31; Gal 3.24
i **5.18** Gk *one iota*
* **5.18** Lk 16.17
j **5.19** Or *annuls*
* **5.19** Jas 2.10
* **5.21** Ex 20.13; Deut 5.17
k **5.22** Other ancient authorities add *without cause*
l **5.22** Gk *say Raca to* (an obscure term of abuse)
m **5.22** Gk *Gehenna*
* **5.22** Jas 2.20; 1 Jn 3.15

* **5.23** Mt 8.4; 23.19
n **5.25** Gk lacks *to court*
* **5.25** Prov 25.8; Lk 12.57–59
* **5.27** Ex 20.14; Deut 5.18
* **5.28** Job 31.1; Prov 6.25
o **5.29** Or *stumble*
p **5.29** Gk *Gehenna*
* **5.29** Mt 18.9; Mk 9.43–47
q **5.30** Or *stumble*
r **5.30** Gk *Gehenna*
* **5.31** Deut 24.1–4; Mk 10–12; Lk 16.18
* **5.33** Lev 19.12; Num 30.2; Deut 23.21; Mt 23.16
* **5.34** Isa 66.1; Jas 5.12
s **5.37** Or *evil*
* **5.38** Ex 21.24; Lev 24.20; Deut 19.21
* **5.39** Prov 24.29; Lk 6.29; Rom 12.17, 19; 1 Cor 6.7; 1 Pet 3.9
* **5.42** Deut 15.8; Lk 6.30
* **5.43** Lev 19.18; Deut 23.6; Ps 41.10
* **5.44** Acts 7.60; Rom 12.14; 1 Cor 4.12; 1 Pet 2.23
* **5.45** Job 25.3
* **5.48** Lev 19.2; Col 1.28; Jas 1.4

Matthew 6

* **6.1** Mt 23.5
* **6.2** Rom 12.8
t **6.4** Other ancient authorities add *openly*
* **6.4** Col 3.23, 24
* **6.5** Mk 11.25; Lk 18.10–14
u **6.6** Other ancient authorities add *openly*
* **6.6** 2 Kings 4.33
* **6.7** 1 Kings 18.26, 29; Eccl 5.2
* **6.10** Mt 26.39, 42
v **6.11** Or *our bread for tomorrow*
* **6.11** Prov 30.8
* **6.12** Mt 18.21
w **6.13** Or *us into testing*
x **6.13** Or *from evil*. Other ancient authorities add, in some form, *For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen*.
* **6.13** Jn 17.15; 2 Thess 3.3; Jas 1.13
* **6.14** Mk 11.25; Eph 4.32; Col 3.13
y **6.15** Other ancient authorities add *their trespasses*

* **6.15** Mt 18.35
z **6.18** Other ancient authorities add *openly*
a **6.19** Gk *eating*
* **6.19** Prov 23.4; 1 Tim 6.17; Heb 13.5; Jas 5.1
b **6.20** Gk *eating*
* **6.20** Lk 12.33, 34; 18.22; 1 Tim 6.19; 1 Pet 1.4
* **6.22** Mt 20.15; Mk 7.22; Lk 11.34–36
c **6.24** Gk *mammon*
* **6.24** Lk 16.13
d **6.25** Other ancient authorities lack *or what you will drink*
* **6.25** Ps 55.22; Phil 4.6; 1 Pet 5.7
* **6.26** Job 38.41; Ps 147.9; Lk 12.24
e **6.27** Or *add one cubit to your height*
f **6.33** Other ancient authorities lack *of God*
g **6.33** Or *its*
* **6.33** Mt 19.28; Mk 10.29, 30; Lk 18.29, 30

Matthew 7

* **7.1** Mk 4.24; Rom 2.1; 14.10; 1 Cor 4.3
* **7.6** Prov 9.7, 8; Acts 13.45
* **7.7** Mk 11.24; Jn 15.7; 16.23, 24; Jas 4.3; 1 Jn 3.22; 5.14, 15
* **7.8** Jer 29.12, 13
* **7.12** Lk 6.31; Rom 13.8–10; Gal 5.14
h **7.13** Other ancient authorities read *for the road is wide and easy*
* **7.13** Lk 13.24
* **7.15** Jer 23.16; Mt 24.11, 24; Mk 13.22; Acts 20.29; 2 Pet 2.1; 1 Jn 4.1; Rev 16.13; 19.20
* **7.16** Mt 12.33; Mk 3.10; Jas 3.12
* **7.19** Mt 3.10; Lk 3.9; Jn 15.2, 6
* **7.21** Hos 8.2; Mt 25.11, 12; Acts 19.13; Rom 2.13; Jas 1.22
* **7.22** Mt 25.12; Lk 13.25–27
* **7.23** Ps 6.8; Mt 25.12; Lk 13.25, 27
* **7.24** Lk 6.47–49; Jas 1.22–25
* **7.28** Mt 11.1; 13.53, 54; 19.1; 26.1; Mk 1.22; 6.2; Lk 4.32; Jn 7.46

Matthew 8

i **8.1** Gk *he*
* **8.2** Mt 9.18; 15.25; 18.26; 20.20; Jn 9.38
* **8.4** Lev 14.3, 4, 10; Mk 3.12; 5.43; 7.36; 8.30; 9.9
j **8.6** Or *child*
k **8.8** Or *child*

* **8.8** Ps 107.20
l **8.10** Other ancient authorities read *Truly I tell you, not even*
* **8.11** Isa 49.12; 59.19; Mal 1.11; Lk 13.29; Acts 10.45
* **8.12** Mt 13.42, 50; 22.13; 25.30; Lk 13.28
m **8.13** Or *child*
* **8.14** 1 Cor 9.5
* **8.17** Isa 53.4
n **8.18** Other ancient authorities read *a crowd*
* **8.18** Mk 4.35; Lk 8.22
* **8.22** Mt 9.9; Jn 1.43; 2.19
* **8.26** Ps 65.7; 89.9; 107.29; Mt 6.30; 16.8
o **8.28** Other ancient authorities read *Gergesenes* or *Gerasenes*
* **8.29** Judg 11.12; 2 Sam 16.10; Mk 1.24; Jn 2.4

Matthew 9

* **9.1** Mt 4.13
* **9.2** v 22; Mk 6.50; 10.49; Acts 23.11
* **9.4** Mt 12.25; Lk 6.8; 9.47; 11.17
* **9.8** Mt 5.16; 15.31; Lk 7.16; 13.13; 17.15; 23.47; Jn 15.8; Acts 4.21; 11.18; 21.20
p **9.10** Gk *reclined*
q **9.10** Gk *were reclining*
* **9.11** Mt 11.19; Gal 2.15
* **9.13** Hos 6.6; Mic 6.6–8; Mt 12.7; 1 Tim 1.15
r **9.14** Other ancient authorities lack *often*
* **9.14** Lk 18.12
* **9.15** Jn 3.29; Acts 13.2, 3; 14.23
* **9.18** Mt 8.2; Jn 9.38
* **9.20** Mt 14.36; Mk 3.10
* **9.21** Lk 6.19
* **9.22** v 29; Mt 15.28; Mk 10.52; Lk 7.50; 17.19; 18.42
* **9.23** 2 Chr 35.25; Jer 9.17; 16.6; Ezek 24.17
* **9.24** Jn 11.13; Acts 20.10
* **9.27** Mt 15.22; Mk 10.47, 48; Lk 18.38, 39
* **9.30** Mt 8.4; 17.9
* **9.31** Mk 7.36
* **9.32** Mt 12.22–24; Lk 11.14
* **9.34** Mt 12.24; Mk 3.22; Lk 11.15
* **9.35** Mk 6.6; Lk 13.22
* **9.36** Ezek 34.5; Zech 10.2; Mk 6.34
* **9.37** Lk 10.2; Jn 4.35

Matthew 10

s **10.1** Gk *he*
* **10.1** Mk 3.13–15; Lk 6.14–16; Acts 1.13
t **10.3** Other ancient authorities read *Lebbaeus* or *Lebbaeus called Thaddaeus*
* **10.4** Lk 6.16; Jn 13.26; Acts 1.13
* **10.5** Lk 9.52; Acts 8.5, 25
* **10.6** Ezek 34.6; Mt 15.24
u **10.7** Or *is at hand*
* **10.7** Mt 3.2; Lk 10.9
* **10.10** 1 Cor 9.7; 1 Tim 5.18
* **10.14** Lk 10.10, 11; Acts 13.51; 18.6
* **10.15** Mt 11.22
* **10.16** Lk 10.3; Rom 16.19
* **10.18** Acts 25.24–26
* **10.20** 2 Sam 23.2; Jn 16.7–11; Acts 4.8
* **10.22** Dan 12.12; Mt 24.13; Mk 13.13; Lk 21.17
* **10.24** Lk 6.40; Jn 13.16; 15.20
* **10.25** Mt 12.24; Mk 3.22; Lk 11.15
* **10.26** Isa 8.12, 13; Mk 4.22; Lk 8.17; 12.2, 3; Heb 10.31
v **10.28** Gk *Gehenna*
* **10.30** Lk 21.18; Acts 27.34
* **10.32** Rom 10.9; 2 Tim 2.12; Rev 3.5
* **10.34** Mk 13.12; Lk 12.51–53
* **10.35** Mic 7.6
* **10.36** Mic 7.6
* **10.37** Lk 14.26
* **10.38** Mt 16.24
* **10.39** Mt 16.25; Lk 17.33; Jn 12.25
* **10.40** Lk 9.48; Jn 12.44; Gal 4.14
* **10.42** Mt 25.40; Heb 6.10

Matthew 11

w **11.2** Or *the Christ*
x **11.2** Other ancient authorities read *two of his*
* **11.2** Mt 14.3; Mk 6.17; Lk 9.7ff
* **11.3** Jn 11.27
* **11.5** Isa 35.4–6; 61.1; Lk 4.18, 19
* **11.6** Isa 8.14, 15; Rom 9.32; 1 Pet 2.8
* **11.7** Mt 3.1
y **11.8** Or *Why, then, did you go out? To see someone*

z **11.9** Other ancient authorities read *Why, then, did you go out? To see a prophet?*
* **11.9** Lk 1.76
* **11.10** Mal 3.1; Mk 1.2
a **11.12** Or *has been coming violently*
* **11.12** Lk 16.16
* **11.14** Mal 4.5; Mt 17.12; Lk 1.17
b **11.15** Other ancient authorities add *to hear*
* **11.15** Mt 13.9, 43; Mk 4.23; Rev 13.9
c **11.19** Other ancient authorities read *children*
* **11.19** Mt 9.11; Lk 15.2
* **11.21** Jon 3.7, 8
* **11.22** v 24; Mt 10.15
* **11.23** Isa 14.13; Lam 2.1
* **11.24** Mt 10.15
d **11.25** Or *praise*
* **11.25** 1 Cor 1.26–29
e **11.26** Or *for so it was well-pleasing in your sight*
* **11.27** Mt 28.18; Jn 3.35; 13.3; 17.2
* **11.28** Jer 31.25; Jn 7.37
* **11.29** Jer 6.16; Jn 13.15; Phil 2.5; 1 Pet 2.21; 1 Jn 2.6

Matthew 12

* **12.1** Deut 23.25
* **12.2** Ex 20.10
* **12.3** 1 Sam 21.6
f **12.4** Other ancient authorities read *he ate*
* **12.4** Ex 25.30; Lev 24.5, 9
* **12.5** Num 28.9, 10
* **12.6** vv 41, 42
* **12.7** Hos 6.6; Mt 9.13
* **12.10** Lk 13.14; 14.3; Jn 9.16
* **12.11** Lk 14.5
* **12.12** Mt 10.31
* **12.14** Mt 27.1; Mk 3.6; Lk 6.11; Jn 5.18; 11.53
g **12.15** Other ancient authorities add *crowds*
* **12.15** Mt 10.23; 19.2
* **12.16** Mt 9.30
* **12.18** Isa 42.1–6; 49.6
* **12.22** Mt 9.32, 33
* **12.23** Mt 9.27
* **12.24** Mt 9.34; 10.25; Jn 7.20; 8.52; 10.20

* **12.25** Mt 9.4
h **12.27** Gk *sons*
* **12.27** Mt 9.34; 10.25; Acts 19.13
* **12.28** Dan 2.44; 7.14; Lk 1.33; 17.20, 21
* **12.30** Mk 9.40; Lk 9.50
* **12.31** Lk 12.10
* **12.32** Mt 11.19; 13.55; Jn 7.12, 52
* **12.33** Mt 7.17; Lk 6.43, 44
* **12.34** Mt 3.7; 23.33; Lk 6.45
* **12.38** Mt 16.1; Mk 8.12; Jn 2.18; 6.30; 1 Cor 1.22
* **12.39** Mt 16.4
* **12.40** Jon 1.17
* **12.41** Jon 1.2; 3.5
* **12.42** 1 Kings 10.2; 2 Chr 9.1
* **12.45** 2 Pet 2.20
* **12.46** Mt 13.55; Mk 6.3; Jn 2.12; 7.3, 5; Acts 1.4; 1 Cor 9.5; Gal 1.9
i **12.47** Other ancient authorities lack 12.47
j **12.48** Gk *he*
* **12.50** Jn 15.14

Matthew 13

* **13.2** Lk 5.3
* **13.8** Gen 26.12
k **13.9** Other ancient authorities add *to hear*
* **13.9** Mt 11.15
l **13.11** Or *mysteries*
* **13.11** Mt 11.25; 19.11; Jn 6.65; 1 Cor 2.10; 1 Jn 2.27
* **13.12** Lk 19.26
* **13.13** Jer 5.21; Ezek 12.2
* **13.14** Isa 6.9, 10; Ezek 12.2; Jn 12.40; Acts 28.26, 27; Rom 11.8
* **13.15** Heb 5.11
* **13.16** Mt 16.17; Lk 10.23, 24; Jn 20.29
* **13.17** Heb 11.13; 1 Pet 1.10, 11
* **13.19** Mt 4.23
m **13.21** Or *stumbles*
* **13.21** Mt 11.6
n **13.22** Some ancient authorities read *the*
* **13.22** Mt 19.23; Rom 12.2; 1 Cor 1.20; 2 Cor 4.4; Gal 1.4; Eph 2.2
* **13.23** v 8
* **13.24** Lk 13.19, 20
* **13.30** Mt 3.12

* **13.31** Isa 2.2, 3; Mic 4.1
* **13.32** Ps 104.12; Ezek 17.23; 31.6; Dan 4.12
o **13.33** Gk *hid in*
* **13.33** Gen 18.6; Gal 5.9
* **13.34** Mk 4.33, 34
p **13.35** Other ancient authorities read *the prophet Isaiah*
q **13.35** Other ancient authorities add *of the world*
* **13.35** Ps 78.2; Rom 16.25, 26; 1 Cor 2.7; Eph 3.9; Col 1.26
* **13.38** Mt 24.14; 28.19; Lk 24.47; Jn 8.44; 1 Jn 3.10
* **13.39** Joel 3.13; Mt 24.3; 28.20; Rev 14.15
* **13.40** 1 Cor 10.11; Heb 9.26
r **13.41** Or *stumbling*
* **13.41** Mt 24.31
* **13.42** Mt 24.51; 25.30; Lk 13.28
s **13.43** Other ancient authorities add *to hear*
* **13.43** Dan 12.3; Mt 11.15
* **13.44** Isa 55.1; Phil 3.7, 8
* **13.47** Mt 22.10
* **13.49** Mt 25.32
* **13.50** v 42
* **13.53** Mt 7.28; 11.1; 19.1; 26.1
t **13.54** Gk *them*
* **13.54** Mt 4.23; 7.28
* **13.55** Lk 3.23; Jn 6.42
* **13.57** Jn 4.44

Matthew 14

* **14.1** Mk 8.15; Lk 3.1, 19; 8.3; 13.31; 23.7, 8; Acts 4.27; 12.1
* **14.3** Lk 3.19, 20
* **14.4** Lev 18.16; 20.21
u **14.5** Gk *he*
* **14.5** Mt 21.26; Lk 20.6
* **14.14** Mt 9.36
* **14.17** Mt 16.9
* **14.19** 1 Sam 9.13; Mt 15.36; Mk 14.22; Lk 24.30
* **14.23** Lk 6.12; 9.28
v **14.24** Other ancient authorities read *was out on the sea*
* **14.26** Lk 24.37
* **14.27** Mt 9.2; 17.7; 28.10; Rev 1.17
w **14.30** Other ancient authorities read *the wind*
* **14.31** Mt 6.30; 8.26; 16.8

* **14.33** Ps 2.7; Mt 16.16; 26.63; Lk 4.41; Jn 11.27; Rom 1.4
* **14.36** Mt 9.20; Mk 3.10

Matthew 15

* **15.2** Lk 11.38
x **15.4** Other ancient authorities read *commanded, saying*
* **15.4** Ex 20.12; Deut 5.16; Eph 6.2
y **15.5** Or *is an offering*
z **15.5** Other ancient authorities add *or the mother*
* **15.5** Ex 21.17; Lev 20.9; Deut 27.16
a **15.6** Other ancient authorities read *law* or *commandment*
* **15.8** Isa 29.13
* **15.9** Col 2.18–22
* **15.11** Acts 10.14, 15; 1 Tim 4.3
* **15.13** Isa 60.21; Jn 15.2; 1 Cor 3.9ff
b **15.14** Other ancient authorities lack *of the blind*
* **15.14** Mt 23.16; Lk 6.39; Rom 2.19
* **15.15** Mt 13.36
* **15.16** Mt 16.9
* **15.18** Mt 12.34; Jas 3.6
* **15.19** Rom 14.14; 1 Cor 6.9, 10; Gal 5.19–21
* **15.22** Mt 4.24; 9.27
* **15.24** Mt 10.6, 23
* **15.25** Mt 8.2; 18.26; 20.20; Jn 9.38
c **15.27** Gk *lords'*
* **15.28** Mt 9.22, 28; Mk 10.52; Lk 7.50; 17.19
* **15.30** Lk 7.22
* **15.31** Mt 9.8
* **15.32** Mt 9.36
* **15.36** 1 Sam 9.13; Mt 14.19
d **15.39** Other ancient authorities read *Magdala* or *Magdalan*

Matthew 16

e **16.1** Gk *him*
* **16.1** Mt 12.38; Lk 11.16, 29; 12.54–56
f **16.3** Other ancient authorities lack [2]*When it is . . . of the times*
* **16.4** Jon 3.4, 5; Mt 12.39
* **16.6** Lk 12.1
* **16.8** Mt 6.30; 8.26; 14.31
* **16.9** Mt 14.17–21

* **16.10** Mt 15.34–38
* **16.14** Mt 14.2; Jn 1.21
g **16.16** Or *the Christ*
* **16.16** Mt 14.33; Jn 6.69; 11.27
* **16.17** 1 Cor 15.50; Gal 1.16; Eph 6.12
h **16.18** Gk *Petros*
i **16.18** Gk *petra*
* **16.18** Jn 1.42
* **16.19** Mt 18.18; Jn 20.23
j **16.20** Other ancient authorities add *Jesus*
k **16.20** Or *the Christ*
* **16.20** Mk 3.12; 5.43; 7.36; 9.9
* **16.21** Mt 17.22, 23; 20.17–19; Lk 17.25
l **16.23** Or *stumbling block*
* **16.24** Mt 10.38, 39; Lk 14.27; 17.33; Jn 12.25
* **16.27** Mt 10.23; Lk 12.9; Rom 2.6; Rev 22.12
* **16.28** Mt 10.23; 1 Cor 16.22; 1 Thess 4.15–18; Jas 5.7; Rev 1.7

Matthew 17

* **17.1** Mt 26.37; Mk 5.37; 13.3
m **17.4** Other ancient authorities read *we*
n **17.5** Or *my beloved Son*
* **17.5** Isa 42.1; Mt 3.17; Acts 3.22, 23; 2 Pet 1.17
* **17.7** Mt 14.27
* **17.9** Mt 8.4; 16.20; Mk 3.12; 5.43; 7.36
* **17.10** Mal 4.5; Mt 11.14
* **17.11** Mal 4.6; Lk 1.16, 17
* **17.12** Mt 11.14; 14.3, 10; 16.21
o **17.18** Gk *it* or *him*
p **17.18** Gk *the demon*
q **17.20** Gk *faith as a grain of*
r **17.20** Other ancient authorities add 17.21, *But this kind does not come out except by prayer and fasting*
* **17.20** Mt 21.21; Mk 11.23; Lk 17.6; 1 Cor 12.9
s **17.22** Other ancient authorities read *living*
* **17.22** Mt 16.21; 20.17; Lk 18.31; 24.6, 7
* **17.24** Ex 30.13; 38.26
* **17.25** Mt 22.17, 19; Rom 13.7
t **17.26** Gk *he*
* **17.27** Mt 5.29, 30; 18.6, 8; Lk 17.2; Jn 6.61; 1 Cor 8.13

Matthew 18

* **18.3** Mt 19.14; Mk 10.15; Lk 18.17; 1 Pet 2.2
* **18.5** Mt 10.40; Lk 18.17
u **18.6** Or *stumble*
* **18.6** Lk 17.1, 2
v **18.7** Or *stumbling blocks*
* **18.7** Lk 17.1; 1 Cor 11.19
w **18.8** Or *stumble*
* **18.8** Mt 5.29, 30; Mk 9.43, 45
x **18.9** Or *stumble*
y **18.9** Gk *Gehenna*
* **18.9** Mt 5.29; 17.27; Mk 9.47
z **18.10** Other ancient authorities add 18.11, *For the Son of Man came to save the lost*
* **18.10** Ps 34.7; Acts 12.11; Heb 1.14
a **18.14** Other ancient authorities read *my*
b **18.15** Other ancient authorities lack *against you*
* **18.15** Lev 19.17; Lk 17.3; Gal 6.1; Jas 5.19, 20
* **18.16** Deut 19.15; Jn 8.17; 2 Cor 13.1; Heb 10.28
* **18.17** 1 Cor 6.1–6; 2 Thess 3.6, 14
* **18.18** Mt 16.19; Jn 20.23
* **18.19** Mt 5.24; 1 Jn 5.14
c **18.22** Or *seventy times seven*

Matthew 19

* **19.1** Mk 10.1; Jn 10.40
* **19.2** Mt 4.23
* **19.3** Mt 5.31
* **19.4** Gen 1.27; 5.2
* **19.5** Gen 2.24; 1 Cor 6.16; Eph 5.31
* **19.7** Deut 24.1–4; Mt 5.31
d **19.9** Other ancient authorities lack *and he who marries a divorced woman commits adultery*
* **19.9** Mk 5.32; Lk 16.18; 1 Cor 7.10–13
e **19.10** Other ancient authorities read *His*
* **19.11** 1 Cor 7.7–9
* **19.14** Mt 18.3; 1 Cor 14.20; 1 Pet 2.2
* **19.16** Lev 18.5; Lk 10.25
* **19.18** Ex 20.13; Deut 5.17; Rom 13.9; Jas 2.11
* **19.19** Lev 19.18; Mt 22.39; Rom 13.9; Gal 5.14
f **19.20** Other ancient authorities add *from my youth*
g **19.21** Gk lacks *the money*

* **19.21** Mt 6.20; Lk 12.33; 16.9; Acts 2.45; 4.34, 35
* **19.23** Mt 13.22; 1 Cor 1.26; 1 Tim 6.9, 10
* **19.26** Gen 18.14; Job 42.2; Jer 32.17; Zech 8.6
* **19.27** Mt 4.20; Lk 5.11
* **19.28** Mt 20.21; Lk 22.28–30; Rev 3.21
h **19.29** Other ancient authorities lack *wife or*
i **19.29** Other ancient authorities read *manifold*
* **19.30** Mt 20.16; Lk 13.30

Matthew 20

* **20.1** Mt 13.24; 21.28, 33
* **20.8** Lev 19.3; Deut 24.15
* **20.12** Jon 4.8; Lk 12.55; Jas 1.11
* **20.13** Mt 22.12; 26.50
j **20.15** Gk *is your eye evil because I am good?*
* **20.15** Deut 15.9; Mt 6.23; Mk 7.22
k **20.16** Other ancient authorities add *for many are called, but few are chosen*
* **20.16** Mt 19.30
* **20.18** Mt 16.21
* **20.19** Mt 16.21; 27.2; Acts 2.23; 3.13
* **20.20** Mt 4.21; 8.2; 9.18; Jn 9.38
* **20.21** Mt 19.28
l **20.22** Other ancient authorities add *or to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?*
* **20.22** Mt 26.39, 42; Lk 22.42; Jn 18.11
* **20.23** Mt 25.34; Acts 12.2; Rev 1.9
* **20.24** Lk 22.24, 25
* **20.25** Lk 22.25–27
* **20.26** Mt 23.11; Mk 9.35; Lk 9.48
* **20.28** Isa 53.10; Mt 26.28; Jn 13.4, 14; Phil 2.7; 1 Tim 2.6; Titus 2.14; Heb 9.28; 1 Pet 1.19
m **20.30** Other ancient authorities lack *Lord*
* **20.30** Mt 9.27

Matthew 21

n **21.3** Or *'The Lord needs them and will send them back immediately.'*
* **21.5** Isa 62.11; Zech 9.9
o **21.8** Or *Most of the crowd*
* **21.8** 2 Kings 9.13
* **21.9** v 15; Ps 118.26; Mt 23.39
* **21.11** Mk 6.15; Lk 13.33; Jn 6.14; 7.40; Acts 3.22
p **21.12** Other ancient authorities add *of God*

* **21.12** Ex 30.13; Deut 14.25
* **21.13** Isa 56.7; Jer 7.11
q **21.15** Gk lacks *heard*
* **21.15** v 9; Lk 19.39
* **21.16** Ps 8.2
* **21.21** Mt 17.20; Lk 17.6; Jas 1.6
* **21.22** Mt 7.7; Jn 14.13, 14; 16.23; Jas 5.16
* **21.23** Acts 4.7; 7.27
* **21.26** Mt 14.5; Mk 6.20
* **21.28** v 33; Mt 20.21
r **21.30** Gk *He*
* **21.31** Lk 7.29, 50
* **21.32** Mt 3.1ff; Lk 3.12, 13; 7.29, 30
* **21.33** Ps 80.8; Isa 5.1–7; Mt 25.14, 15
* **21.34** Mt 22.3
* **21.35** 2 Chr 24.21; Mt 23.34, 37; Heb 11.36, 37
* **21.38** Ps 2.8; Mt 26.3; 27.1; Heb 1.2
* **21.41** Mt 8.11; Acts 13.46; 18.6; 28.28
s **21.42** Or *keystone* (in an arch)
* **21.42** Ps 118.22, 23; Acts 4.11; 1 Pet 2.7
* **21.43** Mt 8.12
t **21.44** Other ancient authorities lack 21.44
* **21.46** vv 11, 26

Matthew 22

* **22.2** Mt 13.24
* **22.3** Mt 21.34
* **22.4** Mt 21.36
* **22.7** Lk 19.27
* **22.8** Mt 10.11, 13
* **22.10** Mt 13.47
* **22.11** 2 Cor 5.3; Eph 4.24; Col 3.10, 12; Rev 3.4; 16.15; 19.8
* **22.12** Mt 20.13; 26.50
* **22.13** Mt 8.12; Lk 13.28
* **22.16** Mk 3.6; 8.15
* **22.17** Mt 17.25
* **22.21** Rom 13.7
u **22.23** Other ancient authorities read *who say that there is no resurrection*
* **22.23** Acts 23.8
* **22.24** Deut 25.5
* **22.29** Jn 20.9

v **22.30** Other ancient authorities lack *of God*
* **22.32** Ex 3.6, 16; Acts 7.32; Heb 11.16
* **22.33** Mt 7.28
* **22.35** Lk 7.30; 10.25; 11.45; 14.3
* **22.37** Deut 6.5
* **22.39** Lev 19.18; Mt 19.19; Rom 13.9; Gal 5.14; Jas 2.8
* **22.40** Mt 7.12
w **22.42** Or *Christ*
* **22.42** Mt 9.27
x **22.43** Gk *in spirit*
* **22.44** Ps 110.1; Acts 2.34; Heb 1.13; 10.13
* **22.46** Mk 12.34; Lk 20.40

Matthew 23

* **23.2** Ezra 7.6, 25; Neh 8.4
y **23.4** Other ancient authorities lack *hard to bear*
* **23.4** Lk 11.46; Acts 15.10; Gal 6.13
* **23.5** Deut 6.8; Mt 6.1, 2, 5, 16
* **23.6** Lk 11.43; 14.7; 20.46
* **23.8** Jas 3.1
* **23.9** Mal 1.6
z **23.10** Or *the Christ*
* **23.11** Mt 20.26
* **23.12** Lk 14.11; 18.14; Jas 4.6; 1 Pet 5.5
a **23.13** Other authorities add 23.14 here (or after 23.12): *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for the sake of appearance you make long prayers; therefore you will receive the greater condemnation*
* **23.13** Lk 11.52
b **23.15** Gk *Gehenna*
* **23.16** v 24; Mt 5.33–35; 15.14
* **23.17** Ex 30.29
* **23.19** Ex 29.37
* **23.22** Ps 11.4; Mt 5.34
* **23.23** Lev 27.30; Mic 6.8
c **23.26** Other ancient authorities lack *and of the plate*
d **23.33** Gk *Gehenna*
e **23.38** Other ancient authorities lack *desolate*
* **23.39** Ps 118.26; Mt 21.9

Matthew 24

* **24.1** Mk 13.1
* **24.2** Mt 26.61; 27.39, 40; Lk 19.44; Jn 2.19
* **24.4** Jer 29.8; 2 Thess 2.3
f **24.5** Or *the Christ*
g **24.7** Other ancient authorities add *and pestilences*
* **24.7** Isa 19.2; Hag 2.22; Zech 14.13
* **24.9** Mt 10.17, 22; Jn 15.18; 16.2
h **24.10** Or *stumble*
* **24.10** Mt 11.6
* **24.11** Mt 7.15; Acts 20.30; 1 Tim 4.1
* **24.13** Mt 10.22; Rev 2.7
i **24.14** Or *gospel*
* **24.14** Rom 10.18; Col 1.6, 23
* **24.15** Dan 9.27; 11.31; 12.11; Acts 21.28
* **24.21** Dan 12.1; Joel 2.2
* **24.22** Isa 65.8, 9
j **24.23** Or *the Christ*
* **24.23** Lk 17.23; 21.8
k **24.24** Or *christs*
* **24.24** 2 Thess 2.9–11; Rev 13.13
* **24.27** Lk 17.24
* **24.29** Isa 13.10; Ezek 32.7; Joel 2.10; Rev 8.12
* **24.30** Dan 7.13; Mt 16.27; Rev 1.7
* **24.31** Isa 27.13; Zech 9.14; 1 Cor 15.52; 1 Thess 4.16
l **24.33** Or *it*
* **24.34** Mt 16.28; 23.36
* **24.35** Mt 5.18
m **24.36** Other ancient authorities lack *nor the Son*
* **24.37** Gen 6.5; 7.6–23; Lk 17.26, 27
* **24.40** Lk 17.34, 35
n **24.42** Other ancient authorities read *at what hour*
* **24.42** Mt 25.13; Lk 12.40
* **24.43** 1 Thess 5.2; 2 Pet 3.10; Rev 3.3; 16.15
* **24.44** 1 Thess 5.6
o **24.45** Gk *to give them*
* **24.45** Mt 25.21, 23
* **24.46** Rev 16.15
* **24.47** Mt 25.21, 23
p **24.51** Or *cut him off*
* **24.51** Mt 8.12; 13.42, 50; 25.30

Matthew 25

q **25.1** Gk *virgins*
r **25.1** Other ancient authorities add *and the bride*
* **25.1** Mt 24.42, 44; Mk 13.35; Lk 12.40; 1 Thess 5.6
* **25.2** Mt 7.24; 10.16; 24.45
* **25.5** 1 Thess 5.6
s **25.7** Gk *virgins*
* **25.7** Lk 12.35
* **25.10** Lk 13.25; Rev 19.9
t **25.11** Gk *virgins*
* **25.11** Mt 7.21–23
u **25.13** Other ancient authorities add *in which the Son of Man is coming*
* **25.13** Mt 24.42, 44; Mk 13.35; Lk 12.40; 1 Thess 5.6
* **25.14** Mt 21.33; Lk 19.12
* **25.15** Mt 18.23, 24; Lk 19.13
* **25.19** Mt 18.23
* **25.21** Mt 24.45, 47; Lk 16.10
* **25.24** Jn 10.28, 29; 2 Thess 2.9–11; 2 Tim 2.19; Rev 13.13
* **25.27** Lk 17.24
* **25.29** Mt 13.12; Mk 4.25; Lk 8.18
* **25.30** Mt 8.12; 22.13; Lk 13.28
* **25.31** Mt 16.27; 19.28
* **25.32** Ezek 34.17, 20
* **25.34** Lk 12.32; 1 Cor 6.9; 15.50; Gal 5.21; Rev 13.8; 17.8
* **25.35** Isa 58.7; Ezek 18.7; Heb 13.2; Jas 1.27
* **25.36** 2 Tim 1.16; Jas 2.15, 16
* **25.40** Prov 14.31; 19.17; Mt 10.42; Heb 6.10
* **25.41** Mt 7.23; Mk 9.48; Lk 16.24; 2 Pet 2.4; Jude 7
* **25.45** Prov 14.31; 17.5
* **25.46** Dan 12.2; Jn 5.29; Rom 2.7; Gal 6.8

Matthew 26

* **26.1** Mt 7.28; 11.1; 13.53; 19.1
* **26.2** Jn 13.1
* **26.3** Ps 2.2; Jn 11.47–53
* **26.4** Mt 12.14
* **26.5** Mt 27.24
v **26.6** Or *the skin-diseased*
* **26.6** Mt 21.17
* **26.11** Deut 15.11

* **26.12** Jn 19.40
w **26.13** Or *gospel*
* **26.15** Ex 21.32; Zech 11.12
* **26.18** Jn 7.6, 8; 12.23; 13.1; 17.1
* **26.19** Deut 16.5–8
x **26.20** Other ancient authorities lack *disciples*
* **26.23** Ps 41.9; Isa 53; Dan 9.26; Lk 22.21; Jn 13.18; Acts 17.2, 3; 1 Cor 15.3
y **26.26** Other ancient authorities read *after giving thanks*
* **26.26** 1 Cor 10.16; 11.23–25
z **26.28** Other ancient authorities add *new*
* **26.28** Ex 24.6–8; Mt 20.28; Mk 1.4; Heb 9.20
* **26.29** Acts 10.41
* **26.30** Mk 14.26
a **26.31** Or *stumble*
* **26.31** Zech 13.7; Mt 11.6; Jn 16.32
* **26.32** Mt 28.7, 10, 16
b **26.33** Or *stumble*
c **26.33** Or *stumble*
* **26.34** Jn 13.37
* **26.35** Jn 13.37
* **26.37** Mt 4.21
* **26.38** Jn 12.27
* **26.39** Mt 20.22; Jn 6.38; 12.27; Phil 2.8
* **26.40** v 38
d **26.41** Or *into testing*
* **26.41** Mt 6.13; Lk 11.4
* **26.42** Jn 4.34; 5.30; 6.38
* **26.45** v 18; Jn 12.23, 27; 13.1; 17.1
* **26.49** v 25
e **26.50** Or *Why are you here?*
* **26.50** Mt 20.13; 22.12
* **26.52** Gen 9.6; Rev 13.10
* **26.53** 2 Kings 6.17; Dan 7.10
* **26.54** v 24; Lk 24.25, 44, 46
* **26.56** v 54
* **26.58** Jn 18.15
* **26.60** Deut 19.15; Ps 27.12; 35.11; Acts 6.13
* **26.61** Mt 27.40
f **26.63** Or *Christ*
* **26.63** Lev 5.1; Isa 53.7; Mt 27.12, 14; Jn 18.33
* **26.64** Ps 110.1; Dan 7.13; Mt 16.27, 28

* **26.65** Num 14.6; Acts 14.14
* **26.66** Lev 24.16; Jn 19.7
* **26.67** Isa 53.3; Mt 27.30; Jn 19.3
g **26.68** Or *Christ*
h **26.71** Gk *Nazorean*
* **26.75** v 34; Jn 13.38

Matthew 27

* **27.2** Mt 20.19; Acts 3.13
i **27.3** Gk *he*
* **27.3** Mt 26.14, 15
j **27.4** Other ancient authorities read *righteous*
* **27.4** v 24
* **27.5** Acts 1.18
* **27.8** Acts 1.19
k **27.9** Other ancient authorities read *Zechariah* or *Isaiah*
l **27.9** Or *I took*
m **27.9** Or *the price of the precious One*
* **27.9** Zech 11.12, 13
n **27.10** Other ancient authorities read *I gave*
* **27.12** Mt 26.63; Jn 19.9
* **27.13** Mt 26.62; Jn 19.10
* **27.14** 1 Tim 6.13
o **27.16** Other ancient authorities lack *Jesus*
p **27.17** Other ancient authorities lack *Jesus*
q **27.17** Or *the Christ*
* **27.19** v 24; Acts 12.21
* **27.20** Acts 3.14
r **27.22** Or *the Christ*
s **27.24** Other ancient authorities read *this righteous blood* or *this righteous man's blood*
* **27.24** v 19; Deut 21.6–8; Ps 26.6; Mt 26.5
* **27.25** Josh 2.19; Acts 5.28
* **27.26** Isa 53.5
t **27.27** Gk *the praetorium*
* **27.27** Jn 18.28, 33; Acts 10.1
* **27.29** Ps 69.19; Isa 53.3
* **27.30** Mt 26.67; Mk 10.34; 14.65
* **27.31** Isa 53.7
* **27.32** Heb 13.12
* **27.34** Ps 69.21

u **27.35** Other ancient authorities add *in order that what had been spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."*

* **27.35** Ps 22.18

* **27.36** v 54

* **27.38** Isa 53.12

v **27.39** Or *blasphemed*

* **27.39** Ps 22.7; 109.25

* **27.40** Mt 26.61; Jn 2.19; Acts 6.14

w **27.42** Or *is he unable to save himself?*

* **27.42** Jn 1.49; 12.13

* **27.43** Ps 22.8

x **27.45** Or *earth*

* **27.45** Am 8.9

* **27.46** Ps 22.1

* **27.48** Ps 69.21

y **27.49** Other ancient authorities add *And another took a spear and pierced his side, and out came water and blood*

z **27.50** Or *gave up his spirit*

* **27.51** v 54; Ex 26.31; Heb 9.3

a **27.54** Or *a son of God*

* **27.54** Mt 3.17; 17.5

* **27.55** Lk 8.2, 3

b **27.56** Some ancient authorities read *Joses*

* **27.56** Mk 15.40, 47; Lk 24.10

* **27.57** Acts 13.29

* **27.60** Mt 28.2; Mk 16.4

* **27.63** Mt 16.21; 17.23; 20.19; Mk 8.31; 10.34; Lk 9.22; 18.33; 24.6, 7; Jn 2.19

c **27.65** Or *Take a guard*

d **27.65** Gk *you know how*

* **27.65** Mt 28.11

* **27.66** v 60; Mt 28.11–15

Matthew 28

* **28.1** Mt 27.56; Lk 8.2

* **28.2** Mt 27.51, 60

* **28.5** v 10; Mt 14.27

e **28.6** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*

* **28.6** Mt 12.40; 16.21; 17.23; 20.19

f **28.7** Other ancient authorities lack *from the dead*

* **28.7** v 16; Mt 26.32

* **28.9** Jn 20.14–18

* **28.10** Rom 8.29; Heb 2.11
* **28.11** Mt 27.65, 66
g **28.12** Gk *they*
* **28.14** Mt 27.2
* **28.16** v 7; Mt 26.32
* **28.18** Dan 7.13, 14; Lk 10.22; Phil 2.9, 10; 1 Pet 3.22
* **28.19** Lk 24.47; Acts 1.8
h **28.20** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Gospel according to

Mark

Mark 1

THE PROCLAMATION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

1 The beginning of the good news[a] of Jesus Christ.[b,*]

2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,[c]

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,[d]
who will prepare your way,[*]
[3]the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight,' "[*]

[4]so John the baptizer appeared[e] in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.[*] [5]And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. [6]Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.[*] [7]He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals.[*] [8]I have baptized you with[f] water, but he will baptize you with[g] the Holy Spirit."[*]

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.[*] [10]And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him.[*] [11]And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved;[h] with you I am well pleased."[*]

THE TESTING OF JESUS

12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. [13]He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

THE BEGINNING OF THE GALILEAN MINISTRY

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news[i] of[j] God* [15]and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;[k] repent, and believe in the good news."[l,*]

JESUS CALLS THE FIRST DISCIPLES

16 As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. [17]And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." [18]And immediately they left their nets and followed him.* [19]As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. [20]Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

THE MAN WITH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT

21 They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.* [22]They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.* [23]Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, [24]and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."* [25]But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet and come out of him!"* [26]And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. [27]They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He[m] commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."* [28]At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

JESUS HEALS MANY AT SIMON'S HOUSE

29 As soon as they[n] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon
and Andrew, with James and John.* [30]Now Simon's mother-in-law was in
bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. [31]He came and took
her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to
serve them.

32 That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or
possessed by demons.* [33]And the whole city was gathered around the door.
[34]And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out
many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they
knew him.*

A PREACHING TOUR IN GALILEE

35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to
a deserted place, and there he prayed.* [36]And Simon and his companions
hunted for him. [37]When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is
searching for you." [38]He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns,
so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to
do."* [39]And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in
their synagogues and casting out demons.*

JESUS CLEANSES A MAN WITH A SKIN DISEASE

40 A man with a skin disease came to him begging him, and kneeling[o] he
said to him, "If you are willing, you can make me clean."* [41]Moved with
pity,[p] Jesus[q] stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, "I am
willing. Be made clean!" [42]Immediately the skin disease left him, and he
was made clean. [43]After sternly warning him he sent him away at once,
[44]saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself
to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded as a
testimony to them."* [45]But he went out and began to proclaim it freely and
to spread the word, so that Jesus[r] could no longer go into a town openly but
stayed out in the country, and people came to him from every quarter.*

Mark 2

JESUS HEALS A PARALYTIC

1 When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he
was at home. [2]So many gathered around that there was no longer room for
them, not even in front of the door, and he was speaking the word to them.*
[3]Then some people[s] came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four
of them.* [4]And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the
crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after having dug through it,
they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. [5]When Jesus saw their
faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." [6]Now some of
the scribes were sitting there questioning in their hearts, [7]"Why does this
fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God
alone?"* [8]At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing
these questions among themselves, and he said to them, "Why do you raise
such questions in your hearts? [9]Which is easier: to say to the paralytic,
'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'?
[10]But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to
forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—[11]"I say to you, stand up, take your
mat, and go to your home." [12]And he stood up and immediately took the
mat and went out before all of them, so that they were all amazed and
glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"*

JESUS CALLS LEVI

13 Jesus[t] went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around
him, and he taught them.* [14]As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of
Alphaeus sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow
me." And he got up and followed him.*

15 And as he sat at dinner[u] in Levi's[v] house, many tax collectors and
sinners were also sitting[w] with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many
who followed him. [16]When the scribes of[x] the Pharisees saw that he was
eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does

he eat[y] with tax collectors and sinners?"* [17]When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician but those who are sick; I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."*

THE QUESTION ABOUT FASTING

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting, and people[z] came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" [19]Jesus said to them, "The wedding attendants cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. [20]The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.*

21 "No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. [22]Similarly, no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins, but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."[a]

PRONOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE SABBATH

23 One Sabbath he was going through the grain fields, and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain.* [24]The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" [25]And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food, [26]how he entered the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions?"* [27]Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for humankind and not humankind for the Sabbath,* [28]so the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

Mark 3

THE MAN WITH A WITHERED HAND

1 Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered
hand.* [2]They were watching him to see whether he would cure him on the
Sabbath, so that they might accuse him.* [3]And he said to the man who had
the withered hand, "Come forward." [4]Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to
do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were
silent. [5]He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their
hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched
it out, and his hand was restored. [6]The Pharisees went out and immediately
conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.*

A MULTITUDE AT THE SEASIDE

7 Jesus departed with his disciples to the sea, and a great multitude from
Galilee followed him;* [8]hearing all that he was doing, they came to him in
great numbers from Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond the Jordan, and the
region around Tyre and Sidon.* [9]He told his disciples to have a boat ready
for him because of the crowd, so that they would not crush him, [10]for he
had cured many, so that all who had diseases pressed upon him to touch
him.* [11]Whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him
and shouted, "You are the Son of God!"* [12]But he sternly ordered them not
to make him known.*

JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE

13 He went up the mountain and called to him those whom he wanted,
and they came to him.* [14]And he appointed twelve[b] to be with him and to
be sent out to preach [15]and to have authority to cast out demons. [16]So he
appointed the twelve:[c] Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter),* [17]James
son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name
Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder), [18]and Andrew, and Philip, and
Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and

Thaddaeus, and Simon the Cananaean, [19]and Judas Iscariot, who handed him over.

JESUS AND BEELZEBUL

20 Then he went home, and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat.* [21]When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind."* [22]And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons."* [23]And he called them to him and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?* [24]If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. [25]And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. [26]And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. [27]But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.*

28 "Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter,* [29]but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness but is guilty of an eternal sin"—[30]for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

THE TRUE KINDRED OF JESUS

31 Then his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him.* [32]A crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers[d] are outside asking for you." [33]And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" [34]And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! [35]Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Mark 4

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

1 Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land.* [2]He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them:* [3]"Listen! A sower went out to sow. [4]And as he sowed, some seed fell on a path, and the birds came and ate it up. [5]Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. [6]And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root it withered away. [7]Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. [8]Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."* [9]And he said, "If you have ears to hear, then hear!"*

THE PURPOSE OF THE PARABLES

10 When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. [11]And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret[e] of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything comes in parables,* [12]in order that

'they may indeed look but not perceive,
and may indeed hear but not understand;
so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.' "*

13 And he said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? [14]The sower sows the word. [15]These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.* [16]And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. [17]But they have no root and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.[f] [18]And others are those sown among the thorns:

these are the ones who hear the word, [19]but the cares of the age and the lure of wealth and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. [20]And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."

A LAMP UNDER A BUSHEL BASKET

21 He said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket or under the bed and not on the lampstand? [22]For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light.* [23]If you have ears to hear, then hear!"* [24]And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and it will be added to you.* [25]For to those who have, more will be given, and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."*

THE PARABLE OF THE GROWING SEED

26 He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground* [27]and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. [28]The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. [29]But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come."*

THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

30 He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?* [31]It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, [32]yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

THE USE OF PARABLES

33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it;* [34]he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained

everything in private to his disciples.*

JESUS STILLS A STORM

35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go
across to the other side.” [36]And leaving the crowd behind, they took him
with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him.* [37]A great
windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was
already being swamped. [38]But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion,
and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we
are perishing?” [39]And waking up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea,
“Be silent! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm.
[40]He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?”* [41]And
they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this,
that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

Mark 5

JESUS HEALS A MAN POSSESSED BY DEMONS

1 They came to the other side of the sea, to the region of the Gerasenes.[g]
[2]And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man from the
tombs with an unclean spirit met him.[*] [3]He lived among the tombs, and no
one could restrain him any more, even with a chain, [4]for he had often been
restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and
the shackles he broke in pieces, and no one had the strength to subdue him.
[5]Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always
howling and bruising himself with stones. [6]When he saw Jesus from a
distance, he ran and bowed down before him,[*] [7]and he shouted at the top of
his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High
God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me."[*] [8]For he had said to him,
"Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" [9]Then Jesus[h] asked him, "What
is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." [10]He
begged him earnestly not to send them out of the region. [11]Now there on the
hillside a great herd of swine was feeding, [12]and the unclean spirits[i] begged
him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." [13]So he gave them
permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine, and the
herd, numbering about two thousand, stampeded down the steep bank into
the sea and were drowned in the sea.

14 The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then
people came to see what it was that had happened. [15]They came to Jesus
and saw the man possessed by demons sitting there, clothed and in his right
mind, the very man who had had the legion, and they became frightened.[*]
[16]Those who had seen what had happened to the man possessed by demons
and to the swine reported it. [17]Then they began to beg Jesus[j] to leave their
neighborhood.[*] [18]As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been
possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. [19]But Jesus[k]
refused and said to him, "Go home to your own people, and tell them how
much the Lord has done for you and what mercy he has shown you." [20]And

he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.*

A GIRL RESTORED TO LIFE AND A WOMAN HEALED

21 When Jesus had crossed again in the boat[l] to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him, and he was by the sea.* 22Then one of the leaders of the synagogue, named Jairus, came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet* 23and pleaded with him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live."* 24So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. 25Now there was a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years.* 26She had endured much under many physicians and had spent all that she had, and she was no better but rather grew worse. 27She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28for she said, "If I but touch his cloak, I will be made well." 29Immediately her flow of blood stopped, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my cloak?" 31And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?' " 32He looked all around to see who had done it. 33But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. 34He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

35 While he was still speaking, some people came from the synagogue leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" 36But overhearing[m] what they said, Jesus said to the synagogue leader, "Do not be afraid; only believe." 37He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. 38When they came to the synagogue leader's house, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. 39When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." 40And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside and took the child's father and

mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was.
41 Taking her by the hand, he said to her, “Talitha koum,” which means,
“Little girl, get up!” 42 And immediately the girl stood up and began to walk
about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with
amazement. 43 He strictly ordered them that no one should know this and
told them to give her something to eat.

Mark 6

THE REJECTION OF JESUS AT NAZARETH

1 He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed
him. [2]On the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who
heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this?
What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are
being done by his hands![*] [3]Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary[n] and
brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here
with us?" And they took offense[o] at him.[*] [4]Then Jesus said to them,
"Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown and among their
own kin and in their own house."[*] [5]And he could do no deed of power
there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them.[*]
[6]And he was amazed at their unbelief.

THE MISSION OF THE TWELVE

Then he went about among the villages teaching.[*] [7]He called the twelve
and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the
unclean spirits.[*] [8]He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a
staff: no bread, no bag, no money in their belts, [9]but to wear sandals and not
to put on two tunics. [10]He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay
there until you leave the place. [11]If any place will not welcome you and
they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet
as a testimony against them." [12]So they went out and proclaimed that all
should repent.[*] [13]They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many
who were sick and cured them.[*]

THE DEATH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

14 King Herod heard of it, for Jesus's[p] name had become known. Some
were[q] saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead, and for this
reason these powers are at work in him." [15]But others said, "It is Elijah."
And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old."[*] [16]But

when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."*

17 For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod[r] had married her. 18For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."* 19And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not, 20for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed,[s] and yet he liked to listen to him.* 21But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.* 22When his daughter Herodias[t] came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests, and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." 23And he swore[u] to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom."* 24She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." 25Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." 26The king was deeply grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's[v] head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, 28brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. 29When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

30 The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. 31He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.* 32And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.* 33Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. 34As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to

teach them many things.* 35When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; 36send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat.” 37But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” They said to him, “Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?”* 38And he said to them, “How many loaves have you? Go and see.” When they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.”* 39Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. 41Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all.* 42And all ate and were filled, 43and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

JESUS WALKS ON THE WATER

45 Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.* 46After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.

47 When evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came toward them early in the morning, walking on the sea. He intended to pass them by.* 49But when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out, 50for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”* 51Then he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded,* 52for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.*

HEALING THE SICK IN GENNESARET

53 When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat.* 54When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him 55and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the

sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. [56]And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.*

Mark 7

THE TRADITION OF THE ELDERS

1 Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from
Jerusalem gathered around him, [2]they noticed that some of his disciples
were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. [3](For the
Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands,[w] thus
observing the tradition of the elders,* [4]and they do not eat anything from the
market unless they wash,[x] and there are also many other traditions that they
observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.[y])* [5]So
the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk
according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?"* [6]He
said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is
written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;*
[7]in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

[8]"You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."*

9 Then he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the
commandment of God in order to keep your tradition!* [10]For Moses said,
'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'Whoever speaks evil of father
or mother must surely die.'* [11]But you say that if anyone tells father or
mother, 'Whatever support you might have had from me is Corban' (that is,
an offering to God[z]),* [12]then you no longer permit doing anything for a
father or mother, [13]thus nullifying the word of God through your tradition
that you have handed on. And you do many things like this."

14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of
you, and understand: [15]there is nothing outside a person that by going in can
defile, but the things that come out are what defile."[a]

17 When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked
him about the parable. [18]He said to them, "So, are you also without

understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, [19]since it enters not the heart but the stomach and goes out into the sewer?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) [20]And he said, "It is what comes out of a person that defiles. [21]For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, [22]adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. [23]All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

THE SYROPHOENICIAN WOMAN'S FAITH

24 From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre.[b] He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, [25]but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. [26]Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. [27]He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." [28]But she answered him, "Sir,[c] even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." [29]Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." [30]And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

JESUS CURES A DEAF MAN

31 Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. [32]They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him.* [33]He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.* [34]Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."* [35]And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.* [36]Then Jesus[d] ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.* [37]They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Mark 8

FEEDING THE FOUR THOUSAND

1 In those days when there was again a great crowd without anything to eat,
he called his disciples and said to them, [2]"I have compassion for the crowd
because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to
eat.[*] [3]If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way
—and some of them have come from a great distance." [4]His disciples
replied, "How can one feed these people with bread here in the desert?" [5]He
asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven."[*] [6]Then
he ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground, and he took the seven
loaves, and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to his disciples
to distribute, and they distributed them to the crowd. [7]They had also a few
small fish, and after blessing them he ordered that these, too, should be
distributed.[*] [8]They ate and were filled, and they took up the broken pieces
left over, seven baskets full. [9]Now there were about four thousand people.
And he sent them away. [10]And immediately he got into the boat with his
disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.[e]

THE DEMAND FOR A SIGN

11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, asking him for a
sign from heaven, to test him.[*] [12]And he sighed deeply in his spirit and
said, "Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will
be given to this generation."[*] [13]And he left them, and getting into the boat
again he went across to the other side.

THE YEAST OF THE PHARISEES AND OF HEROD

14 Now the disciples[f] had forgotten to bring any bread, and they had only
one loaf with them in the boat. [15]And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch
out—beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod."[g,*]
[16]They said to one another, "It is because we have no bread." [17]And
becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, "Why are you talking about

having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?* 18Do you have eyes and fail to see? Do you have ears and fail to hear? And do you not remember? 19When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?" They said to him, "Twelve."* 20"And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?" And they said to him, "Seven."* 21Then he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"*

JESUS CURES A BLIND MAN AT BETHSAIDA

22 They came to Bethsaida. Some people[h] brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him.* 23He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?"* 24And the man[i] looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking." 25Then Jesus[j] laid his hands on his eyes again, and he looked intently, and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. 26Then he sent him away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village."[k,*]

PETER'S DECLARATION ABOUT JESUS

27 Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"* 28And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."* 29He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah."[l,*] 30And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.*

JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. 32He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.* 33But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."*

34 He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If any wish to come[m] after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.[*] 35For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel,[n] will save it.[*] 36For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? 37Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 38Those who are ashamed of me and of my words[o] in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”[*]

Mark 9

1 And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with[p] power.”*

THE TRANSFIGURATION

2 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them,* 3and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one[q] on earth could brighten them.* 4And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”* 6He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. 7Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved;[r] listen to him!”* 8Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

THE COMING OF ELIJAH

9 As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. 10So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. 11Then they asked him, “Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” 12He said to them, “Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? 13But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him.”

THE HEALING OF A BOY WITH A SPIRIT

14 When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them and some scribes arguing with them. 15When the whole crowd saw him,

they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him. [16]He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" [17]Someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak, [18]and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid, and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so." [19]He answered them, "You faithless generation, how much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me." [20]And they brought the boy[s] to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy,[t] and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. [21]Jesus[u] asked the father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. [22]It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, help us! Have compassion on us!" [23]Jesus said to him, "If you are able! All things can be done for the one who believes." [24]Immediately the father of the child cried out,[v] "I believe; help my unbelief!" [25]When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!" [26]After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." [27]But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. [28]When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"[*] [29]He said to them, "This kind can come out only through prayer."[w]

JESUS AGAIN FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it, [31]for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."[*] [32]But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.[*]

WHO IS THE GREATEST?

33 Then they came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" [34]But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.* [35]He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."* [36]Then he took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms he said to them,* [37]"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."*

ANOTHER EXORCIST

38 John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name,[x] and we tried to stop him because he was not following us."* [39]But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. [40]Whoever is not against us is for us.* [41]For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.*

TEMPTATIONS TO SIN

42 "If any of you cause one of these little ones who believe in me[y] to sin,[z] it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.* [43]If your hand causes you to sin,[a] cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell,[b] to the unquenchable fire.[c,]* [45]And if your foot causes you to sin,[d] cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.[e,f,]* [47]And if your eye causes you to sin,[g] tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell,[h,]* [48]where their worm never dies and the fire is never quenched.*

49 "For everyone will be salted with fire.[i,]* [50]Salt is good, but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it?[j] Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."*

Mark 10

TEACHING ABOUT DIVORCE

1 He left that place and went to the region of Judea and[k] beyond the Jordan.
And crowds again gathered around him, and, as was his custom, he again
taught them.*

2 Some,[l] testing him, asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"
3He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" 4They said, "Moses
allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her."* 5But
Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this
commandment for you. 6But from the beginning of creation, 'God made
them male and female.'* 7'For this reason a man shall leave his father and
mother and be joined to his wife,[m,*] 8and the two shall become one flesh.'
So they are no longer two but one flesh.* 9Therefore what God has joined
together, let no one separate."

10 Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.
11He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another
commits adultery against her,* 12and if she divorces her husband and
marries another, she commits adultery."

JESUS BLESSES LITTLE CHILDREN

13 People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch
them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. 14But when Jesus saw this, he
was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop
them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 15Truly I
tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will
never enter it."* 16And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them,
and blessed them.*

THE RICH MAN

17 As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him
and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"*
18 Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God
alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder. You shall
not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness.
You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.' "* 20 He said to him,
"Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." 21 Jesus, looking at him,
loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give
the money[n] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come,
follow me."* 22 When he heard this, he was shocked and went away
grieving, for he had many possessions.

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will
be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"* 24 And the
disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again,
"Children, how hard it is[o] to enter the kingdom of God!* 25 It is easier for a
camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to
enter the kingdom of God." 26 They were greatly astounded and said to one
another,[p] "Then who can be saved?" 27 Jesus looked at them and said, "For
mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."*

28 Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and
followed you."* 29 Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left
house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my
sake and for the sake of the good news[q,*] 30 who will not receive a
hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and
children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.
31 But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."*

A THIRD TIME JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

32 They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking
ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He
took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to
him, 33 saying, "Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man
will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will

condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the gentiles;* 34they will mock him and spit upon him and flog him and kill him, and after three days he will rise again."*

THE REQUEST OF JAMES AND JOHN

35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." 36And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" 37And they said to him, "Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."* 38But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"* 39They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized,* 40but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

41 When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. 42So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. 43But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,* 44and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. 45For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."*

THE HEALING OF BLIND BARTIMAEUS

46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. 47When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"* 48Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." 50So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. 51Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind

man said to him, “My teacher,[r] let me see again.”* 52Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.*

Mark 11

JESUS'S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

1 When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near
the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples* [2]and said to them, "Go
into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find
tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. [3]If anyone
says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and
will send it back here immediately.' " [4]They went away and found a colt
tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it,* [5]some of the
bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" [6]They told
them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. [7]Then they
brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.
[8]Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy
branches that they had cut in the fields. [9]Then those who went ahead and
those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*

[10]Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

11 Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had
looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany
with the twelve.*

JESUS CURSES THE FIG TREE

12 On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry.
[13]Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see whether perhaps he
would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves,
for it was not the season for figs.* [14]He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit
from you again." And his disciples heard it.

JESUS CLEANSES THE TEMPLE

15 Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves, [16]and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. [17]He was teaching and saying, "Is it not written,

'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'?

But you have made it a den of robbers."[*]

[18]And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him, for they were afraid of him because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.[*] [19]And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples[s] went out of the city.

THE LESSON FROM THE WITHERED FIG TREE

20 In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots.[*] [21]Then Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered."[*] [22]Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God.[t,*] [23]Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you.[*] [24]So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received[u] it, and it will be yours.[*]

25 "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses."[v,*]

JESUS'S AUTHORITY IS QUESTIONED

27 Again they came to Jerusalem. As he was walking in the temple, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to him [28]and said, "By what authority are you doing these things? Who gave you this authority to do them?" [29]Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. [30]Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin? Answer me." [31]They argued

with one another, “What should we say?[w] If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ 32But shall we say, ‘Of human origin’?”—they were afraid of the crowd, for all regarded John as truly a prophet.[*] 33So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And Jesus said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

Mark 12

THE PARABLE OF THE WICKED TENANTS

1 Then he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard,
put a fence around it, dug a pit for the winepress, and built a watchtower;
then he leased it to tenants and went away.[*] [2]When the season came, he sent
a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the
vineyard. [3]But they seized him and beat him and sent him away empty-
handed. [4]And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over
the head and insulted. [5]Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And
so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. [6]He had
still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They
will respect my son.' [7]But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the
heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' [8]So they seized
him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. [9]What then will the
owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give
the vineyard to others. [10]Have you not read this scripture:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;[x,*]
[11]this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

12 When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they
wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went
away.[*]

THE QUESTION ABOUT PAYING TAXES

13 Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him
in what he said.[*] [14]And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that
you are sincere and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people
with partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it
lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not? [15]Should we pay them, or should we
not?" But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why are you putting

me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it." [16]And they brought one. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." [17]Jesus said to them, "Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." And they were utterly amazed at him.*

THE QUESTION ABOUT THE RESURRECTION

18 Some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, saying, [19]"Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no child, the man[y] shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.* [20]There were seven brothers; the first married and, when he died, left no children, [21]and the second married the widow[z] and died, leaving no children, and the third likewise; [22]none of the seven left children. Last of all the woman herself died. [23]In the resurrection, when they rise,[a] whose wife will she be? For all seven had married her."

24 Jesus said to them, "Is not this the reason you are wrong, that you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God? [25]For when people rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels in heaven.* [26]And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?* [27]He is God not of the dead but of the living; you are quite wrong."

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

28 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"* [29]Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;* [30]you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' [31]The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."* [32]Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other';* [33]and 'to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength' and 'to love

one's neighbor as oneself'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."* 34When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.*

THE QUESTION ABOUT DAVID'S SON

35 While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Messiah[b] is the son of David?* 36David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared,

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet." '*

37"David himself calls him Lord, so how can he be his son?" And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.*

JESUS DENOUNCES THE SCRIBES

38 As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces* 39and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! 40They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

41 He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums.* 42A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. 43Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury.* 44For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Mark 13

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE FORETOLD

1 As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look,
Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” [2]Then Jesus asked
him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here
upon another; all will be thrown down.”*

3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter,
James, John, and Andrew asked him privately,* [4]“Tell us, when will this be,
and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be
accomplished?” [5]Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one
leads you astray.* [6]Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’[c] and
they will lead many astray.* [7]When you hear of wars and rumors of wars,
do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. [8]For
nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be
earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the
beginning of the birth pangs.

PERSECUTION FORETOLD

9 “As for yourselves, beware, for they will hand you over to councils,
and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors
and kings because of me, as a testimony to them.* [10]And the good news[d]
must first be proclaimed to all nations. [11]When they bring you to trial and
hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say
whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak but the Holy
Spirit.* [12]Sibling will betray sibling to death and a father his child, and
children will rise against parents and have them put to death,* [13]and you
will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the
end will be saved.*

THE DESOLATING SACRILEGE

14 "But when you see the desolating sacrilege set up where it ought not
to be (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the
mountains;* [15]the one on the housetop must not go down or enter to take
anything from the house; [16]the one in the field must not turn back to get a
coat. [17]Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants
in those days!* [18]Pray that it may not be in winter. [19]For in those days there
will be suffering, such as has not been from the beginning of the creation
that God created until now and never will be.* [20]And if the Lord had not cut
short those days, no one would be saved, but for the sake of the elect, whom
he chose, he has cut short those days. [21]And if anyone says to you at that
time, 'Look! Here is the Messiah!'[e] or 'Look! There he is!'—do not believe
it.* [22]False messiahs[f] and false prophets will appear and produce signs and
wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect.* [23]But be alert; I have already
told you everything.*

THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN

24 "But in those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,*

[25]and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

[26]"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power
and glory.* [27]Then he will send out the angels and gather the[g] elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

THE LESSON OF THE FIG TREE

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes
tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29]So also,
when you see these things taking place, you know that he[h] is near, at the
very gates. [30]Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all
these things have taken place.* [31]Heaven and earth will pass away, but my
words will not pass away.*

THE NECESSITY FOR WATCHFULNESS

32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in
heaven nor the Son, but only the Father.* [33]Beware, keep alert,[i] for you do
not know when the time will come.* [34]It is like a man going on a journey,
when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and
commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.* [35]Therefore, keep awake,
for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening
or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn,* [36]or else he may find you asleep
when he comes suddenly. [37]And what I say to you I say to all: Keep
awake."

Mark 14

THE PLOT TO KILL JESUS

1 It was two days before the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened
Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest
Jesus[j] by stealth and kill him,* 2for they said, "Not during the festival, or
there may be a riot among the people."

THE ANOINTING AT BETHANY

3 While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper,[k] as he sat at
the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of
nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head.* 4But
some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment
wasted in this way? 5For this ointment could have been sold for more than
three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor." And they scolded
her. 6But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has
performed a good service for me. 7For you always have the poor with you,
and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish, but you will not
always have me.* 8She has done what she could; she has anointed my body
beforehand for its burial.* 9Truly I tell you, wherever the good news[l] is
proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in
remembrance of her."

JUDAS AGREES TO BETRAY JESUS

10 Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief
priests in order to betray him to them.* 11When they heard it, they were
greatly pleased and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an
opportunity to betray him.

THE PASSOVER WITH THE DISCIPLES

12 On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is
sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make

the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"* [13]So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, [14]and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' [15]He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." [16]So the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

17 When it was evening, he came with the twelve. [18]And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."* [19]They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" [20]He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread[m] into the bowl[n] with me. [21]For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

22 While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body."* [23]Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.* [24]He said to them, "This is my blood of the[o] covenant, which is poured out for many.* [25]Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

PETER'S DENIAL FORETOLD

26 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.* [27]And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away,[p] for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.'*

[28]"But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."* [29]Peter said to him, "Even though all fall away,[q] I will not."* [30]Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will

deny me three times."* 31But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE

32 They went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33He took with him Peter and James and John and began to be distressed and agitated. 34And he said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."* 35And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.* 36He said, "Abba,[r] Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me, yet not what I want but what you want."* 37He came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? 38Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;[s] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."* 39And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. 40And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to say to him. 41He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.* 42Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS

43 Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived, and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. 44Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." 45So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him.* 46Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. 47But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. 48Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a rebel? 49Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not

arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."* 50All of them deserted him and fled.*

51 A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, 52but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

JESUS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

53 They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. 54Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest, and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire.* 55Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. 56For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. 57Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, 58"We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.' "* 59But even on this point their testimony did not agree. 60Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" 61But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah,[t] the Son of the Blessed One?"* 62Jesus said, "I am, and

> 'you will see the Son of Man
> seated at the right hand of the Power'
> and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.' "*

63Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses?* 64You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death.* 65Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" The guards also took him and beat him.*

PETER DENIES JESUS

66 While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the female servants of the high priest came by.* 67When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared

at him and said, “You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.”* 68But
he denied it, saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking
about.” And he went out into the forecourt.[u] Then the cock crowed.[v,*]
69And the female servant, on seeing him, began again to say to the
bystanders, “This man is one of them.” 70But again he denied it. Then after
a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of
them, for you are a Galilean, and you talk like one.”[w,*] 71But he began to
curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know this man you are talking
about.” 72At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter
remembered that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you
will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.*

Mark 15

JESUS BEFORE PILATE

1 As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the
elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away,
and handed him over to Pilate.* [2]Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the
Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." [3]Then the chief priests accused
him of many things. [4]Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See
how many charges they bring against you." [5]But Jesus made no further
reply, so that Pilate was amazed.*

PILATE HANDS JESUS OVER TO BE CRUCIFIED

6 Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for
whom they asked.* [7]Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the
insurrectionists who had committed murder during the insurrection. [8]So the
crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom.
[9]Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of
the Jews?" [10]For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests
had handed him over. [11]But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have
him release Barabbas for them instead.* [12]Pilate spoke to them again, "Then
what do you wish me to do[x] with the man you call[y] the King of the Jews?"
[13]They shouted back, "Crucify him!" [14]Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil
has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" [15]So Pilate,
wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them, and after flogging
Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.*

THE SOLDIERS MOCK JESUS

16 Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the
governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole cohort.* [17]And
they clothed him in a purple cloak, and after twisting some thorns into a
crown they put it on him. [18]And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the
Jews!" [19]They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down

in homage to him. [20]After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

21 They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.* [22]Then they brought Jesus[z] to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). [23]And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. [24]And they crucified him and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.*

25 It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. [26]The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." [27]And with him they crucified two rebels, one on his right and one on his left.[a] [29]Those who passed by derided[b] him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days,* [30]save yourself, and come down from the cross!" [31]In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself.* [32]Let the Messiah,[c] the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.*

THE DEATH OF JESUS

33 When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land[d] until three in the afternoon. [34]At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"[e,*] [35]When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." [36]And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."* [37]Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. [38]And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.* [39]Now when the centurion who stood facing him saw that in this way he[f] breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"[g,*]

40 There were also women looking on from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome,* 41who followed him when he was in Galilee and ministered to him, and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.*

THE BURIAL OF JESUS

42 When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath,* 43Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.* 44Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead, and summoning the centurion he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. 45When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph.* 46Then Joseph[h] bought a linen cloth and, taking down the body,[i] wrapped it in the linen cloth and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. 47Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body[j] was laid.

Mark 16

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

1 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of
James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.*
[2]And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they
went to the tomb. [3]They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll
away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"* [4]When they looked
up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled
back. [5]As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white
robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.* [6]But he said to them,
"Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was
crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they
laid him.* [7]But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you
to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."* [8]So they went out
and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they
said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.[k]

The Intermediate Ending of Mark

[[And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation. Amen.[l]]]

The Long Ending of Mark

JESUS APPEARS TO MARY MAGDALENE

[[**9** Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first
to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. [10]She went
out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and
weeping. [11]But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her,
they would not believe it.

JESUS APPEARS TO TWO DISCIPLES

12 After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. [13]And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

JESUS COMMISSIONS THE DISCIPLES

14 Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table, and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.[m] [15]And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news[n] to the whole creation. [16]The one who believes and is baptized will be saved, but the one who does not believe will be condemned. [17]And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; [18]they will pick up snakes,[o] and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

19 So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. [20]And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.[p]]]

Mark 1

a **1.1** Or *gospel*
b **1.1** Other ancient authorities add *Son of God*
* **1.1** Mt 4.3
c **1.2** Other ancient authorities read *in the prophets*
d **1.2** Gk *before your face*
* **1.2** Mal 3.1; Mt 11.10; Lk 7.27
* **1.3** Isa 40.3
e **1.4** Other ancient authorities read *John was baptizing*
* **1.4** Lk 1.77; Acts 13.24
* **1.6** Lev 11.22
* **1.7** Acts 13.25
f **1.8** Or *in*
g **1.8** Or *in*
* **1.8** Isa 44.3; Joel 2.28; Acts 1.5
* **1.9** Mt 2.23
* **1.10** Jn 1.32
h **1.11** Or *my beloved Son*
* **1.11** Ps 2.7; Isa 42.1
i **1.14** Or *gospel*
j **1.14** Other ancient authorities add *of the kingdom of*
* **1.14** Mt 4.23
k **1.15** Or *is at hand*
l **1.15** Or *gospel*
* **1.15** Acts 20.21; Gal 4.4; Eph 1.10
* **1.18** Mt 19.27
* **1.21** Mt 4.23
* **1.22** Mt 7.28
* **1.24** Mt 8.29; Mk 10.47; 14.67; Jn 6.69; Acts 3.14
* **1.25** v 34
m **1.27** Or *A new teaching! With authority he*
* **1.27** Mk 10.24, 32
n **1.29** Other ancient authorities read *he*
* **1.29** vv 21, 23
* **1.32** Mk 4.24
* **1.34** Mt 4.23; Mk 3.12; Acts 16.17, 18
* **1.35** Mt 14.23; Lk 5.16
* **1.38** Isa 61.1
* **1.39** Mt 4.23–25
o **1.40** Other ancient authorities lack *kneeling*

* **1.40** Mk 10.17
p **1.41** Other ancient authorities read *anger*
q **1.41** Gk *he*
* **1.44** Lev 13.49; 14.2–32
r **1.45** Gk *he*
* **1.45** Mt 28.15; Mk 2.13; Lk 5.15, 17; Jn 6.2

Mark 2

* **2.2** v 13
s **2.3** Gk *they*
* **2.3** Mt 4.24
* **2.7** Isa 43.25
* **2.12** Mt 9.33
t **2.13** Gk *He*
* **2.13** Mk 1.45
* **2.14** Mt 8.22
u **2.15** Gk *reclined*
v **2.15** Gk *his*
w **2.15** Gk *reclining*
x **2.16** Other ancient authorities read *and*
y **2.16** Other ancient authorities add *and drink*
* **2.16** Acts 23.9
* **2.17** Lk 19.10; 1 Tim 1.15
z **2.18** Gk *they*
* **2.20** Lk 17.22
a **2.22** Other ancient authorities lack *but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins*
* **2.23** Deut 23.25
* **2.26** Ex 29.32, 33; Lev 24.9; 1 Sam 21.1–6; 2 Sam 8.17
* **2.27** Ex 23.12; Deut 5.14

Mark 3

* **3.1** Mk 1.21, 39
* **3.2** Mt 12.10; Lk 14.1; 20.20
* **3.6** Mt 12.14; 22.16; Mk 12.13
* **3.7** Mt 4.25
* **3.8** Mt 11.21
* **3.10** Mt 4.23; Mk 5.29, 34; 6.56; 8.22
* **3.11** Mt 14.33; Mk 1.23, 24; Lk 4.41
* **3.12** Mk 1.25, 34
* **3.13** Mt 5.1; Lk 9.1

b **3.14** Other ancient authorities add *whom he also named apostles*
c **3.16** Other ancient authorities lack *So he appointed the twelve*
* **3.16** Jn 1.42
* **3.20** Mk 6.31
* **3.21** Jn 10.20; Acts 26.24
* **3.22** Mt 9.34; 10.25; Jn 7.20; 8.48, 52
* **3.23** Mk 4.2ff
* **3.27** Isa 49.24, 25
* **3.28** Lk 12.10
* **3.31** Mt 12.46; Lk 8.19
d **3.32** Other ancient authorities add *and sisters*

Mark 4

* **4.1** Mk 2.13; 3.7
* **4.2** Mk 3.23
* **4.8** Jn 15.5; Col 1.6
* **4.9** Mt 11.15
e **4.11** Or *mystery*
* **4.11** 1 Cor 5.12; Col 4.5; 1 Thess 4.12; 1 Tim 3.7
* **4.12** Isa 6.9; Jn 12.40; Acts 28.26; Rom 11.8
* **4.15** Mk 3.23, 26
f **4.17** Or *stumble*
* **4.22** Mt 10.26; Lk 8.17; 12.2
* **4.23** Mt 11.15
* **4.24** Mt 7.2; Lk 6.38
* **4.25** Mt 13.12; 25.29; Lk 8.18; 19.26
* **4.26** Mt 13.24
* **4.29** Rev 14.15
* **4.30** Mt 13.24
* **4.33** Jn 16.12
* **4.34** Mt 13.34; Jn 16.25
* **4.36** Mk 5.2, 21
* **4.40** Mt 14.31, 32; Mk 16.14

Mark 5

g **5.1** Other ancient authorities read *Gergesenes* or *Gadarenes*
* **5.2** Mt 1.23; 4.1
* **5.6** Mt 4.9; 18.26
* **5.7** Mt 4.3; 8.29; Lk 8.28; Acts 16.17; Heb 7.1
h **5.9** Gk *he*

i **5.12** Gk *they*
* **5.15** vv 9, 16, 18; Mt 4.24
j **5.17** Gk *him*
* **5.17** Acts 16.39
k **5.19** Gk *he*
* **5.20** Mt 4.25; Mk 7.31
l **5.21** Other ancient authorities lack *in the boat*
* **5.21** Mt 9.1
* **5.22** Lk 8.49; 13.14; Acts 13.15; 18.8, 17
* **5.23** Mk 6.5; 7.32; 8.23; Acts 9.17; 28.8
* **5.25** Lev 15.25
m **5.36** Or *ignoring*; other ancient authorities read *hearing*

Mark 6

* **6.2** Mt 4.23; 7.28; Mk 1.21
n **6.3** Other ancient authorities read *son of the carpenter and of Mary*
o **6.3** Or *stumbled*
* **6.3** Mt 11.6; 12.46
* **6.4** Jn 4.44
* **6.5** Mt 5.23; 8.23
* **6.6** Mt 9.35; Lk 13.22
* **6.7** Mk 3.13; Lk 10.1
* **6.12** Mt 11.1; Lk 9.6
* **6.13** Jas 5.14
p **6.14** Gk *his*
q **6.14** Other ancient authorities read *He was*
* **6.15** Mt 16.14; 21.11; Mk 8.28
* **6.16** Lk 3.19
r **6.17** Gk *he*
* **6.18** Lev 18.16; 20.21
s **6.20** Other ancient authorities read *he did many things*
* **6.20** Mt 21.26
* **6.21** Esth 1.3; 2.18
t **6.22** Other ancient authorities read *the daughter of Herodias herself*
u **6.23** Other ancient authorities add *solemnly*
* **6.23** Esth 5.3, 6; 7.2
v **6.27** Gk *his*
* **6.31** Mk 3.20
* **6.32** v 45
* **6.34** Mt 9.36
* **6.37** 2 Kings 4.42–44

* **6.38** Mt 15.34; Mk 8.5
* **6.41** Mt 26.26; Mk 14.22; Lk 24.30, 31
* **6.45** v 32; Mt 11.21; Mk 8.22
* **6.48** Mt 13.35; 24.43
* **6.50** Mt 9.2
* **6.51** v 32
* **6.52** Mk 3.5; 8.17, 18
* **6.53** Jn 6.24, 25
* **6.56** Mt 9.20; Mk 3.10

Mark 7

w **7.3** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **7.3** v 5; Acts 10.14, 28; 11.8
x **7.4** Other ancient authorities read *and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they purify themselves*
y **7.4** Other ancient authorities lack *and beds*
* **7.4** Lk 11.39
* **7.5** vv 3, 8, 9, 13; Gal 1.14
* **7.6** Isa 29.13
* **7.8** vv 5, 9, 13
* **7.9** vv 5, 8, 13
* **7.10** Ex 20.12; 21.17; Lev 20.9; Deut 5.16
z **7.11** Gk lacks *to God*
* **7.11** Mt 23.18
a **7.15** Other ancient authorities add 7.16: *"If you have ears to hear, then hear"*
b **7.24** Other ancient authorities add *and Sidon*
c **7.28** Or *Lord*; other ancient authorities prefix *Yes*
* **7.32** Mt 9.32; Mk 5.23; Lk 11.14
* **7.33** Mk 8.23
* **7.34** Mk 6.41; 8.12
* **7.35** Isa 35.5, 6
d **7.36** Gk *he*
* **7.36** Mk 1.44; 5.43

Mark 8

* **8.2** Mt 9.36
* **8.5** Mk 6.38
* **8.7** Mt 14.19; Mk 6.41
e **8.10** Other ancient authorities read *Mageda* or *Magdala*
* **8.11** Mt 12.38, 39; Lk 11.29; Jn 6.30

* **8.12** Mk 7.34
f **8.14** Gk *they*
g **8.15** Other ancient authorities read *the Herodians*
* **8.15** Mk 12.13; 16.4; Lk 12.1
* **8.17** Isa 6.9, 10; Mk 6.52
* **8.19** Mt 14.20; Mk 6.43; Lk 9.17; Jn 6.13
* **8.20** vv 6–9; Mt 15.37
* **8.21** Mk 6.52
h **8.22** Gk *They*
* **8.22** Mt 11.21; Mk 6.45; Lk 9.10
* **8.23** Mk 5.23; 7.33
i **8.24** Gk *he*
j **8.25** Gk *he*
k **8.26** Other ancient authorities add *or tell anyone in the village*
* **8.26** Mt 8.4
* **8.27** Jn 6.66–69
* **8.28** Mk 6.14
l **8.29** Or *the Christ*
* **8.29** Jn 6.69; 11.27
* **8.30** Mk 9.9
* **8.32** Jn 18.20
* **8.33** Mt 4.10
m **8.34** Other ancient authorities read *follow*
* **8.34** Mt 10.38; Lk 14.27
n **8.35** Other ancient authorities read *lose their life for the sake of the gospel*
* **8.35** Mt 10.39; Lk 17.33; Jn 12.25
o **8.38** Other ancient authorities read *and of mine*
* **8.38** Mt 8.20; 10.33; Mk 13.26; Lk 12.9

Mark 9

p **9.1** Or *in*
* **9.1** Mt 24.30; 25.31; Mk 13.30; Lk 22.18
* **9.2** Mk 5.37; 13.3
q **9.3** Gk *no fuller*
* **9.3** Mt 28.3
* **9.5** Mt 23.7
r **9.7** Or *my beloved Son*
* **9.7** Mk 1.11; 2 Pet 1.17, 18
s **9.20** Gk *him*
t **9.20** Gk *him*
u **9.21** Gk *He*

v **9.24** Other ancient authorities add *with tears*
* **9.28** Mk 7.17
w **9.29** Other ancient authorities add *and fasting*
* **9.31** Mt 16.21; Mk 8.31
* **9.32** Jn 12.16
* **9.34** Lk 22.24
* **9.35** Mt 20.26, 27; Mk 10.43; Lk 22.26
* **9.36** Mk 10.16
* **9.37** Mt 10.40; Jn 12.44; 13.20
x **9.38** Other ancient authorities add *who does not follow us*
* **9.38** Num 11.27–29
* **9.40** Mt 12.30
* **9.41** Mt 10.42
y **9.42** Other ancient authorities lack *in me*
z **9.42** Or *stumble*
* **9.42** Lk 17.1, 2; 1 Cor 8.12
a **9.43** Or *stumble*
b **9.43** Gk *Gehenna*
c **9.43** Other ancient authorities add 9.44 and 9.46, which are identical to 9.48
* **9.43** Mt 5.22, 29, 30; 25.41
d **9.45** Or *stumble*
e **9.45** Gk *Gehenna*
f **9.45** Other ancient authorities add 9.44 and 9.46, which are identical to 9.48
* **9.45** Mt 5.22
g **9.47** Or *stumble*
h **9.47** Gk *Gehenna*
* **9.47** Mt 5.29
* **9.48** Isa 66.24
i **9.49** Other ancient authorities add or substitute *and every sacrifice will be salted with salt*
* **9.49** Lev 2.13
j **9.50** Or *how can you restore its saltiness?*
* **9.50** Mt 5.13; Lk 14.34, 35; Rom 12.18; 2 Cor 13.11; Col 4.6; 1 Thess 5.13

Mark 10

k **10.1** Other ancient authorities lack *and*
* **10.1** Mt 19.1; Jn 10.40; 11.7
l **10.2** Other ancient authorities add *Pharisees came and*
* **10.4** Deut 24.1–4; Mt 5.31; 19.7
* **10.6** Gen 1.27; 5.2
m **10.7** Other ancient authorities lack *and be joined to his wife*
* **10.7** Gen 2.24

* **10.8** 1 Cor 6.16
* **10.11** Mt 5.32; Lk 16.18; Rom 7.3; 1 Cor 7.10, 11
* **10.15** Mt 18.3; 1 Cor 14.20; 1 Pet 2.2
* **10.16** Mk 9.36
* **10.17** Mk 1.40; Lk 10.25; Eph 1.18
* **10.19** Ex 20.12–16; Deut 5.16–20
n **10.21** Gk lacks *the money*
* **10.21** Mt 6.20; Lk 12.33; Acts 2.45; 4.34, 35
* **10.23** Mt 19.23; Lk 18.24
o **10.24** Other ancient authorities add *for those who trust in riches*
* **10.24** Ps 52.7; 62.10; 1 Tim 6.17
p **10.26** Other ancient authorities read *to him*
* **10.27** Jer 32.17
* **10.28** Mt 4.20–22
q **10.29** Or *gospel*
* **10.29** Mt 6.33
* **10.31** Mt 20.16; Lk 13.30
* **10.33** Mk 8.31; 9.31; Lk 9.22
* **10.34** Mt 26.67; 27.30; Mk 14.65
* **10.37** Mt 19.28; Lk 22.30
* **10.38** Lk 12.50; Jn 18.11
* **10.39** Lk 22.25–27; Acts 12.2; Rev 1.9
* **10.43** Mt 9.35
* **10.45** Jn 13.14; 1 Tim 2.5, 6
* **10.47** Mt 9.27
r **10.51** Aramaic *Rabbouni*
* **10.51** Mt 23.7; Jn 20.16
* **10.52** Mt 9.22; Mk 5.34; Lk 7.50; 8.48; 17.19

Mark 11

* **11.1** Mt 21.17
* **11.4** Mk 14.16
* **11.9** Ps 118.26; Mt 23.39
* **11.11** Mt 21.10, 11, 17
* **11.13** Lk 13.6–9
* **11.17** Isa 56.7; Jer 7.11
* **11.18** Mt 7.28; 21.46
s **11.19** Gk *they*: other ancient authorities read *he*
* **11.20** Mt 21.19
* **11.21** Mt 23.7
t **11.22** Other ancient authorities read *If you have faith in God,*

* **11.22** Mt 17.20
* **11.23** Mt 21.21; Lk 17.6
u **11.24** Other ancient authorities read *are receiving*
* **11.24** Mt 7.7; Jn 14.13, 14; 15.7; 16.23, 24; Jas 1.5, 6
v **11.25** Other ancient authorities add 11.26: *But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.*
* **11.25** Mt 6.14, 15; Col 3.13
w **11.31** Other ancient authorities lack *What should we say?*
* **11.32** Mt 14.5

Mark 12

* **12.1** Isa 5.1–7; Heb 1.1–3
x **12.10** Or *keystone* (in an arch)
* **12.10** Ps 118.22, 23; Acts 4.11; 1 Pet 2.7
* **12.12** Mt 21.45, 46; 22.22; Mk 11.18
* **12.13** Mk 3.6; Lk 11.54
* **12.17** Rom 13.7
y **12.19** Gk *his brother*
* **12.19** Deut 25.5
z **12.21** Gk *her*
a **12.23** Other ancient authorities lack *when they rise*
* **12.25** 1 Cor 15.42, 49, 52
* **12.26** Ex 3.6
* **12.28** Lk 10.25–28; 20.39
* **12.29** Deut 6.4
* **12.31** Lev 19.18; Rom 13.9; Gal 5.14; Jas 2.8
* **12.32** Deut 4.39; Isa 45.6, 14; 46.9
* **12.33** 1 Sam 15.22; Hos 6.6; Mic 6.6–8
* **12.34** Mt 22.46
b **12.35** Or *the Christ*
* **12.35** Mt 9.27; 26.55
* **12.36** Ps 110.1; Acts 2.34, 35; Heb 1.13
* **12.37** Jn 12.9
* **12.38** Lk 11.43
* **12.41** 2 Kings 12.9; Jn 8.20
* **12.43** 2 Cor 8.12

Mark 13

* **13.2** Mk 14.58; 15.29; Lk 19.44; Acts 6.14
* **13.3** Mk 5.37; 9.2

* **13.5** Eph 5.6; 1 Thess 2.3
c **13.6** Gk *I am*
* **13.6** Jn 8.24
* **13.9** Mt 10.17
d **13.10** Gk *gospel*
* **13.11** Mt 10.17
* **13.12** Mic 7.6; Mt 10.21
* **13.13** Mt 10.22; Jn 15.21; Rev 2.10
* **13.14** Dan 9.27; 11.31; 12.11
* **13.17** Lk 23.29
* **13.19** Dan 9.26; 12.1; Joel 2.2
e **13.21** Or *the Christ*
* **13.21** Lk 17.23; 21.8
f **13.22** Or *christs*
* **13.22** Mt 7.15; Jn 4.48
* **13.23** 2 Pet 3.17
* **13.24** Zeph 1.15
* **13.26** Dan 7.13; Mt 16.27; Mk 14.62; 1 Thess 4.16; 2 Thess 1.7, 10
g **13.27** Other ancient authorities read *his*
h **13.29** Or *it*
* **13.30** Mk 9.1
* **13.31** Mt 5.18; Lk 16.17
* **13.32** Acts 1.7
i **13.33** Other ancient authorities add *and pray*
* **13.33** Eph 6.18; Col 4.2; 1 Thess 5.6
* **13.34** Mt 25.14
* **13.35** Lk 12.35–40

Mark 14

j **14.1** Gk *him*
* **14.1** Mt 12.14; Jn 11.55; 13.1
k **14.3** Or *the skin-diseased*
* **14.3** Mt 21.17; Lk 7.37–39
* **14.7** Deut 15.11
* **14.8** Jn 19.40
l **14.9** Or *gospel*
* **14.10** Lk 22.3, 4; Jn 6.71
* **14.12** Ex 12.11
* **14.18** vv 44, 45
m **14.20** Gk lacks *bread*
n **14.20** Other ancient authorities read *same bowl*

* **14.22** Mk 6.41; 8.6; Lk 24.30; 1 Cor 11.23–25
* **14.23** 1 Cor 10.16
o **14.24** Other ancient authorities add *new*
* **14.24** Ex 24.8; Heb 9.20
* **14.26** Mt 21.1
p **14.27** Or *stumble*
* **14.27** Zech 13.7
* **14.28** Mk 16.7
q **14.29** Or *stumble*
* **14.29** Jn 13.37, 38
* **14.30** vv 66–72; Jn 13.38
* **14.34** Jn 12.27
* **14.35** v 41
r **14.36** Aramaic for *Father*
* **14.36** Jn 5.30; 6.38; Rom 8.15; Gal 4.6
s **14.38** Or *into testing*
* **14.38** Mt 6.13; Lk 11.4; Rom 7.23; Gal 5.17
* **14.41** v 35; Jn 13.1
* **14.45** Mt 23.7
* **14.49** Isa 53.7ff; Mk 12.35; Lk 19.47; Jn 18.19–21
* **14.50** v 27; Ps 88.8
* **14.54** v 68; Mt 26.3; Jn 18.18
* **14.58** Mk 15.29; Jn 2.19; Acts 6.14
t **14.61** Or *the Christ*
* **14.61** Isa 53.7
* **14.62** Dan 7.13; Mt 24.30; Mk 13.26
* **14.63** Num 14.6; Acts 14.14
* **14.64** Lev 24.16
* **14.65** Esth 7.8; Mk 10.34; Lk 22.64
* **14.66** vv 30, 54
* **14.67** v 54; Mk 1.24
u **14.68** Or *gateway*
v **14.68** Other ancient authorities lack *Then the cock crowed*
* **14.68** v 54
w **14.70** Other ancient authorities lack *and you talk like one*
* **14.70** v 68; Acts 2.7
* **14.72** v 30

Mark 15

* **15.1** Mt 5.22; Lk 22.66; 23.1; Jn 18.28
* **15.5** Isa 53.7

* **15.6** Mt 27.15; Jn 18.39
* **15.11** Acts 3.14
x **15.12** Other ancient authorities read *what should I do*
y **15.12** Other ancient authorities lack *the man you call*
* **15.15** Jn 19.1, 16
* **15.16** Acts 10.1
* **15.21** Lk 23.26; Rom 16.13
z **15.22** Gk *him*
* **15.24** Ps 22.18
a **15.27** Other ancient authorities add 15.28: *And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "And he was counted among the lawless."*
b **15.29** Or *blasphemed*
* **15.29** Ps 22.7; Mk 13.2; 14.58; Jn 2.19
* **15.31** Ps 22.7
c **15.32** Or *the Christ*
* **15.32** vv 26, 27
d **15.33** Or *earth*
e **15.34** Other ancient authorities read *made me a reproach*
* **15.34** Ps 22.1
* **15.36** Ps 69.21
* **15.38** Heb 10.19, 20
f **15.39** Other ancient authorities add *cried out and*
g **15.39** Or *a son of God*
* **15.39** Mk 1.11; 9.7
* **15.40** Ps 38.11; Mk 16.1; Jn 19.25
* **15.41** Lk 8.1–3
* **15.42** Deut 21.22, 23; Mt 27.62
* **15.43** Lk 2.25, 38; Acts 13.50; 17.12
* **15.45** v 39
h **15.46** Gk *he*
i **15.46** Gk *it*
j **15.47** Gk *it*

Mark 16

* **16.1** Lk 23.56; Jn 19.39
* **16.3** Mk 15.46
* **16.5** Mk 9.15
* **16.6** v 5; Mk 1.24
* **16.7** Mk 14.28; Jn 21.1–23
k **16.8** Some of the most ancient authorities bring the book to a close at the end of 16.8. One authority concludes the book with the intermediate ending; others include the intermediate ending

and then continue with 16.9–20. In most authorities 16.9–20 follow immediately after 16.8; in some of these authorities the passage is marked as being doubtful.

l **16.8** Other ancient authorities lack *Amen*

m **16.14** Other ancient authorities add, in whole or in part, *And they excused themselves, saying, "This age of lawlessness and unbelief is under Satan, who does not allow the truth and power of God to prevail over the unclean things of the spirits. Therefore reveal your righteousness now"—thus they spoke to Christ. And Christ replied to them, "The term of years of Satan's power has been fulfilled, but other terrible things draw near. And for those who have sinned I was handed over to death, that they may return to the truth and sin no more, that they may inherit the spiritual and imperishable glory of righteousness that is in heaven."*

n **16.15** Or *gospel*

o **16.18** Other ancient authorities add *in their hands*

p **16.20** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Gospel according to

Luke

Luke 1

DEDICATION TO THEOPHILUS

1 Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative about the events that
have been fulfilled among us, [2]just as they were handed on to us by those
who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word,* [3]I,
too, decided, as one having a grasp of everything from the start,[a] to write a
well-ordered account for you, most excellent Theophilus,* [4]so that you may
have a firm grasp of the words in which you have been instructed.

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST FORETOLD

5 In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named
Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was
descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.*
[6]Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to
all the commandments and regulations of the Lord.* [7]But they had no
children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

8 Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's
turn of duty,* [9]he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the
priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense.* [10]Now at the
time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying
outside.* [11]Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the
right side of the altar of incense. [12]When Zechariah saw him, he was
terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. [13]But the angel said to him, "Do not
be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth
will bear you a son, and you will name him John.* [14]You will have joy and
gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,* [15]for he will be great in the
sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his
birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.* [16]He will turn many of the

people of Israel to the Lord their God.* 17With the spirit and power of Elijah
he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the
disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people
prepared for the Lord."* 18Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know
that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in
years."* 19The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God,
and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.*
20But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in
their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things
occur."*

21 Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at
his delay in the sanctuary. 22When he did come out, he was unable to speak
to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He
kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. 23When his time of
service was ended, he returned to his home.

24 After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she
remained in seclusion. She said, 25"This is what the Lord has done for me in
this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I
have endured among my people."*

THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in
Galilee called Nazareth,* 27to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was
Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.* 28And he
came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."b,*
29But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of
greeting this might be. 30The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for
you have found favor with God. 31And now, you will conceive in your
womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.* 32He will be great and
will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him
the throne of his ancestor David.* 33He will reign over the house of Jacob
forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."* 34Mary said to the
angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"c 35The angel said to her,
"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will

overshadow you; therefore the child to be born[d] will be holy; he will be called Son of God.* 36And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. 37For nothing will be impossible with God."* 38Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

MARY VISITS ELIZABETH

39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, 40where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit 42and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.* 43And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?* 44For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. 45And blessed is she who believed that there would be[e] a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE

46 And Mary[f] said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,*
47and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,*
48for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,*
49for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;*
50indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.*
51He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.*
52He has brought down the powerful from their thrones

and lifted up the lowly;*
53 he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.*
54 He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,*
55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."*

56 And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.*

59 On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father.* 60 But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." 61 They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." 62 Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. 63 He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. 64 Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. 65 Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. 66 All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.*

ZECHARIAH'S PROPHECY

67 Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:*

68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on[g] his people and redeemed them.*

69 He has raised up a mighty savior[h] for us
in the house of his child David,*
70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,*
71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors
and has remembered his holy covenant,*
73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us 74 that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear,* 75 in holiness and righteousness
in his presence all our days.*
76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,*
77 to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.*
78 Because of the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break[i] upon[j] us,
79 to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."*

80 The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.*

Luke 2

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world
should be registered. [2]This was the first registration and was taken while
Quirinius was governor of Syria. [3]All went to their own towns to be
registered. [4]Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea,
to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the
house and family of David.* [5]He went to be registered with Mary, to whom
he was engaged and who was expecting a child. [6]While they were there, the
time came for her to deliver her child. [7]And she gave birth to her firstborn
son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because
there was no place in the guest room.[k]

THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS

8 Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields,
keeping watch over their flock by night. [9]Then an angel of the Lord stood
before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were
terrified. [10]But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am
bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:* [11]to you is born this
day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,[l] the Lord.* [12]This will
be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying
in a manger."* [13]And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the
heavenly host,[m] praising God and saying,*

[14]"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"[n,*]

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds
said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has
taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." [16]So they went with
haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. [17]When
they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child,
[18]and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, [19]and

Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.* 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.*

JESUS IS NAMED

21 When the eighth day came, it was time to circumcise the child,[o] and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.*

JESUS IS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE

22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord* 23(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"),* 24and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.* 26It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.[p],* 27Guided by the Spirit, Simeon[q] came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law,* 28Simeon[r] took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

29"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word,*
30for my eyes have seen your salvation,*
31which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
32a light for revelation to the gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."*

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a

sign that will be opposed[*] 35so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too."

36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,[*] 37then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day.[*] 38At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child[s] to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.[*]

THE RETURN TO NAZARETH

39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.[*] 40The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.[*]

THE BOY JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

41 Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.[*] 42And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. 43When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. 44Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. 45When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. 46After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.[*] 48When his parents[t] saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you."[*] 49He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"[u,*] 50But they did not understand what he said to them.[*] 51Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart.[*]

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years[v] and in divine and human favor.[*]

Luke 3

THE PROCLAMATION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate
was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother
Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of
Abilene,* [2]during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of
God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.* [3]He went into all the
region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins, [4]as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet
Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.*
[5]Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
[6]and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "*

7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood
of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?* [8]Therefore,
bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We
have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones
to raise up children to Abraham.* [9]Even now the ax is lying at the root of
the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down
and thrown into the fire."*

10 And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?"* [11]In reply
he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has
none, and whoever has food must do likewise."* [12]Even tax collectors came
to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?"* [13]He
said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you."*

[14]Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."*

15 As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,[w,*] [16]John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with[x] the Holy Spirit and fire.* [17]His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."*

18 So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people. [19]But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done,* [20]added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

21 Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,* [22]and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved;[y] with you I am well pleased."[z,*]

THE ANCESTORS OF JESUS

23 Jesus was about thirty years old when he began his work. He was the son (as was thought) of Joseph son of Heli,* [24]son of Matthat, son of Levi, son of Melchi, son of Jannai, son of Joseph, [25]son of Mattathias, son of Amos, son of Nahum, son of Esli, son of Naggai, [26]son of Maath, son of Mattathias, son of Semein, son of Josech, son of Joda, [27]son of Joanan, son of Rhesa, son of Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, son of Neri,* [28]son of Melchi, son of Addi, son of Cosam, son of Elmadam, son of Er, [29]son of Joshua, son of Eliezer, son of Jorim, son of Matthat, son of Levi, [30]son of Simeon, son of Judah, son of Joseph, son of Jonam, son of Eliakim, [31]son of Melea, son of Menna, son of Mattatha, son of Nathan, son of David,* [32]son of Jesse, son of Obed, son of Boaz, son of Sala,[a] son of Nahshon,* [33]son of

Amminadab, son of Admin, son of Arni,[b] son of Hezron, son of Perez, son of Judah, [34]son of Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham, son of Terah, son of Nahor,[*] [35]son of Serug, son of Reu, son of Peleg, son of Eber, son of Shelah, [36]son of Cainan, son of Arphaxad, son of Shem, son of Noah, son of Lamech,[*] [37]son of Methuselah, son of Enoch, son of Jared, son of Mahalaleel, son of Cainan, [38]son of Enos, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of God.[*]

Luke 4

THE TESTING OF JESUS

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the
Spirit in the wilderness,* [2]where for forty days he was tested by the devil.
He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was
famished.* [3]The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command
this stone to become a loaf of bread." [4]Jesus answered him, "It is written,
'One does not live by bread alone.' "*

5 Then the devil[c] led him up and showed him in an instant all the
kingdoms of the world. [6]And the devil[d] said to him, "To you I will give all
this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it
to anyone I please.* [7]If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."
[8]Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.' "*

9 Then the devil[e] led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of
the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself
down from here, [10]for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,'*

[11]and

'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

[12]Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the
test.' "* [13]When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him
until an opportune time.*

THE BEGINNING OF THE GALILEAN MINISTRY

14 Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region.* 15He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.*

THE REJECTION OF JESUS AT NAZARETH

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,* 17and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

18"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free those who are oppressed,*
19to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

20And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.* 21Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." 22All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is this not Joseph's son?"* 23He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.' "* 24And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown.* 25But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land,* 26yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. 27There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."* 28When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. 29They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was

built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.* 30But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.*

THE MAN WITH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT

31 He went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the Sabbath.* 32They were astounded at his teaching because he spoke with authority.* 33In the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, 34"Leave us alone! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."* 35But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet and come out of him!" Then the demon, throwing the man down before them, came out of him without doing him any harm.* 36They were all astounded and kept saying to one another, "What kind of word is this, that with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits and they come out?"* 37And news about him began to reach every place in the region.*

HEALINGS AT SIMON'S HOUSE

38 After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. 39Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them.*

40 As the sun was setting, all those caring for any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them.* 41Moreover, demons also came out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah.[f],*

JESUS PREACHES IN THE SYNAGOGUES

42 At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowds began looking for him, and when they reached him they tried to keep him from leaving them.* 43But he said to them, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for

this purpose.” [44]So he continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea.[g,*]

Luke 5

JESUS CALLS THE FIRST DISCIPLES

1 Once while Jesus[h] was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the
crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, [2]he saw two boats
there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gotten out of them and were
washing their nets. [3]He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to
Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat
down and taught the crowds from the boat.* [4]When he had finished
speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your
nets for a catch."* [5]Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night
long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."*
[6]When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were
beginning to burst. [7]So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come
and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to
sink. [8]But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying,
"Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" [9]For he and all who were
with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, [10]and so
also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.
Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be
catching people."* [11]When they had brought their boats to shore, they left
everything and followed him.*

JESUS CLEANSES A MAN WITH A SKIN DISEASE

12 Once when he was in one of the cities, a man covered with a skin
disease was there. When he saw Jesus, he bowed with his face to the ground
and begged him, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."*
[13]Then Jesus[i] stretched out his hand, touched him, and said, "I am willing.
Be made clean." Immediately the skin disease left him. [14]And he ordered
him to tell no one. "But go, show yourself to the priest, and, as Moses
commanded, make an offering for your cleansing, as a testimony to them."*
[15]But now more than ever the word about Jesus[j] spread abroad; many

crowds were gathering to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.* 16Meanwhile, he would slip away to deserted places and pray.*

JESUS HEALS A PARALYTIC

17 One day while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem were sitting nearby, and the power of the Lord was with him to heal.[k,*] 18Just then some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a stretcher. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus,[l] 19but, finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down on the stretcher through the tiles into the middle of the crowd[m] in front of Jesus.* 20When he saw their faith, he said, "Friend,[n] your sins are forgiven you."* 21Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, "Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"* 22When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? 23Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? 24But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the one who was paralyzed—"I say to you, stand up and take your stretcher and go to your home." 25Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. 26Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen incredible things today."*

JESUS CALLS LEVI

27 After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." 28And he got up, left everything, and followed him.*

29 Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house, and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others reclining at the table with them.* 30The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"* 31Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician but those

who are sick; [32]I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."*

THE QUESTION ABOUT FASTING

33 Then they said to him, "John's disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink."* [34]Jesus said to them, "You cannot make wedding attendants fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? [35]The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days."* [36]He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise, not only will one tear the new garment, but the piece from the new will not match the old garment. [37]Similarly, no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins and will spill out, and the skins will be ruined. [38]But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.[o] [39]And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine but says, 'The old is good.' "[p]

Luke 6

THE QUESTION ABOUT THE SABBATH

1 One Sabbath[q] while Jesus[r] was going through some grain fields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them.* [2]But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful[s] on the Sabbath?"* [3]Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?* [4]How he entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and gave some to his companions?"* [5]Then he said to them, "The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

THE MAN WITH A WITHERED HAND

6 On another Sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered.* [7]The scribes and the Pharisees were watching him to see whether he would cure on the Sabbath, so that they might find grounds to bring an accusation against him. [8]But he knew what they were thinking, and he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come and stand in the middle." He got up and stood there.* [9]Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?" [10]After looking around at all of them, he said to him, "Stretch out your hand." He did so, and his hand was restored. [11]But they were filled with fury and began discussing with one another what they might do to Jesus.

JESUS CHOOSES THE TWELVE APOSTLES

12 Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God.* [13]And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles:* [14]Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, [15]and Matthew, and Thomas, and James

son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, 16and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.*

JESUS TEACHES AND HEALS

17 He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.* 18They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. 19And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.*

BLESSINGS AND WOES

20 Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

21"Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.*

22 "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you[t] on account of the Son of Man.* 23Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.*

24"But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.*

25"Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.*

26 "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.*

LOVE FOR ENEMIES

27 "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to
those who hate you;* [28]bless those who curse you; pray for those who
mistreat you.* [29]If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and
from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.
[30]Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is
yours, do not ask for it back again.* [31]Do to others as you would have them
do to you.*

32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even
sinners love those who love them. [33]If you do good to those who do good to
you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. [34]If you lend
to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to
you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. [35]Instead, love
your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.[u] Your reward
will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is
kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.* [36]Be merciful, just as your Father is
merciful.

JUDGING OTHERS

37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you
will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;* [38]give, and it
will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together,
running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the
measure you get back."*

39 He also told them a parable: "Can a blind person guide a blind
person? Will not both fall into a pit?* [40]A disciple is not above the teacher,
but every disciple who is fully qualified will be like the teacher.* [41]Why do
you see the speck in your neighbor's eye but do not notice the log in your
own eye? [42]Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Friend, let me take out
the speck in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log in your own
eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will
see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

A TREE AND ITS FRUIT

43 “No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good
fruit;* 44for each tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not gather
figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a bramble bush.* 45The good
person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil
person out of evil treasure produces evil, for it is out of the abundance of
the heart that the mouth speaks.*

THE TWO FOUNDATIONS

46 “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I tell you?* 47I
will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and
acts on them.* 48That one is like a man building a house who dug deeply
and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against
that house but could not shake it because it had been well built.[v] 49But the
one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the
ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, it quickly
collapsed, and great was the ruin of that house.”

Luke 7

JESUS HEALS A CENTURION'S SLAVE

1 After Jesus[w] had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he
entered Capernaum.* [2]A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly
and who was ill and close to death. [3]When he heard about Jesus, he sent
some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. [4]When
they came to Jesus, they appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to
have you do this for him, [5]for he loves our people, and it is he who built our
synagogue for us." [6]And Jesus went with them, but when he was not far
from the house, the centurion sent friends to say to him, "Lord, do not
trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof;
[7]therefore I did not presume to come to you. But only speak the word, and
let my servant be healed. [8]For I also am a man set under authority, with
soldiers under me, and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another,
'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it."
[9]When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and, turning to the crowd
following him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such
faith."* [10]When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found
the slave in good health.

JESUS RAISES THE WIDOW'S SON AT NAIN

11 Soon afterward[x] he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a
large crowd went with him.* [12]As he approached the gate of the town, a
man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and
she was a widow, and with her was a large crowd from the town. [13]When
the Lord saw her, he was moved with compassion for her and said to her,
"Do not cry."* [14]Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the
bearers stopped. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!"* [15]The dead
man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus[y] gave him to his mother. [16]Fear
seized all of them, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has
risen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"* [17]This word about him
spread throughout the whole of Judea and all the surrounding region.

MESSENGERS FROM JOHN THE BAPTIST

18 The disciples of John reported all these things to him. So John
summoned two of his disciples [19]and sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you
the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?" [20]When the
men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask,
'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?' "
[21]Jesus[z] had just then cured many people of diseases, afflictions, and evil
spirits and had given sight to many who were blind.[*] [22]And he answered
them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive
their sight; the lame walk; those with a skin disease are cleansed; the deaf
hear; the dead are raised; the poor have good news brought to them.[*] [23]And
blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

24 When John's messengers had gone, Jesus[a] began to speak to the
crowds about John:[b] "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A
reed shaken by the wind? [25]What, then, did you go out to see? Someone[c]
dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in
luxury are in royal palaces. [26]What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet?
Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. [27]This is the one about whom it is
written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

[28]"I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John, yet
the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." [29](And all the people
who heard this, including the tax collectors, acknowledged the justice of
God,[d] having been baptized with John's baptism.[*] [30]But the Pharisees and
the experts in the law, not having been baptized by him, rejected God's
purpose for themselves.)[*]

31 "To what, then, will I compare the people of this generation, and what
are they like? [32]They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling
to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not weep.'

33 "For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and
you say, 'He has a demon';* 34 the Son of Man has come eating and
drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax
collectors and sinners!'* 35 Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her
children."

A SINFUL WOMAN FORGIVEN

36 One of the Pharisees asked Jesus[e] to eat with him, and when he went
into the Pharisee's house he reclined to dine.* 37 And a woman in the city
who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house,
brought an alabaster jar of ointment. 38 She stood behind him at his feet,
weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her
hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. 39 Now when the
Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a
prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is
touching him, that she is a sinner."* 40 Jesus spoke up and said to him,
"Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak."
41 "A certain moneylender had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii,
and the other fifty.* 42 When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for
both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered,
"I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus[f] said
to him, "You have judged rightly." 44 Then turning toward the woman, he
said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me
no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried
them with her hair.* 45 You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she
has not stopped kissing my feet. 46 You did not anoint my head with oil, but
she has anointed my feet with ointment.* 47 Therefore, I tell you, her many
sins have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to
whom little is forgiven loves little." 48 Then he said to her, "Your sins are
forgiven."* 49 But those who were at the table with him began to say among
themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" 50 But he said to the
woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."*

Luke 8

SOME WOMEN ACCOMPANY JESUS

1 Soon afterward he went on through one town and village after another,
proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The
twelve were with him,* [2]as well as some women who had been cured of evil
spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons
had gone out,* [3]and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and
Susanna, and many others, who ministered to them[g] out of their own
resources.

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

4 When a large crowd was gathering, as people were coming to him from
town after town, he said in a parable: [5]"A sower went out to sow his seed,
and as he sowed some fell on a path and was trampled on, and the birds of
the air ate it up. [6]Some fell on rock, and as it grew up it withered for lack of
moisture. [7]Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked
it. [8]Some fell into good soil, and when it grew it produced a hundredfold."
As he said this, he called out, "If you have ears to hear, then hear!"*

THE PURPOSE OF THE PARABLES

9 Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant.* [10]He said, "To
you it has been given to know the secrets[h] of the kingdom of God, but to
others I speak[i] in parables, so that

'looking they may not perceive
and hearing they may not understand.'

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER EXPLAINED

11 "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.* [12]The ones on
the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the
word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. [13]The

ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. 14As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. 15But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart and bear fruit with endurance.

A LAMP UNDER A JAR

16 "No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar or puts it under a bed; rather, one puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.* 17For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light.* 18So pay attention to how you listen, for to those who have, more will be given, and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away."*

THE TRUE KINDRED OF JESUS

19 Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. 20And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you." 21But he said to them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."*

JESUS CALMS A STORM

22 One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they put out,* 23and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. 24They went to him and woke him up, shouting, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And waking up, he rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.* 25Then he said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were terrified and amazed and said to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water and they obey him?"

JESUS HEALS THE GERASENE DEMONIAC

26 Then they arrived at the region of the Gerasenes,[j] which is opposite
Galilee. [27]As he stepped out on shore, a man from the city who had demons
met him. For a long time he had not worn[k] any clothes, and he did not live
in a house but in the tombs. [28]When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell
down before him, shouting, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of
the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me,"* [29]for Jesus[l] had
commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it
had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and
shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the
wilds.) [30]Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion,"
for many demons had entered him. [31]They begged him not to order them to
go back into the abyss.*

32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the
demons[m] begged Jesus[n] to let them enter these. So he gave them
permission. [33]Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine,
and the herd stampeded down the steep bank into the lake and was
drowned.*

34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it
in the city and in the country. [35]Then people came out to see what had
happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom
the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right
mind. And they became frightened.* [36]Those who had seen it told them how
the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.* [37]Then the
whole throng of people of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes[o] asked
Jesus[p] to leave them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the
boat and returned.* [38]The man from whom the demons had gone out begged
that he might be with him, but Jesus[q] sent him away, saying, [39]"Return to
your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went
away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

A GIRL RESTORED TO LIFE AND A WOMAN HEALED

40 Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all
waiting for him. [41]Just then there came a man named Jairus, a leader of the

synagogue. He fell at Jesus's feet and began pleading with him to come to his house, [42]for he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, and she was dying.

As he went, the crowds pressed in on him. [43]Now there was a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all she had on physicians,[r] no one could cure her. [44]She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, and immediately her flow of blood stopped. [45]Then Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" When they all denied it, Peter[s] said, "Master, the crowds are hemming you in and pressing against you."* [46]But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I noticed that power had gone out from me."* [47]When the woman realized that she could not remain hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him and how she had been immediately healed. [48]He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."*

49 While he was still speaking, someone came from the synagogue leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the teacher any longer."* [50]When Jesus heard this, he replied, "Do not be afraid. Only believe, and she will be saved." [51]When he came to the house, he did not allow anyone to enter with him, except Peter, John, and James and the child's father and mother. [52]Everyone was weeping and grieving for her, but he said, "Do not cry, for she is not dead but sleeping."* [53]And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. [54]But taking her by the hand, he called out, "Child, get up!"* [55]Her spirit returned, and she stood up at once, and he directed them to give her something to eat. [56]Her parents were astounded, but he ordered them to tell no one what had happened.*

Luke 9

THE MISSION OF THE TWELVE

1 Then Jesus[t] called the twelve together and gave them power and authority
over all demons and to cure diseases,* 2and he sent them out to proclaim the
kingdom of God and to heal the sick.* 3He said to them, "Take nothing for
your journey: no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra
tunic.* 4Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there.
5Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the
dust off your feet as a testimony against them."* 6So they departed and went
through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases
everywhere.

HEROD'S PERPLEXITY

7 Now Herod the ruler heard about all that had taken place, and he was
perplexed because it was said by some that John had been raised from the
dead,* 8by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the
ancient prophets had arisen.* 9Herod said, "John I beheaded, but who is this
about whom I hear such things?" And he tried to see him.*

FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

10 On their return the apostles told Jesus[u] all they had done. Then, taking
them along, he slipped quietly into a city called Bethsaida.* 11When the
crowds found out about it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and
spoke to them about the kingdom of God and healed those who needed to
be cured.

12 The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said,
"Send the crowd away, so that they may go into the surrounding villages
and countryside to lodge and get provisions, for we are here in a deserted
place." 13But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said,
"We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and
buy food for all these people."* 14For there were about five thousand men.

And he said to his disciples, “Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each.” 15They did so and had them all sit down. 16And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke them and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd.* 17And all ate and were filled, and what was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

PETER’S DECLARATION ABOUT JESUS

18 Once when Jesus[v] was praying alone, with only the disciples near him, he asked them, “Who do the crowds say that I am?”* 19They answered, “John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen.”* 20Then he said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered, “The Messiah[w] of God.”*

JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

21 He sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone,* 22saying, “The Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised.”*

23 Then he said to them all, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.* 24For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.* 25For what does it profit them if they gain the whole world but lose or forfeit themselves?* 26Those who are ashamed of me and of my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.* 27Indeed, truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God.”*

THE TRANSFIGURATION

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus[x] took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray.* 29And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as

bright as a flash of lightning. [30]Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. [31]They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem.* [32]Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.* [33]Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not realizing what he was saying.* [34]While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. [35]Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen;[y] listen to him!"* [36]When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.*

JESUS HEALS A BOY WITH A DEMON

37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. [38]Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. [39]Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he[z] shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. [40]I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." [41]Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here." [42]While he was being brought forward, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. [43]And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

JESUS AGAIN FORETELLS HIS DEATH

While everyone was amazed at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples,* [44]"Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands."* [45]But they did not understand this saying; its meaning remained concealed from them, so that they could not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying.*

TRUE GREATNESS

46 An argument arose among them concerning which one of them was
the greatest. 47But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child
and put it by his side 48and said to them, "Whoever welcomes this child in
my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who
sent me, for the least among all of you is the greatest."*

ANOTHER EXORCIST

49 John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your
name, and we tried to stop him because he does not follow with us."* 50But
Jesus said to him, "Do not stop him, for whoever is not against you is for
you."*

A SAMARITAN VILLAGE REFUSES TO RECEIVE JESUS

51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go
to Jerusalem.* 52And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they
entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival,* 53but they did
not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. 54When his
disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to
command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"[a],* 55But he
turned and rebuked them. 56Then[b] they went on to another village.

WOULD-BE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will
follow you wherever you go." 58And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes,
and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his
head." 59To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go
and bury my father."* 60And Jesus[c] said to him, "Let the dead bury their
own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." 61Another
said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my
home." 62And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and
looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Luke 10

THE MISSION OF THE SEVENTY-TWO

1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two[d] others and sent them on ahead
of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.*
[2]He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.*
[3]Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of
wolves.* [4]Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.*
[5]Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'* [6]And if a
person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it
will return to you. [7]Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever
they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from
house to house.* [8]Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you,
eat what is set before you; [9]cure the sick who are there, and say to them,
'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'[e,*] [10]But whenever you enter a
town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, [11]'Even
the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against
you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'[f,*] [12]I tell you, on
that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.*

WOES TO UNREPENTANT CITIES

13 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of
power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have
repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.* [14]Indeed, at the judgment
it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. [15]And you,
Capernaum,

will you be exalted to heaven?

No, you will be brought down to Hades.*

16 "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects
me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."*

THE RETURN OF THE SEVENTY-TWO

17 The seventy-two[g] returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even
the demons submit to us!"* [18]He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from
heaven like a flash of lightning.* [19]Indeed, I have given you authority to
tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and
nothing will hurt you.* [20]Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits
submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."*

JESUS REJOICES

21 At that very hour Jesus[h] rejoiced in the Holy Spirit[i] and said, "I thank[j]
you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these
things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants;
yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.[k,*] [22]All things have been
handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except
the Father or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son
chooses to reveal him."*

23 Then turning to the disciples, Jesus[l] said to them privately, "Blessed
are the eyes that see what you see!* [24]For I tell you that many prophets and
kings desired to see what you see but did not see it and to hear what you
hear but did not hear it."*

THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

25 An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus.[m] "Teacher," he said, "what
must I do to inherit eternal life?"* [26]He said to him, "What is written in the
law? What do you read there?" [27]He answered, "You shall love the Lord
your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your
strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself."* [28]And he
said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."*

29 But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my
neighbor?"* [30]Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to
Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and
took off, leaving him half dead. [31]Now by chance a priest was going down
that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. [32]So

likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion.* 34He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' 36Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" 37He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

JESUS VISITS MARTHA AND MARY

38 Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him.[n,*] 39She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's[o] feet and listened to what he was saying.* 40But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." 41But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, 42but few things are needed—indeed only one.[p] Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."*

Luke 11

THE LORD'S PRAYER

1 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his
disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."*
2So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father,[q] may your name be revered as holy.
May your kingdom come.[r]
3Give us each day our daily bread.[s]
4And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."[t,*]

PERSEVERANCE IN PRAYER

5 And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to
him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, 6for
a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' 7And he
answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked,
and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'
8I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of
friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him
whatever he needs.*

9 "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will
find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.* 10For everyone who asks
receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks,
the door will be opened. 11Is there anyone among you who, if your child
asked for[u] a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? 12Or if the child
asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? 13If you, then, who are evil, know
how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly
Father give the Holy Spirit[v] to those who ask him!"

JESUS AND BEELZEBUL

14 Now he was casting out a demon that was mute; when the demon had
gone out, the one who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed.*
15But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of
the demons." 16Others, to test him, kept demanding from him a sign from
heaven.* 17But he knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every
kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls.*
18If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand?—for
you say that I cast out the demons by Beelzebul. 19Now if I cast out the
demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your exorcists[w] cast them out?
Therefore they will be your judges. 20But if it is by the finger of God that I
cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.* 21When
a strong man, fully armed, guards his castle, his property is safe. 22But
when one stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away
his armor in which he trusted and divides his plunder. 23Whoever is not
with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.*

THE RETURN OF THE UNCLEAN SPIRIT

24 "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through
waterless regions looking for a resting place, but not finding any it says, 'I
will return to my house from which I came.' 25When it returns, it finds it
swept and put in order. 26Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more
evil than itself, and they enter and live there, and the last state of that person
is worse than the first."*

TRUE BLESSEDNESS

27 While he was saying this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and
said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed
you!"* 28But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God
and obey it!"*

THE SIGN OF JONAH

29 When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, “This generation
is an evil generation; it asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except
the sign of Jonah.* 30For just as Jonah became a sign to the people of
Nineveh, so the Son of Man will be to this generation. 31The queen of the
South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and
condemn them, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the
wisdom of Solomon, and indeed, something greater than Solomon is here!*
32The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation
and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and
indeed, something greater than Jonah is here!*

THE LIGHT OF THE BODY

33 “No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar or under a bushel
basket;x rather, one puts it on the lampstand so that those who enter may see
the light.* 34Your eye is the lamp of your body. If your eye is healthy, your
whole body is full of light, but if it is unhealthy, your body is full of
darkness.* 35Therefore consider whether the light in you is not darkness.
36But if your whole body is full of light, with no part of it in darkness, it
will be as full of light as when a lamp gives you light with its rays.”

JESUS DENOUNCES PHARISEES AND EXPERTS IN THE LAW

37 While he was speaking, a Pharisee invited him to dine with him, so he
went in and took his place at the table.* 38The Pharisee was amazed to see
that he did not first wash before dinner.* 39Then the Lord said to him, “Now
you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you
are full of greed and wickedness.* 40You fools! Did not the one who made
the outside make the inside also? 41So give as alms those things that are
within and then everything will be clean for you.*

42 “But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all
kinds and neglect justice and the love of God; it is these you ought to have
practiced, without neglecting the others.* 43Woe to you Pharisees! For you
love to have the seat of honor in the synagogues and to be greeted with
respect in the marketplaces.* 44Woe to you! For you are like unmarked
graves on which people unknowingly walk.”*

45 One of the experts in the law answered him, “Teacher, when you say
these things, you insult us, too.” [46]And he said, “Woe also to you experts in
the law! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves
do not lift a finger to ease them.* [47]Woe to you! For you build the tombs of
the prophets whom your ancestors killed.* [48]So you are witnesses and
approve of the deeds of your ancestors, for they killed them, and you build
their tombs. [49]For this reason the Wisdom of God said, ‘I will send them
prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,’* [50]so
that this generation may be charged with the blood of all the prophets shed
since the foundation of the world, [51]from the blood of Abel to the blood of
Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you,
it will be charged against this generation.* [52]Woe to you experts in the law!
For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you did not enter
yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering.”*

53 When he went outside, the scribes and the Pharisees became hostile to
him and began to interrogate him about many things, [54]lying in wait for
him, to catch him in something he might say.*

Luke 12

A WARNING AGAINST HYPOCRISY

1 Meanwhile, when the crowd had gathered by the thousands, so that they
trampled on one another, he began to speak first to his disciples, "Beware of
the yeast of the Pharisees, that is, their hypocrisy.* 2Nothing is covered up
that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known.*
3Therefore whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and
what you have whispered behind closed doors will be proclaimed from the
housetops.

EXHORTATION TO FEARLESS CONFESSION

4 "I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body and after
that can do nothing more.* 5But I will show you whom to fear: fear the one
who, after killing, has authority[y] to cast into hell.[z] Yes, I tell you, fear that
one!* 6Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is
forgotten in God's sight. 7But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.
Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.*

8 "And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before others, the Son
of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God,* 9but whoever
denies me before others will be denied before the angels of God. 10And
everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but
whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.* 11When
they bring you before the synagogues, the rulers, and the authorities, do not
worry about how or what[a] you will answer or what you are to say,* 12for the
Holy Spirit will teach you at that very hour what you ought to say."

THE PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide
the family inheritance with me." 14But he said to him, "Friend, who set me
to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"* 15And he said to them, "Take care!
Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist

in the abundance of possessions."* 16Then he told them a parable: "The land
of a rich man produced abundantly. 17And he thought to himself, 'What
should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' 18Then he said, 'I will
do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will
store all my grain and my goods. 19And I will say to my soul, Soul, you
have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'*
20But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being
demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'*
21So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich
toward God."*

DO NOT WORRY

22 He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your
life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. 23For life is
more than food and the body more than clothing. 24Consider the ravens:
they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet
God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds!* 25And
which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?[b,*] 26If
then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about
the rest? 27Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,[c]
yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of
these.* 28But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today
and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you,
you of little faith! 29And do not keep seeking what you are to eat and what
you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. 30For it is the nations[d] of the
world that seek all these things, and your Father knows that you need
them.* 31Instead, seek his[e] kingdom, and these things will be given to you
as well.

32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to
give you the kingdom.* 33Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses
for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where
no thief comes near and no moth destroys.* 34For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.*

WATCHFUL SLAVES

35 "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;* [36]be like those who
are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they
may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. [37]Blessed are
those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he
will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and
serve them.* [38]If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and
finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

39 "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the
thief was coming, he[f] would not have let his house be broken into.* [40]You
also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not
expect."*

THE FAITHFUL OR THE UNFAITHFUL SLAVE

41 Peter said, "Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for everyone?"
[42]And the Lord said, "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent manager whom
his master will put in charge of his slaves, to give them their allowance of
food at the proper time?* [43]Blessed is that slave whom his master will find
at work when he arrives. [44]Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of
all his possessions. [45]But if that slave says to himself, 'My master is
delayed in coming,' and begins to beat the other slaves, men and women,
and to eat and drink and get drunk, [46]the master of that slave will come on a
day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know and
will cut him in pieces[g] and put him with the unfaithful. [47]That slave who
knew what his master wanted but did not prepare himself or do what was
wanted will receive a severe beating.* [48]But the one who did not know and
did what deserved a beating will receive a light beating. From everyone to
whom much has been given, much will be required, and from the one to
whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.*

JESUS THE CAUSE OF DIVISION

49 "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were
already ablaze! [50]I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what
constraint I am under until it is completed!* [51]Do you think that I have

come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division![*]
52From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and
two against three; 53they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."[*]

INTERPRETING THE TIME

54 He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west,
you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens.[*] 55And when
you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,'
and it happens.[*] 56You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the
appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the
present time?[*]

SETTLING WITH YOUR OPPONENT

57 "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? 58Thus when
you go with your accuser before a magistrate, on the way make an effort to
reach a settlement,[h] or you may be dragged before the judge, and the judge
hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you in prison.[*] 59I tell
you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny."[*]

Luke 13

REPENT OR PERISH

1 At that very time there were some present who told Jesus[i] about the
Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.* [2]He asked
them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they
were worse sinners than all other Galileans?* [3]No, I tell you, but unless you
repent you will all perish as they did. [4]Or those eighteen who were killed
when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse
offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem?* [5]No, I tell you, but
unless you repent you will all perish just as they did."

THE PARABLE OF THE BARREN FIG TREE

6 Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard,
and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.* [7]So he said to the man
working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for
fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be
wasting the soil?'* [8]He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I
dig around it and put manure on it. [9]If it bears fruit next year, well and
good, but if not, you can cut it down.' "

JESUS HEALS A CRIPPLED WOMAN

10 Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. [11]And
just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for
eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight.
[12]When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set
free from your ailment." [13]When he laid his hands on her, immediately she
stood up straight and began praising God.* [14]But the leader of the
synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying
to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on
those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day."* [15]But the Lord
answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the

Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water?* 16And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?"* 17When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

18 He said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? 19It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."

THE PARABLE OF THE YEAST

20 And again he said, "To what should I compare the kingdom of God? 21It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

THE NARROW DOOR

22 Jesus[j] went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem.* 23Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" He said to them, 24"Strive to enter through the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able.* 25Once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then in reply he will say to you, 'I do not know where you come from.'* 26Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' 27But he will say to you, 'I do not know where you come from; go away from me, all you evildoers!'* 28There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out.* 29Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and take their places at the banquet in the kingdom of God. 30Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."*

THE LAMENT OVER JERUSALEM

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away
from here, for Herod wants to kill you." [32]He said to them, "Go and tell that
fox for me,[k] 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today
and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.* [33]Yet today,
tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible
for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' [34]Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the
city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often
have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood
under her wings, and you were not willing!* [35]See, your house is left to
you.[l] And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when[m] you
say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "*

Luke 14

JESUS HEALS THE MAN WITH EDEMA

1 On one occasion when Jesus[n] was going to the house of a leader of the
Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.*
2Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had edema. 3And Jesus
asked the experts in the law and Pharisees, "Is it lawful to cure people on
the Sabbath or not?"* 4But they were silent. So Jesus[o] took him and healed
him and sent him away. 5Then he said to them, "If one of you has a child[p]
or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a
Sabbath day?"* 6And they could not reply to this.

HUMILITY AND HOSPITALITY

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told
them a parable.* 8"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet,
do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished
than you has been invited by your host,* 9and the host who invited both of
you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in
disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. 10But when you are
invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes,
he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in
the presence of all who sit at the table with you.* 11For all who exalt
themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be
exalted."*

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a
luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters
or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return,
and you would be repaid. 13But when you give a banquet, invite the poor,
the crippled, the lame, and the blind.* 14And you will be blessed because
they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the
righteous."

THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT DINNER

15 One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, "Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!"* [16]Then Jesus[q] said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. [17]At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is ready now.'* [18]But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.' [19]Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.' [20]Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.'* [21]So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.'* [22]And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.' [23]Then the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. [24]For I tell you,[r] none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.' "*

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

25 Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, [26]"Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.* [27]Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.* [28]For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? [29]Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, [30]saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' [31]Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? [32]If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. [33]So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.*

ABOUT SALT

34 “Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?[s,*] 35It is useful neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; they throw it away. If you have ears to hear, then hear!”[*]

Luke 15

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.[*]
[2]And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."[*]

3 So he told them this parable: [4]"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? [5]And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. [6]And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' [7]Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.[*]

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST COIN

8 "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
[9]And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' [10]Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."[*]

THE PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL AND HIS BROTHER

11 Then Jesus[t] said, "There was a man who had two sons.[*] [12]The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them.[*] [13]A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. [14]When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. [15]So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. [16]He

would gladly have filled his stomach[u] with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. 17But when he came to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 18I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' 20So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.* 21Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'[v],* 22But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.* 23And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, 24for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.*

25 "Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. 27He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.' 28Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. 30But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!'* 31Then the father[w] said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "*

Luke 16

THE PARABLE OF THE DISHONEST MANAGER

1 Then Jesus[x] said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a
manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering
his property.[*] [2]So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I
hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you
cannot be my manager any longer.' [3]Then the manager said to himself,
'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I
am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. [4]I have decided
what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome
me into their homes.' [5]So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he
asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' [6]He answered, 'A
hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly,
and make it fifty.' [7]Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?'
He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill
and make it eighty.' [8]And his master commended the dishonest manager
because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd
in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.[*] [9]And I
tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth[y] so that
when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.[z,*]

10 "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and
whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.[*] [11]If, then,
you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth,[a] who will entrust to
you the true riches?[*] [12]And if you have not been faithful with what belongs
to another, who will give you what is your own? [13]No slave can serve two
masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted
to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."[b,*]

THE LAW AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD

14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they
ridiculed him.[*] [15]So he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves

in the sight of others, but God knows your hearts, for what is prized by humans is an abomination in the sight of God.*

16 "The Law and the Prophets were until John came; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is being proclaimed, and everyone tries to enter it by force.[c,*] [17]But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter in the law to be dropped.*

18 "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and whoever marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery.*

THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

19 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. [20]And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,* [21]who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. [22]The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham.[d] The rich man also died and was buried.* [23]In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.[e,*] [24]He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.'* [25]But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.* [26]Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' [27]He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—[28]for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' [29]Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.'* [30]He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'* [31]He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

Luke 17

SOME SAYINGS OF JESUS

1 Jesus[f] said to his disciples, "Occasions for sin[g] are bound to come, but
woe to anyone through whom they come!* 2It would be better for you if a
millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea
than for you to cause one of these little ones to sin.[h,*] 3Be on your guard! If
a brother or sister sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is
repentance, you must forgive.* 4And if the same person sins against you
seven times a day and turns back to you seven times and says, 'I repent,'
you must forgive."*

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"* 6The Lord replied,
"If you had faith the size of a[i] mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry
tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.*

7 "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from
plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your
place at the table'? 8Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for
me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat
and drink'?* 9Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? 10So
you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are
worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

JESUS CLEANSES TEN MEN WITH A SKIN DISEASE

11 On the way to Jerusalem Jesus[j] was going through the region between
Samaria and Galilee.* 12As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease
approached him. Keeping their distance,* 13they called out, saying, "Jesus,
Master, have mercy on us!" 14When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and
show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean.*
15Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising
God with a loud voice.* 16He prostrated himself at Jesus's[k] feet and thanked
him. And he was a Samaritan.* 17Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made
clean? So where are the other nine? 18Did none of them return to give glory

to God except this foreigner?” [19]Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”*

THE COMING OF THE KINGDOM

20 Once Jesus[l] was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, “The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed, [21]nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There it is!’ For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among[m] you.”*

22 Then he said to the disciples, “The days are coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.* [23]They will say to you, ‘Look there!’ or ‘Look here!’ Do not go; do not set off in pursuit.* [24]For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day.[n],* [25]But first he must endure much suffering and be rejected by this generation.* [26]Just as it was in the days of Noah, so, too, it will be in the days of the Son of Man.* [27]They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage until the day Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed all of them. [28]Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot, they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building,* [29]but on the day that Lot left Sodom it rained fire and sulfur from heaven and destroyed all of them; [30]it will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed. [31]On that day, anyone on the housetop who has belongings in the house must not come down to take them away, and likewise anyone in the field must not turn back. [32]Remember Lot’s wife. [33]Those who try to make their life secure will lose it, but those who lose their life will keep it. [34]I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. [35]There will be two women grinding meal together; one will be taken and the other left.”[o] [37]Then they asked him, “Where, Lord?” He said to them, “Where the corpse is, there the eagles will gather.”

Luke 18

THE PARABLE OF THE WIDOW AND THE UNJUST JUDGE

1 Then Jesus[p] told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to
lose heart. 2He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared
God nor had respect for people. 3In that city there was a widow who kept
coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' 4For a
while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God
and no respect for anyone, 5yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I
will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually
coming.' "[q] 6And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7And
will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night?
Will he delay long in helping them? 8I tell you, he will quickly grant justice
to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

THE PARABLE OF THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR

9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they
were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 10"Two men went up to
the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11The
Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am
not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax
collector. 12I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.'* 13But the
tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but
was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'* 14I
tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for
all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves
will be exalted."*

JESUS BLESSES LITTLE CHILDREN

15 People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them,
and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. 16But
Jesus called for them and said, "Let the children come to me, and do not

stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 17Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."*

THE RICH RULER

18 A certain ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"* 19Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. 20You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery. You shall not murder. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.' "* 21He replied, "I have kept all these since my youth." 22When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money[r] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."* 23But when he heard this, he became sad, for he was very rich. 24Jesus looked at him[s] and said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!* 25Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

26 Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" 27He replied, "What is impossible for mortals is possible for God."*

28 Then Peter said, "Look, we have left our homes and followed you."* 29And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God 30who will not get back very much more in this age and in the age to come eternal life."*

A THIRD TIME JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION

31 Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, "Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished.* 32For he will be handed over to the gentiles, and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon.* 33After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise

again.” [34]But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.*

JESUS HEALS A BLIND BEGGAR NEAR JERICHO

35 As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. [36]When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. [37]They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth[t] is passing by.” [38]Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”* [39]Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”* [40]Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him, and when he came near, he asked him, [41]“What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me see again.” [42]Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.”* [43]Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God, and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.*

Luke 19

JESUS AND ZACCHAEUS

1 He entered Jericho and was passing through it.* [2]A man was there named
Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. [3]He was trying to see
who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was
short in stature. [4]So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him,
because he was going to pass that way.* [5]When Jesus came to the place, he
looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must
stay at your house today." [6]So he hurried down and was happy to welcome
him. [7]All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the
guest of one who is a sinner."* [8]Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord,
"Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have
defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much."* [9]Then
Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too,
is a son of Abraham.* [10]For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save
the lost."

THE PARABLE OF THE TEN POUNDS

11 As they were listening to this, he went on to tell a parable, because he
was near Jerusalem and because they supposed that the kingdom of God
was to appear immediately.* [12]So he said, "A nobleman went to a distant
region to receive royal power for himself and then return.* [13]He summoned
ten of his slaves and gave them ten pounds and said to them, 'Do business
with these until I come back.' [14]But the citizens of his country hated him
and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to rule
over us.' [15]When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered
these slaves to whom he had given the money to be summoned so that he
might find out what they had gained by doing business. [16]The first came
forward and said, 'Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds.' [17]He said
to him, 'Well done, good slave! Because you have been trustworthy in a
very small thing, take charge of ten cities.'* [18]Then the second came,
saying, 'Lord, your pound has made five pounds.' [19]He said to him, 'And

you, rule over five cities.' [20]Then the other came, saying, 'Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth, [21]for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take what you did not deposit and reap what you did not sow.'* [22]He said to him, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow?* [23]Why, then, did you not put my money into the bank? Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest.' [24]He said to the bystanders, 'Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds.' [25](And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten pounds!') [26]'I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.* [27]But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to rule over them—bring them here and slaughter them in my presence.' "

JESUS'S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

28 After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.*

29 When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, [30]saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. [31]If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' " [32]So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them.* [33]As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" [34]They said, "The Lord needs it." [35]Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. [36]As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.* [37]Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, [38]saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"*

[39]Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”* [40]He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”*

JESUS WEEPS OVER JERUSALEM

41 As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it,* [42]saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. [43]Indeed, the days will come upon you when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side.* [44]They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”[u,*]

JESUS CLEANSES THE TEMPLE

45 Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things[v] there, [46]and he said, “It is written,

‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’

but you have made it a den of robbers.”*

47 Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him,* [48]but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

Luke 20

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS QUESTIONED

1 One day as he was teaching the people in the temple and proclaiming the
good news, the chief priests and the scribes came with the elders* [2]and said
to him, "Tell us, by what authority are you doing these things? Who is it
who gave you this authority?"* [3]He answered them, "I will also ask you a
question, and you tell me: [4]Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or
was it of human origin?" [5]They discussed it with one another, saying, "If
we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why did you not believe him?' [6]But if
we say, 'Of human origin,' all the people will stone us, for they are
convinced that John was a prophet."* [7]So they answered that they did not
know where it came from. [8]Then Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you
by what authority I am doing these things."

THE PARABLE OF THE WICKED TENANTS

9 He began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and
leased it to tenants and went away for a long time.* [10]When the season
came, he sent a slave to the tenants in order that they might give him his
share of the produce of the vineyard, but the tenants beat him and sent him
away empty-handed. [11]Next he sent another slave; that one also they beat
and insulted and sent away empty-handed. [12]And he sent still a third; this
one also they wounded and threw out. [13]Then the owner of the vineyard
said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will
respect him.' [14]But when the tenants saw him, they discussed it among
themselves and said, 'This is the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance
may be ours.' [15]So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What
then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? [16]He will come and destroy
those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they
said, "Heaven forbid!"* [17]But he looked at them and said, "What then does
this text mean:

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone’?[w,*]
[18]“Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”* [19]When the scribes and chief priests realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to lay hands on him at that very hour, but they feared the people.*

THE QUESTION ABOUT PAYING TRIBUTE

20 So they watched him and sent spies who pretended to be honest, in order to trap him by what he said and then to hand him over to the jurisdiction and authority of the governor. [21]So they asked him, “Teacher, we know that you are right in what you say and teach, and you show deference to no one but teach the way of God in accordance with truth.* [22]Is it lawful for us to pay tribute to Caesar or not?” [23]But he perceived their craftiness and said to them, [24]“Show me a denarius. Whose head and whose title does it bear?” They said, “Caesar’s.” [25]He said to them, “Then give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.”* [26]And they were not able in the presence of the people to trap him by what he said, and being amazed by his answer they became silent.

THE QUESTION ABOUT THE RESURRECTION

27 Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him* [28]and asked him a question: “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man[x] shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.* [29]Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; [30]then the second[y] [31]and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. [32]Finally the woman also died. [33]In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.”

34 Jesus said to them, “Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, [35]but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. [36]Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.* [37]And the fact

that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.* 38Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive."* 39Then some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you have spoken well." 40For they no longer dared to ask him another question.*

THE QUESTION ABOUT DAVID'S SON

41 Then he said to them, "How can they say that the Messiah[z] is David's son? 42For David himself says in the book of Psalms,

'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand*

43until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." '

44"David thus calls him Lord, so how can he be his son?"

JESUS DENOUNCES THE SCRIBES

45 In the hearing of all the people he said to the disciples, 46"Beware of the scribes who like to walk around in long robes and who love respectful greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets.* 47They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

Luke 21

THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

1 He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury;* [2]he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.* [3]He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them, [4]for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE FORETOLD

5 When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said,* [6]"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."*

SIGNS AND PERSECUTIONS

7 They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" [8]And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!'[a] and, 'The time is near!'[b] Do not go after them.*

9 "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." [10]Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom;* [11]there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

12 "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.* [13]This will give you an opportunity to testify.* [14]So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance,* [15]for I will give you words[c] and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.* [16]You will be

betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death.* 17You will be hated by all because of my name.* 18But not a hair of your head will perish.* 19By your endurance you will gain your souls.*

THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM FORETOLD

20 "When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near.d,* 21Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it,* 22for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfillment of all that is written.* 23Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; 24they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the nations, until the times of the nations are fulfilled.*

THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN

25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.* 26People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory.* 28Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."e,*

THE LESSON OF THE FIG TREE

29 Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; 30as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. 31So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.* 32Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. 33Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.*

EXHORTATION TO WATCH

34 "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly,* 35like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man."*

37 Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called.* 38And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

Luke 22

THE PLOT TO KILL JESUS

1 Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was near.* [2]The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus[f] to death, for they were afraid of the people.*

3 Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve;* [4]he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. [5]They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money.* [6]So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray him to them when no crowd was present.

THE PREPARATION OF THE PASSOVER

7 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed.* [8]So Jesus[g] sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it."* [9]They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" [10]"Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters [11]and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" ' [12]He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." [13]So they went and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

14 When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. [15]He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, [16]for I tell you, I will not eat it[h] until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."* [17]Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves, [18]for I tell you that from

now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." [19]Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." [20]And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.[i] [21]But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table.* [22]For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!"* [23]Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

THE DISPUTE ABOUT GREATNESS

24 A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest.* [25]But he said to them, "The kings of the gentiles lord it over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors.* [26]But not so with you; rather, the greatest among you must become like the youngest and the leader like one who serves.* [27]For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.*

28 "You are those who have stood by me in my trials,* [29]and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom,* [30]so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.*

JESUS PREDICTS PETER'S DENIAL

31 "Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded[j] to sift all of you like wheat,* [32]but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail, and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."* [33]And he said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!" [34]Jesus[k] said, "I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day until you have denied three times that you know me."

PURSE, BAG, AND SWORD

35 He said to them, “When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or
sandals, did you lack anything?” They said, “No, not a thing.”* [36]He said to
them, “But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag.
And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. [37]For I tell
you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, ‘And he was counted among the
lawless,’ and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.”* [38]They
said, “Lord, look, here are two swords.” He replied, “It is enough.”

JESUS PRAYS ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES

39 He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and
the disciples followed him.* [40]When he reached the place, he said to them,
“Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”[l,*] [41]Then he withdrew
from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, [42]“Father, if you
are willing, remove this cup from me, yet not my will but yours be done.”*
[[[43]Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength.*
[44]In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great
drops of blood falling down on the ground.]][m,*] [45]When he got up from
prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief,
[46]and he said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you
may not come into the time of trial.”[n,*]

THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS

47 While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one
called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to
kiss him, [48]but Jesus said to him, “Judas, is it with a kiss that you are
betraying the Son of Man?” [49]When those who were around him saw what
was coming, they asked, “Lord, should we strike with the sword?”* [50]Then
one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. [51]But
Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him.
[52]Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and
the elders who had come for him, “Have you come out with swords and
clubs as though I were a rebel?* [53]When I was with you day after day in the
temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour and the power of
darkness!”*

PETER DENIES JESUS

54 Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high
priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance.* [55]When they had
kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat
among them. [56]Then a female servant, seeing him in the firelight, stared at
him and said, "This man also was with him." [57]But he denied it, saying,
"Woman, I do not know him." [58]A little later someone else, on seeing him,
said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" [59]Then
about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was
with him, for he is a Galilean." [60]But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what
you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the
cock crowed. [61]The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter
remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the
cock crows today, you will deny me three times."* [62]And he went out and
wept bitterly.

THE MOCKING AND BEATING OF JESUS

63 Now the men who were holding Jesus[o] began to mock him and beat
him;* [64]they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophesy! Who is
it who struck you?" [65]They kept heaping many other insults on him.

JESUS BEFORE THE COUNCIL

66 When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief
priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their
council.* [67]They said, "If you are the Messiah,[p] tell us." He replied, "If I tell
you, you will not believe,* [68]and if I question you, you will not answer.[q]
[69]But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the
power of God." [70]All of them asked, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He
said to them, "You say that I am."* [71]Then they said, "What further
testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

Luke 23

JESUS BEFORE PILATE

1 Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus[r] before Pilate.[*] [2]They
began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man inciting our nation,
forbidding us to pay taxes to Caesar and saying that he himself is the
Messiah, a king."[s,*] [3]Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the
Jews?" He answered, "You say so."[*] [4]Then Pilate said to the chief priests
and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man."[*] [5]But
they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout
all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

JESUS BEFORE HEROD

6 When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. [7]And
when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to
Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time.[*] [8]When Herod saw
Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time
because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some
sign.[*] [9]He questioned him at some length, but Jesus[t] gave him no answer.
[10]The chief priests and the scribes stood by vehemently accusing him.
[11]Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him;
then he put an elegant robe on him and sent him back to Pilate.[*] [12]That
same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they
had been enemies.[*]

JESUS SENTENCED TO DEATH

13 Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people
[14]and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the
people, and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found
this man guilty of any of your charges against him.[*] [15]Neither has Herod,
for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. [16]I
will therefore have him flogged and release him."[u,*]

18 Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!"* [19](This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city and for murder.) [20]Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again, [21]but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" [22]A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him."* [23]But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified, and their voices prevailed. [24]So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. [25]He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

26 As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.* [27]A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.* [28]But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.* [29]For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' [30]Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.'* [31]For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"*

32 Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.* [33]When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus[v] there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[[34]Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]][w] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.* [35]And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah[x] of God, his chosen one!"* [36]The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine* [37]and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" [38]There was also an inscription over him,[y] "This is the King of the Jews."

39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding[z] him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah?[a] Save yourself and us!”* [40]But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? [41]And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.”* [42]Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in[b] your kingdom.” [43]He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”*

THE DEATH OF JESUS

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land[c] until three in the afternoon, [45]while the sun’s light failed,[d] and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.* [46]Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last.* [47]When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.”[e,*] [48]And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. [49]But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.*

THE BURIAL OF JESUS

50 Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph who, though a member of the council, [51]had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God.* [52]This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. [53]Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. [54]It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.[f,*] [55]The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid.* [56]Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments.

On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.*

Luke 24

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb,
taking the spices that they had prepared.* 2They found the stone rolled away
from the tomb, 3but when they went in they did not find the body.g 4While
they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood
beside them.* 5The womenh were terrified and bowed their faces to the
ground, but the meni said to them, "Why do you look for the living among
the dead? He is not here but has risen.j 6Remember how he told you, while
he was still in Galilee,* 7that the Son of Man must be handed over to the
hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." 8Then
they remembered his words,* 9and returning from the tomb they told all this
to the eleven and to all the rest.* 10Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna,
Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to
the apostles.* 11But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did
not believe them.* 12But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and
looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home,
amazed at what had happened.k

THE WALK TO EMMAUS

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called
Emmaus, about seven milesl from Jerusalem, 14and talking with each other
about all these things that had happened. 15While they were talking and
discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,* 16but their eyes
were kept from recognizing him. 17And he said to them, "What are you
discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking
sad.m 18Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are
you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have
taken place there in these days?"* 19He asked them, "What things?" They
replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth,n who was a prophet mighty in
deed and word before God and all the people,* 20and how our chief priests

and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. [21]But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.[o] Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.* [22]Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,* [23]and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. [24]Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him."* [25]Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! [26]Was it not necessary that the Messiah[p] should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?"* [27]Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.*

28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.* [29]But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. [30]When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.* [31]Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. [32]They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us[q] while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" [33]That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.* [34]They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!"* [35]Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES

36 While they were talking about this, Jesus[r] himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."[s] [37]They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost.* [38]He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? [39]Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."* [40]And when he had said this,

he showed them his hands and his feet.[t] 41Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"* 42They gave him a piece of broiled fish,[u] 43and he took it and ate in their presence.*

44 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."* 45Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah[v] is[w] to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day* 47and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.* 48You are witnesses[x] of these things.* 49And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."*

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.* 51While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.[y,*] 52And they worshiped him and[z] returned to Jerusalem with great joy, 53and they were continually in the temple[a] blessing God.[b,*]

Luke 1

* **1.2** Jn 15.27; Heb 2.3; 1 Pet 5.1; 2 Pet 1.16; 1 Jn 1.1
a **1.3** Or *for a long time*
* **1.3** Acts 1.1; 11.4; 18.23
* **1.5** 1 Chr 24.10; Mt 2.1
* **1.6** Gen 7.1; 1 Kings 9.4; 2 Kings 20.3
* **1.8** 1 Chr 24.19; 2 Chr 8.14
* **1.9** Ex 30.7, 8; 1 Chr 23.13; 2 Chr 29.11
* **1.10** Lev 16.17
* **1.13** vv 30, 60, 63
* **1.14** v 58
* **1.15** Num 6.3; Judg 13.4; Gal 1.15
* **1.16** Mal 4.5, 6
* **1.17** Mt 11.14; 17.13
* **1.18** Gen 17.17
* **1.19** Mt 18.10
* **1.20** Ezek 3.26; 24.27
* **1.25** Gen 30.23; Isa 4.1
* **1.26** Mt 2.23
* **1.27** v 19; Mt 1.16
b **1.28** Other ancient authorities add *Blessed are you among women*
* **1.28** Dan 9.23; 10.19
* **1.31** Isa 7.14
* **1.32** Isa 9.6, 7; Mk 5.7
* **1.33** Dan 2.44; 7.14, 27; Mt 28.18; Heb 1.8
c **1.34** Gk *I do not know a man*
d **1.35** Other ancient authorities add *of you*
* **1.35** v 32; Mt 4.3; Mk 1.24
* **1.37** Gen 18.14; Jer 32.17; Mt 19.26; Mk 10.27; Lk 18.27; Rom 4.21
* **1.42** Judg 5.24; Lk 11.27, 28
* **1.43** Lk 2.11
e **1.45** Or *believed, for there will be*
f **1.46** Other ancient authorities read *Elizabeth*
* **1.46** 1 Sam 2.1–10; Ps 34.2, 3
* **1.47** Ps 35.9; 1 Tim 1.1; 2.3; Titus 2.10; Jude 25
* **1.48** Ps 138.6; Lk 11.27
* **1.49** Ps 71.19; 111.9
* **1.50** Ps 103.17
* **1.51** Ps 33.10; 98.1; Isa 40.10; 1 Pet 5.5
* **1.52** Job 5.11

* **1.53** Ps 34.10
* **1.54** Ps 98.3
* **1.55** Gen 17.19; Ps 132.11; Gal 3.16
* **1.58** Gen 19.19
* **1.59** Gen 17.12; Lev 12.3
* **1.66** Gen 39.2; Lk 2.19, 51; Acts 11.21
* **1.67** v 41; Joel 2.28
g **1.68** Or *has visited*
* **1.68** Ps 72.18; 111.9; Lk 7.16
h **1.69** Gk *a horn of salvation*
* **1.69** Ps 18.2; 89.17; 132.17; Ezek 29.21
* **1.70** Jer 23.5; Dan 9.24; Acts 3.21; Rom 1.2
* **1.72** Ps 105.8, 9; 106.45; Ezek 16.60; Mic 7.20
* **1.74** Rom 6.18; Heb 9.14
* **1.75** Eph 4.24; Titus 2.12
* **1.76** Mal 3.1; 4.5; Mt 11.9, 10
* **1.77** Mk 1.4
i **1.78** Other ancient authorities read *has broken*
j **1.78** Gk *will visit*
* **1.79** Mt 9.2; Mk 4.16; Acts 26.18
* **1.80** Lk 2.40, 52

Luke 2

* **2.4** Lk 1.27
k **2.7** Or *their room*
* **2.10** Mt 14.27
l **2.11** Or *the Christ*
* **2.11** Mt 1.16; 16.16; Lk 1.43; Jn 4.42; Acts 2.36
* **2.12** 1 Sam 2.34; 2 Kings 19.29; Isa 7.14
m **2.13** Gk *army*
* **2.13** Dan 7.10; Rev 5.11
n **2.14** Other ancient authorities read *peace, goodwill among people*
* **2.14** Isa 57.19; Lk 1.79; Rom 5.1; Eph 1.9; Phil 2.13
* **2.19** v 51
* **2.20** Mt 9.8
o **2.21** Gk *him*
* **2.21** Lk 1.31, 59
* **2.22** Lev 12.2–6
* **2.23** Ex 13.2, 12; Num 3.13
* **2.25** v 38; Lk 23.51
p **2.26** Or *the Lord's Christ*

* **2.26** Ps 89.48; Heb 11.5
q **2.27** Gk *In the Spirit, he*
* **2.27** v 22
r **2.28** Gk *he*
* **2.29** v 26
* **2.30** Isa 52.10; Lk 3.6
* **2.32** Isa 42.6; 49.6; Acts 13.47; 26.23
* **2.34** Mt 21.44; 1 Cor 1.23, 24; 2 Cor 2.16; 1 Pet 2.7, 8
* **2.36** Josh 19.24; Acts 21.9; 1 Tim 5.9
* **2.37** Acts 13.3; 1 Tim 5.5
s **2.38** Gk *him*
* **2.38** v 25; Lk 24.21
* **2.39** v 51
* **2.40** v 52; Lk 1.80
* **2.41** Ex 23.15; Deut 16.1–6
* **2.47** Mt 7.28; Mk 4.22, 32; Jn 7.15, 46
t **2.48** Gk *they*
* **2.48** Mk 3.31–35
u **2.49** Or *be about my Father's interests?*
* **2.49** Jn 2.16
* **2.50** Mk 9.32; Lk 9.45
* **2.51** vv 19, 39
v **2.52** Or *in stature*
* **2.52** v 40; 1 Sam 2.26

Luke 3

* **3.1** Mt 14.1; 27.2
* **3.2** Mt 26.3; Jn 11.49; 18.13; Acts 4.6
* **3.4** Isa 40.3–5
* **3.6** Ps 98.2; Lk 2.30
* **3.7** Mt 12.34; 23.33
* **3.8** Jn 8.33, 39
* **3.9** Mt 7.19; Heb 6.7, 8
* **3.10** Acts 2.37
* **3.11** Jas 2.15, 16
* **3.12** Lk 7.29
* **3.13** Lk 19.8
* **3.14** Ex 23.1; Lev 19.11
w **3.15** Or *the Christ*
* **3.15** Acts 13.25
x **3.16** Or *in*

* **3.16** Acts 1.5
* **3.17** Isa 30.24; Mic 4.12; Mt 13.30
* **3.19** Mt 14.3, 4; Mk 6.17, 18
* **3.21** Lk 5.15; 6.12
y **3.22** Or *my beloved Son*
z **3.22** Other ancient authorities read *You are my Son, today I have begotten you*
* **3.22** Ps 2.7; Isa 42.1; Acts 10.38; 2 Pet 1.17
* **3.23** Mt 4.17; Jn 8.57; Acts 1.1
* **3.27** Mt 1.12
* **3.31** 2 Sam 5.14; 1 Chr 3.5
a **3.32** Other ancient authorities read *Salmon*
* **3.32** 1 Chr 2.10ff
b **3.33** Other ancient authorities read *Amminadab, son of Aram*; others vary widely
* **3.34** Gen 11.24, 26
* **3.36** Gen 11.12
* **3.38** Gen 5.1, 2

Luke 4

* **4.1** v 14; Lk 2.27
* **4.2** Ex 34.28; 1 Kings 19.8
* **4.4** Deut 8.3
c **4.5** Gk *he*
d **4.6** Gk *he*
* **4.6** Jn 12.31; 1 Jn 5.19
* **4.8** Deut 6.13
e **4.9** Gk *he*
* **4.10** Ps 91.11, 12
* **4.12** Deut 6.16
* **4.13** Jn 14.30; Heb 4.15
* **4.14** Mt 9.26
* **4.15** Mt 9.35; 11.1
* **4.16** Mt 13.54; Mk 6.1; Acts 13.14–16
* **4.18** Isa 61.1, 2; Mt 12.18
* **4.19** Lev 25.10
* **4.20** v 17
* **4.22** Ps 45.2; Mt 13.54, 55; Mk 6.2, 3; Jn 6.42; 7.15
* **4.23** v 16; Mk 1.21ff; 2.1ff
* **4.24** Mt 13.57; Mk 6.4; Jn 4.44
* **4.25** 1 Kings 17.8–16; 18.1; Jas 5.17, 18
* **4.27** 2 Kings 5.1–14
* **4.29** Num 15.35; Acts 7.58; Heb 13.12

* **4.30** Jn 8.59; 10.39
* **4.31** Mt 4.13
* **4.32** Mt 7.28; Mk 11.18; Jn 7.46
* **4.34** v 41; Ps 16.10; Dan 9.24
* **4.35** vv 39, 41; Mt 8.26; Mk 4.39; Lk 8.24
* **4.36** v 32
* **4.37** v 14
* **4.39** vv 35, 41
* **4.40** Mt 4.23; Mk 5.23
f **4.41** Or *the Christ*
* **4.41** Mt 4.3; 8.4
* **4.42** Mk 1.35–38
g **4.44** Other ancient authorities read *Galilee*
* **4.44** Mt 4.18–22; Mk 1.16–20; Jn 1.40–42

Luke 5

h **5.1** Gk *he*
* **5.3** Mt 13.1, 2; Mk 4.1
* **5.4** Jn 21.6
* **5.5** Lk 8.24, 45; 9.33, 49; 17.13
* **5.10** Mt 14.27
* **5.11** v 28; Mt 19.29
* **5.12** Lk 17.11–19
i **5.13** Gk *he*
* **5.14** Lev 13.49; 14.2–32
j **5.15** Gk *him*
* **5.15** Mt 9.26; Lk 4.14, 37
* **5.16** Mt 14.13; Mk 6.46; Lk 3.21; 6.12; 9.18, 28; 11.1
k **5.17** Other ancient authorities read *was present to heal them*
* **5.17** Mt 15.1; Mk 5.30; Lk 6.19
l **5.18** Gk *him*
m **5.19** Gk *into the midst*
* **5.19** Mt 24.17
n **5.20** Gk *Man*
* **5.20** Lk 7.48, 49
* **5.21** Isa 43.25
* **5.26** Lk 7.16
* **5.28** v 11
* **5.29** Lk 15.1
* **5.30** Acts 23.9
* **5.32** 1 Tim 1.15

* **5.33** Lk 7.18; Jn 3.25, 26
* **5.35** Lk 9.22; 17.22
o **5.38** Other ancient authorities add *and both are preserved*
p **5.39** Other ancient authorities read *better*; others lack 5.39

Luke 6

q **6.1** Other ancient authorities read *On the second first Sabbath*
r **6.1** Gk *he*
* **6.1** Deut 23.25
s **6.2** Other ancient authorities add *to do*
* **6.2** Ex 20.10; 23.12; Deut 5.14
* **6.3** 1 Sam 21.6
* **6.4** Lev 24.9
* **6.6** Lk 13.14; 14.3; Jn 9.16
* **6.8** Mt 9.4
* **6.12** Mt 14.23; Lk 9.28
* **6.13** Mk 6.30
* **6.16** Jude 1
* **6.17** Mt 4.25; Mk 3.7, 8
* **6.19** Mt 9.21; 14.36; Mk 3.10; Lk 5.17
* **6.21** Isa 61.3
t **6.22** Gk *cast out your name as evil*
* **6.22** Jn 9.22; 16.2; 1 Pet 4.14
* **6.23** Mal 4.2; Acts 5.41; 7.51; Col 1.24
* **6.24** Lk 16.25; Jas 5.1
* **6.25** Prov 14.13; Isa 65.13
* **6.26** Jn 15.19
* **6.27** v 35; Rom 12.20
* **6.28** Lk 23.34; Acts 7.60
* **6.30** Deut 15.7, 8, 10; Prov 21.26
* **6.31** Mt 7.12
u **6.35** Other ancient authorities read *despairing of no one*
* **6.35** vv 27, 30
* **6.37** Rom 2.1
* **6.38** Mk 4.24; Jas 2.13
* **6.39** Mt 15.14
* **6.40** Mt 10.24; Jn 13.16; 15.20
* **6.43** Mt 7.15, 16, 20
* **6.44** Mt 12.33
* **6.45** Mt 12.34, 35; Mk 7.20
* **6.46** Mt 7.21

* **6.47** Jas 1.22–25
v **6.48** Other ancient authorities read *founded upon the rock*

Luke 7

w **7.1** Gk *he*
* **7.1** Mt 7.28
* **7.9** v 50
x **7.11** Other ancient authorities read *The next day*
* **7.11** 1 Kings 17.17–24; 2 Kings 4.32–37; Mk 5.21–24, 35–43; Jn 11.1–44
* **7.13** v 19; Lk 10.1; 11.1, 39; 12.42; 13.15; 17.5, 6; 18.6; 19.8; 22.61; 24.34
* **7.14** Lk 8.54; Jn 11.43; Acts 9.40
y **7.15** Gk *he*
* **7.16** Lk 1.65, 68; Jn 6.14
z **7.21** Gk *He*
* **7.21** Mt 4.23; Mk 3.10
* **7.22** Isa 29.18, 19; 35.5, 6; Lk 4.18
a **7.24** Gk *he*
b **7.24** Gk *him*
c **7.25** Or *Why, then, did you go out? To see someone*
d **7.29** Or *praised God*
* **7.29** Mt 21.32; Lk 3.12
* **7.30** Mt 22.35; Acts 20.27
* **7.33** Lk 1.15
* **7.34** Lk 5.29; 15.1, 2
e **7.36** Gk *him*
* **7.36** Mt 4.3–9; 26.6–13; Jn 12.1–8
* **7.39** v 16; Lk 24.19; Jn 6.14
* **7.41** Mt 18.28
f **7.43** Gk *he*
* **7.44** Gen 18.4; 19.2; 43.24; Judg 19.21; 1 Tim 5.10
* **7.46** Ps 23.5
* **7.48** Mt 9.2; Mk 2.5; Lk 5.20
* **7.50** Mt 9.22; Mk 5.34; Lk 8.48

Luke 8

* **8.1** Mt 4.23
* **8.2** Mt 27.55, 56
g **8.3** Other ancient authorities read *him*
* **8.8** Mt 11.15
* **8.9** Isa 6.9, 10; Jer 5.21; Ezek 12.2

h **8.10** Or *mysteries*

i **8.10** Gk lacks *I speak*

* **8.11** 1 Thess 2.13; 1 Pet 1.23

* **8.16** Mt 5.15; Mk 4.21; Lk 11.33

* **8.17** Mt 10.26; Mk 4.22; Lk 12.2

* **8.18** Mt 13.12; 25.29; Lk 19.26

* **8.21** Lk 11.28; Jn 15.14

* **8.22** Mk 6.47–52; Jn 6.16–21

* **8.24** Lk 4.39; 5.5

j **8.26** Other ancient authorities read *Gadarenes* or *Gergesenes*

k **8.27** Other ancient authorities read *a man from the town who had had demons for a long time met him. He was not wearing*

* **8.28** Mk 1.24

l **8.29** Gk *he*

* **8.31** Rom 10.7; Rev 20.1, 3

m **8.32** Gk *they*

n **8.32** Gk *him*

* **8.33** vv 22, 23

* **8.35** Lk 10.39

* **8.36** Mt 4.24

o **8.37** Other ancient authorities read *Gadarenes* or *Gergesenes*

p **8.37** Gk *him*

* **8.37** Acts 16.39

q **8.38** Gk *he*

r **8.43** Other ancient authorities lack *and though she had spent all she had on physicians*

s **8.45** Other ancient authorities add *and those who were with him*

* **8.45** Lk 5.5

* **8.46** Lk 5.17; 6.19

* **8.48** Lk 7.50; 17.19; 18.42

* **8.49** v 41

* **8.52** Lk 23.27; Jn 11.11, 13

* **8.54** Lk 7.14; Jn 11.43

* **8.56** Mt 8.4; Mk 3.12; 7.36; Lk 9.21

Luke 9

t **9.1** Gk *he*

* **9.1** Mk 3.13, 14

* **9.2** Lk 10.1, 9

* **9.3** Lk 10.4; 22.35

* **9.5** Acts 13.51

* **9.7** v 19

* **9.8** Mt 16.14
* **9.9** Lk 23.8
u **9.10** Gk *him*
* **9.10** v 17
* **9.13** 2 Kings 4.42–44
* **9.16** Lk 22.19; 24.30, 31; Acts 2.42; 20.11; 27.35
v **9.18** Gk *he*
* **9.18** Jn 1.49; 6.66–69; 11.27
* **9.19** vv 7, 8; Mk 9.11–13
w **9.20** Or *The Christ*
* **9.20** Jn 6.69
* **9.21** Mt 16.20
* **9.22** vv 43–45; Lk 18.31–34
* **9.23** Mt 10.38; Lk 14.27
* **9.24** Mt 10.39
* **9.25** Jn 12.25
* **9.26** Mt 10.33; Lk 12.9; 2 Tim 2.12; 1 Jn 2.28
* **9.27** Lk 22.18; Jn 21.22
x **9.28** Gk *he*
* **9.28** Lk 3.21; 5.16; 6.12
* **9.31** 2 Pet 1.15
* **9.32** Mt 26.43; Mk 14.40
* **9.33** Lk 5.8; 8.24, 45; 17.13
y **9.35** Other ancient authorities read *my Beloved*
* **9.35** Mt 3.17; 2 Pet 1.17, 18
* **9.36** Mt 17.9
z **9.39** Or *it*
* **9.43** 2 Pet 1.16
* **9.44** v 22
* **9.45** Lk 2.50; 18.34
* **9.48** Mt 10.40; 23.11, 12; Jn 12.44; 13.20
* **9.49** Mk 9.38
* **9.50** Mt 12.30
* **9.51** Lk 13.22; 17.11; 18.31
* **9.52** Mt 10.5; Jn 4.4
a **9.54** Other ancient authorities add *as Elijah did*
* **9.54** 1 Kings 1.10, 12; Mk 3.17
b **9.56** Other ancient authorities read *rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what spirit you are of,* [56] *for the Son of Man has not come to destroy the lives of humans but to save them." Then*
* **9.59** Mt 8.21, 22
c **9.60** Gk *he*

Luke 10

d **10.1** Other ancient authorities read *seventy*
* **10.1** Mt 10.1; Mk 6.7; Lk 9.1, 2, 51, 52
* **10.2** Mt 9.37, 38; Jn 4.35
* **10.3** Mt 10.16
* **10.4** Mt 10.9, 10; Mk 6.8; Lk 9.3
* **10.5** Mk 10.12
* **10.7** Mt 10.10; 1 Cor 9.14; 1 Tim 5.18
e **10.9** Or *is at hand for you*
* **10.9** Mt 3.2; 10.7
f **10.11** Or *is at hand*
* **10.11** Mt 10.14; Mk 6.11; Lk 9.5
* **10.12** Mt 10.15; 11.24
* **10.13** Mt 11.21; Lk 6.24–26
* **10.15** Mt 11.23
* **10.16** Mt 10.40; Mk 9.37; Jn 13.20
g **10.17** Other ancient authorities read *seventy*
* **10.17** v 1
* **10.18** Jn 12.31; Rev 9.1
* **10.19** Acts 28.5
* **10.20** Ex 32.32; Ps 69.28; Phil 4.3; Heb 12.23; Rev 13.8
h **10.21** Gk *he*
i **10.21** Other authorities read *in the spirit*
j **10.21** Or *praise*
k **10.21** Or *for so it was well-pleasing in your sight*
* **10.21** Mt 11.25; 1 Cor 1.26–29
* **10.22** Mt 28.18; Jn 3.35; 17.2
l **10.23** Gk *he*
* **10.23** Mt 13.16
* **10.24** 1 Pet 1.10
m **10.25** Gk *him*
* **10.25** Mt 19.16; Mk 10.17; Lk 18.18
* **10.27** Lev 19.18; Deut 6.5; Rom 13.9; Gal 5.14; Jas 2.8
* **10.28** Lev 18.5; Mk 11.25
* **10.29** Lk 16.15
* **10.33** Lk 9.52; Jn 4.9
n **10.38** Other ancient authorities add *into her home*
* **10.38** Jn 11.1; 12.2, 3
o **10.39** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord's*
* **10.39** Lk 8.35; Acts 22.3
p **10.42** Other ancient authorities read *but only one thing is needed*

* **10.42** Ps 27.4

Luke 11

* **11.1** Mk 1.35; Lk 3.21

q **11.2** Other ancient authorities read *Our Father in heaven*

r **11.2** A few ancient authorities read *Your Holy Spirit come upon us and cleanse us*. Other ancient authorities add *Your will be done, on earth as in heaven*

s **11.3** Or *our bread for tomorrow*

t **11.4** Or *us into temptation*. Other ancient authorities add *but rescue us from the evil one* (or *from evil*)

* **11.4** Mt 18.35; Mk 11.25

* **11.8** Lk 18.1–6

* **11.9** Mt 7.7–11; 18.19; 21.22; Mk 11.14; Jas 1.5–8; 1 Jn 5.14, 15

u **11.11** Other ancient authorities add *bread, will give a stone? Or if your child asks for*

v **11.13** Other ancient authorities read *the Father give the Holy Spirit from heaven*

* **11.14** Mt 9.32–34

* **11.16** Mt 16.1; Mk 8.11

* **11.17** Jn 2.25

w **11.19** Gk *sons*

* **11.20** Ex 8.19

* **11.23** Lk 9.50

* **11.26** Heb 10.26; 2 Pet 2.20

* **11.27** Lk 23.29

* **11.28** Lk 8.21; Jn 15.14

* **11.29** v 16; Mt 16.4; Mk 8.12

* **11.31** 1 Kings 10.1; 2 Chr 9.1

* **11.32** Jon 3.5

x **11.33** Other ancient authorities lack *or under a bushel basket*

* **11.33** Mt 5.15; Mk 4.21; Lk 8.16

* **11.34** Mt 6.22, 23

* **11.37** Lk 7.36; 14.1

* **11.38** Mk 7.3, 4

* **11.39** Mt 23.25, 26

* **11.41** Mk 7.19; Lk 12.33; Titus 1.15

* **11.42** Mt 23.23; Lk 18.12

* **11.43** Mt 23.6, 7; Mk 12.38, 39; Lk 20.46

* **11.44** Mt 23.27

* **11.46** Mt 23.4

* **11.47** Mt 23.29–32; Acts 7.51–53

* **11.49** Mt 23.34–36; 1 Cor 1.24; Col 2.3

* **11.51** Gen 4.8; 2 Chr 24.20, 21

* **11.52** Mt 23.13
* **11.54** Mk 12.13

Luke 12

* **12.1** Mt 16.6, 12; Mk 8.15
* **12.2** Mt 10.26, 27; Mk 4.22; Lk 8.17; Eph 5.13
* **12.4** Mt 10.28–33; Jn 15.14, 15
y **12.5** Or *power*
z **12.5** Gk *Gehenna*
* **12.5** Heb 10.31
* **12.7** Mt 12.12; Lk 21.18; Acts 27.34
* **12.8** Mk 8.38; 2 Tim 2.12; 1 Jn 2.23
* **12.10** Mt 12.31, 32; Mk 3.28, 29
a **12.11** Other ancient authorities lack *or what*
* **12.11** Mt 10.19; Mk 13.11; Lk 21.14
* **12.14** Mic 6.8; Rom 2.1, 3
* **12.15** 1 Tim 6.6–10
* **12.19** Eccl 11.9; Jas 5.5
* **12.20** Job 27.8; Ps 39.6; Jer 17.11
* **12.21** v 33
* **12.24** Job 38.41
b **12.25** Or *add a cubit to your stature*
* **12.25** Ps 39.5
c **12.27** Other ancient authorities read *Consider the lilies: they neither spin nor weave*
* **12.27** 1 Kings 10.4–7
d **12.30** Or *gentiles*
* **12.30** Mt 6.8
e **12.31** Other ancient authorities read *God's*
* **12.32** Jn 21.15–17
* **12.33** Mt 19.21; Mk 6.20
* **12.34** Mt 6.21
* **12.35** Mt 25.1–13; Mk 13.33–37; Eph 6.14
* **12.37** Mt 24.42, 46; Lk 17.8; Jn 13.4
f **12.39** Other ancient authorities add *would have watched and*
* **12.39** Mt 24.43; 1 Thess 5.2; 2 Pet 3.10; Rev 3.3; 16.15
* **12.40** Mt 24.44; Mk 13.33; Lk 21.36
* **12.42** Lk 7.13
g **12.46** Or *cut him off*
* **12.47** Num 15.30; Deut 25.2
* **12.48** Lev 5.17
* **12.50** Mk 10.38; Jn 12.27

* **12.51** v 49; Mt 10.34–36
* **12.53** Mic 7.6; Mt 10.21
* **12.54** Mt 16.2
* **12.55** Mt 20.12
* **12.56** Mt 16.3
h **12.58** Gk *settle with him*
* **12.58** Mt 5.25, 26
* **12.59** Mk 12.42

Luke 13

i **13.1** Gk *him*
* **13.1** Mt 27.2
* **13.2** Jn 9.2, 3
* **13.4** Lk 11.4
* **13.6** Mt 21.19
* **13.7** Mt 3.10; 7.19; Lk 3.9
* **13.13** Mk 5.23
* **13.14** Ex 20.9; Lk 6.7; 14.3
* **13.15** Lk 7.13; 14.5
* **13.16** Lk 19.9
j **13.22** Gk *He*
* **13.22** Lk 9.51
* **13.24** Mt 7.13
* **13.25** Mt 7.23; 25.10–12
* **13.27** Mt 7.23; 25.41
* **13.28** Mt 8.11, 12
* **13.30** Mt 19.30; Mk 10.31
k **13.32** Gk lacks *for me*
* **13.32** Heb 2.10; 7.28
* **13.34** Mt 23.37–39; Lk 19.41
l **13.35** Other ancient authorities add *desolate*
m **13.35** Other ancient authorities lack *the time comes when*
* **13.35** Ps 118.26; Mt 21.9; Lk 19.38

Luke 14

n **14.1** Gk *he*
* **14.1** Mk 3.2
* **14.3** Mt 12.10; Mk 3.4; Lk 6.9
o **14.4** Gk *he*
p **14.5** Other ancient authorities read *a donkey*

* **14.5** Ex 23.5; Lk 13.15
* **14.7** Mt 23.6
* **14.8** Prov 25.6, 7
* **14.10** Prov 25.6, 7
* **14.11** Mt 23.12; Lk 18.14; Jas 4.6; 1 Pet 5.5, 6
* **14.13** v 21
* **14.15** Rev 19.9
q **14.16** Gk *he*
* **14.17** Prov 9.2, 5
* **14.20** Deut 24.5; 1 Cor 7.33
* **14.21** v 13
r **14.24** The Greek word for *you* here is plural
* **14.24** Mt 21.43; Acts 13.46
* **14.26** Mt 10.37, 38
* **14.27** Mt 16.24; Mk 8.34; Lk 9.23
* **14.33** Lk 18.29, 30; Phil 3.7; Heb 11.26
s **14.34** Or *how can it be used for seasoning?*
* **14.34** Mt 5.13; Mk 9.50
* **14.35** Mt 11.15

Luke 15

* **15.1** Lk 5.29
* **15.2** Mt 9.11
* **15.7** v 10; Lk 18.10; Jas 5.20
* **15.10** v 7
t **15.11** Gk *he*
* **15.11** Mt 21.28
* **15.12** Deut 21.17
u **15.16** Other ancient authorities read *filled himself*
* **15.20** Gen 45.14; 46.29; Acts 20.37
v **15.21** Other ancient authorities add *Treat me like one of your hired servants*
* **15.21** Ps 51.4
* **15.22** Gen 41.42; Zech 3.4
* **15.24** v 32; Eph 2.1; 5.14; 1 Tim 5.6
* **15.30** v 12
w **15.31** Gk *he*
* **15.32** v 24

Luke 16

x **16.1** Gk *he*

* **16.1** Lk 15.13
* **16.8** Jn 12.36; Eph 5.8; 1 Thess 5.5
y **16.9** Gk *mammon*
z **16.9** Gk *tents*
* **16.9** Mt 6.19, 24; 19.21; Lk 11.41; 12.33
* **16.10** Mt 25.21; Lk 19.17
a **16.11** Gk *mammon*
* **16.11** v 9
b **16.13** Gk *mammon*
* **16.13** Mt 6.24
* **16.14** Lk 23.35; 2 Tim 3.2
* **16.15** 1 Sam 16.7; Prov 21.2; Lk 10.29; Acts 1.24
c **16.16** Or *everyone is strongly urged to enter it*
* **16.16** Mt 4.23; 11.12, 13
* **16.17** Isa 40.8; Mt 5.17, 18; Lk 21.33
* **16.18** Mt 5.31, 32; 19.19; Mk 10.11; 1 Cor 7.10, 11
* **16.20** Acts 3.2
d **16.22** Gk *to Abraham's bosom*
* **16.22** Jn 13.23
e **16.23** Gk *in his bosom*
* **16.23** Mt 11.23
* **16.24** v 30; Mt 25.41
* **16.25** Lk 6.24
* **16.29** Lk 4.17; Jn 5.45–47; Acts 15.21
* **16.30** Lk 3.8; 19.9

Luke 17

f **17.1** Gk *He*
g **17.1** Or *stumbling*
* **17.1** 1 Cor 11.19
h **17.2** Or *stumble*
* **17.2** Mt 18.6, 7; Mk 9.42; 1 Cor 8.12
* **17.3** Mt 18.15
* **17.4** Mt 18.21, 22
* **17.5** Mk 6.30
i **17.6** Gk *faith as a grain of*
* **17.6** Mt 17.20; 21.21; Mk 9.23; Lk 9.22
* **17.8** Lk 12.37
j **17.11** Gk *he*
* **17.11** Lk 9.51, 52; Jn 4.3, 4
* **17.12** Lev 13.46

* **17.14** Lev 13.2; 14.2; Mt 8.4
* **17.15** Mt 9.8
k **17.16** Gk *his*
* **17.16** Mt 10.5
* **17.19** Mt 9.22; Mk 5.34; Lk 7.50; 8.48; 18.42
l **17.20** Gk *he*
m **17.21** Or *within*
* **17.21** v 23
* **17.22** Mt 9.15; Mk 2.20; Lk 5.35
* **17.23** Mt 24.23; Mk 13.21; Lk 21.8
n **17.24** Other ancient authorities lack *in his day*
* **17.24** Mt 24.27
* **17.25** Mt 16.21; Lk 9.22
* **17.26** Gen 7.6–24; Mt 24.37–39
* **17.28** Gen 18.20–33; 19.24, 25
o **17.35** Other ancient authorities add 17.36, *"Two will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left."*

Luke 18

p **18.1** Gk *he*
q **18.5** Or *so that she may not finally come and slap me in the face*
* **18.12** Mt 9.14; Lk 11.42
* **18.13** Lk 23.48
* **18.14** Mt 23.12; Lk 14.11; 1 Pet 5.6
* **18.17** Mt 18.3
* **18.18** Lk 10.25
* **18.20** Ex 20.12–16; Deut 5.16–20; Rom 13.9
r **18.22** Gk lacks *the money*
* **18.22** Mt 19.21; Lk 12.33
s **18.24** Other ancient authorities read *saw that he had become sad*
* **18.24** Prov 11.28
* **18.27** Gen 18.14; Job 42.2; Jer 32.17; Lk 1.37
* **18.28** Lk 5.11
* **18.30** Mt 12.32
* **18.31** Ps 22; Lk 9.51
* **18.32** Mt 16.21; 27.2; Lk 23.1
* **18.34** Mk 9.32; Lk 9.45
t **18.37** Gk *the Nazorean*
* **18.38** Mt 9.27
* **18.39** v 38
* **18.42** Mt 9.22; Mk 5.34; Lk 17.19

* **18.43** Mt 9.8; Lk 13.17

Luke 19

* **19.1** Lk 18.35
* **19.4** 1 Kings 10.27; 1 Chr 27.28; Isa 9.10
* **19.7** Mt 9.11; Lk 5.30
* **19.8** Ex 22.1; Lev 6.5; Num 5.7; 2 Sam 12.6; Lk 3.14; 7.13
* **19.9** Lk 3.8; 13.16; Rom 4.16; Gal 3.7
* **19.11** Acts 1.6
* **19.12** Mt 25.14–30; Mk 13.34
* **19.17** Lk 16.10
* **19.21** Mt 25.24
* **19.22** 2 Sam 1.16; Job 15.6; Mt 25.26
* **19.26** Mt 13.12; Lk 8.18
* **19.28** Mt 21.17; Mk 10.32; Lk 21.37
* **19.32** Lk 22.13
* **19.36** 2 Kings 9.13
* **19.38** Ps 118.26; Lk 2.14; 13.35
* **19.39** Mt 21.15, 16
* **19.40** Hab 2.11
* **19.41** Lk 13.34, 35
* **19.43** Isa 29.3; Jer 6.6; Ezek 4.2; Lk 21.20

u **19.44** Gk lacks *from God*

* **19.44** Mt 13.2; Mk 13.2; Lk 21.6; 1 Pet 2.12

v **19.45** Other ancient authorities add *in it and those who were buying things*

* **19.46** Isa 56.7
* **19.47** Mt 26.55; Mk 11.18; Jn 7.19

Luke 20

* **20.1** Mt 26.55; Lk 8.1
* **20.2** Jn 2.18; Acts 4.7; 7.27
* **20.6** Mt 14.5; Lk 7.29
* **20.9** Isa 5.1–7; Mt 25.14
* **20.16** Lk 19.27; Rom 3.4, 6, 31

w **20.17** Or *keystone* (in an arch)

* **20.17** Ps 118.22, 23; 1 Pet 2.6
* **20.18** Isa 8.14, 15
* **20.19** Lk 19.47
* **20.21** Jn 3.2
* **20.25** Lk 23.2; Rom 13.7

* **20.27** Acts 23.6, 8
x **20.28** Gk *his brother*
* **20.28** Deut 25.5
y **20.30** Other ancient authorities add *married the woman, and this one died childless,*
* **20.36** Rom 8.16, 17; 1 Jn 3.1, 2
* **20.37** Ex 3.6
* **20.38** Rom 6.10, 11
* **20.40** Mt 22.46; Mk 12.34
z **20.41** Or *the Christ*
* **20.42** Ps 110.1; Acts 2.34
* **20.46** Lk 11.43

Luke 21

* **21.1** Mk 12.41–44
* **21.2** Mk 12.42
* **21.5** Mk 13.1
* **21.6** Lk 19.44
a **21.8** Gk *I am*
b **21.8** Or *at hand*
* **21.8** Mk 13.21; Lk 17.23
* **21.10** 2 Chr 15.6; Isa 19.2
* **21.12** Jn 16.2
* **21.13** Phil 1.12
* **21.14** Lk 12.11, 12
c **21.15** Gk *a mouth*
* **21.15** Lk 12.12
* **21.16** Lk 12.52, 53
* **21.17** Mt 10.22
* **21.18** Mt 10.30; Lk 12.7
* **21.19** Rev 2.7
d **21.20** Or *is at hand*
* **21.20** Lk 19.43
* **21.21** Lk 17.31
* **21.22** Isa 63.4; Dan 9.24–27; Zech 11.1
* **21.24** Isa 63.18; Dan 8.13; 9.27; 12.7; Rom 11.25; Rev 11.2
* **21.25** 2 Pet 3.10, 12
* **21.27** Rev 1.7; 14.14
e **21.28** Or *at hand*
* **21.28** Lk 18.7
* **21.31** Mt 3.2
* **21.33** Lk 16.17

* **21.34** Mk 4.19; Lk 12.45; 1 Thess 5.6, 7
* **21.36** Lk 18.1
* **21.37** Mk 11.19; Lk 19.47

Luke 22

* **22.1** Jn 11.47–53
f **22.2** Gk *him*
* **22.2** Mt 12.14
* **22.3** Jn 13.2
* **22.5** Zech 11.12
* **22.7** Ex 12.18–20; Deut 16.5–8
g **22.8** Gk *he*
* **22.8** Lk 19.29; Acts 3.1
h **22.16** Other ancient authorities read *never eat it again*
* **22.16** Lk 14.15; Rev 19.9
i **22.20** Other ancient authorities lack, in whole or in part, 22.19b–20 (*which is given . . . in my blood*)
* **22.21** Mt 26.21–24; Mk 14.18–21; Jn 13.21–30
* **22.22** Acts 2.23; 4.28
* **22.24** Mk 9.34; Lk 9.46
* **22.25** Mt 20.25–28; Mk 10.42–45
* **22.26** Lk 9.48; 1 Pet 5.5
* **22.27** Lk 12.37
* **22.28** Heb 2.18; 4.15
* **22.29** Lk 12.32; 2 Tim 2.12
* **22.30** Mt 19.28; Lk 14.15; Rev 3.21; 19.9
j **22.31** Or *has obtained permission*
* **22.31** Job 1.6–12; Am 9.9
* **22.32** Jn 17.9, 15; 21.15–17
k **22.34** Gk *He*
* **22.35** Mt 10.9; Lk 9.3; 10.4
* **22.37** Isa 53.12
* **22.39** Lk 21.37
l **22.40** Or *into testing*
* **22.40** Mt 6.13
* **22.42** Mk 10.38; Jn 5.30; 18.11
* **22.43** Mt 4.11
m **22.44** Other ancient authorities lack 22.43 and 22.44
* **22.44** Heb 5.7
n **22.46** Or *into testing*
* **22.46** v 40

* **22.49** v 38
* **22.52** vv 4, 37
* **22.53** Jn 12.27
* **22.54** Mt 26.58; Mk 14.54
* **22.61** v 34
o **22.63** Gk *him*
* **22.63** Mt 26.67, 68; Mk 14.65; Jn 18.22, 23
* **22.66** Mt 27.1; Mk 15.1
p **22.67** Or *the Christ*
* **22.67** Mt 26.63–66; Mk 14.61–63; Jn 18.19–21
q **22.68** Other ancient authorities add *or release me*
* **22.70** Mt 27.11; Lk 23.3

Luke 23

r **23.1** Gk *him*
* **23.1** Mt 27.2; Mk 15.1; Jn 18.28
s **23.2** Or *is an anointed king*
* **23.2** Lk 20.22; Jn 19.12
* **23.3** Lk 22.70; 1 Tim 6.13
* **23.4** 1 Pet 2.22
* **23.7** Lk 3.1
* **23.8** Mt 14.1; Mk 6.14; Lk 9.9
t **23.9** Gk *he*
* **23.11** Mk 15.17–19; Jn 19.2, 3
* **23.12** Acts 4.27
* **23.14** vv 2, 4
u **23.16** Here, or after 23.19, other ancient authorities add 23.17: *Now he was obliged to release someone for them at the festival*
* **23.16** Mt 27.26; Mk 15.15; Jn 19.1
* **23.18** Mt 27.20–23; Mk 15.11–14; Jn 18.38–40; 19.14, 15; Acts 3.13, 14
* **23.22** v 16
* **23.26** Jn 19.17
* **23.27** Lk 8.52
* **23.28** Lk 19.41–44; 21.23, 24
* **23.30** Isa 2.19; Hos 10.8; Rev 6.16
* **23.31** Ezek 20.47
* **23.32** Isa 53.12
v **23.33** Gk *him*
w **23.34** Other ancient authorities lack the sentence *Then Jesus . . . what they are doing*
* **23.34** Ps 22.18; Acts 7.60
x **23.35** Or *the Christ*

* **23.35** Ps 22.17
* **23.36** Ps 69.21; Mt 27.48
y **23.38** Other ancient authorities add *written in Greek and Latin and Hebrew* (that is, *Aramaic*)
z **23.39** Or *blaspheming*
a **23.39** Or *the Christ*
* **23.39** vv 35, 37
* **23.41** vv 4, 14, 22
b **23.42** Other ancient authorities read *into*
* **23.43** 2 Cor 12.3, 4; Rev 2.7
c **23.44** Or *earth*
d **23.45** Or *the sun was eclipsed*. Other ancient authorities read *the sun was darkened*
* **23.45** Ex 26.31–35; Heb 9.8; 10.19
* **23.46** Ps 31.5; 1 Pet 2.23
e **23.47** Or *righteous*
* **23.47** Mt 27.54
* **23.49** Ps 38.11; Lk 8.2
* **23.51** Lk 2.25
f **23.54** Gk *was dawning*
* **23.54** Mt 27.62
* **23.55** v 49
* **23.56** Ex 12.16; 20.10; Mk 16.1

Luke 24

* **24.1** Lk 23.56
g **24.3** Other ancient authorities add *of the Lord Jesus*
* **24.4** Acts 1.10; 12.7
h **24.5** Gk *They*
i **24.5** Gk *but they*
j **24.5** Other ancient authorities lack *He is not here but has risen*
* **24.6** Mt 17.22, 23; Mk 9.30, 31; Lk 9.22
* **24.8** Jn 2.22
* **24.9** v 46
* **24.10** Lk 8.1–3
* **24.11** v 35
k **24.12** Other ancient authorities lack 24.12
l **24.13** Gk *sixty stadia*; other ancient authorities read *a hundred sixty stadia*
* **24.15** v 36
m **24.17** Other ancient authorities read *walk along, looking sad?"*
* **24.18** Jn 19.25
n **24.19** Other ancient authorities read *Jesus the Nazorean*
* **24.19** Mt 21.11; Lk 7.16; 13.33; 23.13; Acts 2.22; 24.20

o **24.21** Or *to set Israel free*
* **24.21** Lk 1.68
* **24.22** vv 9, 10
* **24.24** v 12
p **24.26** Or *the Christ*
* **24.26** Heb 2.10; 1 Pet 1.11
* **24.27** Gen 3.15; Num 21.9; Deut 18.15; Isa 7.14; 9.6; 40.10, 11; 53; Dan 9.24; Mic 7.20; Mal 3.1
* **24.28** Mk 6.48
* **24.30** Mt 14.19
q **24.32** Other ancient authorities lack *within us*
* **24.33** Acts 1.14
* **24.34** 1 Cor 15.5
r **24.36** Gk *he*
s **24.36** Other ancient authorities lack *and said to them, "Peace be with you."*
* **24.37** Mk 6.49
* **24.39** Jn 20.27
t **24.40** Other ancient authorities lack 24.40
* **24.41** Jn 21.5
u **24.42** Other ancient authorities add *and some honeycomb*
* **24.43** Acts 10.41
* **24.44** Mt 16.21; Mk 8.31; Lk 9.22; 18.31
v **24.46** Or *the Christ*
w **24.46** Other ancient authorities read *written, and thus it was necessary for the Messiah*
* **24.46** Isa 50.6; 1 Cor 15.3, 4
* **24.47** Mt 28.19; Acts 5.31
x **24.48** Or *nations. Beginning from Jerusalem* [48]*you are witnesses*
* **24.48** Acts 1.8
* **24.49** Jn 14.16
* **24.50** Acts 1.12
y **24.51** Other ancient authorities lack *and was carried up into heaven*
* **24.51** 1 Kings 2.11
z **24.52** Other ancient authorities lack *worshiped him and*
a **24.53** Other ancient authorities add *praising and*
b **24.53** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*
* **24.53** Acts 2.46

The Gospel according to

John

John 1

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the
Word was God.* [2]He was in the beginning with God. [3]All things came into
being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What
has come into being* [4]in him was life,[a] and the life was the light of all
people.* [5]The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake
it.

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. [7]He came as a
witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. [8]He
himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. [9]The true light,
which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.[b,*]

10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet
the world did not know him.* [11]He came to what was his own,[c] and his own
people did not accept him. [12]But to all who received him, who believed in
his name, he gave power to become children of God,* [13]who were born, not
of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.*

14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his
glory, the glory as of a father's only son,[d] full of grace and truth.* [15](John
testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes
after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") [16]From his
fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.[e,*] [17]The law indeed was
given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.* [18]No one
has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who[f] is close to the
Father's heart,[g] who has made him known.*

THE TESTIMONY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

19 This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and
Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" [20]He confessed and did
not deny it, but he confessed, "I am not the Messiah."[h,*] [21]And they asked
him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the
prophet?" He answered, "No."[*] [22]Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let
us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"
[23]He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,' "

as the prophet Isaiah said.[*]

24 Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. [25]They asked him, "Why,
then, are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah,[i] nor Elijah, nor the
prophet?" [26]John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands
one whom you do not know, [27]the one who is coming after me; I am not
worthy to untie the strap of his sandal." [28]This took place in Bethany across
the Jordan where John was baptizing.

THE LAMB OF GOD

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world![*] [30]This is he of
whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he
was before me.' [31]I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with
water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." [32]And John
testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it
remained on him.[*] [33]I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to
baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and
remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'[*] [34]And I myself have
seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."[j]

THE FIRST DISCIPLES OF JESUS

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, [36]and
as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of
God!"[*] [37]The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

[38]When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”* [39]He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. [40]One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.* [41]He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed[k]).* [42]He brought Simon[l] to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas”[m] (which is translated Peter[n]).*

JESUS CALLS PHILIP AND NATHANAEL

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.”* [44]Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.* [45]Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.”* [46]Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”* [47]When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!”* [48]Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” [49]Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!”* [50]Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” [51]And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you,[o] you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”*

John 2

THE WEDDING AT CANA

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother
of Jesus was there.* [2]Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the
wedding. [3]When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They
have no wine." [4]And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me
and to you?p My hour has not yet come."* [5]His mother said to the servants,
"Do whatever he tells you." [6]Now standing there were six stone water jars
for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.*
[7]Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the
brim. [8]He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in
charge of the banquet." So they took it. [9]When the person in charge tasted
the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from
(though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the
bridegroom [10]and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and
then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have
kept the good wine until now." [11]Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in
Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.*

12 After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother, his brothers,
and his disciples, and they remained there a few days.*

JESUS CLEANSES THE TEMPLE

13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.*
[14]In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the
money changers seated at their tables. [15]Making a whip of cords, he drove
all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle. He also poured
out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. [16]He told
those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop
making my Father's house a marketplace!"* [17]His disciples remembered
that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."* [18]The Jews
then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"* [19]Jesus

answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”* [20]The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” [21]But he was speaking of the temple of his body.* [22]After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

23 When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. [24]But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people [25]and needed no one to testify about anyone, for he himself knew what was in everyone.*

John 3

NICODEMUS VISITS JESUS

1 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. [2]He
came to Jesus[q] by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a
teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do
unless God is with that person."* [3]Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell
you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."[r,*]
[4]Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old?
Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" [5]Jesus
answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God
without being born of water and Spirit.* [6]What is born of the flesh is flesh,
and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. [7]Do not be astonished that I said to
you, 'You[s] must be born from above.'[t] [8]The wind[u] blows where it chooses,
and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or
where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."*
[9]Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"* [10]Jesus answered
him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these
things?

11 "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what
we have seen, yet you[v] do not receive our testimony.* [12]If I have told you
about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell
you about heavenly things? [13]No one has ascended into heaven except the
one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.[w,*] [14]And just as Moses
lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,*
[15]that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.[x,*]

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that
everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*

17 "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the
world but in order that the world might be saved through him.* [18]Those
who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are
condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only

Son of God.* 19And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.* 20For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.* 21But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."[y,*]

JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST

22 After this Jesus and his disciples went into the region of Judea, and he spent some time there with them and baptized. 23John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim because water was abundant there, and people kept coming and were being baptized. 24(John, of course, had not yet been thrown into prison.)*

25 Now a discussion about purification arose between John's disciples and a Jew.[z] 26They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, the one who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you testified, here he is baptizing, and all are going to him."* 27John answered, "No one can receive anything except what has been given from heaven.* 28You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, 'I am not the Messiah,[a] but I have been sent ahead of him.'* 29He who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom who stands and hears him rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. For this reason my joy has been fulfilled.* 30He must increase, but I must decrease."[b]

THE ONE WHO COMES FROM HEAVEN

31 The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all.* 32He testifies to what he has seen and heard, yet no one accepts his testimony.* 33Whoever has accepted his testimony has certified[c] this, that God is true.* 34He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure.* 35The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands.* 36Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not see life but must endure God's wrath.*

John 4

JESUS AND THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA

1 Now when Jesus[d] learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is making
and baptizing more disciples than John"* [2](although it was not Jesus
himself but his disciples who baptized), [3]he left Judea and started back to
Galilee. [4]But he had to go through Samaria. [5]So he came to a Samaritan city
called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son
Joseph.* [6]Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was
sitting by the well. It was about noon.

7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give
me a drink." [8](His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) [9]The
Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me,
a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with
Samaritans.)[e,*] [10]Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who
it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him,
and he would have given you living water."* [11]The woman said to him,
"Sir,[f] you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that
living water? [12]Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the
well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" [13]Jesus said to her,
"Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, [14]but those who
drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that
I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal
life."* [15]The woman said to him, "Sir,[g] give me this water, so that I may
never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."*

16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." [17]The
woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are
right in saying, 'I have no husband,' [18]for you have had five husbands, and
the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"
[19]The woman said to him, "Sir,[h] I see that you are a prophet. [20]Our
ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you[i] say that the place where
people must worship is in Jerusalem."* [21]Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe
me, the hour is coming when you[j] will worship the Father neither on this

mountain nor in Jerusalem.* 22You[k] worship what you[l] do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.* 23But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.* 24God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."* 25The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."* 26Jesus said to her, "I am he,[m] the one who is speaking to you."*

27 Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" 28Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 29"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah,[n] can he?"* 30They left the city and were on their way to him.

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." 32But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." 33So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" 34Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.* 35Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.* 36The reaper is already receiving[o] wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.* 37For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'* 38I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

39 Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."* 40So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. 41And many more believed because of his word. 42They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."*

JESUS RETURNS TO GALILEE

43 When the two days were over, he went from that place to Galilee*
44(for Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in the
prophet's own country).* 45When he came to Galilee, the Galileans
welcomed him, since they had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the
festival, for they, too, had gone to the festival.*

JESUS HEALS AN OFFICIAL'S SON

46 Then he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had changed the
water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in
Capernaum.* 47When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee,
he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the
point of death.* 48Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you[p] see signs and
wonders you will not believe."* 49The official said to him, "Sir,[q] come
down before my little boy dies." 50Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will
live."[r] The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his
way. 51As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his
child was alive. 52So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and
they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him."
53The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him,
"Your son will live."[s] So he himself believed, along with his whole
household.* 54Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming
from Judea to Galilee.*

John 5

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH

1 After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

2 Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew[t] Beth-zatha,[u] which has five porticoes.* [3]In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people.[v] [5]One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. [6]When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" [7]The ill man answered him, "Sir,[w] I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." [8]Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk."* [9]At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath.* [10]So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat."* [11]But he answered them, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and walk.' " [12]They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take it up and walk'?" [13]Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in[x] the crowd that was there. [14]Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you."* [15]The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. [16]Therefore the Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the Sabbath. [17]But Jesus answered them, "My Father is still working, and I also am working."* [18]For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the Sabbath but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.*

THE AUTHORITY OF THE SON

19 Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own but only what he sees the Father doing, for whatever the Father[y]

does, the Son does likewise.* 20The Father loves the Son and shows him all
that he himself is doing, and he will show him greater works than these, so
that you will be astonished.* 21Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and
gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomever he wishes.* 22The
Father judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son,* 23so that all
may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not
honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.* 24Very truly, I tell
you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal
life and does not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.*

25 "Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming and is now here when the
dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.*
26For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to
have life in himself, 27and he has given him authority to execute judgment
because he is the Son of Man.* 28Do not be astonished at this, for the hour
is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice 29and will
come out: those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those
who have done evil to the resurrection of condemnation.*

WITNESSES TO JESUS

30 "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is
just because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.*

31 "If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true.* 32There is another
who testifies on my behalf, and I know that his testimony to me is true.*
33You sent messengers to John, and he testified to the truth.* 34Not that I
accept such human testimony, but I say these things so that you may be
saved. 35He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to
rejoice for a while in his light.* 36But I have a testimony greater than
John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works
that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me.* 37And the
Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never
heard his voice or seen his form,* 38and you do not have his word abiding in
you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.*

39 "You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have
eternal life, and it is they that testify on my behalf.* 40Yet you refuse to

come to me to have life. [41]I do not accept glory from humans. [42]But I know that you do not have the love of God in[z] you. [43]I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. [44]How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God?[a,*] [45]Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope.[*] [46]If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.[*] [47]But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?"

John 6

FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

1 After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the
Sea of Tiberias.[b] [2]A large crowd kept following him because they saw the
signs that he was doing for the sick. [3]Jesus went up the mountain and sat
down there with his disciples. [4]Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews,
was near. [5]When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him,
Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?"*
[6]He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.
[7]Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread
for each of them to get a little." [8]One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon
Peter's brother, said to him, [9]"There is a boy here who has five barley
loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" [10]Jesus
said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in
the place, so they[c] sat down, about five thousand in all. [11]Then Jesus took
the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who
were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.* [12]When they were
satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that
nothing may be lost." [13]So they gathered them up, and from the fragments
of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve
baskets. [14]When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to
say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."*

15 When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by
force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.*

JESUS WALKS ON THE WATER

16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, [17]got into a
boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus
had not yet come to them. [18]The sea became rough because a strong wind
was blowing. [19]When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw
Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified.

[20]But he said to them, “It is I;[d] do not be afraid.” [21]Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

THE BREAD FROM HEAVEN

22 The next day the crowd that had stayed on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there. They also saw that Jesus had not gotten into the boat with his disciples but that his disciples had gone away alone.* [23]But some boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks.* [24]So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.*

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” [26]Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves.* [27]Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.”* [28]Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” [29]Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”* [30]So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?* [31]Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ”* [32]Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. [33]For the bread of God is that which[e] comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”* [34]They said to him, “Sir,[f] give us this bread always.”*

35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.* [36]But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe.* [37]Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away,* [38]for I have come down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.* [39]And this is the will of him who sent

me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me but raise it up on the last day.* 40This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day."*

41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?"* 43Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. 44No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise that person up on the last day.* 45It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me.* 46Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.* 47Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.* 48I am the bread of life. 49Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. 51I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."*

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"* 53So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.* 54Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day,* 55for my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. 56Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them.* 57Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." 59He said these things while he was teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum.

THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE

60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is
difficult; who can accept it?” [61]But Jesus, being aware that his disciples
were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you?* [62]Then
what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?*
[63]It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have
spoken to you are spirit and life. [64]But among you there are some who do
not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who
did not believe and who was the one who would betray him.* [65]And he said,
“For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is
granted by the Father.”*

66 Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went
about with him. [67]So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go
away?” [68]Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have
the words of eternal life. [69]We have come to believe and know that you are
the Holy One of God.”[g,* 70]Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the
twelve? Yet one of you is a devil.”* [71]He was speaking of Judas son of
Simon Iscariot,[h] for he, though one of the twelve, was going to betray him.

John 7

THE UNBELIEF OF JESUS'S BROTHERS

1 After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He did not wish to go about in
Judea because the Jews were looking for an opportunity to kill him.* [2]Now
the Jewish Festival of Booths[i] was near.* [3]So his brothers said to him,
"Leave here and go to Judea so that your disciples also may see the works
you are doing,* [4]for no one who wants[j] to be widely known acts in secret. If
you do these things, show yourself to the world." [5](For not even his
brothers believed in him.)* [6]Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come,
but your time is always here.* [7]The world cannot hate you, but it hates me
because I testify against it that its works are evil.* [8]Go to the festival
yourselves. I am not[k] going to this festival, for my time has not yet fully
come." [9]After saying this, he remained in Galilee.

JESUS AT THE FESTIVAL OF BOOTHS

10 But after his brothers had gone to the festival, then he also went, not
publicly but, as it were,[l] in secret. [11]The Jews were looking for him at the
festival and saying, "Where is he?" [12]And there was considerable
complaining about him among the crowds. While some were saying, "He is
a good man," others were saying, "No, he is deceiving the crowd."* [13]Yet
no one would speak openly about him for fear of the Jews.*

14 About the middle of the festival Jesus went up into the temple and
began to teach. [15]The Jews were astonished at it, saying, "How does this
man have such learning, when he has never been taught?"* [16]Then Jesus
answered them, "My teaching is not mine but his who sent me.* [17]Anyone
who resolves to do the will of God will know whether the teaching is from
God or whether I am speaking on my own.* [18]Those who speak on their
own seek their own glory, but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent
him is true, and there is nothing unjust in him.*

19 "Did not Moses give you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law.
Why are you looking for an opportunity to kill me?"* [20]The crowd

answered, “You have a demon! Who is trying to kill you?”* 21Jesus answered them, “I performed one work, and all of you are astonished. 22Because of this Moses gave you circumcision (it is, of course, not from Moses but from the patriarchs), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath.* 23If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath in order that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because I healed a man’s whole body on the Sabbath?* 24Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”*

IS THIS THE CHRIST?

25 Now some of the people of Jerusalem were saying, “Is not this the man whom they are trying to kill? 26And here he is, speaking openly, but they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Messiah?[m] 27Yet we know where this man is from, but when the Messiah[n] comes no one will know where he is from.”* 28Then Jesus cried out as he was teaching in the temple, “You know me, and you know where I am from. I have not come on my own. But the one who sent me is true, and you do not know him.* 29I know him because I am from him, and he sent me.”* 30Then they tried to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him because his hour had not yet come.* 31Yet many in the crowd believed in him and were saying, “When the Messiah[o] comes, will he do more signs than this man has done?”[p,*]

OFFICERS ARE SENT TO ARREST JESUS

32 The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering such things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent temple police to arrest him. 33Jesus then said, “I will be with you a little while longer, and then I am going to him who sent me.* 34You will search for me, but you will not find me, and where I am, you cannot come.”* 35The Jews said to one another, “Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?* 36What does he mean by saying, ‘You will search for me, but you will not find me’ and ‘Where I am, you cannot come’?”

RIVERS OF LIVING WATER

37 On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me,* [38]and let the one who believes in me drink. As[q] the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart[r] shall flow rivers of living water.' "* [39]Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit[s] because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

DIVISION AMONG THE PEOPLE

40 When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, "This is really the prophet." [41]Others said, "This is the Messiah."[t] But some asked, "Surely the Messiah[u] does not come from Galilee, does he?* [42]Has not the scripture said that the Messiah[v] is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?"* [43]So there was a division in the crowd because of him. [44]Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

THE UNBELIEF OF THOSE IN AUTHORITY

45 Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why did you not arrest him?" [46]The police answered, "Never has anyone spoken like this!" [47]Then the Pharisees replied, "Surely you have not been deceived, too, have you? [48]Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him?* [49]But this crowd, which does not know the law, they are accursed." [50]Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus[w] before and who was one of them, asked, [51]"Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?"* [52]They replied, "Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee."

THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

[[**53** Then each of them went home,

John 8

1 while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. [2]Early in the morning he came
again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and began
to teach them. [3]The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had
been caught in adultery, and, making her stand before all of them, [4]they said
to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing
adultery. [5]Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now
what do you say?"* [6]They said this to test him, so that they might have
some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his
finger on the ground. [7]When they kept on questioning him, he straightened
up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first
to throw a stone at her."* [8]And once again he bent down and wrote on the
ground. [9]When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with
the elders, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him.*
[10]Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no
one condemned you?" [11]She said, "No one, sir."[x] And Jesus said, "Neither
do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."]][y,*

JESUS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of
life."* [13]Then the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying on your own
behalf; your testimony is not valid." [14]Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on
my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come
from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or
where I am going. [15]You judge by human standards;[z] I judge no one. [16]Yet
even if I do judge, my judgment is valid, for it is not I alone who judge but I
and the Father[a] who sent me. [17]In your law it is written that the testimony of
two witnesses is valid.* [18]I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who
sent me testifies on my behalf."* [19]Then they said to him, "Where is your
Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you
knew me, you would know my Father also."* [20]He spoke these words while

he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.*

JESUS FORETELLS HIS DEATH

21 Again he said to them, "I am going away, and you will search for me, but you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come."* 22Then the Jews said, "Is he going to kill himself? Is that what he means by saying, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" 23He said to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are from this world, I am not from this world.* 24I told you that you would die in your sins, for you will die in your sins unless you believe that I am he."b,* 25They said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Why do I speak to you at all?c 26I have much to say about you and much to condemn, but the one who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him."* 27They did not understand that he was speaking to them about the Father. 28So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will realize that I am hed and that I do nothing on my own, but I speak these things as the Father instructed me.* 29And the one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what is pleasing to him."* 30As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

TRUE DISCIPLES

31 Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."* 33They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"*

34 Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.* 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever.* 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. 37I know that you are descendants of Abraham, yet you look for an opportunity to kill me because there is no place in you for my word. 38I declare what I have seen in the Father's

presence; as for you, you should do what you have heard from the Father."[e,*]

JESUS AND ABRAHAM

39 They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you are Abraham's children, you would do[f] what Abraham did,[*] [40]but now you are trying to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. [41]You are indeed doing what your father does." They said to him, "We are not illegitimate children; we have one Father, God himself."[*] [42]Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God, and now I am here. I did not come on my own, but he sent me.[*] [43]Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot accept my word. [44]You are from your father the devil, and you choose to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.[*] [45]But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.[g] [46]Which of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? [47]Whoever is from God hears the words of God. The reason you do not hear them is that you are not from God."[*]

48 The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?"[*] [49]Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. [50]Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge.[*] [51]Very truly, I tell you, whoever keeps my word will never see death."[*] [52]The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, and so did the prophets, yet you say, 'Whoever keeps my word will never taste death.'[*] [53]Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets also died. Who do you claim to be?"[*] [54]Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, he of whom you say, 'He is our God,'[*] [55]though you do not know him. But I know him; if I would say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know him, and I keep his word.[*] [56]Your ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad."[*] [57]Then the Jews said to him, "You are

not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?”[h] 58Jesus said to them,
“Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am.”[*] 59So they picked up
stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.[*]

John 9

A MAN BORN BLIND RECEIVES SIGHT

1 As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. [2]His disciples asked
him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"
[3]Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born
blind so that God's works might be revealed in him.* [4]We[i] must work the
works of him who sent me[j] while it is day; night is coming, when no one
can work.* [5]As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*
[6]When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva
and spread the mud on the man's eyes,* [7]saying to him, "Go, wash in the
pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came
back able to see.* [8]The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a
beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" [9]Some
were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like
him." He kept saying, "I am he." [10]But they kept asking him, "Then how
were your eyes opened?" [11]He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud,
spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went
and washed and received my sight." [12]They said to him, "Where is he?" He
said, "I do not know."

THE PHARISEES INVESTIGATE THE HEALING

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.
[14]Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his
eyes.* [15]Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his
sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I
see." [16]Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does
not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner
perform such signs?" And they were divided.* [17]So they said again to the
blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He
said, "He is a prophet."*

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his
sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight
19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then
does he now see?" 20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son
and that he was born blind, 21 but we do not know how it is that now he
sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will
speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the
Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus[k] to
be the Messiah[l] would be put out of the synagogue.* 23 Therefore his parents
said, "He is of age; ask him."

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and
they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner."*
25 He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know,
that though I was blind, now I see." 26 They said to him, "What did he do to
you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 He answered them, "I have told you
already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do
you also want to become his disciples?" 28 Then they reviled him, saying,
"You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.* 29 We know that God
has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes
from."* 30 The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not
know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God
does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and
obeys his will.* 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone
opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he
could do nothing." 34 They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins,
and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS

35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he
said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"[m,*] 36 He answered, "And who is
he, sir?[n] Tell me, so that I may believe in him."* 37 Jesus said to him, "You
have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he."* 38 He said, "Lord,[o] I
believe." And he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, "I came into this world for
judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may

become blind.”* 40Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and
said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”* 41Jesus said to them, “If
you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’
your sin remains.*

John 10

JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1 "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the
gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. [2]The one who
enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.* [3]The gatekeeper opens the
gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name
and leads them out. [4]When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of
them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. [5]They will
not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know
the voice of strangers." [6]Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they
did not understand what he was saying to them.

7 So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the
sheep. [8]All who came before me[p] are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did
not listen to them. [9]I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and
will come in and go out and find pasture. [10]The thief comes only to steal
and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the
sheep.* [12]The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the
sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the
wolf snatches them and scatters them.* [13]The hired hand runs away because
a hired hand does not care for the sheep. [14]I am the good shepherd. I know
my own, and my own know me, [15]just as the Father knows me, and I know
the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. [16]I have other sheep that
do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my
voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.* [17]For this reason the
Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
[18]No one takes[q] it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have
power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received
this command from my Father."

19 Again the Jews were divided because of these words.* [20]Many of
them were saying, "He has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to

him?”* 21Others were saying, “These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”*

JESUS IS REJECTED BY THE JEWS

22 At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, 23and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.* 24So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah,[r] tell us plainly.” 25Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me,* 26but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep.* 27My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.* 28I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.* 29My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all,[s] and no one can snatch them out of the Father’s hand.* 30The Father and I are one.”

31 The Jews took up stones again to stone him. 32Jesus replied, “I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these are you going to stone me?” 33The Jews answered, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, though only a human, are making yourself God.”* 34Jesus answered, “Is it not written in your law,[t] ‘I said, you are gods’?* 35If those to whom the word of God came were called ‘gods’—and the scripture cannot be annulled—36can you say that the one whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world is blaspheming because I said, ‘I am God’s Son’?* 37If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me.* 38But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand[u] that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”* 39Then they tried to arrest him again, but he escaped from their hands.*

40 He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing earlier, and he remained there. 41Many came to him, and they were saying, “John performed no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.”* 42And many believed in him there.*

John 11

THE DEATH OF LAZARUS

1 Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and
her sister Martha.* [2]Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume
and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill.* [3]So the sisters
sent a message to Jesus,[v] "Lord, he whom you love is ill." [4]But when Jesus
heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's
glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."* [5]Accordingly,
though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, [6]after having heard
that Lazarus[w] was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

7 Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."*
[8]The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone
you, and are you going there again?"* [9]Jesus answered, "Are there not
twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble
because they see the light of this world. [10]But those who walk at night
stumble because the light is not in them." [11]After saying this, he told them,
"Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him."
[12]The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all
right."[x] [13]Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they
thought that he was referring merely to sleep. [14]Then Jesus told them
plainly, "Lazarus is dead. [15]For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that
you may believe. But let us go to him." [16]Thomas, who was called the
Twin,[y] said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with
him."

JESUS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

17 When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus[z] had already been in the
tomb four days. [18]Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away,
[19]and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them
about their brother.* [20]When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went
and met him, while Mary stayed at home. [21]Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if

you had been here, my brother would not have died. [22]But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him."* [23]Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." [24]Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."* [25]Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life.[a] Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,* [26]and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" [27]She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah,[b] the Son of God, the one coming into the world."*

JESUS WEEPS

28 When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." [29]And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. [30]Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. [31]The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. [32]When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."* [33]When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. [34]He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." [35]Jesus began to weep.* [36]So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" [37]But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"*

JESUS RAISES LAZARUS TO LIFE

38 Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.* [39]Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days."* [40]Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"* [41]So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me.* [42]I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that

you sent me."* 43When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."*

THE PLOT TO KILL JESUS

45 Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.* 46But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. 47So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the council and said, "What are we to do? This man is performing many signs.* 48If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place[c] and our nation." 49But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all!* 50You do not understand that it is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed."* 51He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was about to die for the nation, 52and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the dispersed children of God. 53So from that day on they planned to put him to death.*

54 Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews but went from there to a town called Ephraim in the region near the wilderness, and he remained there with the disciples.*

55 Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves.* 56They were looking for Jesus and were asking one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think? Surely he will not come to the festival, will he?" 57Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who knew where Jesus[d] was should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

John 12

MARY ANOINTS JESUS

1 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus,
whom he had raised from the dead.* [2]There they gave a dinner for him.
Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him.* [3]Mary
took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet,
and wiped them[e] with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of
the perfume.* [4]But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was
about to betray him), said, [5]"Why was this perfume not sold for three
hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" [6](He said this not
because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the
common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) [7]Jesus said, "Leave
her alone. She bought it[f] so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.*
[8]You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."*

THE PLOT TO KILL LAZARUS

9 When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came
not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from
the dead. [10]So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well,
[11]since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and
were believing in Jesus.*

JESUS'S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

12 The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that
Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. [13]So they took branches of palm trees and
went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
the King of Israel!"*

[14]Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

15 “Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.
Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey’s colt!”*

16 His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.* 17 So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify.g 18 It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. 19 The Pharisees then said to one another, “You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!”*

SOME GREEKS WISH TO SEE JESUS

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.* 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” 22 Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.* 24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. 25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.* 26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.*

JESUS SPEAKS ABOUT HIS DEATH

27 “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.* 28 Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”* 29 The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” 30 Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.* 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peopleh to myself.”* 33 He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. 34 The

crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah[i] remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?"* 35Jesus said to them, "The light is in you[j] for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. 36While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

THE UNBELIEF OF THE PEOPLE

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.* 37Although he had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in him. 38This was to fulfill the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah:

"Lord, who has believed our message,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"*

39And so they could not believe, because Isaiah also said,

40"He has blinded their eyes
and hardened their heart,
so that they might not look with their eyes
and understand with their heart and turn—
and I would heal them."*

41Isaiah said this because[k] he saw his glory and spoke about him.* 42Nevertheless many, even of the authorities, believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue,* 43for they loved human glory more than the glory that comes from God.

SUMMARY OF JESUS'S TEACHING

44 Then Jesus cried aloud: "Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me.* 45And whoever sees me sees him who sent me.* 46I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness.* 47I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world but to save

the world.* 48The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge,* 49for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. 50And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me."

John 13

JESUS WASHES THE DISCIPLES' FEET

1 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had
come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own
who were in the world, he loved them to the end.* 2The devil had already
decided[l] that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during
supper* 3Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands
and that he had come from God and was going to God,* 4got up from
supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself.* 5Then he
poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe
them with the towel that was tied around him. 6He came to Simon Peter,
who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7Jesus answered,
"You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."
8Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless
I wash you, you have no share with me."* 9Simon Peter said to him, "Lord,
not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 10Jesus said to him,
"One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,[m] but is
entirely clean. And you[n] are clean, though not all of you." 11For he knew
who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."*

12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined
again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? 13You call
me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am.* 14So if I,
your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one
another's feet.* 15For I have set you an example, that you also should do as
I have done to you.* 16Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their
master, nor are messengers[o] greater than the one who sent them.* 17If you
know these things, you are blessed if you do them. 18I am not speaking of
all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The
one who ate my bread[p] has lifted his heel against me.'* 19I tell you this now,
before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe that I am he.[q,*]
20Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me, and
whoever receives me receives him who sent me."*

JESUS FORETELLS HIS BETRAYAL

21 After saying this Jesus was troubled in spirit and declared, "Very truly,
I tell you, one of you will betray me."* [22]The disciples looked at one
another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. [23]One of his disciples—the
one whom Jesus loved—was reclining close to his heart;[r,*] [24]Simon Peter
therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. [25]So
while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"* [26]Jesus
answered, "It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have
dipped it in the dish."[s] So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it
to Judas son of Simon Iscariot.[t,*] [27]After he received the piece of bread,
Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going
to do."* [28]Now no one knew why he said this to him. [29]Some thought that,
because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we
need for the festival," or that he should give something to the poor. [30]So,
after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was
night.

THE NEW COMMANDMENT

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been
glorified, and God has been glorified in him.* [32]If God has been glorified in
him,[u] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.
[33]Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me,
and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you
cannot come.'* [34]I give you a new commandment, that you love one
another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.* [35]By
this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one
another."*

JESUS FORETELLS PETER'S DENIAL

36 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus
answered, "Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, but you will
follow afterward."* [37]Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you
now? I will lay down my life for you."* [38]Jesus answered, "Will you lay

down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me three times.

John 14

JESUS THE WAY TO THE FATHER

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe[v] in God; believe also in me.[*]
[2]In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so,
would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?[w] [3]And if I go
and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself,
so that where I am, there you may be also.[*] [4]And you know the way to the
place where I am going."[x] [5]Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know
where you are going. How can we know the way?" [6]Jesus said to him, "I
am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except
through me.[*] [7]If you know me, you will know[y] my Father also. From now
on you do know him and have seen him."

8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."
[9]Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still
do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you
say, 'Show us the Father'?[*] [10]Do you not believe that I am in the Father and
the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own,
but the Father who dwells in me does his works.[*] [11]Believe me that I am in
the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe[z] because
of the works themselves.[*] [12]Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in
me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than
these, because I am going to the Father. [13]I will do whatever you ask in my
name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14]If in my name you
ask me[a] for anything, I will do it.

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

15 "If you love me, you will keep[b] my commandments.[*] [16]And I will ask
the Father, and he will give you another Advocate,[c] to be with you forever.[*]
[17]This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it
neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with
you, and he will be[d] in[e] you.[*]

18 "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. [19]In a little while
the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you
also will live. [20]On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you
in me, and I in you.* [21]They who have my commandments and keep them
are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father,
and I will love them and reveal myself to them."* [22]Judas (not Iscariot) said
to him, "Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us and not to the
world?" [23]Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word,
and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our
home with them.* [24]Whoever does not love me does not keep my words,
and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.*

25 "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. [26]But the
Advocate,[f] the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will
teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.* [27]Peace
I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world
gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.*
[28]You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If
you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the
Father is greater than I.* [29]And now I have told you this before it occurs, so
that when it does occur you may believe. [30]I will no longer talk much with
you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me,* [31]but I
do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love
the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.*

John 15

JESUS THE TRUE VINE

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. [2]He removes every
branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes[g] to
make it bear more fruit. [3]You have already been cleansed[h] by the word that
I have spoken to you.* [4]Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch
cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless
you abide in me.* [5]I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in
me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do
nothing. [6]Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and
withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. [7]If
you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and
it will be done for you.* [8]My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much
fruit and become[i] my disciples.* [9]As the Father has loved me, so I have
loved you; abide in my love. [10]If you keep my commandments, you will
abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide
in his love.* [11]I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you
and that your joy may be complete.*

12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved
you.* [13]No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's
friends.* [14]You are my friends if you do what I command you.* [15]I do not
call you servants[j] any longer, because the servant[k] does not know what the
master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known
to you everything that I have heard from my Father. [16]You did not choose
me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will
last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.* [17]I
am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

THE WORLD'S HATRED

18 "If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you.*
[19]If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own.

Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20Remember the word that I said to you, 'Slaves are not greater than their master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also.* 21But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.* 22If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.* 23Whoever hates me hates my Father also.* 24If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not have sin. But now they have seen and hated both me and my Father.* 25It was to fulfill the word that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.'*

26 "When the Advocate[1] comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf.* 27You also are to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.*

John 16

1 “I have said these things to you to keep you from falling away.[m,*] [2]They
will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, an hour is coming when those
who kill you will think that by doing so they are offering worship to God.*
[3]And they will do this because they have not known the Father or me.* [4]But
I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may
remember that I told you about them.

THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with
you. [5]But now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me,
‘Where are you going?’* [6]But because I have said these things to you,
sorrow has filled your hearts. [7]Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your
advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate[n] will not
come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you. [8]And when he comes, he
will prove the world wrong about[o] sin and righteousness and judgment:
[9]about sin, because they do not believe in me; [10]about righteousness,
because I am going to the Father, and you will see me no longer; [11]about
judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.*

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them
now.* [13]When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth,
for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he
will declare to you the things that are to come.* [14]He will glorify me
because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. [15]All that the Father
has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare
it to you.*

SORROW WILL TURN INTO JOY

16 “A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while,
and you will see me.”* [17]Then some of his disciples said to one another,
“What does he mean by saying to us, ‘A little while, and you will no longer

see me, and again a little while, and you will see me,' and 'because I am going to the Father'?" [18]They said, "What does he mean by this 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." [19]Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'? [20]Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. [21]When a woman is in labor, she has pain because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world.* [22]So you have pain now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.* [23]On that day you will ask nothing of me.[p] Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.[q] [24]Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.*

PEACE FOR THE DISCIPLES

25 "I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures but will tell you plainly of the Father. [26]On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf, [27]for the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.[r,*] [28]I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father."*

29 His disciples said, "Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! [30]Now we know that you know all things and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God."* [31]Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? [32]The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me.* [33]I have said this to you so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution, but take courage: I have conquered the world!"*

John 17

JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS DISCIPLES

1 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said,
"Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify
you,* 2since you have given him authority over all people,[s] to give eternal
life to all whom you have given him.* 3And this is eternal life, that they
may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*
4I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do.* 5So
now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in
your presence before the world existed.*

6 "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the
world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your
word.* 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you,
8for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have
received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have
believed that you sent me.* 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on
behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they
are yours.* 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been
glorified in them.* 11And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in
the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name
that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.* 12While I
was with them, I protected them in your name that[t] you have given me. I
guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be
lost,[u] so that the scripture might be fulfilled.* 13But now I am coming to
you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy
made complete in themselves.[v] 14I have given them your word, and the
world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do
not belong to the world.* 15I am not asking you to take them out of the
world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.[w],* 16They do not
belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 17Sanctify them in
the truth; your word is truth. 18As you have sent me into the world, so I

have sent them into the world.* 19And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so
that they also may be sanctified in truth.

20 "I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who
believe in me through their word, 21that they may all be one. As you,
Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us,[x] so that the world
may believe that you have sent me.* 22The glory that you have given me I
have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,* 23I in them and
you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may
know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved
me. 24Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be
with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because
you loved me before the foundation of the world.*

25 "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and
these know that you have sent me.* 26I made your name known to them,
and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me
may be in them and I in them."*

John 18

THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS

1 After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across
the Kidron Valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his
disciples entered. [2]Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place
because Jesus often met there with his disciples.* [3]So Judas brought a
detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the
Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.*
[4]Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and
asked them, "Whom are you looking for?"* [5]They answered, "Jesus of
Nazareth."[y] Jesus replied, "I am he."[z] Judas, who betrayed him, was
standing with them. [6]When Jesus[a] said to them, "I am he,"[b] they stepped
back and fell to the ground. [7]Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking
for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."[c,*] [8]Jesus answered, "I told you
that I am he.[d] So if you are looking for me, let these people go." [9]This was
to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those
whom you gave me."* [10]Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it,
struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was
Malchus. [11]Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I
not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"*

JESUS BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST

12 So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and
bound him. [13]First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of
Caiaphas, the high priest that year.* [14]Caiaphas was the one who had
advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.*

PETER DENIES JESUS

15 Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple
was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the
high priest,* [16]but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other

disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. 17The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not."* 18Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.*

THE HIGH PRIEST QUESTIONS JESUS

19 Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.* 20Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. 21Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." 22When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?"* 23Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"* 24Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.*

PETER DENIES JESUS AGAIN

25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not."* 26One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"* 27Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.*

JESUS BEFORE PILATE

28 Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover.* 29So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" 30They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." 31Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not

permitted to put anyone to death." [32](This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)*

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"* [34]Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" [35]Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" [36]Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."* [37]Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."* [38]Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

JESUS SENTENCED TO DEATH

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him.* [39]But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"* [40]They shouted in reply, "Not this man but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a rebel.*

John 19

1 Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.* [2]And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe.* [3]They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face.* [4]Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him."* [5]So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate[e] said to them, "Behold the man!"* [6]When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."* [7]The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."*

8 Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. [9]He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.* [10]Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?" [11]Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."* [12]From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar."*

13 When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat[f] on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew[g] Gabbatha.* [14]Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!"* [15]They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." [16]Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

So they took Jesus,* 17and carrying the cross by himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew[h] is called Golgotha.* 18There they crucified him and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. 19Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth,[i] the King of the Jews." 20Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew,[j] in Latin, and in Greek. 21Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.' "* 22Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." 23When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. 24So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."*

25And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.* 26When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son."* 27Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

28 After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty."* 29A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. 30When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

JESUS'S SIDE IS PIERCED

31 Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed.* 32Then the soldiers came and broke

the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him.* 33But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. 34Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.* 35(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows[k] that he tells the truth, so that you also may continue[l] to believe.)* 36These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken."* 37And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."*

THE BURIAL OF JESUS

38 After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. 39Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds.* 40They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews.* 41Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. 42And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

John 20

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene
came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.*
2So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom
Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb,
and we do not know where they have laid him."* 3Then Peter and the other
disciple set out and went toward the tomb.* 4The two were running
together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5He
bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not
go in.* 6Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He
saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7and the cloth that had been on Jesus's
head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.
8Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he
saw and believed,* 9for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he
must rise from the dead.* 10Then the disciples returned to their homes.

JESUS APPEARS TO MARY MAGDALENE

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over
to look[m] into the tomb,* 12and she saw two angels in white sitting where the
body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.*
13They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them,
"They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid
him."* 14When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing
there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15Jesus said to her, "Woman,
why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be
the gardener, she said to him, "Sir,[n] if you have carried him away, tell me
where you have laid him, and I will take him away."* 16Jesus said to her,
"Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew,[o] "Rabbouni!" (which means
Teacher). 17Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet
ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am

ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' "[*]
[18]Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the
Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.[*]

JESUS APPEARS TO THE DISCIPLES

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the
doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus
came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."[*] [20]After he said
this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced
when they saw the Lord.[*] [21]Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you."[*] [22]When he had said this, he
breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23]If you
forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any,
they are retained."[*]

JESUS AND THOMAS

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin[p]), one of the twelve, was not
with them when Jesus came.[*] [25]So the other disciples told him, "We have
seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in
his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his
side, I will not believe."[*]

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was
with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among
them and said, "Peace be with you."[*] [27]Then he said to Thomas, "Put your
finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side.
Do not doubt but believe."[*] [28]Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my
God!" [29]Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."[*]

THE PURPOSE OF THIS BOOK

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that
are not written in this book. [31]But these are written so that you may

continue[q] to believe that Jesus is the Messiah,[r] the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.[*]

John 21

JESUS APPEARS TO SEVEN DISCIPLES

1 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea
of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way.* [2]Gathered there together
were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin,[s] Nathanael of Cana in Galilee,
the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples.* [3]Simon Peter said to
them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They
went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.*

4 Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not
know that it was Jesus.* [5]Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish,
have you?" They answered him, "No."* [6]He said to them, "Cast the net to
the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now
they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.* [7]That
disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon
Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had
taken it off, and jumped into the sea.* [8]But the other disciples came in the
boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only
about a hundred yards off.

9 When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on
it, and bread.* [10]Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have
just caught." [11]So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full
of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many,
the net was not torn. [12]Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now
none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew
it was the Lord. [13]Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and
did the same with the fish.* [14]This was now the third time that Jesus
appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.*

JESUS AND PETER

15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon
son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord;

you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."* 16A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."* 17He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.* 18Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." 19(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."*

JESUS AND THE BELOVED DISCIPLE

20 Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?"* 21When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" 22Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!"* 23So the rumor spread among the brothers and sisters that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"t,*

24 This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true.* 25But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.*

John 1

* **1.1** Phil 2.6; Col 1.17; 1 Jn 1.1
* **1.3** Col 1.16; Heb 1.2

a **1.4** Or *3through him. And without him not one thing came into being that has come into being. 4In him was life*

* **1.4** Jn 5.26; 11.25; 14.6

b **1.9** Or *He was the true light that enlightens everyone coming into the world*

* **1.9** Isa 49.6; 1 Jn 2.8
* **1.10** Col 1.16; Heb 1.2

c **1.11** Or *to his own home*

* **1.12** Gal 3.26; 1 Jn 5.13
* **1.13** Jn 3.5, 6; Jas 1.18; 1 Pet 1.23

d **1.14** Or *the Father's only Son*

* **1.14** Rom 1.3; Gal 4.4; 1 Tim 3.16; Heb 2.14

e **1.16** Or *grace in place of grace*

* **1.16** Eph 1.23; Col 1.19
* **1.17** Rom 3.24

f **1.18** Other ancient authorities read *is the only Son who*

g **1.18** Gk *bosom*

* **1.18** Ex 33.20; Jn 6.46; 1 Jn 4.9

h **1.20** Or *the Christ*

* **1.20** Lk 3.15, 16; Jn 3.28
* **1.21** Deut 18.15; Mt 11.14; 16.14
* **1.23** Isa 40.3; Mt 3.3; Mk 1.3; Lk 3.4

i **1.25** Or *the Christ*

* **1.29** Isa 53.7; 1 Pet 1.19
* **1.32** Mt 3.16; Mk 1.10; Lk 3.22
* **1.33** Mt 3.11; Acts 1.5

j **1.34** Other ancient authorities read *the Son of God*

* **1.36** v 29
* **1.38** v 49
* **1.40** Mt 4.18–22; Mk 1.16–20; Lk 5.2–11

k **1.41** Or *Christ*

* **1.41** Dan 9.25; Jn 4.25

l **1.42** Gk *him*

m **1.42** Aramaic for *rock*

n **1.42** Greek for *rock*

* **1.42** Mt 16.18; Jn 21.15–17; 1 Cor 15.5
* **1.43** Mt 10.3; Jn 6.5, 7; 12.21, 22; 14.8, 9

* **1.44** Jn 12.21
* **1.45** Mt 2.23; Lk 2.4; 24.27; Jn 21.2
* **1.46** Jn 7.41, 42
* **1.47** Ps 32.2; 73.1; Rom 9.4, 6
* **1.49** vv 34, 38; Mt 2.2; Mk 15.32; Jn 12.13
o **1.51** Both instances of *you* in 1.51 are plural in Greek
* **1.51** Gen 28.12; Mt 3.16; 8.20; Lk 3.21

John 2

* **2.1** Jn 4.46; 21.2
p **2.4** Or *What have you to do with me, woman?*
* **2.4** Jn 7.6, 30; 8.20; 19.26
* **2.6** Mk 7.3, 4; Jn 3.25
* **2.11** Jn 1.14
* **2.12** Mt 4.13; 12.46
* **2.13** Deut 16.1–6; Lk 2.41; Jn 6.4; 11.55
* **2.16** Lk 2.49
* **2.17** Ps 69.9
* **2.18** Mt 12.38
* **2.19** Mt 26.61; 27.40; Mk 14.58
* **2.21** 1 Cor 6.19
* **2.25** Jn 6.61, 64; 13.11

John 3

q **3.2** Gk *him*
* **3.2** Jn 9.16, 33; Acts 2.22; 10.38
r **3.3** Or *born anew*
* **3.3** Titus 3.5; Jas 1.18; 1 Pet 1.23; 1 Jn 3.9
* **3.5** Eph 5.26; Titus 3.5
s **3.7** The Greek word for *you* here is plural
t **3.7** Or *born anew*
u **3.8** The same Greek word means both *wind* and *spirit*
* **3.8** 1 Cor 2.11
* **3.9** Jn 6.52, 60
v **3.11** The Greek word for *you* here and in 3.12 is plural
* **3.11** Jn 7.16, 17
w **3.13** Other ancient authorities add *who is in heaven*
* **3.13** Prov 30.4; Acts 2.34; Rom 10.6; Eph 4.9
* **3.14** Num 21.9; Jn 8.28; 12.34
x **3.15** Some interpreters hold that the quotation concludes with 3.15

* **3.15** v 36; Jn 20.31; 1 Jn 5.11–13
* **3.16** Rom 5.8; 1 Jn 4.9
* **3.17** Jn 5.36, 38; 8.15; 12.47; 1 Jn 4.14
* **3.18** Jn 5.24; 1 Jn 4.9
* **3.19** Jn 1.4; 8.12
* **3.20** Eph 5.11, 13
y **3.21** Some interpreters hold that the quotation concludes with 3.15
* **3.21** 1 Jn 1.6
* **3.24** Mt 4.12; 14.3
z **3.25** Other ancient authorities read *the Jews*
* **3.26** Jn 1.7, 28
* **3.27** 1 Cor 4.7; Heb 5.4
a **3.28** Or *the Christ*
* **3.28** Jn 1.20, 23
* **3.29** Mt 25.1; Mk 2.19, 20; Jn 15.11; 16.24
b **3.30** Some interpreters hold that the quotation continues through 3.36
* **3.31** Jn 8.23; 1 Jn 4.5
* **3.32** v 11; Jn 8.26; 15.15
c **3.33** Gk *set a seal to*
* **3.33** Rom 4.11; 15.28; Eph 1.13; 4.30
* **3.34** Mt 12.18; Lk 4.18
* **3.35** Mt 28.18; Jn 5.20, 22; 17.2
* **3.36** Jn 5.24; 6.47

John 4

d **4.1** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
* **4.1** Jn 3.22, 26
* **4.5** Gen 33.19; 48.22; Josh 24.32
e **4.9** Other ancient authorities lack this sentence
* **4.9** Mt 10.5; Lk 9.52, 53; Jn 8.48
* **4.10** Isa 44.3; Jn 7.37; Rev 21.6; 22.17
f **4.11** Or *Lord*
* **4.14** Jn 6.35; 7.38
g **4.15** Or *Lord*
* **4.15** Jn 6.34
h **4.19** Or *Lord*
i **4.20** The Greek word for *you* is plural
* **4.20** Deut 11.29; Josh 8.33; Lk 9.53
j **4.21** The Greek word for *you* is plural
* **4.21** Mal 1.11; 1 Tim 2.8
k **4.22** The Greek word for *you* is plural

l **4.22** The Greek word for *you* is plural
* **4.22** 2 Kings 17.28–41; Isa 2.3; Rom 3.1, 2
* **4.23** Jn 5.25; Phil 3.3
* **4.24** Phil 3.3
* **4.25** Mt 1.16; Jn 1.41
m **4.26** Gk *I am*
* **4.26** Mt 26.63, 64; Mk 14.61, 62; Jn 8.24
n **4.29** Or *the Christ*
* **4.29** vv 17, 18; Jn 7.26, 31
* **4.34** Jn 5.30; 6.38; 17.4; 19.30
* **4.35** Mt 9.37; Lk 10.2
o **4.36** Or *35. . . the fields are already ripe for harvesting. 36The reaper is receiving*
* **4.36** v 14; Rom 1.13
* **4.37** Job 31.8; Mic 6.15
* **4.39** v 29
* **4.42** 1 Tim 4.10; 2 Tim 1.10; 1 Jn 4.14
* **4.43** v 40
* **4.44** Mt 13.57; Mk 6.4; Lk 4.24
* **4.45** Jn 2.23
* **4.46** Jn 2.1–11
* **4.47** vv 3, 54
p **4.48** Both instances of the Greek word for *you* in 4.48 are plural
* **4.48** Dan 4.2; Mk 13.22; Acts 2.19, 22, 43; 4.30; Rom 15.19; Heb 2.4
q **4.49** Or *Lord*
r **4.50** Gk *son lives*
s **4.53** Gk *son lives*
* **4.53** Acts 11.14
* **4.54** Jn 2.11

John 5

t **5.2** That is, *Aramaic*
u **5.2** Other ancient authorities read *Bethesda* or *Bethsaida*
* **5.2** Neh 3.1; 12.39
v **5.3** Other ancient authorities add, wholly or in part, *waiting for the stirring of the water, 4for an angel of the Lord went down from time to time into the pool and stirred up the water; whoever stepped in first after the stirring of the water was made well from whatever disease that person had.*
w **5.7** Or *Lord*
* **5.8** Mt 9.6; Mk 2.11; Lk 5.24
* **5.9** Jn 9.14
* **5.10** vv 15, 16; Neh 13.19; Jer 17.21; Mt 12.2; Mk 2.24; Jn 7.23; 9.16

x **5.13** Or *had left because of*
* **5.14** Mk 2.5; Jn 8.11
* **5.17** Jn 9.4; 14.10
* **5.18** Jn 7.1, 19; 10.30, 33
y **5.19** Gk *that one*
* **5.19** Jn 8.28; 12.49; 14.10
* **5.20** Jn 3.35; 14.12
* **5.21** Jn 11.25; Rom 4.17; 8.11
* **5.22** Jn 9.39; Acts 17.31
* **5.23** Lk 10.16; 1 Jn 2.23
* **5.24** Jn 3.18; 12.44; 20.31; 1 Jn 3.14; 5.13
* **5.25** Jn 4.21; 6.60; 8.43, 47
* **5.27** Acts 10.42; 17.31
* **5.29** Dan 12.2; Mt 25.46; Acts 24.15
* **5.30** Jn 4.34; 6.38; 8.16
* **5.31** Jn 8.14
* **5.32** Jn 8.18
* **5.33** Jn 1.7, 15, 19, 27, 32
* **5.35** Mt 21.26; 2 Pet 1.19
* **5.36** Jn 10.25; 14.11; 15.24; 1 Jn 5.9
* **5.37** Deut 4.12; Jn 8.18; 1 Tim 1.17
* **5.38** Jn 3.17
* **5.39** Lk 24.25, 27; Acts 13.27
z **5.42** Or *among*
a **5.44** Other manuscripts read *the Only One*
* **5.44** Rom 2.29
* **5.45** Jn 9.28; Rom 2.17
* **5.46** Gen 3.15; Lk 24.27; Acts 26.22

John 6

b **6.1** Gk *of Galilee of Tiberias*
* **6.5** Jn 1.43
c **6.10** Gk *the men*
* **6.11** v 23; Mt 15.36
* **6.14** Gen 49.10; Deut 18.15, 18; Mt 11.3; 21.11
* **6.15** Jn 18.36
d **6.20** Gk *I am*
* **6.22** vv 2, 15–21
* **6.23** vv 1, 11
* **6.24** Mt 14.34; Mk 6.53
* **6.26** vv 24, 30

* **6.27** v 54; Isa 55.2; Jn 3.35; 4.14
* **6.29** Jn 3.17; 1 Jn 3.23
* **6.30** Mt 12.38; Mk 8.11
* **6.31** Ex 16.15; Num 11.8; Neh 9.15; Ps 78.24
e **6.33** Or *he who*
* **6.33** v 50
f **6.34** Or *Lord*
* **6.34** Jn 4.15
* **6.35** vv 48, 51; Jn 4.14
* **6.36** v 26
* **6.37** v 39; Jn 17.2
* **6.38** Jn 4.34; 5.30
* **6.39** Jn 10.28; 17.12; 18.9
* **6.40** Jn 3.15, 16
* **6.42** vv 38, 62; Lk 4.22; Jn 7.27, 28
* **6.44** Jer 31.3; Hos 11.4; Jn 12.32
* **6.45** Isa 54.13; Jer 31.34; Heb 8.10; 10.16
* **6.46** Jn 1.18; 5.37; 7.29; 8.19
* **6.47** Jn 3.16, 18, 36; 5.24; 11.26
* **6.51** Heb 10.10
* **6.52** Jn 9.16; 10.19
* **6.53** Mt 26.26, 28
* **6.54** Jn 4.14
* **6.56** Jn 15.4; 1 Jn 3.24; 4.15, 16
* **6.61** Mt 11.6
* **6.62** Jn 3.13; 17.5
* **6.64** Jn 2.25
* **6.65** vv 37, 44; Jn 3.27
g **6.69** Other ancient authorities read *the Christ, the Son of the living God*
* **6.69** Mk 8.29; Lk 9.20
* **6.70** Jn 13.27; 15.16, 19
h **6.71** Other ancient authorities read *Judas Iscariot son of Simon* or *Judas son of Simon from Karyot* (Kerioth)

John 7

* **7.1** Jn 5.18
i **7.2** Or *Tabernacles*
* **7.2** Lev 23.34; Deut 16.16
* **7.3** Mt 12.46; Mk 3.31
j **7.4** Other ancient authorities read *wants it*
* **7.5** Mk 3.21

* **7.6** Mt 26.18
* **7.7** Jn 3.19, 20; 15.18, 19
k **7.8** Other ancient authorities add *yet*
l **7.10** Other ancient authorities lack *as it were*
* **7.12** vv 40–43
* **7.13** Jn 9.22; 12.42; 19.38
* **7.15** Mt 13.54; Mk 6.2; Lk 4.22
* **7.16** Jn 3.11; 8.28; 12.49
* **7.17** Jn 8.43
* **7.18** Jn 5.41; 8.50
* **7.19** Ex 24.3; Jn 1.17; 11.53
* **7.20** Jn 8.48; 10.20
* **7.22** Gen 17.10; Lev 12.3
* **7.23** Mk 3.5
* **7.24** Lev 19.15; Jn 8.15
m **7.26** Or *the Christ*
n **7.27** Or *the Christ*
* **7.27** Mt 13.55; Mk 6.3; Lk 4.22
* **7.28** Jn 1.18; 8.14, 26
* **7.29** Mt 11.27; Jn 10.15
* **7.30** Mt 21.46; Jn 8.20
o **7.31** Or *the Christ*
p **7.31** Other ancient authorities read *is doing*
* **7.31** Mt 12.23; Jn 8.30
* **7.33** Jn 13.33; 16.16–19
* **7.34** Jn 8.21; 13.33
* **7.35** Jas 1.1; 1 Pet 1.1
* **7.37** Lev 23.36; Isa 55.1; Rev 22.17
q **7.38** Or *come to me and drink.* [38]*The one who believes in me, as*
r **7.38** Gk *out of his belly*
* **7.38** Isa 12.3; Jn 4.10, 14
s **7.39** Other ancient authorities read *for as yet the Spirit* (others, *Holy Spirit*) *had not been given*
* **7.39** Joel 2.28; Jn 12.23; 20.22; Acts 2.17, 33
t **7.41** Or *the Christ*
u **7.41** Or *the Christ*
* **7.41** Jn 1.46
v **7.42** Or *the Christ*
* **7.42** Jer 23.5; Mic 5.2; Mt 2.5; Lk 2.4
* **7.48** Jn 12.42
w **7.50** Gk *him*
* **7.51** Deut 17.6; 19.15

John 8

* **8.5** Lev 20.10; Deut 22.22
* **8.7** Deut 17.7; Rom 2.1, 22
* **8.9** Rom 2.22
x **8.11** Or *Lord*
y **8.11** The most ancient authorities lack 7.53–8.11; other authorities add the passage here or after 7.36 or after 21.25 or after Luke 21.38, with variations of text; some mark the passage as doubtful.
* **8.11** Jn 3.17; 5.14
* **8.12** Jn 1.4; 9.5; 12.35
z **8.15** Gk *according to the flesh*
a **8.16** Other ancient authorities read *he*
* **8.17** Deut 17.6; Mt 18.16
* **8.18** Jn 5.37
* **8.19** Jn 14.7; 16.3
* **8.20** Mk 12.41; Jn 7.30
* **8.21** Jn 7.34
* **8.23** Jn 3.31; 17.14
b **8.24** Gk *I am*
* **8.24** Mk 13.6; Jn 4.26; 13.19
c **8.25** Or *What I have told you from the beginning*
* **8.26** Jn 3.32; 7.28; 15.15
d **8.28** Gk *I am*
* **8.28** Jn 3.11, 14; 5.19; 12.32
* **8.29** Jn 4.34; 5.30; 6.38
* **8.32** Rom 8.2; Jas 2.12
* **8.33** Mt 3.9
* **8.34** Rom 6.16; 2 Pet 2.19
* **8.35** Gal 4.30
e **8.38** Other ancient authorities read *you do what you have heard from your father*
* **8.38** Jn 5.19, 30; 14.10, 24
f **8.39** Other ancient authorities read *you were . . . you would do* or *you are . . . then do*
* **8.39** Rom 9.7; Gal 3.7
* **8.41** Isa 63.16; 64.8
* **8.42** Jn 7.28; 16.17, 28; 17.8; 1 Jn 5.1
* **8.44** vv 38, 41; Mt 12.34; 1 Jn 2.4; 3.8
g **8.45** Or *You do not believe even though I tell the truth*
* **8.47** 1 Jn 4.6
* **8.48** v 52; Jn 7.20; 10.20
* **8.50** Jn 5.41
* **8.51** Mt 16.28; Jn 14.23; 15.20; 17.6; Heb 11.5

* **8.52** Jn 7.20; 14.23; 15.20; 17.6
* **8.53** Jn 4.12
* **8.54** v 50; Jn 16.14
* **8.55** Jn 7.28, 29; 15.10
* **8.56** Mt 13.17; Heb 11.13
h **8.57** Other ancient authorities read *has Abraham seen you?*
* **8.58** Jn 1.1; 17.5, 24; Rev 1.8
* **8.59** Jn 10.31; 11.8; 12.36

John 9

* **9.3** Jn 11.4
i **9.4** Other ancient authorities read *I*
j **9.4** Other ancient authorities read *us*
* **9.4** Jn 11.9; 12.35
* **9.5** Jn 1.4; 8.12; 12.46
* **9.6** Mk 7.33; 8.23
* **9.7** v 11; Lk 13.4; Jn 11.37
* **9.14** Jn 5.9
* **9.16** Mt 12.2; Jn 7.23; 10.19
* **9.17** v 15; Mt 21.11
k **9.22** Gk *him*
l **9.22** Or *the Christ*
* **9.22** v 34; Lk 6.22; Jn 7.13; 12.42
* **9.24** v 16; Josh 7.19; 1 Sam 6.5
* **9.28** Jn 5.45
* **9.29** Jn 8.14
* **9.31** Job 27.8, 9; Ps 34.15; 66.18; Prov 15.29; 28.9; Isa 1.15; Jer 11.11; Zech 7.13
m **9.35** Other ancient authorities read *the Son of God*
* **9.35** Mt 14.33; 16.16; Mk 1.1; Jn 10.36
n **9.36** Or *Lord*
* **9.36** Rom 10.14
* **9.37** Jn 4.26
o **9.38** Or *Sir*
* **9.39** Mt 13.13; 15.14; Jn 3.19; 5.22, 27
* **9.40** Rom 2.19
* **9.41** Jn 15.22, 24

John 10

* **10.2** vv 11, 12; Mk 6.34
p **10.8** Other ancient authorities lack *before me*

* **10.10** Jn 5.40
* **10.11** Isa 40.11; Ezek 34.11–16, 23; Jn 15.13; Heb 13.20; 1 Pet 5.4; Rev 7.17
* **10.12** Zech 11.16, 17
* **10.16** Isa 56.8; Jn 11.52; Eph 2.14; 1 Pet 2.25
q **10.18** Other ancient authorities read *has taken*
* **10.19** Jn 7.43; 9.16
* **10.20** Mk 3.21; Jn 7.20; 8.48
* **10.21** Ex 4.11; Jn 9.32, 33
* **10.23** Acts 3.11; 5.12
r **10.24** Or *the Christ*
* **10.25** Jn 5.36
* **10.26** Jn 8.47
* **10.27** vv 4, 14
* **10.28** Jn 6.37, 39; 17.2, 3; 1 Jn 2.25
s **10.29** Other ancient authorities read *What my Father has given me is greater than all else* or *My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all*
* **10.29** Jn 14.28; 17.2, 6ff
* **10.33** Jn 5.18
t **10.34** Other ancient authorities read *in the law*
* **10.34** Ps 82.6
* **10.36** Jn 3.17; 5.17, 18; 6.69
* **10.37** Jn 15.24
u **10.38** Other ancient authorities lack *and understand*; others read *and believe*
* **10.38** Jn 14.10, 11; 17.21
* **10.39** Jn 7.30; 8.59
* **10.41** Jn 2.11; 3.30
* **10.42** Jn 7.31; 11.45

John 11

* **11.1** Mk 11.1; Lk 10.38
* **11.2** Mk 14.3; Lk 7.38; Jn 12.3
v **11.3** Gk *him*
* **11.4** v 40; Jn 9.3
w **11.6** Gk *he*
* **11.7** Jn 10.40
* **11.8** Jn 10.31
x **11.12** Or *will be saved*
y **11.16** Gk *Didymus*
z **11.17** Gk *he*
* **11.19** Job 2.11
* **11.22** Jn 9.31

* **11.24** Dan 12.2; Jn 5.28, 29; Acts 24.15
a **11.25** Other ancient authorities lack *and the life*
* **11.25** Jn 1.4; 3.36; 5.26; 14.6
b **11.27** Or *the Christ*
* **11.27** Mt 16.16; Jn 6.14
* **11.32** v 21
* **11.35** Lk 19.41
* **11.37** Jn 9.6, 7
* **11.38** v 33; Mt 27.60; Mk 15.46; Lk 24.2; Jn 20.1
* **11.39** v 17
* **11.40** v 23
* **11.41** Mt 11.25; Jn 17.1
* **11.42** Jn 3.17; 12.30
* **11.44** Jn 19.40; 20.7
* **11.45** v 19; Jn 2.23
* **11.47** v 57; Mt 26.3
c **11.48** Or *our temple*; Gk *our place*
* **11.49** Mt 26.3; Jn 18.13, 14
* **11.50** v 21
* **11.53** Mt 26.4
* **11.54** 2 Chr 13.19; Jn 7.1
* **11.55** Num 9.10; 2 Chr 30.17, 18; Mt 26.1, 2; Mk 14.1; Lk 22.1; Jn 12.1
d **11.57** Gk *he*

John 12

* **12.1** Lk 7.37–39; Jn 11.55
* **12.2** Lk 10.38
e **12.3** Gk *his feet*
* **12.3** Mk 14.3; Jn 11.2
f **12.7** Gk lacks *She bought it*
* **12.7** Jn 19.40
* **12.8** Mt 26.11; Mk 14.7
* **12.11** v 18; Jn 11.45
* **12.13** Ps 118.25, 26; Jn 1.49
* **12.15** Zech 9.9
* **12.16** Mk 9.32; Jn 2.22; 7.39; 14.26
g **12.17** Other ancient authorities read *with him began to testify that he had called . . . from the dead*
* **12.19** Jn 11.48
* **12.20** Jn 7.35; Acts 11.20
* **12.23** Mk 12.24; 14.35, 41; Jn 13.1, 32; 17.1; 1 Cor 15.36
* **12.25** Mt 10.39; Mk 8.35; Lk 9.24; 14.26

* **12.26** Jn 14.3; 17.24; 1 Thess 4.17
* **12.27** Mt 26.38, 39; Mk 14.34; Jn 11.33
* **12.28** Mt 3.17; 17.5; Mk 1.11; 9.7; Lk 3.22; 9.35
* **12.31** Jn 14.30; 16.11; 2 Cor 4.4; Eph 2.2
h **12.32** Other ancient authorities read *all things*
* **12.32** Jn 3.14; 6.44; 8.28
i **12.34** Or *the Christ*
* **12.34** Ps 110.4; Isa 9.7; Ezek 37.25; Dan 7.14
j **12.35** Other ancient authorities read *with you*
* **12.36** Lk 16.8; Jn 8.59
* **12.38** Isa 53.1; Rom 10.16
* **12.40** Isa 6.9, 10; Mt 13.14
k **12.41** Other ancient witnesses read *when*
* **12.41** Isa 6.1
* **12.42** Jn 7.13, 48; 9.22
* **12.44** Mt 10.40; Jn 5.24
* **12.45** Jn 14.9
* **12.46** Jn 1.4; 3.19; 8.12; 9.5
* **12.47** Jn 3.17
* **12.48** Mt 10.15; Lk 10.16

John 13

* **13.1** Jn 11.55; 12.23; 16.28
l **13.2** Gk *put it into his heart*
* **13.2** Mk 14.10; Jn 6.70, 71
* **13.3** Mt 28.18; Jn 8.42; 16.28; Heb 2.8
* **13.4** Lk 22.27
* **13.8** Jn 3.5; 9.7
m **13.10** Other ancient authorities lack *except for the feet*
n **13.10** The Greek word for *you* here is plural
* **13.11** Jn 6.64
* **13.13** Lk 6.46; Phil 2.11
* **13.14** 1 Pet 5.5
* **13.15** 1 Pet 2.21
o **13.16** Or *apostles*
* **13.16** Mt 10.24; Lk 6.40; Jn 15.20
p **13.18** Other ancient authorities read *ate bread with me*
* **13.18** Ps 41.9; Mt 26.23
q **13.19** Gk *I am*
* **13.19** Jn 8.24; 14.29; 16.4
* **13.20** Mt 10.40; Lk 10.16

* **13.21** Jn 12.27
r **13.23** Gk *bosom*
* **13.23** Jn 19.26; 20.2; 21.7, 20
* **13.25** Jn 21.20
s **13.26** Gk *dipped it*
t **13.26** Other ancient authorities read *Judas Iscariot son of Simon* or *Judas son of Simon from Karyot* (Kerioth)
* **13.26** Jn 6.71
* **13.27** Lk 22.3
* **13.31** Jn 7.39; 14.13; 1 Pet 4.11
u **13.32** Other ancient authorities lack *If God has been glorified in him*
* **13.33** Jn 7.33, 34
* **13.34** Lev 19.18; Jn 15.12; 1 Pet 1.22; 1 Jn 2.7; 3.11; 4.10
* **13.35** 1 Jn 3.14; 4.20
* **13.36** Jn 21.18; 2 Pet 1.14
* **13.37** Mt 26.33–35; Mk 14.29–31; Lk 22.33, 34

John 14

v **14.1** Or *You believe*
* **14.1** Jn 16.23, 24
w **14.2** Or *If it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you*
* **14.3** Jn 12.26
x **14.4** Other ancient authorities read *Where I am going you know, and the way you know*
* **14.6** Jn 1.4; 8.32; 10.9; 11.25
y **14.7** Other ancient authorities read *If you had known me, you would have known*
* **14.9** Jn 12.45
* **14.10** Jn 5.19; 10.38; 12.49
z **14.11** Other ancient authorities add *me*
* **14.11** Jn 5.36; 10.38
a **14.14** Other ancient authorities lack *me*
b **14.15** Other ancient authorities read *me, keep*
* **14.15** Jn 15.10; 1 Jn 5.3
c **14.16** Or *Helper* or *Comforter*
* **14.16** Jn 15.26; 16.7; 1 Jn 2.1
d **14.17** Other ancient authorities read *he is*
e **14.17** Or *among*
* **14.17** Jn 16.13; 1 Cor 2.14; 1 Jn 4.6
* **14.20** Jn 10.38
* **14.21** 1 Jn 2.5; 5.3
* **14.23** 1 Jn 2.24; Rev 3.20
* **14.24** Jn 7.16; 8.28; 12.49

f **14.26** Or *Helper* or *Comforter*
* **14.26** Jn 15.26; 16.7, 13; 1 Jn 2.20, 27
* **14.27** Jn 16.33; Phil 4.7; Col 3.15
* **14.28** v 18; Jn 5.18; 10.29, 30; Phil 2.6
* **14.30** Jn 12.31
* **14.31** Jn 10.18; 12.49; 18.1

John 15

g **15.2** The same Greek root refers to pruning and cleansing
h **15.3** The same Greek root refers to pruning and cleansing
* **15.3** Jn 13.10; 17.17; Eph 5.26
* **15.4** 1 Jn 2.6
* **15.7** Jn 14.13; 16.23
i **15.8** Or *be*
* **15.8** Mt 5.16; Jn 8.31
* **15.10** v 23
* **15.11** Jn 17.13
* **15.12** Jn 13.34
* **15.13** Jn 10.11; Rom 5.7, 8
* **15.14** Mt 12.50
j **15.15** Gk *slaves*
k **15.15** Gk *slave*
* **15.16** Jn 6.70; 14.13
* **15.18** 1 Jn 3.13
* **15.20** Mt 10.24; Lk 6.40; Jn 13.16
* **15.21** Mt 12.24; Lk 6.40; Jn 13.16
* **15.22** Jn 9.41; Rom 1.20
* **15.23** 1 Jn 2.23
* **15.24** Jn 5.36
* **15.25** Ps 35.19; 69.4
l **15.26** Or *Helper* or *Comforter*
* **15.26** Jn 14.16, 17, 26; 1 Jn 2.1; 5.7
* **15.27** Lk 24.48; Acts 2.32; 3.15; 5.32; 10.39; 13.31; 1 Jn 4.14

John 16

m **16.1** Or *stumbling*
* **16.1** Mt 11.6; Jn 15.18–27
* **16.2** Isa 66.5; Jn 9.22; Acts 26.9, 10; Rev 6.9
* **16.3** Jn 15.21; 17.25; 1 Jn 3.1
* **16.5** Jn 7.33

n **16.7** Or *Helper* or *Comforter*
o **16.8** Or *convict the world of*
* **16.11** Jn 12.31
* **16.12** Mk 4.33
* **16.13** Jn 14.17, 26
* **16.15** Jn 17.10
* **16.16** Jn 7.33; 13.3; 14.18–24
* **16.21** 1 Thess 5.3
* **16.22** vv 6, 16
p **16.23** Or *will ask me no question*
q **16.23** Other ancient authorities read *Father, he will give it to you in my name*
* **16.24** Jn 15.11
r **16.27** Other ancient authorities read *the Father*
* **16.27** Jn 14.21, 23
* **16.28** Jn 13.3
* **16.30** Jn 8.42
* **16.32** Mt 26.31; Mk 14.27
* **16.33** Jn 14.27; Rom 8.37; Col 1.20; Rev 3.21

John 17

* **17.1** Jn 12.23; 13.32
s **17.2** Gk *flesh*
* **17.2** Dan 7.14; Jn 6.37; Heb 2.8
* **17.3** Jn 3.34; 5.44; 6.29, 57
* **17.4** Jn 4.34; 13.31; 14.31
* **17.5** Jn 1.1; Phil 2.6
* **17.6** Jn 6.37, 39
* **17.8** Jn 8.28; 16.27
* **17.9** Lk 22.32; Jn 14.16
* **17.10** Jn 16.15
* **17.11** Jn 7.33; 10.30; 13.1; Rev 19.12
t **17.12** Other ancient authorities read *protected in your name those whom*
u **17.12** Gk *except the son of destruction*
* **17.12** Jn 6.39, 70; 18.9; Heb 2.13
v **17.13** Or *among themselves*
* **17.14** Jn 8.23; 15.19
w **17.15** Or *from evil*
* **17.15** Mt 6.13
* **17.18** Jn 20.21
x **17.21** Other ancient authorities read *be one in us*
* **17.21** Jn 10.38

* **17.22** Jn 14.20
* **17.24** v 5; Mt 25.34; Jn 12.26
* **17.25** Jn 7.29; 15.21; 16.3, 27
* **17.26** v 6; Jn 15.9

John 18

* **18.2** Lk 21.37; 22.39
* **18.3** Acts 1.16
* **18.4** v 7; Jn 6.64; 13.1, 11
y **18.5** Gk *the Nazorean*
z **18.5** Gk *I am*
a **18.6** Gk *he*
b **18.6** Gk *I am*
c **18.7** Gk *the Nazorean*
* **18.7** v 4
d **18.8** Gk *I am*
* **18.9** Jn 17.12
* **18.11** Mt 20.22
* **18.13** Mt 26.57; Mk 14.53; Lk 22.54
* **18.14** Jn 11.49–51
* **18.15** Mt 26.58; Mk 14.54; Lk 22.54
* **18.17** v 25
* **18.18** Mk 14.54, 67; Jn 21.9
* **18.19** Mt 26.59–68; Mk 14.55–65; Lk 22.63–71
* **18.22** v 3; Jn 19.3
* **18.23** Mt 5.39; Acts 23.2–5
* **18.24** v 13
* **18.25** v 18
* **18.26** v 10
* **18.27** Jn 13.38
* **18.28** Mt 27.1, 2; Mk 15.1; Lk 23.1; Jn 11.55; Acts 11.3
* **18.32** Mt 20.19; Jn 12.32, 33
* **18.33** Jn 19.9
* **18.36** Mt 26.53; Lk 17.21; Jn 6.15
* **18.37** Jn 8.47; 1 Jn 3.19; 4.6
* **18.38** Jn 19.4, 6
* **18.39** Mt 27.15–18, 20–23; Mk 15.6–15; Lk 23.18–25
* **18.40** Acts 3.14

John 19

* **19.1** Mt 27.26
* **19.2** Mt 27.27–30; Mk 15.16–19
* **19.3** Jn 18.22
* **19.4** v 6; Jn 18.38
e **19.5** Gk *He*
* **19.5** v 2
* **19.6** Acts 3.13
* **19.7** Lev 24.16; Mt 26.63–66; Jn 5.18; 10.33
* **19.9** Isa 53.7; Mt 27.12, 14
* **19.11** Jn 18.28ff; Rom 13.1
* **19.12** Lk 23.2
f **19.13** Or *seated him*
g **19.13** That is, *Aramaic*
* **19.13** Mt 27.19
* **19.14** vv 19, 21; Mt 27.62; Mk 15.25
* **19.16** Mt 27.26; Mk 15.15; Lk 23.25
h **19.17** That is, *Aramaic*
* **19.17** Lk 23.26
i **19.19** Gk *the Nazorean*
j **19.20** That is, *Aramaic*
* **19.21** v 14
* **19.24** Ex 28.32; Ps 22.18
* **19.25** Mt 27.55, 56; Mk 15.40, 41; Lk 23.49; 24.18; Jn 20.1, 18
* **19.26** Jn 2.4; 13.23; 20.2; 21.20
* **19.28** Ps 69.21; Jn 13.1; 17.4
* **19.30** Jn 17.4
* **19.31** Ex 12.16; Deut 21.23
* **19.32** v 18
* **19.34** 1 Jn 5.6, 8
k **19.35** Or *there is one who knows*
l **19.35** Or *may come*
* **19.35** Jn 15.27; 21.24
* **19.36** Ex 12.46; Num 9.12; Ps 34.20
* **19.37** Zech 12.10
* **19.39** v 26; Jn 3.1; 7.50; 21.7, 20, 24
* **19.40** Mt 26.12; Lk 24.12; Jn 11.44; 20.5, 7

John 20

* **20.1** Mt 27.60, 66
* **20.2** Jn 13.23; 19.26; 21.7, 20, 24
* **20.3** Lk 24.12

* **20.5** Jn 19.40
* **20.8** v 4
* **20.9** Mt 22.29; Lk 24.26, 46
m **20.11** Gk lacks *to look*
* **20.11** v 5; Mk 16.5
* **20.12** Mt 28.2, 3; Mk 16.5; Lk 24.4
* **20.13** v 2
n **20.15** Or *Lord*
* **20.15** v 13
o **20.16** That is, *Aramaic*
* **20.17** v 27; Mt 28.10; Jn 7.33
* **20.18** Lk 10.10, 23
* **20.19** vv 21, 26; Lk 24.36–39
* **20.20** Lk 24.39, 40; Jn 16.20, 22
* **20.21** Mt 28.19; Jn 17.18, 19
* **20.23** Mt 16.19; 18.18
p **20.24** Gk *Didymus*
* **20.24** Jn 11.16
* **20.25** v 20
* **20.26** v 21
* **20.27** v 25; Lk 24.40
* **20.29** 1 Pet 1.8
q **20.31** Or *may come*
r **20.31** Or *the Christ*
* **20.31** Jn 3.15; 19.35

John 21

* **21.1** Jn 6.1; 20.19, 26
s **21.2** Gk *Didymus*
* **21.2** Mt 4.21; Mk 1.19; Lk 5.10; Jn 1.45; 11.16
* **21.3** Lk 5.5
* **21.4** Jn 20.14
* **21.5** Lk 24.41
* **21.6** Lk 5.4, 6, 7
* **21.7** v 20; Jn 13.23; 20.2
* **21.9** vv 10, 13
* **21.13** v 9
* **21.14** Jn 20.19, 26
* **21.15** Mt 26.33; Mk 14.29; Jn 13.37
* **21.16** Mt 2.6; Acts 20.28; 1 Pet 5.2; Rev 7.17
* **21.17** v 16; Jn 16.30

* **21.19** 2 Pet 1.14
* **21.20** v 7; Jn 13.25
* **21.22** Mt 16.27, 28; 25.31; 1 Cor 4.5; 11.26; Rev 2.25; 3.11; 22.7, 20
t **21.23** Other ancient authorities lack *what is that to you*
* **21.23** Acts 1.15
* **21.24** Jn 15.27; 19.35
* **21.25** Jn 20.30

The Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and
teach* 2until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving
instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.*
3After his suffering[a] he presented himself alive to them by many convincing
proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the
kingdom of God.* 4While staying[b] with them, he ordered them not to leave
Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is
what you have heard from me;* 5for John baptized with water, but you will
be baptized with[c] the Holy Spirit not many days from now."*

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the
time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"* 7He replied, "It is not
for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own
authority.* 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come
upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and
Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* 9When he had said this, as they
were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.*
10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly
two men in white robes stood by them.* 11They said, "Men of Galilee, why
do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up
from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into
heaven."*

MATTHIAS CHOSEN TO REPLACE JUDAS

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which
is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. [13]When they had entered
the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and
John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and
Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of[d]
James.* [14]All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together
with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his
brothers.*

15 In those days Peter stood up among the brothers and sisters (together
the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said,
[16]"Brothers and sisters,[e] the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy
Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for
those who arrested Jesus,* [17]for he was numbered among us and was
allotted his share in this ministry."* [18](Now this man acquired a field with
the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong, he burst open in the
middle, and all his bowels gushed out.* [19]This became known to all the
residents of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language
Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) [20]"For it is written in the book of
Psalms,

'Let his house become desolate,
and let there be no one to live in it';

and

'Let another take his position of overseer.'*

[21]"So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the
Lord Jesus went in and out among us, [22]beginning from the baptism of John
until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a
witness with us to his resurrection."* [23]So they proposed two, Joseph called
Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. [24]Then they
prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of
these two you have chosen* [25]to take the place[f] in this ministry and
apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." [26]And
they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was added to the
eleven apostles.

Acts 2

THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.*
2And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent
wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.* 3Divided
tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of
them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in
other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.*

5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in
Jerusalem. 6And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered,
because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.
7Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking
Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native
language? 9Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia,
Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt
and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both
Jews and proselytes, 11Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear
them speaking about God's deeds of power." 12All were amazed and
perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13But others
sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

PETER ADDRESSES THE CROWD

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed
them, "Fellow Jews[g] and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to
you, and listen to what I say. 15Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose,
for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.* 16No, this is what was spoken
through the prophet Joel:

17'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.*
18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.*
19 And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
20 The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.*
21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be
saved.'*

22 "Fellow Israelites,[h] listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth,[i] a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know*— 23 this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.* 24 But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.* 25 For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;*
26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.
27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.*
28 You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

29 "Fellow Israelites,[j] I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.*

30 Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him
that he would put one of his descendants on his throne.* 31 Foreseeing this,
David[k] spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah,[l] saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,

nor did his flesh experience corruption.'*

32 "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.* 33 Being
therefore exalted at[m] the right hand of God and having received from the
Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you see
and hear.* 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand,*

35 until I make your enemies your footstool." '

36 "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has
made him both Lord and Messiah,[n] this Jesus whom you crucified."

THE FIRST CONVERTS

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter
and to the other apostles, "Brothers,[o] what should we do?"* 38 Peter said to
them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ
so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy
Spirit.* 39 For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are
far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him."* 40 And he
testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save
yourselves from this corrupt generation." 41 So those who welcomed his
message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were
added. 42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

LIFE AMONG THE BELIEVERS

43 Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were
being done through the apostles.* 44 All who believed were together and had
all things in common;* 45 they would sell their possessions and goods and

distribute the proceeds[p] to all, as any had need. 46Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home[q] and ate their food with glad and generous[r] hearts,* 47praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.*

Acts 3

PETER HEALS A CRIPPLED BEGGAR

1 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer,
at three o'clock in the afternoon.* [2]And a man lame from birth was being
carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the
Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the
temple.* [3]When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked
them for alms. [4]Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at
us." [5]And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something
from them. [6]Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you;
in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,[s] stand up and walk."* [7]And he took
him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and
ankles were made strong. [8]Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he
entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. [9]All
the people saw him walking and praising God,* [10]and they recognized him
as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the
temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had
happened to him.

PETER SPEAKS IN SOLOMON'S PORTICO

11 While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them
in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished.* [12]When Peter
saw it, he addressed the people, "Fellow Israelites,[t] why do you wonder at
this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had
made him walk? [13]The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob,[u] the God of
our ancestors, has glorified his servant[v] Jesus, whom you handed over and
rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him.*
[14]But you rejected the holy and righteous[w] one and asked to have a
murderer given to you,* [15]and you killed the author of life, whom God
raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.* [16]And by faith in his name,
his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know, and the

faith that is through Jesus[x] has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

17 "And now, brothers and sisters, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.* [18]In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah[y] would suffer.* [19]Repent, therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, [20]so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord and that he may send the Messiah[z] appointed for you, that is, Jesus, [21]who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets.* [22]Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you.* [23]And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the people.' [24]And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days. [25]You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, 'And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'* [26]When God raised up his servant,[a] he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."*

Acts 4

PETER AND JOHN BEFORE THE COUNCIL

1 While Peter and John[b] were speaking to the people, the priests, the
captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came to them,* [2]much annoyed
because they were teaching the people and proclaiming that in Jesus there is
the resurrection of the dead.* [3]So they arrested them and put them in
custody until the next day, for it was already evening.* [4]But many of those
who heard the word believed, and they numbered about five thousand.*

5 The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem,*
[6]with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John,[c] and Alexander, and all who
were of the high-priestly family.* [7]When they had made the prisoners[d] stand
in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do
this?" [8]Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the
people and elders,* [9]if we are being questioned today because of a good
deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has
been healed,[e] [10]let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel,
that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus
Christ of Nazareth,[f] whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.*
[11]This Jesus[g] is

> 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
> it has become the cornerstone.'[h,*]

[12]"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven
given among mortals by which we must be saved."*

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that
they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized
them as companions of Jesus.* [14]When they saw the man who had been
cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. [15]So they
ordered them to leave the council while they discussed the matter with one
another.* [16]They said, "What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all
who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we
cannot deny it.* [17]But to keep it from spreading further among the people,

let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." [18]So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.* [19]But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge;* [20]for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard."* [21]After threatening them again, they let them go, finding no way to punish them because of the people, for all of them praised God for what had happened.* [22]For the man on whom this sign of healing had been performed was more than forty years old.

THE BELIEVERS PRAY FOR BOLDNESS

23 After they were released, they went to their own people and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. [24]When they heard it, they raised their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and everything in them,* [25]it is you who said by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant:[i]

'Why did the gentiles rage
and the peoples imagine vain things?*
[26]The kings of the earth took their stand,
and the rulers have gathered together
against the Lord and against his Messiah.'[j,*]

[27]"For in this city, in fact, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the gentiles and the peoples of Israel, gathered together against your holy servant[k] Jesus, whom you anointed,* [28]to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. [29]And now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness,* [30]while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant[l] Jesus."* [31]When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.*

THE BELIEVERS SHARE THEIR POSSESSIONS

32 Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.* [33]With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.* [34]There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.* [35]They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.* [36]There was a Levite from Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"). [37]He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.*

Acts 5

ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA

1 But a man named Ananias, with the consent of his wife Sapphira, sold a
piece of property; [2]with his wife's knowledge, he kept back some of the
proceeds and brought only a part and laid it at the apostles' feet.*
[3]"Ananias," Peter asked, "why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy
Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land?* [4]While it
remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, were
not the proceeds at your disposal? How is it that you have contrived this
deed in your heart? You did not lie to us[m] but to God!" [5]Now when Ananias
heard these words, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who
heard of it. [6]The young men came and wrapped up his body, then carried
him out and buried him.*

7 After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing
what had happened. [8]Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you and your
husband sold the land for such and such a price." And she said, "Yes, that
was the price." [9]Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed
together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Look, the feet of those who
have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."*
[10]Immediately she fell down at his feet and died. When the young men
came in they found her dead, so they carried her out and buried her beside
her husband. [11]And great fear seized the whole church and all who heard of
these things.*

THE APOSTLES HEAL MANY

12 Now many signs and wonders were done among the people through
the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico.* [13]None of
the rest dared to join them, but the people held them in high esteem.*
[14]Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord, great numbers of both
men and women, [15]so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and
laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might fall on some

of them as he came by.* 16A great number of people would also gather from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

THE APOSTLES ARE PERSECUTED

17 Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, 18arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison.* 19But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said,* 20"Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life."* 21When they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and went on with their teaching.

When the high priest and those with him arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought.* 22But when the temple police went there, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, 23"We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." 24Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them, wondering what might be going on.* 25Then someone arrived and announced, "Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!" 26Then the captain went with the temple police and brought them, but without violence, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.*

27 When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, 28saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,[n] yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us."* 29But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority.[o],* 30The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.* 31God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.* 32And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."*

33 When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them.* 34But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, respected by all the people, stood up and ordered the men to be put outside for a short time. 35Then he said to them, "Fellow Israelites,[p] consider carefully what you propose to do to these men. 36For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him, but he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and disappeared. 37After him Judas the Galilean rose up at the time of the census and got people to follow him; he also perished, and all who followed him were scattered. 38So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail;* 39but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them—in that case you may even be found fighting against God!"

They were convinced by him,* 40and when they had called in the apostles, they had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and let them go.* 41As they left the council, they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.* 42And every day in the temple and at home[q] they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.[r,*]

Acts 6

SEVEN CHOSEN TO SERVE

1 Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the
Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were
being neglected in the daily distribution of food.* [2]And the twelve called
together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that
we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables.[s] [3]Therefore,
brothers and sisters, select from among yourselves seven men of good
standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this
task,* [4]while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving
the word." [5]What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose
Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip,
Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of
Antioch.* [6]They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and
laid their hands on them.*

7 The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples
increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became
obedient to the faith.*

THE ARREST OF STEPHEN

8 Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among
the people. [9]Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the
Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those
from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. [10]But they could
not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit[t] with which he spoke.* [11]Then they
secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak
blasphemous words against Moses and God."* [12]They stirred up the people
as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him,
seized him, and brought him before the council. [13]They set up false
witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy
place and the law,* [14]for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth[u]
will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to

us.”* 15And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw
that his face was like the face of an angel.

Acts 7

STEPHEN'S SPEECH TO THE COUNCIL

1 Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?" [2]And Stephen replied:

"Brothers[v] and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran,* [3]and said to him, 'Leave your country and your relatives and go to the land that I will show you.'* [4]Then he left the country of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. After his father died, God had him move from there to this country in which you are now living.* [5]He did not give him any of it as a heritage, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him as his possession and to his descendants after him, even though he had no child.* [6]And God spoke in these terms, that his descendants would be resident aliens in a country belonging to others, who would enslave them and mistreat them during four hundred years.* [7]'But I will judge the people whom they serve,' said God, 'and after that they shall come out and worship me in this place.'* [8]Then he gave him the covenant of circumcision. And so Abraham[w] became the father of Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day, and Isaac did likewise to Jacob and Jacob to the twelve patriarchs.*

9 "The patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt; but God was with him* [10]and rescued him from all his afflictions and enabled him to win favor and to show wisdom when he stood before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who appointed him ruler over Egypt and over all his household.* [11]Now there came a famine throughout Egypt and Canaan and great suffering, and our ancestors could find no food.* [12]But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent our ancestors there on their first visit.* [13]On the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers, and Joseph's family became known to Pharaoh.* [14]Then Joseph sent and invited his father Jacob and all his relatives to come to him, seventy-five in all;* [15]so Jacob went down to Egypt. He himself died there as well as our ancestors,* [16]and their bodies[x] were brought back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that

Abraham had bought for a sum of silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem.*

17 "But as the time drew near for the fulfillment of the promise that God had made to Abraham, our people in Egypt increased and multiplied* [18]until another king who had not known Joseph ruled over Egypt. [19]He dealt craftily with our people and forced our ancestors to abandon their infants so that they would die.* [20]At this time Moses was born, and he was beautiful before God. For three months he was brought up in his father's house, [21]and when he was abandoned, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son. [22]So Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in his words and deeds.*

23 "When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his kinfolk, the Israelites.* [24]When he saw one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian. [25]He supposed that his kinsfolk would understand that God through him was rescuing them, but they did not understand. [26]The next day he came to some of them as they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brothers; why do you wrong each other?' [27]But the man who was wronging his neighbor pushed Moses[y] aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? [28]Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' [29]When he heard this, Moses fled and became a resident alien in the land of Midian. There he became the father of two sons.

30 "Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in the flame of a burning bush. [31]When Moses saw it, he was amazed at the sight, and as he approached to look, there came the voice of the Lord: [32]'I am the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.' Moses began to tremble and did not dare to look.* [33]Then the Lord said to him, 'Take off the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.* [34]I have surely seen the mistreatment of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their groaning, and I have come down to rescue them. Come now, I will send you to Egypt.'*

35 "It was this Moses whom they rejected when they said, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge?' and whom God now sent as both ruler and

liberator through the angel who appeared to him in the bush.* 36He led them
out, having performed wonders and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea, and in
the wilderness for forty years.* 37This is the Moses who said to the
Israelites, 'God will raise up a prophet for you from your own people as he
raised me up.'* 38He is the one who was in the congregation in the
wilderness with the angel who spoke to him at Mount Sinai and with our
ancestors, and he received living oracles to give to us.* 39Our ancestors
were unwilling to obey him; instead, they pushed him aside, and in their
hearts they turned back to Egypt, 40saying to Aaron, 'Make gods for us who
will lead the way for us; as for this Moses who led us out from the land of
Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him.'* 41At that time they
made a calf, offered a sacrifice to the idol, and reveled in the works of their
hands.* 42But God turned away from them and handed them over to
worship the host of heaven, as it is written in the book of the prophets:

'Did you offer to me slain victims and sacrifices
  forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?*
43No; you took along the tent of Moloch
  and the star of your god Rephan,
    the images that you made to worship;
so I will remove you beyond Babylon.'

44 "Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God[z]
directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the
pattern he had seen.* 45Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when
they dispossessed the peoples whom God drove out before our ancestors.
And it was there until the time of David,* 46who found favor with God and
asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob.[a,]* 47But it
was Solomon who built a house for him. 48Yet the Most High does not
dwell in houses made with human hands;[b] as the prophet says,*

49'Heaven is my throne,
  and the earth is my footstool.
What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord,
  or what is the place of my rest?*
50Did not my hand make all these things?'

51 “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are
forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do.*
52Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those
who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become
his betrayers and murderers.* 53You are the ones who received the law as
ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.”*

THE STONING OF STEPHEN

54 When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their
teeth at Stephen.[c] 55But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven
and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.*
56“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing
at the right hand of God!”* 57But they covered their ears, and with a loud
shout all rushed together against him. 58Then they dragged him out of the
city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of
a young man named Saul.* 59While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed,
“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”* 60Then he knelt down and cried out in a
loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said
this, he died.[d,*]

Acts 8

1 And Saul approved of their killing him.

SAUL PERSECUTES THE CHURCH

That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria.* 2Devout men buried Stephen and made loud lamentation over him.* 3But Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison.*

PHILIP PREACHES IN SAMARIA

4 Now those who were scattered went from place to place proclaiming the word.* 5Philip went down to the city[e] of Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah[f] to them.* 6The crowds with one accord listened eagerly to what was said by Philip, hearing and seeing the signs that he did, 7for unclean spirits, crying with loud shrieks, came out of many who were possessed, and many others who were paralyzed or lame were cured.* 8So there was great joy in that city.

9 Now a certain man named Simon had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he was someone great.* 10All of them, from the least to the greatest, listened to him eagerly, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great."* 11And they listened eagerly to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. 12But when they believed Philip, who was proclaiming the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.* 13Even Simon himself believed. After being baptized, he stayed constantly with Philip and was amazed when he saw the signs and great miracles that took place.*

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.* 15The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit* 16(for as yet

the Spirit had not come[g] upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).* 17Then Peter and John[h] laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.* 18Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19saying, "Give me also this power so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain God's gift with money!* 21You have no part or share in this, for your heart is not right before God.* 22Repent therefore of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. 23For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and the chains of wickedness."* 24Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you[i] have said may happen to me."

25 Now after Peter and John[j] had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, proclaiming the good news to many villages of the Samaritans.*

PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH

26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south[k] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.)* 27So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship* 28and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it."* 30So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 32Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.*

33In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

34 The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet
say this, about himself or about someone else?" 35 Then Philip began to
speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news
about Jesus.* 36 As they were going along the road, they came to some
water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me
from being baptized?"[l,*] 38 He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of
them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip[m]
baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord
snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way
rejoicing.* 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing
through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he
came to Caesarea.

Acts 9

THE CONVERSION OF SAUL

1 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of
the Lord, went to the high priest* [2]and asked him for letters to the
synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way,
men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. [3]Now as he was
going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven
flashed around him.* [4]He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him,
"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"* [5]He asked, "Who are you, Lord?"
The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. [6]But get up and
enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [7]The men who were
traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw
no one.* [8]Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he
could see nothing;[n] so they led him by the hand and brought him into
Damascus. [9]For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said
to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord."* [11]The Lord
said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of
Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying,*
[12]and he has seen in a vision[o] a man named Ananias come in and lay his
hands on him so that he might regain his sight." [13]But Ananias answered,
"Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done
to your saints in Jerusalem, [14]and here he has authority from the chief
priests to bind all who invoke your name."* [15]But the Lord said to him,
"Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before
gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel;* [16]I myself will show
him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."* [17]So Ananias
went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul[p] and said, "Brother
Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so
that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."* [18]And
immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was

restored. Then he got up and was baptized, [19]and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

SAUL PREACHES IN DAMASCUS

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,* [20]and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." [21]All who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?"* [22]Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus[q] was the Messiah.[r],*

SAUL ESCAPES FROM THE JEWS

23 After some time had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him,* [24]but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night so that they might kill him,* [25]but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall,[s] lowering him in a basket.

SAUL IN JERUSALEM

26 When he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples, and they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple.* [27]But Barnabas took him, brought him to the apostles, and described for them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus.* [28]So he went in and out among them in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. [29]He spoke and argued with the Hellenists, but they were attempting to kill him.* [30]When the brothers and sisters learned of it, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

31 Meanwhile the church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and was built up. Living in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.*

THE HEALING OF AENEAS

32 Now as Peter went here and there among all the brothers and sisters,[t] he came down also to the saints living in Lydda.* 33There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years, for he was paralyzed. 34Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and make your bed!" And immediately he got up.* 35And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.*

PETER IN LYDDA AND JOPPA

36 Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas.[u] She was devoted to good works and acts of charity.* 37At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs.* 38Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay."* 39So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.* 40Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.* 41He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.* 42This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. 43Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.*

Acts 10

PETER AND CORNELIUS

1 In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian
Cohort, as it was called. [2]He was a devout man who feared God with all his
household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to
God. [3]One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he
clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius."*
[4]He stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" He answered, "Your
prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God.* [5]Now
send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; [6]he is lodging
with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside."* [7]When the angel
who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier
from the ranks of those who served him, [8]and after telling them everything
he sent them to Joppa.

9 About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and
approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray.* [10]He became
hungry and wanted something to eat, and while it was being prepared he
fell into a trance.* [11]He saw the heaven opened and something like a large
sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners.* [12]In it
were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air.
[13]Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." [14]But Peter
said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything that is profane or
unclean."* [15]The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has
made clean, you must not call profane."* [16]This happened three times, and
the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

17 Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision
that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were
asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate.* [18]They called out
to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. [19]While
Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look,
three[v] men are searching for you.* [20]Now get up, go down, and go with
them without hesitation, for I have sent them." [21]So Peter went down to the

men and said, “I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?” 22They answered, “Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous[w] and God-fearing man who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish people, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.”* 23So Peter[x] invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the brothers and sisters from Joppa accompanied him.* 24The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. 25On Peter’s arrival, Cornelius met him and, falling at his feet, worshiped him. 26But Peter made him get up, saying, “Stand up; I am only a mortal.”* 27And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled, 28and he said to them, “You yourselves know that it is improper for a Jew to associate with or to visit an outsider, but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean.* 29So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?”

30 Cornelius replied, “Four days ago at this very hour, at three o’clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. 31He said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms have been remembered before God. 32Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.’ 33Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say.”

GENTILES HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality,* 35but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness[y] is acceptable to him.* 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.* 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.* 39We are

witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,* 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,* 41not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.* 42He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.* 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."*

GENTILES RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.* 45The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles,* 46for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"* 48So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.*

Acts 11

PETER'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH AT JERUSALEM

1 Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard
that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. [2]So when Peter went
up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers[z] criticized him,[*] [3]saying, "Why
did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?"[*] [4]Then Peter began
to explain it to them, step by step, saying, [5]"I was in the city of Joppa
praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large
sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it
came close to me.[*] [6]As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals,
beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. [7]I also heard a voice saying to
me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' [8]But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for
nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' [9]But a second time
the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not
call profane.' [10]This happened three times; then everything was pulled up
again to heaven. [11]At that very moment three men, sent to me from
Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. [12]The Spirit told me to go
with them and not to make a distinction between them and us.[a] These six
brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house.[*] [13]He told
us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to
Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter;[*] [14]he will give you a message
by which you and your entire household will be saved.' [15]And as I began to
speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the
beginning.[*] [16]And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said,
'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'[*]
[17]If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in
the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?"[*] [18]When they
heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God
has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."[*]

THE CHURCH IN ANTIOCH

19 Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that took
place over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, and
they spoke the word to no one except Jews.* 20But among them were some
men of Cyprus and Cyrene who, on coming to Antioch, spoke to the
Hellenists[b] also, proclaiming the Lord Jesus.* 21The hand of the Lord was
with them, and a great number became believers and turned to the Lord.*
22News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent
Barnabas to Antioch. 23When he came and saw the grace of God, he
rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with
steadfast devotion,* 24for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of
faith. And a great many people were brought to the Lord.* 25Then Barnabas
went to Tarsus to look for Saul,* 26and when he had found him he brought
him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they met with the church
and taught a great many people, and it was in Antioch that the disciples
were first called "Christians."*

27 At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.* 28One
of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there
would be a severe famine over all the world, and this took place during the
reign of Claudius.* 29The disciples determined that, according to their
ability, each would send relief to the brothers and sisters living in Judea;*
30this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.*

Acts 12

JAMES KILLED AND PETER IMPRISONED

1 About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged
to the church. [2]He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword.*
[3]After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also.
(This was during the Festival of Unleavened Bread.)* [4]When he had seized
him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to
guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover.
[5]While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for
him.*

PETER DELIVERED FROM PRISON

6 The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound
with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front
of the door were keeping watch over the prison.* [7]Suddenly an angel of the
Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and
woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his wrists.*
[8]The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did
so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me."
[9]Peter[c] went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was
happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a
vision.* [10]After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came
before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own
accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the
angel left him.* [11]Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that
the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and
from all that the Jewish people were expecting."*

12 As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother
of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were
praying.* [13]When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came
to answer.* [14]On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that,
instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was

standing at the gate.* 15They said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she insisted that it was so. They said, "It is his angel."* 16Meanwhile Peter continued knocking, and when they opened the gate they saw him and were amazed. 17He motioned to them with his hand to be silent and described for them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he added, "Tell this to James and to the brothers and sisters." Then he left and went to another place.*

18 When morning came, there was no small commotion among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. 19When Herod had searched for him and could not find him, he examined the guards and ordered them to be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there.*

THE DEATH OF HEROD

20 Now Herod[d] was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon. So they came to him in a body, and after winning over Blastus, the king's personal attendant, they asked for a reconciliation, because their country depended on the king's country for food.* 21On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat on the platform, and delivered a public address to them. 22The people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a mortal!" 23And immediately, because he had not given the glory to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died.*

24 But the word of God continued to advance and gain adherents.* 25Then after completing their mission Barnabas and Saul returned to[e] Jerusalem and brought with them John, whose other name was Mark.*

Acts 13

BARNABAS AND SAUL COMMISSIONED

1 Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a childhood friend of Herod the ruler,[f] and Saul.[*] 2While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."[*] 3Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.[*]

THE APOSTLES PREACH IN CYPRUS

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.[*] 5When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. And they had John also to assist them.[*] 6When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they met a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet, named Bar-Jesus.[*] 7He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man who summoned Barnabas and Saul and wanted to hear the word of God.[*] 8But the magician Elymas (for that is the translation of his name) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul away from the faith.[*] 9But Saul, also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him[*] 10and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord?[*] 11And now listen—the hand of the Lord is against you, and you will be blind for a while, unable to see the sun." Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he fumbled about for someone to lead him by the hand.[*] 12When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was astonished at the teaching about the Lord.

PAUL AND BARNABAS IN ANTIOCH OF PISIDIA

13 Then Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John, however, left them and returned to Jerusalem,[*] 14but

they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down.* 15After the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, "Brothers,[g] if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it." 16So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

"Fellow Israelites[h] and others who fear God, listen. 17The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it.* 18For about forty years he put up with[i] them in the wilderness.* 19After he had destroyed seven peoples in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance* 20for about four hundred fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel.* 21Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years.* 22When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.'* 23Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised;* 24before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.* 25And as John was finishing his work, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the strap of the sandals[j] on his feet.'*

26 "Brothers and sisters,[k] you descendants of Abraham's family and others who fear God, to us[l] the message of this salvation has been sent. 27Because the residents of Jerusalem and their leaders did not recognize him or understand the words of the prophets that are read every Sabbath, they fulfilled those words by condemning him.* 28Even though they found no cause for a sentence of death, they asked Pilate to have him killed.* 29When they had carried out everything that was written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb.* 30But God raised him from the dead,* 31and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, and they are now his witnesses to the people.* 32And we bring you the good news that what God promised to our ancestors* 33he has fulfilled for us, their children,[m] by raising Jesus; as also it is written in the second psalm,

‘You are my Son;

today I have begotten you.’*

34“As to his raising him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way,

‘I will give you the holy promises made to David.’*

35“Therefore he has also said in another psalm,

‘You will not let your Holy One experience corruption.’*

36“For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, died,[n] was laid beside his ancestors, and experienced corruption,* 37but he whom God raised up experienced no corruption. 38Let it be known to you therefore, brothers and sisters,[o] that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you;* 39by this Jesus[p] everyone who believes is set free from all those sins[q] from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.* 40Beware, therefore, that what the prophets said does not happen to you:*

41‘Look, you scoffers!

Be amazed and perish,

for in your days I am doing a work,

a work that you will never believe, even if someone tells you.’ ”

42 As Paul and Barnabas[r] were going out, the people urged them to speak about these things again the next Sabbath. 43When the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to continue in the grace of God.*

44 The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord.[s] 45But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy, and blaspheming, they contradicted what was spoken by Paul.* 46Then both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you reject it and judge yourselves to be unworthy of eternal life, we are now turning to the gentiles.* 47For so the Lord has commanded us, saying,

‘I have set you to be a light for the gentiles,

so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.' "*

48 When the gentiles heard this, they were glad and praised the word of the Lord, and as many as had been destined for eternal life became believers. [49]Thus the word of the Lord spread throughout the region. [50]But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city and stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas and drove them out of their region. [51]So they shook the dust off their feet in protest against them and went to Iconium.* [52]And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.*

Acts 14

PAUL AND BARNABAS IN ICONIUM

1 The same thing occurred in Iconium, where Paul[t] and Barnabas[u] went into
the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both
Jews and Greeks became believers. 2But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the
gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. 3So they remained
for a long time speaking boldly for the Lord, who testified to the word of
his grace by granting signs and wonders to be done through them.* 4But the
residents of the city were divided: some sided with the Jews, and some with
the apostles.* 5And when an attempt was made by both gentiles and Jews,
with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them,* 6the apostles[v] learned
of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding
region,* 7and there they continued proclaiming the good news.

PAUL AND BARNABAS IN LYSTRA AND DERBE

8 In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had
never walked, for he had been lame from birth.* 9He listened to Paul as he
was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith
to be healed,* 10said in a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And the
man[w] sprang up and began to walk. 11When the crowds saw what Paul had
done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down
to us in human form!"* 12Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called
Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13The priest of Zeus, whose
temple was just outside the city,[x] brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he
and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. 14When the apostles Barnabas and
Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd,
shouting, 15"People,[y] why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you,
and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless
things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and
all that is in them.* 16In past generations he allowed all peoples to follow
their own ways,* 17yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing
good, giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons and filling you with

food and your hearts with joy."* [18]Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

19 But Jews came there from Antioch and Iconium and won over the crowds. Then they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead.* [20]But when the disciples surrounded him, he got up and went into the city. The next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.*

THE RETURN TO ANTIOCH IN SYRIA

21 After they had proclaimed the good news to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, then on to Iconium and Antioch. [22]There they strengthened the souls of the disciples and encouraged them to continue in the faith, saying, "It is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God."* [23]And after they had appointed elders for them in each church, with prayer and fasting they entrusted them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.*

24 Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. [25]When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. [26]From there they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work[z] that they had completed.* [27]When they arrived, they called the church together and related all that God had done with them and how he had opened a door of faith for the gentiles. [28]And they stayed there with the disciples for some time.

Acts 15

THE COUNCIL AT JERUSALEM

1 Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the
brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses,
you cannot be saved."* [2]And after Paul and Barnabas had no small
dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others
were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the
apostles and the elders.* [3]So they were sent on their way by the church, and
as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the
conversion of the gentiles and brought great joy to all the brothers and
sisters.* [4]When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church
and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done
with them.* [5]But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees
stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered
to keep the law of Moses."

6 The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. [7]After
there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My
brothers,[a] you know that in the early days God made a choice among you,
that I should be the one through whom the gentiles would hear the message
of the good news and become believers.* [8]And God, who knows the human
heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us,*
[9]and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between
them and us.* [10]Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by
placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we
have been able to bear?* [11]On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved
through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."*

12 The whole assembly kept silence and listened to Barnabas and Paul as
they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them
among the gentiles.* [13]After they finished speaking, James replied, "My
brothers,[b] listen to me.* [14]Simeon has related how God first looked
favorably on the gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name.
[15]This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written,

16 ‘After this I will return,
and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;
from its ruins I will rebuild it,
and I will set it up,[*]
17 so that all other peoples may seek the Lord—
even all the gentiles over whom my name has been called.
Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things
18 known from long ago.’[c]

19 “Therefore I have reached the decision that we should not trouble those gentiles who are turning to God, 20 but we should write to them to abstain only from things polluted by idols and from sexual immorality and from whatever has been strangled[d] and from blood.[*] 21 For in every city, for generations past, Moses has had those who proclaim him, for he has been read aloud every Sabbath in the synagogues.”[*]

THE COUNCIL’S LETTER TO GENTILE BELIEVERS

22 Then the apostles and the elders, with the consent of the whole church, decided to choose men from among them and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers, 23 with the following letter: “The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the brothers and sisters of gentile origin in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. 24 Since we have heard that certain persons who have gone out from us, though with no instructions from us, have said things to disturb you and have unsettled your minds,[e,*] 25 we have decided unanimously to choose men and send them to you, along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.[*] 27 We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. 28 For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials: 29 that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled[f] and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.”[*]

30 So they were sent off and went down to Antioch. When they gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. [31]When they read it, they rejoiced at the exhortation. [32]Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the brothers and sisters. [33]After they had been there for some time, they were sent off in peace by the brothers and sisters to those who had sent them.[g,*] [35]But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, and there, with many others, they taught and proclaimed the word of the Lord.

PAUL AND BARNABAS SEPARATE

36 After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Come, let us return and visit the brothers and sisters in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."[*] [37]Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark.[*] [38]But Paul decided not to take with them one who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not accompanied them in the work.[*] [39]The disagreement became so sharp that they parted company; Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. [40]But Paul chose Silas and set out, the brothers and sisters commending him to the grace of the Lord. [41]He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.[*]

Acts 16

TIMOTHY JOINS PAUL AND SILAS

1 Paul[h] went on also to Derbe and to Lystra, where there was a disciple
named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his
father was a Greek.* [2]He was well spoken of by the brothers and sisters in
Lystra and Iconium. [3]Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took
him and had him circumcised because of the Jews who were in those
places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.* [4]As they went from
town to town, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had
been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem.* [5]So the
churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in numbers daily.*

PAUL'S VISION OF THE MAN OF MACEDONIA

6 They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been
forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia.* [7]When they had
come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of
Jesus did not allow them;* [8]so, passing by Mysia, they went down to
Troas.* [9]During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of
Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and
help us."* [10]When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross
over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the
good news to them.*

THE CONVERSION OF LYDIA

11 We therefore[i] set sail from Troas and took a straight course to
Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis,* [12]and from there to Philippi,
which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.
We remained in this city for some days.* [13]On the Sabbath day we went
outside the gate by the river, where we supposed[j] there was a place of
prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.
[14]A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us;

she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. 15When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.*

PAUL AND SILAS IN PRISON

16 One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling.* 17While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you[k] the way of salvation."* 18She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

19 But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities.* 20When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city* 21and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe." 22The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods.* 23After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely.* 24Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.*

25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.* 26Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.* 27When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped.* 28But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." 29The jailer[l] called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. 30Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"* 31They

answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”* 32They spoke the word of the Lord[m] to him and to all who were in his house. 33At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. 34He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.*

35 When morning came, the magistrates sent the police, saying, “Let those men go.” 36And the jailer reported the message to Paul, saying, “The magistrates sent word to let you go; therefore come out now and go in peace.”* 37But Paul replied, “They have beaten us in public, uncondemned, men who are Romans, and have thrown us into prison, and now are they going to discharge us in secret? Certainly not! Let them come and take us out themselves.”* 38The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans,* 39so they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city.* 40After leaving the prison they went to Lydia’s home, and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed.*

Acts 17

THE UPROAR IN THESSALONICA

1 After Paul and Silas[n] had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they
came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue.* [2]And Paul
went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days argued with them
from the scriptures,* [3]explaining and proving that it was necessary for the
Messiah[o] to suffer and to rise from the dead and saying, "This is the
Messiah,[p] Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you."* [4]Some of them were
persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout
Greeks and not a few of the leading women.* [5]But the Jews became jealous,
and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob
and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas
to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house.* [6]When they
could not find them, they dragged Jason and some brothers and sisters
before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning
the world upside down have come here also,* [7]and Jason has entertained
them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor,
saying that there is another king named Jesus."* [8]The people and the city
officials were disturbed when they heard this, [9]and after they had taken bail
from Jason and the others, they let them go.

PAUL AND SILAS IN BEROEA

10 That very night the brothers and sisters sent Paul and Silas off to
Beroea, and when they arrived they went to the Jewish synagogue.* [11]These
Jews were more receptive than those in Thessalonica, for they welcomed
the message very eagerly and examined the scriptures every day to see
whether these things were so.* [12]Many of them therefore believed,
including not a few Greek women and men of high standing. [13]But when
the Jews of Thessalonica learned that the word of God had been proclaimed
by Paul in Beroea as well, they came there, too, to stir up and incite the
crowds. [14]Then the brothers and sisters immediately sent Paul away to the
coast, but Silas and Timothy remained behind. [15]Those who conducted Paul

brought him as far as Athens, and, after receiving instructions to have Silas and Timothy join him as soon as possible, they left him.*

PAUL IN ATHENS

16 While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols.* 17So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and also in the marketplace[q] every day with those who happened to be there. 18Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this pretentious babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) 19So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? 20It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means." 21Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new.

22 Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. 23For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,* 25nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.* 26From one ancestor[r] he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,* 27so that they would search for God[s] and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.* 28For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'*

29"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.* 30While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now

he commands all people everywhere to repent,* 31because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."*

32 When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed, but others said, "We will hear you again about this." 33At that point Paul left them. 34But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Acts 18

PAUL IN CORINTH

1 After this Paul[t] left Athens and went to Corinth.[*] [2]There he found a Jew named Aquila from Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul[u] went to see them,[*] [3]and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers.[*] [4]Every Sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.[*]

5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with proclaiming the word,[v] testifying to the Jews that the Messiah[w] was Jesus.[*] [6]When they opposed and reviled him, in protest he shook the dust from his clothes[x] and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the gentiles."[*] [7]Then he left the synagogue[y] and went to the house of a man named Titius[z] Justus, a worshiper of God; his house was next door to the synagogue.[*] [8]Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household, and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul became believers and were baptized.[*] [9]One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent,[*] [10]for I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people."[*] [11]He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

12 But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal. [13]They said, "This man is persuading people to worship God in ways that are contrary to the law." [14]Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a matter of crime or serious villainy, I would be justified in accepting the complaint of you Jews,[*] [15]but since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves; I do not wish to be a judge of these matters." [16]And he dismissed them from the tribunal. [17]Then

all of them[a] seized Sosthenes, the official of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of these things.*

PAUL'S RETURN TO ANTIOCH

18 After staying there for a considerable time, Paul said farewell to the brothers and sisters and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had his hair cut, for he was under a vow.* [19]When they reached Ephesus, he left them there, but first he himself went into the synagogue and had a discussion with the Jews. [20]When they asked him to stay longer, he declined, [21]but on taking leave of them he said, "I[b] will return to you, if God wills." Then he set sail from Ephesus.*

22 When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up to Jerusalem[c] and greeted the church and then went down to Antioch.* [23]After spending some time there he departed and went from place to place through the region of Galatia[d] and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples.*

MINISTRY OF APOLLOS

24 Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos from Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures.* [25]He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord, and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John.* [26]He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately. [27]And when he wished to cross over to Achaia, the brothers and sisters encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. On his arrival he greatly helped those who through grace had become believers,* [28]for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Messiah[e] is Jesus.*

Acts 19

PAUL IN EPHESUS

1 While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions
and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples.* [2]He said to them,
"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They
replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." [3]Then he
said, "Into what, then, were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's
baptism."* [4]Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance,
telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is,
in Jesus."* [5]On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord
Jesus. [6]When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon
them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied,* [7]altogether there were
about twelve of them.

8 He entered the synagogue and for three months spoke out boldly and
argued persuasively about the kingdom of God.* [9]When some stubbornly
refused to believe and spoke evil of the Way before the congregation, he left
them, taking the disciples with him, and argued daily in the lecture hall of
Tyrannus.f,* [10]This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia,
both Jews and Greeks, heard the word of the Lord.*

THE SONS OF SCEVA

11 God did extraordinary miracles through Paul,* [12]so that when the
handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were brought to the sick,
their diseases left them, and the evil spirits came out of them.* [13]Then some
itinerant Jewish exorcists tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus over those
who had evil spirits, saying, "I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul
proclaims."* [14]Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing
this. [15]But the evil spirit said to them in reply, "Jesus I know, and Paul I
know, but who are you?" [16]Then the man with the evil spirit leaped on
them, mastered them all, and so overpowered them that they fled out of the
house naked and wounded. [17]When this became known to all residents of

Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks, everyone was awestruck, and the name of the Lord Jesus was praised.* 18Also many of those who became believers confessed and disclosed their practices. 19A number of those who practiced magic collected their books and burned them publicly; when the value of these books[g] was calculated, it was found to come to fifty thousand silver coins. 20So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.*

THE RIOT IN EPHESUS

21 Now after these things had been accomplished, Paul resolved in the Spirit to go through Macedonia and Achaia and then to go on to Jerusalem. He said, "After I have gone there, I must also see Rome."* 22So he sent two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, to Macedonia, while he himself stayed for some time longer in Asia.*

23 About that time no little disturbance broke out concerning the Way.* 24A man named Demetrius, a silversmith who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the artisans.* 25These he gathered together, with the workers of the same trade, and said, "Men, you know that we get our wealth from this business. 26You also see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost the whole of Asia this Paul has persuaded and drawn away a considerable number of people by saying that gods made with hands are not gods.* 27And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be scorned, and she will be deprived of her majesty that brought all Asia and the world to worship her."

28 When they heard this, they were enraged and shouted, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"* 29The city was filled with the confusion, and people[h] rushed together to the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's travel companions.* 30Paul wished to go into the crowd, but the disciples would not let him; 31even some officials of the province of Asia[i] who were friendly to him sent him a message urging him not to venture into the theater. 32Meanwhile, some were shouting one thing, some another, for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together.* 33Some of the crowd gave instructions to Alexander, whom the Jews had pushed forward.

And Alexander motioned for silence and tried to make a defense before the people.* 34But when they recognized that he was a Jew, for about two hours all of them shouted in unison, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” 35But when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, “Citizens of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is the temple keeper of the great Artemis and of the statue that fell from heaven?* 36Since these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rash. 37You have brought these men here who are neither temple robbers nor blasphemers of our[j] goddess.* 38If therefore Demetrius and the artisans with him have a complaint against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls; let them bring charges there against one another.* 39If there is anything further[k] you want to know, it must be settled in the regular assembly. 40For we are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion.” 41When he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.

Acts 20

PAUL GOES TO MACEDONIA AND GREECE

1 After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and after
encouraging them and saying farewell, he left for Macedonia.* [2]When he
had gone through those regions and had given them much encouragement,
he came to Greece, [3]where he stayed for three months. He was about to set
sail for Syria when a plot was made against him by the Jews, so he decided
to return through Macedonia.* [4]He was accompanied[1] by Sopater son of
Pyrrhus from Beroea, by Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, by
Gaius from Derbe, and by Timothy, as well as by Tychicus and Trophimus
from Asia.* [5]They went ahead and were waiting for us in Troas, [6]but we
sailed from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and in five days
we joined them in Troas, where we stayed for seven days.*

PAUL'S FAREWELL VISIT TO TROAS

7 On the first day of the week, when we met to break bread, Paul was
holding a discussion with them; since he intended to leave the next day, he
continued speaking until midnight.* [8]There were many lamps in the room
upstairs where we were meeting. [9]A young man named Eutychus, who was
sitting in the window, began to sink off into a deep sleep while Paul talked
still longer. Overcome by sleep, he fell to the ground three floors below and
was picked up dead. [10]But Paul went down and bending over him took him
in his arms and said, "Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him."* [11]Then
Paul went upstairs, and after he had broken bread and eaten, he continued to
converse with them until dawn; then he left. [12]Meanwhile they had taken
the boy away alive and were not a little comforted.

THE VOYAGE FROM TROAS TO MILETUS

13 We went ahead to the ship and set sail for Assos, intending to take
Paul on board there, for he had made this arrangement, intending to go by
land himself. [14]When he met us in Assos, we took him on board and went

to Mitylene. [15]We sailed from there, and on the following day we arrived opposite Chios. The next day we touched at Samos, and[m] the day after that we came to Miletus. [16]For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; he was eager to be in Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.*

PAUL SPEAKS TO THE EPHESIAN ELDERS

17 From Miletus he sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him.* [18]When they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot in Asia,* [19]serving the Lord with all humility and with tears, enduring the trials that came to me through the plots of the Jews. [20]I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house,* [21]as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus.[n,*] [22]And now, as a captive to the Spirit,[o] I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there,* [23]except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me.* [24]But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God's grace.*

25 "And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again.* [26]Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you,* [27]for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.* [28]Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God[p] that he obtained with the blood of his own Son.[q,*] [29]I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.* [30]Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. [31]Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears.* [32]And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are

sanctified.* 33I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing.* 34You know for
yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my
companions.* 35In all this I have given you an example that by such work
we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he
himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "*

36 When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and
prayed.* 37There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul
and kissed him,* 38grieving especially because of what he had said, that
they would not see him again. Then they brought him to the ship.*

Acts 21

PAUL'S JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

1 When we had parted from them and set sail, we came by a straight course
to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara.[r] [2]When we
found a ship bound for Phoenicia, we went on board and set sail.[*] [3]We
came in sight of Cyprus, and leaving it on our left, we sailed to Syria and
landed at Tyre, because the ship was to unload its cargo there. [4]We looked
up the disciples and stayed there for seven days. Through the Spirit they
told Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.[*] [5]When our days there were ended, we
left and proceeded on our journey, and all of them, with wives and children,
escorted us outside the city. There we knelt down on the beach and prayed[*]
[6]and said farewell to one another. Then we went on board the ship, and they
returned home.

7 When we had finished[s] the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais,
and we greeted the brothers and sisters and stayed with them for one day.[*]
[8]The next day we left and came to Caesarea, and we went into the house of
Philip the evangelist, one of the seven, and stayed with him.[*] [9]He had four
unmarried daughters[t] who had the gift of prophecy.[*] [10]While we were
staying there for several days, a prophet named Agabus came down from
Judea. [11]He came to us and took Paul's belt, bound his own feet and hands
with it, and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'This is the way the Jews in
Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and will hand him over to
the gentiles.' "[*] [12]When we heard this, we and the people there urged him
not to go up to Jerusalem. [13]Then Paul answered, "What are you doing,
weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound but
even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."[*] [14]Since he would
not be persuaded, we remained silent except to say, "The Lord's will be
done."[*]

15 After these days we got ready and started to go up to Jerusalem.
[16]Some of the disciples from Caesarea also came along and brought us to
the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we were to
stay.[*]

PAUL VISITS JAMES AT JERUSALEM

17 When we arrived in Jerusalem, the brothers welcomed us warmly.* [18]The next day Paul went with us to visit James, and all the elders were present.* [19]After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the gentiles through his ministry.* [20]When they heard it, they praised God. Then they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands of believers there are among the Jews, and they are all zealous for the law.* [21]They have been told about you that you teach all the Jews living among the gentiles to forsake Moses and that you tell them not to circumcise their children or observe the customs. [22]What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. [23]So do what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow.* [24]Join these men, go through the rite of purification with them, and pay for the shaving of their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you but that you yourself observe and guard the law.* [25]But as for the gentiles who have become believers, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled[u] and from sexual immorality."* [26]Then Paul took the men, and the next day, having purified himself, he entered the temple with them, making public the completion of the days of purification when the sacrifice would be made for each of them.*

PAUL ARRESTED IN THE TEMPLE

27 When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, who had seen him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd. They seized him,* [28]shouting, "Fellow Israelites,[v] help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against our people, our law, and this place; more than that, he has actually brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place."* [29]For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.* [30]Then all the city was aroused, and the people rushed together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and immediately the doors were shut.* [31]While they were trying to kill him, word came to the tribune of the cohort that all Jerusalem was in an uproar. [32]Immediately he

took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. When they saw the tribune and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.* 33Then the tribune came, arrested him, and ordered him to be bound with two chains; he inquired who he was and what he had done.* 34Some in the crowd shouted one thing, some another, and as he could not learn the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks.* 35When Paul[w] came to the steps, the violence of the mob was so great that he had to be carried by the soldiers. 36The crowd that followed kept shouting, "Away with him!"*

PAUL DEFENDS HIMSELF

37 Just as Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, "May I say something to you?" The tribune[x] replied, "Do you know Greek? 38Then you are not the Egyptian who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand assassins out into the wilderness?"* 39Paul replied, "I am a Jew from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of an important city; I beg you, let me speak to the people."* 40When he had given him permission, Paul stood on the steps and motioned to the people for silence, and when there was a great hush, he addressed them in the Hebrew[y] language, saying:*

Acts 22

1 "Brothers[z] and fathers, listen to the defense that I now make before you."[*]

2 When they heard him addressing them in Hebrew,[a] they became even more quiet. Then he said:[*]

3 "I am a Jew born in Tarsus in Cilicia but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, educated strictly according to our ancestral law, being zealous for God, just as all of you are today.[*] [4]I persecuted this Way up to the point of death by binding both men and women and putting them in prison,[*] [5]as the high priest and the whole council of elders can testify about me. From them I also received letters to the brothers in Damascus, and I went there in order to bind those who were there and to bring them back to Jerusalem for punishment.[*]

PAUL TELLS OF HIS CONVERSION

6 "While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me.[*] [7]I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' [8]I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' Then he said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth[b] whom you are persecuting.' [9]Now those who were with me saw the light but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me.[*] [10]I asked, 'What am I to do, Lord?' The Lord said to me, 'Get up and go to Damascus; there you will be told everything that has been assigned to you to do.'[*] [11]Since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, those who were with me took my hand and led me to Damascus.[*]

12 "A certain Ananias, who was a devout man according to the law and well spoken of by all the Jews living there,[*] [13]came to me, and standing beside me, he said, 'Brother Saul, regain your sight!' In that very hour I regained my sight and saw him. [14]Then he said, 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will, to see the Righteous One, and to hear his own voice,[*] [15]for you will be his witness to all the world of what you have

seen and heard.* 16And now why do you delay? Get up, be baptized, and
have your sins washed away, calling on his name.'*

PAUL SENT TO THE GENTILES

17 "After I had returned to Jerusalem and while I was praying in the
temple, I fell into a trance* 18and saw Jesus[c] saying to me, 'Hurry and get
out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about
me.' 19And I said, 'Lord, they themselves know that in every synagogue I
imprisoned and beat those who believed in you.* 20And while the blood of
your witness Stephen was shed, I myself was standing by, approving and
keeping the coats of those who killed him.'* 21Then he said to me, 'Go, for
I will send you far away to the gentiles.' "*

PAUL AND THE ROMAN TRIBUNE

22 Up to this point they listened to him, but then they shouted, "Away
with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live."
23And while they were shouting, throwing off their cloaks, and tossing dust
into the air,* 24the tribune directed that he was to be brought into the
barracks and ordered him to be examined by flogging, to find out the reason
for this outcry against him. 25But when they had tied him up with straps,[d]
Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, "Is it legal for you to flog a
Roman person who is uncondemned?"* 26When the centurion heard that, he
went to the tribune and said to him, "What are you about to do? This man is
a Roman." 27The tribune came and asked Paul,[e] "Tell me, are you a
Roman?" And he said, "Yes." 28The tribune answered, "It cost me a large
sum of money to get my citizenship." Paul said, "But I was born a Roman."
29Immediately those who were about to examine him drew back from him,
and the tribune also was afraid, for he realized that Paul was a Roman and
that he had bound him.

PAUL BEFORE THE COUNCIL

30 Since he wanted to find out what Paul[f] was being accused of by the
Jews, the next day he released him and ordered the chief priests and the

entire council to meet. He brought Paul down and had him stand before them.*

Acts 23

1 While Paul was looking intently at the council he said, “Brothers,[g] up to
this day I have lived my life with a clear conscience before God.”* [2]Then
the high priest Ananias ordered those standing near him to strike him on the
mouth.* [3]At this Paul said to him, “God will strike you, you whitewashed
wall! Are you sitting there to judge me according to the law, and yet in
violation of the law you order me to be struck?”* [4]Those standing nearby
said, “Do you dare to insult God’s high priest?” [5]And Paul said, “I did not
realize, brothers, that he was high priest, for it is written, ‘You shall not
speak evil of a leader of your people.’ ”*

6 When Paul noticed that some were Sadducees and others were
Pharisees, he called out in the council, “Brothers,[h] I am a Pharisee, a son of
Pharisees. I am on trial concerning the hope of the resurrection[i] of the
dead.”* [7]When he said this, a dissension began between the Pharisees and
the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. [8](The Sadducees say that
there is no resurrection or angel or spirit, but the Pharisees acknowledge all
three.)* [9]Then a great clamor arose, and certain scribes of the Pharisees’
group stood up and contended, “We find nothing wrong with this man.
What if a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?”* [10]When the dissension
became violent, the tribune, fearing that they would tear Paul to pieces,
ordered the soldiers to go down, take him by force, and bring him into the
barracks.*

11 That night the Lord stood near him and said, “Keep up your courage!
For just as you have testified for me in Jerusalem, so you must bear witness
also in Rome.”*

THE PLOT TO KILL PAUL

12 In the morning the Jews joined in a conspiracy and bound themselves
by an oath neither to eat nor drink until they had killed Paul.* [13]There were
more than forty who joined in this conspiracy. [14]They went to the chief
priests and elders and said, “We have strictly bound ourselves by an oath to
taste no food until we have killed Paul.* [15]Now then, you and the council

must notify the tribune to bring him down to you, on the pretext that you want to make a more thorough examination of his case. And we are ready to do away with him before he arrives."*

16 Now the son of Paul's sister heard about the ambush, so he went and gained entrance to the barracks and told Paul.* [17]Paul called one of the centurions and said, "Take this young man to the tribune, for he has something to report to him." [18]So he took him, brought him to the tribune, and said, "The prisoner Paul called me and asked me to bring this young man to you; he has something to tell you."* [19]The tribune took him by the hand, drew him aside privately, and asked, "What is it that you have to report to me?" [20]He answered, "The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down to the council tomorrow, as though they were going to inquire more thoroughly into his case.* [21]But do not be persuaded by them, for more than forty of their men are lying in ambush for him. They have bound themselves by an oath neither to eat nor drink until they kill him. They are ready now and are waiting for your consent."* [22]So the tribune dismissed the young man, ordering him, "Tell no one that you have informed me of this."

PAUL SENT TO FELIX THE GOVERNOR

23 Then he summoned two of the centurions and said, "Get ready to leave by nine o'clock tonight for Caesarea with two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen, and two hundred spearmen.* [24]Also provide mounts for Paul to ride and take him safely to Felix the governor."* [25]He wrote a letter to this effect:

26 "Claudius Lysias to his Excellency the governor Felix, greetings.* [27]This man was seized by the Jews and was about to be killed by them, but when I had learned that he was a Roman, I came with the guard and rescued him.* [28]Since I wanted to know the charge for which they accused him, I had him brought to their council.* [29]I found that he was accused concerning questions of their law but was charged with nothing deserving death or imprisonment.* [30]When I was informed that there would be a plot against the man, I sent him to you at once, ordering his accusers also to state before you what they have against him."[j,*]

31 So the soldiers, according to their instructions, took Paul and brought
him during the night to Antipatris. 32The next day they let the horsemen go
on with him, while they returned to the barracks.* 33When they came to
Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they presented Paul also
before him.* 34On reading the letter, he asked what province he belonged to,
and when he learned that he was from Cilicia,* 35he said, "I will give you a
hearing when your accusers arrive." Then he ordered that he be kept under
guard in Herod's headquarters.k,*

Acts 24

PAUL BEFORE FELIX AT CAESAREA

1 Five days later the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and
an attorney, a certain Tertullus, and they reported their case against Paul to
the governor.* [2]When Paul[l] had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse
him, saying:

"Because of you, most excellent Felix, we have long enjoyed peace, and
reforms have been made for this people because of your foresight. [3]In every
way and everywhere we welcome this with utmost gratitude.* [4]But, to
detain you no further, I beg you to hear us briefly with your customary
graciousness. [5]We have, in fact, found this man a pestilent fellow, an
agitator among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the
sect of the Nazarenes.[m,*] [6]He even tried to profane the temple, so we seized
him.[n,*] [8]By examining him yourself you will be able to learn from him
concerning everything of which we accuse him."

9 The Jews also joined in the charge by asserting that all this was true.*

PAUL'S DEFENSE BEFORE FELIX

10 When the governor motioned to him to speak, Paul replied:

"I cheerfully make my defense, knowing that for many years you have
been a judge over this people.* [11]As you can find out, it is not more than
twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem.* [12]They did not find
me disputing with anyone in the temple or stirring up a crowd either in the
synagogues or throughout the city.* [13]Neither can they prove to you the
charge that they now bring against me.* [14]But this I admit to you, that
according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our
ancestors, believing everything laid down according to the law or written in
the prophets.* [15]I have a hope in God—a hope that they themselves also
accept—that there will be a resurrection of both[o] the righteous and the
unrighteous.* [16]Therefore I do my best always to have a clear conscience
toward God and all people.* [17]Now after some years I came to bring alms to

my people and to offer sacrifices.* 18While I was doing this, they found me
in the temple completing the rite of purification, without any crowd or
disturbance.* 19But there were some Jews from Asia—they ought to be here
before you to make an accusation, if they have anything against me.* 20Or
let these men here tell what crime they had found when I stood before the
council, 21unless it was this one sentence that I called out while standing
before them, 'It is about the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial
before you today.' "*

22 But Felix, who was rather well informed about the Way, adjourned the
hearing with the comment, "When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will
decide your case." 23Then he ordered the centurion to keep him in custody
but to let him have some liberty and not to prevent any of his friends from
taking care of his needs.*

PAUL HELD IN CUSTODY

24 Some days later when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was
Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him speak concerning faith in Christ
Jesus. 25And as he discussed justice, self-control, and the coming judgment,
Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for the present; when I have an
opportunity, I will send for you."* 26At the same time he hoped that money
would be given him by Paul, and for that reason he used to send for him
very often and converse with him.

27 After two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus,
and since he wanted to grant the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.*

Acts 25

PAUL APPEALS TO THE EMPEROR

1 Three days after Festus had arrived in the province, he went up from
Caesarea to Jerusalem, [2]where the chief priests and the leaders of the Jews
gave him a report against Paul. They appealed to him[*] [3]and requested, as a
favor to them against Paul,[p] to have him transferred to Jerusalem. They
were, in fact, planning an ambush to kill him along the way.[*] [4]Festus
replied that Paul was being kept at Caesarea and that he himself intended to
go there shortly.[*] [5]"So," he said, "let those of you who have the authority
come down with me, and if there is anything wrong about the man, let them
accuse him."

6 After he had stayed among them not more than eight or ten days, he
went down to Caesarea; the next day he took his seat on the tribunal and
ordered Paul to be brought. [7]When he arrived, the Jews who had gone down
from Jerusalem surrounded him, bringing many serious charges against
him, which they could not prove.[*] [8]Paul said in his defense, "I have in no
way committed an offense against the law of the Jews or against the temple
or against the emperor."[*] [9]But Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, asked
Paul, "Do you wish to go up to Jerusalem and be tried there before me on
these charges?"[*] [10]Paul said, "I am standing before the emperor's tribunal;
this is where I should be tried. I have done no wrong to the Jews, as you
very well know. [11]Now if I am in the wrong and have committed something
for which I deserve to die, I am not trying to escape death, but if there is
nothing to their charges against me, no one can turn me over to them. I
appeal to the emperor."[*] [12]Then Festus, after he had conferred with his
council, replied, "You have appealed to the emperor; to the emperor you
will go."

FESTUS CONSULTS KING AGRIPPA

13 After several days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at
Caesarea to welcome Festus. [14]Since they were staying there several days,
Festus laid Paul's case before the king, saying, "There is a man here who

was left in prison by Felix.* 15When I was in Jerusalem, the chief priests
and the elders of the Jews informed me about him and asked for a sentence
against him.* 16I told them that it was not the custom of the Romans to hand
over anyone before the accused had met the accusers face to face and had
been given an opportunity to make a defense against the charge.* 17So when
they met here, I lost no time but on the next day took my seat on the
tribunal and ordered the man to be brought.* 18When the accusers stood up,
they did not charge him with any of the crimes[q] that I was expecting.
19Instead, they had certain points of disagreement with him about their own
religion and about a certain Jesus, who had died but whom Paul asserted to
be alive.* 20Since I was at a loss how to investigate these questions, I asked
whether he wished to go to Jerusalem and be tried there on these charges.[r,*]
21But when Paul had appealed to be kept in custody for the decision of his
Imperial Majesty, I ordered him to be held until I could send him to the
emperor."* 22Agrippa said to Festus, "I would like to hear the man myself."
"Tomorrow," he said, "you will hear him."*

PAUL BROUGHT BEFORE AGRIPPA

23 So on the next day Agrippa and Bernice came with great pomp, and
they entered the audience hall with the military tribunes and the prominent
men of the city. Then Festus gave the order and Paul was brought in.*
24And Festus said, "King Agrippa and all here present with us, you see this
man about whom the whole Jewish community petitioned me, both in
Jerusalem and here, shouting that he ought not to live any longer.* 25But I
found that he had done nothing deserving death, and when he appealed to
his Imperial Majesty, I decided to send him.* 26But I have nothing definite
to write to our sovereign about him. Therefore I have brought him before all
of you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that, after we have
examined him, I may have something to write, 27for it seems to me
unreasonable to send a prisoner without indicating the charges against him."

Acts 26

PAUL DEFENDS HIMSELF BEFORE AGRIPPA

1 Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and began to defend himself:*

2 "I consider myself fortunate that it is before you, King Agrippa, I am to make my defense today against all the accusations of the Jews, 3because you are especially familiar with all the customs and controversies of the Jews; therefore I beg of you to listen to me patiently.*

4 "All the Jews know my way of life from my youth, a life spent from the beginning among my own people and in Jerusalem.* 5They have known for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that I have belonged to the strictest sect of our religion and lived as a Pharisee.* 6And now I stand here on trial on account of my hope in the promise made by God to our ancestors,* 7a promise that our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship day and night. It is for this hope, Your Excellency,[s] that I am accused by Jews!* 8Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead?*

9 "Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth.[t],* 10And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death.* 11By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme, and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities.*

PAUL TELLS OF HIS CONVERSION

12 "With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests,* 13when at midday along the road, Your Excellency,[u] I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. 14When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew[v] language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.'* 15I asked,

‘Who are you, Lord?’ The Lord answered, ‘I am Jesus whom you are
persecuting. 16But get up and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you
for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which
you have seen me[w] and to those in which I will appear to you.* 17I will
rescue you from your people and from the gentiles—to whom I am sending
you* 18to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and
from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of
sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’*

PAUL TELLS OF HIS PREACHING

19 “After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly
vision 20but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and
throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the gentiles, that they
should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance.*
21For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me.*
22To this day I have had help from God, and so I stand here, testifying to
both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said
would take place:* 23that the Messiah[x] must suffer and that, by being the
first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to
the gentiles.”*

PAUL APPEALS TO AGRIPPA TO BELIEVE

24 While he was making this defense, Festus exclaimed, “You are out of
your mind, Paul! Too much learning is driving you insane!”* 25But Paul
said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking
the sober truth.* 26Indeed, the king knows about these things, and to him I
speak freely, for I am certain that none of these things has escaped his
notice, for this was not done in a corner. 27King Agrippa, do you believe the
prophets? I know that you believe.” 28Agrippa said to Paul, “Are you so
quickly persuading me to become a Christian?”* 29Paul replied, “Whether
quickly or not, I pray to God that not only you but also all who are listening
to me today might become such as I am—except for these chains.”*

30 Then the king got up and with him the governor and Bernice and
those who had been seated with them, 31and as they were leaving they said

to one another, “This man is doing nothing to deserve death or imprisonment.”* 32Agrippa said to Festus, “This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to the emperor.”*

Acts 27

PAUL SAILS FOR ROME

1 When it was decided that we were to sail for Italy, they transferred Paul
and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan Cohort, named
Julius.* [2]Embarking on a ship of Adramyttium that was about to set sail to
the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by
Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica.* [3]The next day we put in at
Sidon, and Julius treated Paul kindly and allowed him to go to his friends to
be cared for.* [4]Putting out to sea from there, we sailed under the lee of
Cyprus, because the winds were against us. [5]After we had sailed across the
sea that is off Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra in Lycia.* [6]There the
centurion found an Alexandrian ship bound for Italy and put us on board.*
[7]We sailed slowly for a number of days and arrived with difficulty off
Cnidus, and as the wind was against us, we sailed under the lee of Crete off
Salmone. [8]Sailing past it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair
Havens, near the city of Lasea.

9 Since much time had been lost and sailing was now dangerous, because
even the Fast had already gone by, Paul advised them,* [10]saying, "Men, I
can see that the voyage will be with danger and much heavy loss, not only
of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives." [11]But the centurion paid
more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than to what Paul
said. [12]Since the harbor was not suitable for spending the winter, the
majority was in favor of putting to sea from there on the chance that
somehow they could reach Phoenix, where they could spend the winter. It
was a harbor of Crete, facing southwest and northwest.

THE STORM AT SEA

13 When a moderate south wind began to blow, they thought they could
achieve their purpose; so they weighed anchor and began to sail past Crete,
close to the shore. [14]But soon a violent wind, called the northeaster, rushed
down from Crete.[y,]* [15]Since the ship was caught and could not be turned
head-on into the wind, we gave way to it and were driven. [16]By running

under the lee of a small island called Cauda[z] we were scarcely able to get
the ship's boat under control. 17After hoisting it up they took measures to
undergird the ship; then, fearing that they would run on the Syrtis, they
lowered the sea anchor and so were driven.* 18We were being pounded by
the storm so violently that on the next day they began to throw the cargo
overboard,* 19and on the third day with their own hands they threw the
ship's tackle overboard. 20When neither sun nor stars appeared for many
days and no small tempest raged, all hope of our being saved was at last
abandoned.

21 Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul then stood up
among them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me and not have
set sail from Crete and thereby avoided this damage and loss.* 22I urge you
now to keep up your courage, for there will be no loss of life among you,
but only of the ship.* 23For last night there stood by me an angel of the God
to whom I belong and whom I worship,* 24and he said, 'Do not be afraid,
Paul; you must stand before the emperor, and, indeed, God has granted
safety to all those who are sailing with you.'* 25So keep up your courage,
men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.*
26But we will have to run aground on some island."*

27 When the fourteenth night had come, as we were drifting across the
Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors suspected that they were nearing
land. 28So they took soundings and found twenty fathoms; a little farther on
they took soundings again and found fifteen fathoms. 29Fearing that we
might run on the rocks, they let down four anchors from the stern and
prayed for day to come. 30But when the sailors tried to escape from the ship
and had lowered the boat into the sea on the pretext of putting out anchors
from the bow,* 31Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these
men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved." 32Then the soldiers cut away the
ropes of the boat and set it adrift.

33 Just before daybreak, Paul urged all of them to take some food,
saying, "Today is the fourteenth day that you have been in suspense and
remaining without food, having eaten nothing. 34Therefore I urge you to
take some food, for it will help you survive, for none of you will lose a hair
from your heads."* 35After he had said this, he took bread, and giving
thanks to God in the presence of all, he broke it and began to eat.* 36Then

all of them were encouraged and took food for themselves.* 37(We were in all two hundred seventy-six[a] persons in the ship.) 38After they had satisfied their hunger, they lightened the ship by throwing the wheat into the sea.*

THE SHIPWRECK

39 In the morning they did not recognize the land, but they noticed a bay with a beach on which they planned to run the ship ashore, if they could.* 40So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea. At the same time they loosened the ropes that tied the steering-oars; then hoisting the foresail to the wind, they made for the beach.* 41But striking a reef,[b] they ran the ship aground; the bow stuck and remained immovable, but the stern was being broken up by the force of the waves.* 42The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, so that none might swim away and escape;* 43but the centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land* 44and the rest to follow, some on planks and others on pieces of the ship. And so it was that all were brought safely to land.*

Acts 28

PAUL ON THE ISLAND OF MALTA

1 After we had reached safety, we then learned that the island was called
Malta.* [2]The local people showed us unusual kindness. Since it had begun
to rain and was cold, they kindled a fire and welcomed all of us around it.*
[3]Paul had gathered a bundle of brushwood and was putting it on the fire
when a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. [4]When the
local people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one
another, "This man must be a murderer; though he has escaped from the
sea, Justice has not allowed him to live."* [5]He, however, shook off the
creature into the fire and suffered no harm.* [6]They were expecting him to
swell up or drop dead, but after they had waited a long time and saw that
nothing unusual had happened to him, they changed their minds and began
to say that he was a god.*

7 Now in the vicinity of that place were lands belonging to the leading
man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us
hospitably for three days. [8]It so happened that the father of Publius lay sick
in bed with fever and dysentery. Paul visited him and cured him by praying
and putting his hands on him.* [9]After this happened, the rest of the people
on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. [10]They bestowed
many honors on us, and when we were about to sail, they put on board all
the provisions we needed.

PAUL ARRIVES AT ROME

11 Three months later we set sail on a ship that had wintered at the
island, an Alexandrian ship with the Twin Brothers as its figurehead.* [12]We
put in at Syracuse and stayed there for three days; [13]then we weighed
anchor and came to Rhegium. After one day there a south wind sprang up,
and on the second day we came to Puteoli. [14]There we found brothers and
sisters and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came
to Rome.* [15]The brothers and sisters from there, when they heard of us,

came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.

16 When we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him.*

PAUL AND JEWISH LEADERS IN ROME

17 Three days later he called together the local leaders of the Jews. When they had assembled, he said to them, "Brothers,[c] though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our ancestors, yet I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans.* 18When they had examined me, the Romans[d] wanted to release me because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case.* 19But when the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to the emperor—even though I had no charge to bring against my people.* 20For this reason therefore I asked to see you and speak with you, since it is for the sake of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain."* 21They replied, "We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken anything evil about you.* 22But we would like to hear from you what you think, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against."*

PAUL PREACHES IN ROME

23 After they had set a day to meet with him, they came to him at his lodgings in great numbers. From morning until evening he explained the matter to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the law of Moses and from the prophets. 24Some were convinced by what he had said, while others refused to believe. 25So they disagreed with each other, and as they were leaving Paul made one further statement: "The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your ancestors through the prophet Isaiah,

26'Go to this people and say,
You will indeed listen but never understand,
and you will indeed look but never perceive.
27For this people's heart has grown dull,

and their ears are hard of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes;
otherwise they might look with their eyes
and listen with their ears
and understand with their heart and turn—
and I would heal them.'

[28]"Let it be known to you, then, that this salvation of God has been sent to the gentiles; they will listen."[e]

30 He lived there two whole years at his own expense[f] and welcomed all who came to him, [31]proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

Acts 1

* **1.1** Lk 1.1–4
* **1.2** Mt 28.19
a **1.3** Or *death*
* **1.3** Mt 27.17; Lk 24.34, 38; 1 Cor 15.5–7
b **1.4** Or *eating*
* **1.4** Lk 24.49; Jn 14.16
c **1.5** Or *by*
* **1.5** Acts 11.16
* **1.6** Mt 24.3
* **1.7** Mt 24.36; Mk 13.32
* **1.8** Lk 24.48; Jn 15.27; Acts 2.1–4
* **1.9** v 2; Lk 24.51
* **1.10** Lk 24.4; Jn 20.12
* **1.11** Mt 24.30; Mk 13.26; Jn 14.3
d **1.13** Or *the brother of*
* **1.13** Mt 10.2–4; Mk 3.16–19; Lk 6.14–16; Acts 9.37, 39; 20.8
* **1.14** Mt 12.46; Lk 23.49, 55; Acts 2.1, 46
e **1.16** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **1.16** Jn 13.18
* **1.17** v 25; Jn 6.70, 71; Acts 20.24; 21.19
* **1.18** Mt 26.14, 15; 27.3–10
* **1.20** Ps 69.25; 109.8
* **1.22** v 8; Mk 1.1; Acts 2.32
* **1.24** 1 Sam 16.7; Jer 17.10; Acts 15.8; Rom 8.27
f **1.25** Other ancient authorities read *the share*

Acts 2

* **2.1** Lev 23.15; Deut 16.9; Acts 1.14
* **2.2** Acts 4.31
* **2.4** Acts 4.8, 31; 9.17; 13.9, 52; 1 Cor 12.10, 11; 14.21
g **2.14** Gk *Men, Judeans*
* **2.15** 1 Thess 5.7
* **2.17** Joel 2.28–32; Zech 12.10; Jn 7.38; Acts 10.45; 21.9
* **2.18** Acts 21.4, 9, 10
* **2.20** Mt 24.29; Mk 13.24; Lk 21.25
* **2.21** Rom 10.13
h **2.22** Gk *Men, Israelites*
i **2.22** Gk *the Nazorean*

* **2.22** Jn 3.2; 4.48; Acts 10.38
* **2.23** Mt 26.24; Lk 22.22; Acts 3.13, 18; 4.28
* **2.24** Acts 3.15; Rom 4.24; 2 Cor 4.14; Eph 1.20; Col 2.12; Heb 13.20; 1 Pet 1.21
* **2.25** Ps 16.8–11
* **2.27** Mt 11.23; Acts 13.35
j **2.29** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **2.29** 1 Kings 2.10; Neh 3.16; Acts 7.8, 9; 13.36
* **2.30** 2 Sam 7.12, 13; Ps 132.11; Rom 1.3
k **2.31** Gk *he*
l **2.31** Or *the Christ*
* **2.31** Ps 16.10
* **2.32** v 24; Acts 1.8
m **2.33** Or *by*
* **2.33** Jn 7.39; 14.26; 15.26; Acts 1.4; 5.31; 10.45
* **2.34** Ps 110.1; Mt 22.44
n **2.36** Or *Christ*
o **2.37** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **2.37** Lk 3.10; Acts 9.6; 16.30
* **2.38** Lk 24.47; Acts 3.19; 5.31; 8.12, 16; 22.16
* **2.39** Isa 57.19; Joel 2.32; Acts 10.45; Eph 2.13
* **2.43** Acts 5.12
* **2.44** Acts 4.32, 34
p **2.45** Gk *them*
q **2.46** Or *from house to house*
r **2.46** Or *sincere*
* **2.46** Acts 5.42; 20.7; 1 Cor 10.16
* **2.47** Acts 4.33; 5.14; 11.24; Rom 14.18

Acts 3

* **3.1** Ps 55.17; Acts 2.46
* **3.2** v 10; Lk 16.20; Acts 14.8
s **3.6** Gk *the Nazorean*
* **3.6** Acts 4.10
* **3.9** Acts 4.16, 21
* **3.11** Lk 22.8; Jn 10.23; Acts 5.12
t **3.12** Gk *Men, Israelites*
u **3.13** Other ancient authorities read *and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob*
v **3.13** Or *child*
* **3.13** Isa 52.13; Mt 27.2; Lk 23.4; Acts 2.23; 5.30
w **3.14** Or *innocent*
* **3.14** Mk 1.24; 15.11; Lk 23.18, 25; Acts 4.27; 7.52

* **3.15** Acts 2.24, 32; 5.31
x **3.16** Gk *him*
* **3.17** Lk 23.34; Acts 13.27
y **3.18** Or *his Christ*
* **3.18** Lk 24.27; Acts 2.23; 17.3
z **3.20** Or *the Christ*
* **3.21** Mt 17.11; Lk 1.70; Acts 1.11
* **3.22** Deut 18.15; Acts 7.37
* **3.25** Gen 12.3; 28.14; Acts 2.39; Rom 9.4, 8
a **3.26** Or *child*
* **3.26** v 22; Acts 2.24; 13.46

Acts 4

b **4.1** Gk *While they*
* **4.1** Mt 3.7; Lk 22.4; Acts 6.12
* **4.2** Acts 17.18; 23.8
* **4.3** Acts 5.18
* **4.4** Acts 2.41
* **4.5** Lk 23.13
c **4.6** Other ancient authorities read *Jonathan*
* **4.6** Mt 26.3; Lk 3.2
d **4.7** Gk *them*
* **4.8** v 5; Lk 23.13; Acts 13.9
e **4.9** Or *saved*
f **4.10** Gk *the Nazorean*
* **4.10** Acts 2.24; 3.6
g **4.11** Gk *This*
h **4.11** Or *keystone* (in an arch)
* **4.11** Ps 118.22; Isa 28.16; Mt 21.42
* **4.12** Mt 1.21; Acts 10.43; 1 Tim 2.5, 6
* **4.13** v 31; Mt 11.25; 1 Cor 1.27
* **4.15** Mt 5.22
* **4.16** Jn 11.47; Acts 3.7–10
* **4.18** Acts 5.40
* **4.19** Acts 5.28, 29
* **4.20** Acts 1.8; 2.32
* **4.21** Acts 3.7, 8; 5.26
* **4.24** 2 Kings 19.15
i **4.25** Or *child*
* **4.25** Ps 2.1; Acts 1.16
j **4.26** Or *his Christ*

* **4.26** Heb 1.9
k **4.27** Or *child*
* **4.27** v 30; Mt 14.1; Lk 4.18; 23.12; Jn 10.36
* **4.29** Acts 9.27; 13.46; 28.31
l **4.30** Or *child*
* **4.30** v 27; Acts 2.43; 3.6, 16; 5.12
* **4.31** v 29; Acts 2.2, 4
* **4.32** Acts 2.44; 5.12
* **4.33** Acts 1.8, 22
* **4.34** Acts 2.45
* **4.35** v 37; Acts 2.45; 5.2; 6.1
* **4.37** v 35; Acts 5.2

Acts 5

* **5.2** Acts 4.37
* **5.3** v 9; Deut 23.21; Lk 22.3; Jn 13.2, 7
m **5.4** Gk *to men*
* **5.6** Jn 19.40
* **5.9** v 3
* **5.11** v 5; Acts 19.17
* **5.12** Acts 2.43; 3.11; 4.32
* **5.13** Acts 2.47; 4.21
* **5.15** Mt 9.21; 14.36; Acts 19.12
* **5.18** Acts 4.3
* **5.19** Acts 12.7; 16.26
* **5.20** Jn 6.63, 68
* **5.21** vv 27, 34, 41; Acts 4.5, 6
* **5.24** Acts 4.1
* **5.26** Acts 4.21
n **5.28** Other ancient authorities read *Did we not give you strict orders not to teach in this name?*
* **5.28** Mt 23.35; 27.25; Acts 2.33, 36; 3.15; 4.18; 7.52
o **5.29** Gk *than men*
* **5.29** Acts 4.19
* **5.30** Acts 3.13, 15; 10.39; 13.29; 22.14; Gal 3.13; 1 Pet 2.24
* **5.31** Acts 2.33; 3.15; Heb 2.10
* **5.32** Lk 24.48; Jn 15.26; Rom 8.16
* **5.33** Acts 2.37; 7.54
p **5.35** Gk *Men, Israelites*
* **5.38** Mt 15.13
* **5.39** Acts 7.51; 9.5; 11.17
* **5.40** Mt 10.17; Mk 13.9

* **5.41** Jn 15.21; 1 Pet 4.13, 16
q **5.42** Or *from house to house*
r **5.42** Or *the Christ*
* **5.42** Acts 2.46; 8.35; 11.20; 17.18; Gal 1.16

Acts 6

* **6.1** Acts 2.41, 47; 4.35; 9.29; 11.20
s **6.2** Or *keep accounts*
* **6.3** Jn 21.23; Acts 1.15
* **6.5** Acts 8.5, 26; 11.19, 24; 21.8
* **6.6** Acts 1.24; 8.17; 9.17; 1 Tim 4.14; 2 Tim 1.6
* **6.7** Acts 12.24; 13.8; Gal 1.23; 6.10
t **6.10** Or *spirit*
* **6.10** Lk 21.15; Acts 5.39
* **6.11** Mt 26.59, 60
* **6.13** Acts 7.58; 21.28
u **6.14** Gk *the Nazorean*
* **6.14** Mt 15.1; 21.21; 26.3, 61; 28.17

Acts 7

v **7.2** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **7.2** Gen 11.31; 15.7; Ps 29.3; Acts 22.1
* **7.3** Gen 12.1
* **7.4** Gen 12.5
* **7.5** Gen 12.7; 17.8; 26.3
* **7.6** Gen 15.13, 14; Ex 12.40
* **7.7** Ex 3.12
w **7.8** Gk *he*
* **7.8** Gen 17.9–11; 21.2–4; 25.26; 29.31ff
* **7.9** Gen 11.28; 37.4; 39.2, 21, 23
* **7.10** Gen 41.37; 42.6
* **7.11** Gen 41.54
* **7.12** Gen 42.1, 2
* **7.13** Gen 45.1–4
* **7.14** Gen 45.9, 10; 46.26, 27; Deut 10.22
* **7.15** Gen 46.5; 49.33; Ex 1.6
x **7.16** Gk *they*
* **7.16** Gen 23.16; 33.19; Josh 24.32
* **7.17** Ex 1.7–9; Ps 105.24, 25
* **7.19** Ex 1.10, 11, 15, 22

* **7.22** 1 Kings 4.30; Isa 19.11
* **7.23** Ex 2.11, 12
y **7.27** Gk *him*
* **7.32** Ex 3.6
* **7.33** Ex 3.5; Josh 5.15
* **7.34** Ex 3.7
* **7.35** Ex 14.19
* **7.36** Ex 12.41; 14.21
* **7.37** Deut 18.15, 18; Acts 3.22
* **7.38** Ex 19.17; Isa 63.9; Rom 3.2; Heb 5.12; 1 Pet 4.11
* **7.40** Ex 32.1, 23
* **7.41** Ex 32.4, 6; Ps 106.19
* **7.42** Ezek 20.25, 39; Am 5.25, 26
z **7.44** Gk *he*
* **7.44** Ex 25.9, 40
* **7.45** Josh 3.14–17; Ps 44.2
a **7.46** Other ancient authorities read *for the God of Jacob*
* **7.46** 2 Sam 7.8–16; Ps 132.1–5
b **7.48** Gk *with hands*
* **7.48** 1 Kings 8.27; 2 Chr 2.6
* **7.49** Isa 66.1, 2; Mt 5.34, 35
* **7.51** Lev 26.41; Jer 6.10; 9.26
* **7.52** 2 Chr 36.16; Mt 23.31, 37; Acts 3.14
* **7.53** Ex 20.1; Heb 2.2
c **7.54** Gk *him*
* **7.55** Acts 6.5
* **7.56** Dan 7.13; Mt 3.16
* **7.58** Lev 24.16; Deut 13.9, 10; Lk 4.29
* **7.59** Acts 9.14
d **7.60** Gk *fell asleep*
* **7.60** Acts 9.40

Acts 8

* **8.1** Acts 7.58; 11.19
* **8.2** Gen 23.2; 50.10; 2 Sam 3.31
* **8.3** Acts 7.58; 22.4; 26.10, 11; 1 Cor 15.9; Gal 1.13; Phil 3.6; 1 Tim 1.13
* **8.4** v 1; Acts 15.35
e **8.5** Other ancient authorities read *a city*
f **8.5** Or *the Christ*
* **8.5** Acts 6.5
* **8.7** Mt 4.24

* **8.9** Acts 5.36; 13.6
* **8.10** Acts 14.11; 28.6
* **8.12** Acts 1.3; 2.38
* **8.13** Acts 19.11
* **8.14** v 1
* **8.15** Acts 2.38
g **8.16** Gk *fallen*
* **8.16** Mt 28.19; Acts 10.48; 19.2, 5
h **8.17** Gk *they*
* **8.17** Acts 2.4; 6.6
* **8.20** 2 Kings 5.16; Mt 10.8; Acts 2.38
* **8.21** Ps 78.37
* **8.23** Isa 58.6; Heb 12.15
i **8.24** The Greek word for *you* and the verb *pray* are plural
j **8.25** Gk *after they*
* **8.25** v 40; Lk 16.28
k **8.26** Or *go at noon*
* **8.26** Acts 5.19
* **8.27** Ps 68.31; Zeph 3.10
* **8.29** Acts 10.19; 11.12; 13.2
* **8.32** Isa 53.7, 8
* **8.35** Mt 5.2; Lk 24.27; Acts 5.42; 17.2; 18.28
l **8.36** Other ancient authorities add all or most of 8.37, *And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he replied, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."*
* **8.36** Acts 10.47
m **8.38** Gk *he*
* **8.39** 1 Kings 18.12; 2 Kings 2.16; Ezek 3.12, 14

Acts 9

* **9.1** Acts 8.3; 22.4–16; 26.9–18
* **9.3** Acts 22.6; 26.12; 1 Cor 15.8
* **9.4** Acts 22.7; 26.14
* **9.7** Acts 22.9; 26.13, 14
n **9.8** Other ancient authorities read *no one*
* **9.10** Acts 22.12
* **9.11** Acts 21.39; 22.3
o **9.12** Other ancient authorities lack *in a vision*
* **9.14** v 21; Acts 7.59; 1 Cor 1.2; 2 Tim 2.22
* **9.15** Acts 13.2; 25.22, 23; 26.1; Gal 2.7, 8; Eph 3.7, 8
* **9.16** Acts 20.23; 21.11; 2 Cor 11.23
p **9.17** Gk *him*

* **9.17** Acts 2.4; 4.31; 8.17; 22.12, 13
* **9.19** Acts 26.20
* **9.21** Acts 8.3; Gal 1.13, 23
q **9.22** Gk *that this*
r **9.22** Or *the Christ*
* **9.22** Acts 18.28
* **9.23** Acts 23.12; 25.3
* **9.24** 2 Cor 11.32, 33
s **9.25** Gk *through the wall*
* **9.26** Acts 22.17; Gal 1.17, 18
* **9.27** vv 20, 22; Acts 4.36
* **9.29** Acts 6.1; 11.20; 2 Cor 11.26
* **9.31** Acts 8.1
t **9.32** Gk *all of them*
* **9.32** v 13
* **9.34** Acts 3.6, 16; 4.10
* **9.35** 1 Chr 5.16; Acts 11.21
u **9.36** Tabitha in Aramaic and Dorcas in Greek mean *a gazelle*
* **9.36** Jon 1.3; 1 Tim 2.10; Titus 3.8
* **9.37** Acts 1.13
* **9.38** Acts 11.26
* **9.39** Acts 6.1
* **9.40** Mt 9.25; Mk 5.41, 42; Acts 7.60
* **9.41** v 13
* **9.43** Acts 10.6

Acts 10

* **10.3** Acts 3.1; 5.19; 9.10
* **10.4** Mt 26.13; Acts 3.4; Rev 8.4
* **10.6** Acts 9.43
* **10.9** Mt 24.17; Acts 11.5–14
* **10.10** Acts 22.17
* **10.11** Acts 7.56; Rev 19.11
* **10.14** Lev 11.4; 20.25; Deut 14.3, 7; Ezek 4.14; Acts 9.5
* **10.15** v 28; Mt 15.11; Rom 14.14, 17, 20; 1 Cor 10.25; 1 Tim 4.4; Titus 1.15
* **10.17** v 3
v **10.19** One ancient authority reads *two*; others lack the word
* **10.19** Acts 11.12
w **10.22** Or *just*
* **10.22** v 2; Acts 11.14
x **10.23** Gk *he*

* **10.23** v 45; Acts 11.12
* **10.26** Acts 14.14, 15; Rev 19.10
* **10.28** Jn 4.9; 18.28; Acts 11.3; 15.8, 9
* **10.34** Deut 10.17; Rom 2.11; Eph 6.9; Col 3.25; 1 Pet 1.17
y **10.35** Or *acts justly*
* **10.35** Acts 15.9
* **10.36** Isa 57.19; Mt 28.18; Rom 10.12; Eph 1.20, 22
* **10.38** Jn 3.2; Acts 2.22
* **10.39** Lk 24.48; Acts 5.30
* **10.40** Acts 2.24
* **10.41** Jn 14.17, 22; 21.13
* **10.42** Mt 28.19, 20; Rom 14.9; 2 Cor 5.10; 1 Pet 4.5
* **10.43** Isa 53.11; Acts 15.9; 26.22; Rom 10.11; Gal 3.22
* **10.44** Acts 4.31; 8.15, 16; 11.15; 15.8
* **10.45** v 23; Acts 11.18
* **10.47** Acts 8.36; 11.17
* **10.48** Acts 2.38; 8.16; 19.5; 1 Cor 1.17

Acts 11

z **11.2** Gk lacks *believers*
* **11.2** Acts 10.45
* **11.3** Acts 10.28; Gal 2.12
* **11.5** Acts 10.9–32
a **11.12** Or *not to hesitate*
* **11.12** Acts 8.29; 10.23; 15.9
* **11.13** Acts 10.30
* **11.15** Acts 2.4; 10.44
* **11.16** Joel 2.28; 3.18; Mt 3.11; Jn 1.26, 33; Acts 1.5
* **11.17** Acts 10.45, 47
* **11.18** Rom 10.12, 13; 2 Cor 7.10
* **11.19** Acts 8.1, 4
b **11.20** Other ancient authorities read *Greeks*
* **11.20** Acts 4.36; 5.42; 6.5; 13.1
* **11.21** Lk 1.66; Acts 2.47; 9.35
* **11.23** Acts 13.43; 14.22
* **11.24** v 21; Acts 5.14; 6.5
* **11.25** Acts 9.11, 30
* **11.26** Acts 26.28
* **11.27** Acts 18.22; 1 Cor 12.28
* **11.28** Acts 21.10
* **11.29** Rom 15.26; 1 Cor 16.1; 2 Cor 9.1

* **11.30** Acts 12.25; 14.23

Acts 12

* **12.2** Mt 4.21; 20.23
* **12.3** Ex 12.15; 23.15; Acts 24.27
* **12.5** Eph 6.18; 1 Thess 5.17
* **12.6** Acts 21.33
* **12.7** Acts 5.19; 16.26
c **12.9** Gk *He*
* **12.9** Acts 9.10
* **12.10** Acts 16.26
* **12.11** Dan 3.28; 6.22; Lk 15.17; 2 Cor 1.10; 2 Pet 2.9
* **12.12** v 5; Acts 15.37
* **12.13** Jn 18.16, 17
* **12.14** Lk 24.41
* **12.15** Gen 48.16; Mt 18.10
* **12.17** Acts 13.16; 19.33; 21.40
* **12.19** Acts 16.27; 27.42
d **12.20** Gk *he*
* **12.20** 1 Kings 5.9, 11; Ezek 27.17; Mt 11.21
* **12.23** 1 Sam 25.38; 2 Sam 24.17
* **12.24** Acts 6.7; 19.20
e **12.25** Other ancient authorities read *from*
* **12.25** Acts 13.5, 13; 15.37

Acts 13

f **13.1** Gk *tetrarch*
* **13.1** Acts 11.22–26
* **13.2** Acts 9.15; 14.26; 22.21
* **13.3** Acts 6.6; 14.26
* **13.4** vv 2, 3; Acts 4.36
* **13.5** Acts 9.20
* **13.6** Acts 8.9
* **13.7** Acts 18.12
* **13.8** vv 7, 12; Acts 6.7; 8.9
* **13.9** Acts 4.8
* **13.10** Hos 14.9; Mt 13.38
* **13.11** Ex 9.3
* **13.13** Acts 15.38
* **13.14** Acts 14.19, 21

g **13.15** Gk *Men, brothers*
h **13.16** Gk *Men, Israelites*
* **13.17** Deut 7.6–8
i **13.18** Other ancient authorities read *cared for*
* **13.18** Ex 16.35; Deut 1.31
* **13.19** Deut 7.1; Josh 19.51
* **13.20** Judg 2.16; 1 Sam 3.20
* **13.21** 1 Sam 8.5
* **13.22** 1 Sam 15.23, 26
* **13.23** Isa 11.1; Rom 11.26
* **13.24** Mt 3.1; Lk 3.3
j **13.25** Gk *untie the sandals*
* **13.25** Mt 3.11; Lk 3.16
k **13.26** Gk *Men, brothers*
l **13.26** Other ancient authorities read *you*
* **13.27** Lk 23.13; 24.27; Acts 3.17
* **13.28** Mt 27.22
* **13.29** Mt 27.59; Lk 18.31
* **13.30** Mt 28.6
* **13.31** Mt 28.16; Lk 24.48
* **13.32** Gen 3.15; Rom 4.13
m **13.33** Other ancient authorities read *for our children*
* **13.33** Ps 2.7
* **13.34** Isa 55.3
* **13.35** Ps 16.10; Acts 2.27
n **13.36** Gk *fell asleep*
* **13.36** 1 Kings 2.10; Acts 2.29
o **13.38** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **13.38** Lk 24.47
p **13.39** Gk *this*
q **13.39** Gk *all*
* **13.39** Acts 10.43; Rom 3.28
* **13.40** Jn 6.45
r **13.42** Gk *they*
* **13.43** Acts 11.23; 14.22
s **13.44** Other ancient authorities read *God*
* **13.45** Acts 18.6; 1 Pet 4.4; Jude 10
* **13.46** v 26; Acts 3.26; 18.6; 28.28
* **13.47** Isa 49.6; Lk 2.32
* **13.51** Mt 10.14; Mk 6.11; Lk 9.5; Acts 18.6
* **13.52** Acts 2.4

Acts 14

t **14.1** Or *In Iconium, as usual, Paul*
u **14.1** Gk *they*
* **14.3** Jn 4.48; Heb 2.4
* **14.4** v 14; Acts 17.4, 5
* **14.5** 2 Tim 3.11
v **14.6** Gk *they*
* **14.6** Mt 10.23
* **14.8** Acts 3.2
* **14.9** Mt 9.28, 29; Acts 3.4; 10.4
w **14.10** Gk *he*
* **14.11** Acts 8.10; 28.6
x **14.13** Or *The priest of Zeus-Outside-the-City*
y **14.15** Gk *Men*
* **14.15** Gen 1.1; 1 Sam 12.21; Ps 146.6; Jer 14.22; Acts 10.26; 1 Cor 8.4; Jas 5.17; Rev 14.7
* **14.16** Ps 81.12; Acts 17.30; 1 Pet 4.3
* **14.17** Deut 11.14; Job 5.10; Ps 65.10; Acts 17.27; Rom 1.20
* **14.19** Acts 13.45; 2 Cor 11.25; 2 Tim 3.11
* **14.20** vv 22, 28
* **14.22** Jn 16.33; Acts 11.23; 13.43; 1 Thess 3.3; 2 Tim 3.12
* **14.23** Acts 11.30; 13.3; 20.32; Titus 1.5
z **14.26** Or *committed in the grace of God to the work*
* **14.26** Acts 11.19; 13.1, 3; 15.40

Acts 15

* **15.1** vv 5, 24; Acts 6.14; Gal 2.12; 5.2
* **15.2** v 7; Acts 11.30; Gal 2.2
* **15.3** Acts 14.27; 20.38; Rom 15.24; 1 Cor 16.6, 11
* **15.4** v 12; Acts 14.27
a **15.7** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **15.7** Acts 10.19, 20; 20.24
* **15.8** Acts 1.24; 10.44, 47
* **15.9** Acts 10.28, 34, 43; 11.12
* **15.10** Mt 23.4; Gal 5.1
* **15.11** Rom 3.24; Eph 2.5–8; Titus 2.11; 3.4, 5
* **15.12** Jn 4.48; Acts 14.27
b **15.13** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **15.13** Acts 12.17
* **15.16** Jer 12.15; Am 9.11, 12
c **15.18** Other ancient authorities read *things*. [18]*Known to God from of old are all his works.*'

d **15.20** Other ancient authorities lack *and from whatever has been strangled*
* **15.20** v 29; Gen 9.4; Lev 3.17; Deut 12.16, 23; 1 Cor 10.7, 8, 14, 20
* **15.21** Acts 13.15; 2 Cor 3.14, 15
e **15.24** Other ancient authorities add *saying, 'You must be circumcised and keep the law,'*
* **15.24** v 1; Gal 1.7; 5.10
* **15.26** Acts 14.19; 1 Cor 15.30
f **15.29** Other ancient authorities lack *and from what is strangled*
* **15.29** v 20; Lev 17.14; Acts 21.25
g **15.33** Other ancient authorities add 15.34, *But it seemed good to Silas to remain there*
* **15.33** Acts 16.36; 1 Cor 16.11; Heb 11.31
* **15.36** Acts 13.4, 13, 14, 51; 14.1, 6, 24, 25
* **15.37** Acts 12.12
* **15.38** Acts 13.13
* **15.41** Acts 16.5

Acts 16

h **16.1** Gk *He*
* **16.1** Acts 14.6; 19.22; Rom 16.21; 1 Cor 4.17; 2 Tim 1.2, 5
* **16.3** Gal 2.3
* **16.4** Acts 11.30; 15.2, 28, 29
* **16.5** Acts 15.41
* **16.6** Acts 2.9; 18.23
* **16.7** v 8; Lk 24.49; Rom 8.9; Gal 4.6
* **16.8** v 11; 2 Cor 2.12; 2 Tim 4.13
* **16.9** Acts 9.10; 18.5; 20.1, 3; 27.2
* **16.10** 2 Cor 2.13
i **16.11** Other ancient authorities lack *therefore*
* **16.11** v 8; 2 Tim 4.13
* **16.12** Acts 18.5; 19.21, 22, 29; 20.1, 3; 27.2; Phil 1.1
j **16.13** Other ancient authorities read *where, according to the custom,*
* **16.15** Lk 24.29; Acts 11.14
* **16.16** Deut 18.11; 1 Sam 28.3, 7
k **16.17** Other ancient authorities read *to us*
* **16.17** Mk 5.7
* **16.19** Acts 15.40; 17.6, 7; 19.25, 26; Jas 2.6
* **16.20** Acts 17.6
* **16.22** 2 Cor 11.23, 25; 1 Thess 2.2
* **16.23** vv 27, 36
* **16.24** Jer 20.2, 3
* **16.25** Eph 5.19
* **16.26** Acts 4.31; 5.19; 12.7, 10

* **16.27** Acts 12.19
l **16.29** Gk *He*
* **16.30** Acts 2.37; 9.6; 22.10
* **16.31** Jn 3.16, 36; 6.47; 1 Jn 5.10
m **16.32** Other ancient authorities read *word of God*
* **16.34** Acts 11.14
* **16.36** vv 23, 27
* **16.37** Acts 22.25–27
* **16.38** Acts 22.29
* **16.39** Mt 8.34
* **16.40** v 14

Acts 17

n **17.1** Gk *they*
* **17.1** Acts 27.2; 1 Thess 1.1; 2 Thess 1.1
* **17.2** Acts 9.20; 13.14; 16.13; 19.8
o **17.3** Or *the Christ*
p **17.3** Or *the Christ*
* **17.3** Lk 24.26, 46; Acts 18.28; Gal 3.1
* **17.4** Acts 15.22, 27, 32, 40
* **17.5** v 13; Rom 16.21
* **17.6** Acts 16.19, 20
* **17.7** Lk 23.2; Jn 19.12
* **17.10** vv 2, 14; Acts 20.4
* **17.11** Isa 34.16; Lk 16.29; Jn 5.39
* **17.15** vv 16, 21, 22; Acts 15.3; 18.5
* **17.16** 2 Pet 2.8
q **17.17** Or *civic center*
* **17.24** Isa 42.5; Mt 11.25; Acts 7.48; 14.15
* **17.25** Ps 50.10–12; Isa 42.5; 57.16; Zech 12.1
r **17.26** Gk *From one*; other ancient authorities read *From one blood*
* **17.26** Deut 32.8; Mal 2.10
s **17.27** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
* **17.27** Acts 14.17; Rom 1.20
* **17.28** Col 1.17; Heb 1.3
* **17.29** Isa 40.18ff
* **17.30** v 23; Lk 24.47; Acts 14.16; Rom 3.25; Titus 2.11, 12; 1 Pet 1.14
* **17.31** Mt 10.15; Lk 22.22; Acts 2.24; 10.42

Acts 18

t **18.1** Gk *he*
* **18.1** Acts 17.15; 1 Cor 1.2
u **18.2** Gk *He*
* **18.2** Acts 11.28; Rom 16.3; 1 Cor 16.19; 2 Tim 4.19
* **18.3** Acts 20.34; 1 Cor 4.12; 1 Thess 2.9; 2 Thess 3.8
* **18.4** Acts 17.2
v **18.5** Gk *with the word*
w **18.5** Or *the Christ*
* **18.5** v 28; Acts 16.9; 17.3, 14, 15; 20.21
x **18.6** Gk *reviled him, he shook out his clothes*
* **18.6** 2 Sam 1.16; Ezek 18.13; Acts 13.45, 46, 51; 20.26
y **18.7** Gk *left there*
z **18.7** Other ancient authorities read *Titus*
* **18.7** Acts 16.14
* **18.8** 1 Cor 1.14
* **18.9** Acts 23.11
* **18.10** Mt 28.20
* **18.14** Acts 23.29; 25.11, 19
a **18.17** Other ancient authorities read *all the Greeks*
* **18.17** 1 Cor 1.1
* **18.18** Num 6.18; Acts 21.24; Rom 16.1
b **18.21** Other ancient authorities read *I must at all costs keep the approaching festival in Jerusalem, but I*
* **18.21** 1 Cor 4.19
c **18.22** Gk *went up*
* **18.22** Acts 11.19
d **18.23** Gk *the Galatian region*
* **18.23** Acts 14.22; 15.32, 41; 16.6
* **18.24** Acts 19.1; 1 Cor 1.12; 3.5, 6; 4.6; Titus 3.13
* **18.25** Acts 19.3; Rom 12.11
* **18.27** vv 12, 18
e **18.28** Or *the Christ*
* **18.28** v 5; Acts 9.22; 17.3

Acts 19

* **19.1** Acts 18.1, 19, 24; 1 Cor 1.12; 3.5, 6
* **19.3** Acts 18.25
* **19.4** Mt 3.11; Acts 13.24, 25
* **19.6** Acts 2.4; 6.6; 8.17; 10.46
* **19.8** Acts 1.3; 17.2; 18.4; 28.23

f **19.9** Other ancient authorities read *of a certain Tyrannus, from eleven o'clock in the morning to four in the afternoon*

* **19.9** v 30; Acts 9.2; 14.4; 2 Tim 1.15

* **19.10** vv 22, 26, 27; Acts 13.12; 20.31

* **19.11** Acts 8.13

* **19.12** Acts 5.15

* **19.13** Mt 12.27; Mk 9.38; Lk 9.49

* **19.17** Acts 2.43; 5.5, 11

g **19.19** Gk *them*

* **19.20** Acts 6.7; 12.24

* **19.21** Rom 15.24–28

* **19.22** v 10; Acts 13.5; Rom 16.23; 2 Tim 4.20

* **19.23** v 9

* **19.24** Acts 16.16, 19

* **19.26** Ps 115.4; Isa 44.10–20; Jer 10.3; Acts 17.29

* **19.28** Acts 18.19

h **19.29** Gk *they*

* **19.29** Acts 20.4; 27.2; Rom 16.23; 1 Cor 1.14; Col 4.10; Philem 24

i **19.31** Gk *some of the Asiarchs*

* **19.32** Acts 21.34

* **19.33** Acts 12.17; 1 Tim 1.20; 2 Tim 4.14

* **19.35** Acts 18.19

j **19.37** Other ancient authorities read *your*

* **19.37** Rom 2.22

* **19.38** Acts 13.7

k **19.39** Other ancient authorities read *about other matters*

Acts 20

* **20.1** Acts 11.26; 1 Cor 16.5; 1 Tim 1.3

* **20.3** v 19; Acts 23.12; 25.3; 2 Cor 11.26

l **20.4** Other ancient authorities add *as far as Asia*

* **20.4** Acts 16.1; 19.29; 21.29; 27.2; Eph 6.21; Col 4.7; 2 Tim 4.12, 20; Titus 3.12

* **20.6** Acts 16.8; 2 Cor 2.12; 2 Tim 4.13

* **20.7** 1 Cor 16.2; Rev 1.10

* **20.10** 1 Kings 17.21; Mt 9.23, 24

m **20.15** Other ancient authorities add *after remaining at Trogyllium*

* **20.16** Acts 2.1; 18.19; 19.21; 21.4, 12; 1 Cor 16.8

* **20.17** Acts 11.30

* **20.18** Acts 18.19

* **20.20** v 27

n **20.21** Other ancient authorities add *Christ*

* **20.21** Acts 2.38; 18.5; 24.24
o **20.22** Or *And now, bound in the spirit*
* **20.22** v 16
* **20.23** Acts 21.4, 11
* **20.24** Acts 21.13; 2 Cor 4.16; Gal 1.1; Titus 1.3
* **20.25** v 38
* **20.26** Acts 18.6; 2 Cor 7.2
* **20.27** Acts 13.36
p **20.28** Other ancient authorities read *of the Lord*
q **20.28** Or *with his own blood*; Gk *with the blood of his Own*
* **20.28** 1 Cor 12.28; 1 Tim 4.16; 1 Pet 1.19
* **20.29** Mt 7.15
* **20.31** Acts 19.10
* **20.32** Acts 14.23; Col 1.12; 3.24; 1 Pet 1.4
* **20.33** 1 Cor 9.12; 2 Cor 7.2; 11.9; 12.17
* **20.34** Acts 18.3
* **20.35** Rom 15.1
* **20.36** Acts 9.40; 21.5
* **20.37** Gen 45.14
* **20.38** v 25; Acts 15.3

Acts 21

r **21.1** Other ancient authorities add *and Myra*
* **21.2** Acts 11.19
* **21.4** v 11; Acts 20.23
* **21.5** Acts 20.36
s **21.7** Or *continued*
* **21.7** Acts 12.20
* **21.8** Eph 4.11; 2 Tim 4.5
t **21.9** Gk *four daughters, virgins,*
* **21.9** Lk 2.36; Acts 2.17
* **21.11** Acts 20.23
* **21.13** Acts 20.24
* **21.14** Mt 26.42; Lk 22.42
* **21.16** vv 3, 4
* **21.17** Acts 15.4
* **21.18** Acts 12.17; 15.13
* **21.19** Acts 1.17; 14.27; 20.24
* **21.20** Acts 22.3; Rom 10.2; Gal 1.14
* **21.23** Acts 18.18
* **21.24** v 26; Acts 24.18

u **21.25** Other ancient authorities lack *and from what is strangled*
* **21.25** Acts 15.20, 29
* **21.26** Num 6.13; Acts 24.18
* **21.27** Acts 24.18; 26.21
v **21.28** Gk *Men, Israelites*
* **21.28** Acts 24.5, 6
* **21.29** Acts 18.19; 20.4
* **21.30** Acts 16.19; 26.21
* **21.32** Acts 23.27
* **21.33** v 11; Acts 20.23
* **21.34** v 37; Acts 19.32
w **21.35** Gk *he*
* **21.36** Lk 23.18; Jn 19.15; Acts 22.22
x **21.37** Gk *He*
* **21.38** Mt 24.26; Acts 5.36
* **21.39** Acts 9.11; 22.3
y **21.40** That is, *Aramaic*
* **21.40** Acts 12.17; 22.2; 26.14

Acts 22

z **22.1** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **22.1** Acts 7.2
a **22.2** That is, *Aramaic*
* **22.2** Acts 21.40
* **22.3** Deut 33.3; 2 Kings 4.37, 38; Lk 10.39; Acts 21.20, 39; 26.5
* **22.4** Acts 8.3; 26.9–11; Phil 3.6; 1 Tim 1.13
* **22.5** Lk 22.66; Acts 4.5; 9.2; 26.10, 12
* **22.6** Acts 9.3; 26.12, 13
b **22.8** Gk *the Nazorean*
* **22.9** Acts 9.7; 26.13
* **22.10** Acts 16.30
* **22.11** Acts 9.8
* **22.12** Acts 9.17; 10.22
* **22.14** Acts 3.13; 5.30; 7.52; 9.15; 1 Cor 9.1; 15.8
* **22.15** Acts 23.11; 26.16
* **22.16** Acts 2.38; 9.14; Rom 10.13; Heb 10.22
* **22.17** Acts 9.26; 10.10
c **22.18** Gk *him*
* **22.19** v 4; Mt 10.17; Acts 8.3
* **22.20** Lk 11.48; Acts 8.1; Rom 1.32
* **22.21** Acts 9.15

* **22.23** 2 Sam 16.13; Acts 7.58
d **22.25** Or *up for the lashes*
* **22.25** Acts 16.37
e **22.27** Gk *him*
f **22.30** Gk *he*
* **22.30** Acts 21.33; 23.28

Acts 23

g **23.1** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **23.1** Acts 22.30; 24.16; 2 Cor 1.12; 2 Tim 1.3
* **23.2** Jn 18.22
* **23.3** Lev 19.35; Deut 25.1, 2; Mt 23.17; Jn 7.51
* **23.5** Ex 22.28
h **23.6** Gk *Men, brothers*
i **23.6** Gk *concerning hope and resurrection*
* **23.6** Acts 24.15, 16; 26.5, 8; Phil 3.5
* **23.8** Mt 22.23; Mk 12.18; Lk 20.27
* **23.9** Acts 22.7, 17, 18; 25.25; 26.31
* **23.10** Acts 21.34
* **23.11** Acts 18.9; 19.21; 28.23
* **23.12** vv 21, 30; Acts 25.3
* **23.14** v 21
* **23.15** Acts 22.30
* **23.16** v 10; Acts 21.34
* **23.18** Eph 3.1
* **23.20** vv 14, 15
* **23.21** vv 12, 14
* **23.23** v 33
* **23.24** Acts 24.1, 3, 10; 25.14
* **23.26** Acts 15.23; 24.3
* **23.27** Acts 21.32, 33; 22.25–29
* **23.28** Acts 22.30
* **23.29** Acts 18.15; 25.19; 26.31
j **23.30** Other ancient authorities add *Farewell*
* **23.30** vv 20, 21; Acts 24.19; 25.16
* **23.32** v 23
* **23.33** vv 23, 24, 26
* **23.34** Acts 21.39
k **23.35** Gk *praetorium*
* **23.35** Acts 24.19, 27; 25.16

Acts 24

* **24.1** Acts 23.2, 30, 35

l **24.2** Gk *he*

* **24.3** Acts 23.26; 26.25

m **24.5** Gk *Nazoreans*

* **24.5** Acts 16.20; 17.6; 21.28

n **24.6** Other ancient authorities add *and we would have judged him according to our law.* [7]*But the chief captain Lysias came and with great violence took him out of our hands,* [8]*commanding his accusers to come before you.*

* **24.6** Acts 21.28

* **24.9** 1 Thess 2.16

* **24.10** Acts 23.24

* **24.11** Acts 21.26

* **24.12** Acts 25.8; 28.17

* **24.13** Acts 25.7

* **24.14** v 5; Acts 3.13; 9.2; 26.22; 28.23

o **24.15** Other ancient authorities read *of the dead, both of*

* **24.15** Dan 12.2; Jn 5.28, 29; Acts 23.6; 28.20

* **24.16** Acts 23.1

* **24.17** Acts 11.29, 30; Rom 15.25–28; 2 Cor 8.1–4; Gal 2.10

* **24.18** Acts 21.26, 27

* **24.19** Acts 23.30

* **24.21** Acts 23.6

* **24.23** Acts 23.16, 35; 27.3; 28.16

* **24.25** Acts 10.42; Gal 5.23

* **24.27** Acts 12.3; 23.35; 25.1, 4, 9, 14

Acts 25

* **25.2** v 15; Acts 24.1

p **25.3** Gk *him*

* **25.3** Acts 23.12, 15

* **25.4** Acts 24.23

* **25.7** Mk 15.3; Lk 23.2, 10; Acts 24.5, 13

* **25.8** Acts 6.13; 24.12; 28.17

* **25.9** v 20; Acts 24; 27

* **25.11** v 25; Acts 26.32; 28.19

* **25.14** Acts 24.27

* **25.15** v 2; Acts 24.1

* **25.16** vv 4, 5

* **25.17** vv 6, 10

q **25.18** Other ancient authorities read *with anything*
* **25.19** Acts 18.15; 23.29
r **25.20** Gk *on them*
* **25.20** v 9
* **25.21** vv 11, 12
* **25.22** Acts 9.15
* **25.23** v 13; Acts 26.30
* **25.24** vv 2, 3, 7; Acts 22.22
* **25.25** Acts 23.9, 29; 26.31, 32

Acts 26

* **26.1** Acts 9.15; 25.22
* **26.3** Acts 6.14; 25.19
* **26.4** Gal 1.13, 14; Phil 3.5
* **26.5** Acts 22.3; Phil 3.5
* **26.6** Acts 23.6; Rom 15.8; Titus 2.13
s **26.7** Gk *O King*
* **26.7** 1 Thess 3.10; 1 Tim 5.5; Jas 1.1
* **26.8** Acts 23.6
t **26.9** Gk *the Nazorean*
* **26.9** Jn 15.21; 16.2; 1 Tim 1.13
* **26.10** Acts 8.3; 9.14, 21; Gal 1.13
* **26.11** Acts 22.19
* **26.12** Acts 9.3; 22.6
u **26.13** Gk *O King*
v **26.14** That is, *Aramaic*
* **26.14** Acts 9.7; 21.40
w **26.16** Other ancient authorities read *the things that you have seen*
* **26.16** Ezek 2.1; Dan 10.11; Acts 22.14, 15
* **26.17** Jer 1.8, 19; Acts 22.21
* **26.18** Isa 35.5; 42.7; Lk 24.47; Acts 2.38; Eph 5.8; Col 1.13
* **26.20** Mt 3.8; Lk 3.8; Acts 9.19–29
* **26.21** Acts 21.30, 31
* **26.22** Lk 24.27, 44; Acts 24.14
x **26.23** Or *the Christ*
* **26.23** Mt 26.24; Lk 2.32; 1 Cor 15.20; Rev 1.5
* **26.24** 2 Kings 9.11; Jn 10.20; 1 Cor 1.23
* **26.25** Acts 23.26
* **26.28** Acts 11.26
* **26.29** Acts 21.33
* **26.31** Acts 23.29

* **26.32** Acts 25.11; 28.18

Acts 27

* **27.1** Acts 10.1; 25.12, 25
* **27.2** Acts 16.9; 17.1; 19.29
* **27.3** Acts 24.23; 28.16
* **27.5** Acts 6.9; 13.13
* **27.6** v 1; Acts 6.9; 13.13; 28.11
* **27.9** Lev 23.27–29

y **27.14** Gk *it*

* **27.14** Mk 4.37

z **27.16** Other ancient authorities read *Clauda*

* **27.17** vv 26, 29
* **27.18** v 38; Jon 1.5
* **27.21** vv 7, 10, 12, 13
* **27.22** vv 25, 36
* **27.23** Acts 5.19; 23.11; Rom 1.9
* **27.24** v 44; Acts 23.11
* **27.25** vv 22, 36; Rom 4.20, 21
* **27.26** Acts 28.1
* **27.30** v 16
* **27.34** 1 Kings 1.52; Mt 10.30; Lk 12.7; 21.18
* **27.35** 1 Sam 9.13; Mt 15.36; Mk 8.6; Jn 6.11; 1 Tim 4.3, 4
* **27.36** vv 22, 25

a **27.37** Other ancient authorities read about *seventy-six*

* **27.38** v 18
* **27.39** Acts 28.1
* **27.40** v 29

b **27.41** Gk *place of two seas*

* **27.41** 2 Cor 11.25
* **27.42** Acts 12.19
* **27.43** v 3
* **27.44** vv 22, 31

Acts 28

* **28.1** Acts 27.26, 39
* **28.2** Rom 1.14; 1 Cor 14.11; Col 3.11
* **28.4** Lk 13.2, 4
* **28.5** Lk 10.19
* **28.6** Acts 14.11

* **28.8** Mk 5.23; Jas 5.14, 15
* **28.11** Acts 27.6
* **28.14** Acts 1.15
* **28.16** Acts 24.23; 27.3
c **28.17** Gk *Men, brothers*
* **28.17** Acts 6.14; 13.50; 25.8
d **28.18** Gk *they*
* **28.18** Acts 22.24; 23.29; 26.31, 32
* **28.19** Acts 25.11
* **28.20** Acts 26.6, 7, 29; Eph 3.1; 4.1; 6.20; 2 Tim 1.16
* **28.21** Acts 22.5
* **28.22** Acts 24.14; 1 Pet 2.12; 4.14
e **28.28** Other ancient authorities add 28.29, *And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, arguing vigorously among themselves*
f **28.30** Or *in his own rented dwelling*

The Letter of Paul to the

Romans

Romans 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the
gospel of God, [2]which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the
holy scriptures,* [3]the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from
David according to the flesh* [4]and was declared to be Son of God with
power according to the spirit[a] of holiness by resurrection from the dead,
Jesus Christ our Lord,* [5]through whom we have received grace and
apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for
the sake of his name,* [6]including you who are called to belong to Jesus
Christ,

7 To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your
faith is proclaimed throughout the world.* [9]For God, whom I serve with my
spirit by announcing the gospel[b] of his Son, is my witness that without
ceasing I remember you always in my prayers,* [10]asking that by God's will
I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. [11]For I long to see you so
that I may share with you some spiritual gift so that you may be
strengthened—[12]or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each
other's faith, both yours and mine. [13]I do not want you to be unaware,
brothers and sisters, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far
have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you, as
I have among the rest of the gentiles. [14]I am obligated both to Greeks and to
barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish, [15]hence my eagerness to
proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is God's saving power for everyone who believes,[c] for the Jew first and also for the Greek.* [17]For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith, as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."[d,*]

THE GUILT OF HUMANKIND

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of those who by their injustice suppress the truth.* [19]For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. [20]Ever since the creation of the world God's eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been seen and understood through the things God has made. So they are without excuse,* [21]for though they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless hearts were darkened.* [22]Claiming to be wise, they became fools, [23]and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.*

24 Therefore God gave them over in the desires of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves.* [25]They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.*

26 For this reason God gave them over to dishonorable passions. Their females exchanged natural intercourse[e] for unnatural,* [27]and in the same way also the males, giving up natural intercourse[f] with females, were consumed with their passionate desires for one another. Males committed shameless acts with males and received in their own persons the due penalty for their error.*

28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them over to an unfit mind and to do things that should not be done.* [29]They were filled with every kind of injustice, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, craftiness, they are gossips, [30]slanderers, God-haters,[g] insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, rebellious toward parents,* [31]foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.* [32]They know God's decree, that

those who practice such things deserve to die, yet they not only do them but even applaud others who practice them.*

Romans 2

THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT OF GOD

1 Therefore you are without excuse, whoever you are, when you judge
others, for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because
you, the judge, are doing the very same things.* [2]We know that God's
judgment on those who do such things is in accordance with truth. [3]Do you
imagine, whoever you are, that when you judge those who do such things
and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgment of God? [4]Or do you
despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not
realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?* [5]But by
your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the
day of wrath, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.* [6]He will
repay according to each one's deeds:* [7]to those who by patiently doing
good seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life,
[8]while for those who are self-seeking and who obey not the truth but
injustice, there will be wrath and fury.* [9]There will be affliction and distress
for everyone who does evil, both the Jew first and the Greek,* [10]but glory
and honor and peace for everyone who does good, both the Jew first and the
Greek. [11]For God shows no partiality.*

12 All who have sinned apart from the law will also perish apart from the
law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged in accordance
with the law. [13]For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous in
God's sight but the doers of the law who will be justified.* [14]When gentiles,
who do not possess the law, by nature do[h] what the law requires, these,
though not having the law, are a law to themselves. [15]They show that what
the law requires is written on their hearts, as their own conscience also
bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts will accuse or perhaps excuse
them [16]on the day when, according to my gospel, God through Christ Jesus
judges the secret thoughts of all.*

THE JEWS AND THE LAW

17 But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast of your
relation to God* [18]and know his will and determine what really matters
because you are instructed in the law, [19]and if you are sure that you are a
guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, [20]a corrector of the
foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of
knowledge and truth,* [21]you, then, who teach others, will you not teach
yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal?* [22]You who forbid
adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob
temples? [23]You who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by your
transgression of the law? [24]For, as it is written, "The name of God is
blasphemed[i] among the gentiles because of you."*

25 Circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you are a
transgressor of the law your circumcision has become uncircumcision.*
[26]So, if the uncircumcised keep the requirements of the law, will not their
uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? [27]Then the physically
uncircumcised person who keeps the law will judge you who, though
having the written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law.
[28]For a person is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision
something external and physical.* [29]Rather, a person is a Jew who is one
inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not the
written code. Such a person receives praise not from humans but from
God.*

Romans 3

1 Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision?
[2]Much, in every way. For in the first place, the Jews[j] were entrusted with
the oracles of God.* [3]What if some were unfaithful? Will their faithlessness
nullify the faithfulness of God?* [4]By no means! Although every human is a
liar, let God be proved true, as it is written,

"So that you may be justified in your words
and you will prevail[k] when you go to trial."*

[5]But if our injustice serves to confirm the justice of God, what should we
say? That God is unjust to inflict wrath on us? (I speak in a human way.)*
[6]By no means! For then how could God judge the world? [7]But if through
my falsehood God's truthfulness abounds to his glory, why am I still being
judged as a sinner? [8]And why not say (as some people slander us by saying
that we say), "Let us do evil so that good may come"? Their judgment is
deserved!*

NONE IS RIGHTEOUS

9 What then? Are we any better off?[l] No, not at all, for we have already
charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under the power of sin,* [10]as it
is written:

"There is no one who is righteous, not even one;*
[11]there is no one who has understanding;
there is no one who seeks God.
[12]All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
there is no one who shows kindness;
there is not even one."
[13]"Their throats are opened graves;
they use their tongues to deceive."
"The venom of vipers is under their lips."*

14 “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”
15 “Their feet are swift to shed blood;*
16 ruin and misery are in their paths,
17 and the way of peace they have not known.”
18 “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

19 Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God.* 20 For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.*

RIGHTEOUSNESS THROUGH FAITH

21 But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets,* 22 the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ[m] for all who believe.[n] For there is no distinction,* 23 since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;* 24 they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,* 25 whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement[o] by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed;* 26 it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.[p]

27 Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith.* 28 For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.* 29 Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of gentiles also? Yes, of gentiles also, 30 since God is one, and he will justify the circumcised on the ground of faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith.* 31 Do we then overthrow the law through this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

Romans 4

THE EXAMPLE OF ABRAHAM

1 What then are we to say was gained by[q] Abraham, our ancestor according
to the flesh? [2]For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to
boast about, but not before God.* [3]For what does the scripture say?
"Abraham believed[r] God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness."*
[4]Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something
due.* [5]But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the
ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. [6]So also David
pronounces a blessing on those to whom God reckons righteousness apart
from works:

[7]"Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven
and whose sins are covered;*
[8]blessed is the one against whom the Lord will not reckon sin."

9 Is this blessing, then, pronounced only on the circumcised or also on
the uncircumcised? We say, "Faith was reckoned to Abraham as
righteousness." [10]How then was it reckoned to him? Was it before or after
he had been circumcised? It was not after but before he was circumcised.
[11]He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he
had by faith[s] while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make
him the ancestor of all who believe[t] without being circumcised and who
thus have righteousness reckoned to them,* [12]and likewise the ancestor of
the circumcised who are not only circumcised but follow the example of the
faith that our ancestor Abraham had before he was circumcised.

GOD'S PROMISE REALIZED THROUGH FAITH

13 For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to
Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the
righteousness of faith.* [14]For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be
the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. [15]For the law brings wrath,
but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.*

16 For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest
on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the
adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who
is the father of all of us,* 17as it is written, “I have made you the father of
many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed,[u] who
gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.*
18Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of
many nations,” according to what was said, “So shall your descendants be.”
19He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was
already[v] as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the
barrenness of Sarah’s womb.* 20No distrust made him waver concerning the
promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,
21being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.*
22Therefore “it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” 23Now the words,
“it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone* 24but for ours
also. It will be reckoned to us who believe[w] in him who raised Jesus our
Lord from the dead,* 25who was handed over for our trespasses and was
raised for our justification.*

Romans 5

RESULTS OF JUSTIFICATION

1 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we[x] have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ,* 2through whom we have obtained access[y] to
this grace in which we stand, and we[z] boast in our hope of sharing the glory
of God.* 3And not only that, but we[a] also boast in our afflictions, knowing
that affliction produces endurance,* 4and endurance produces character, and
character produces hope, 5and hope does not put us to shame, because
God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has
been given to us.*

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the
ungodly.* 7Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though
perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8But God
proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.*
9Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his
blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.[b,*] 10For if
while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his
Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his
life.* 11But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus
Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

ADAM AND CHRIST

12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death
came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned*—13for
sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when
there is no law. 14Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those
who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who
was to come.*

15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through
the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the
gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. 16And

the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. [17]If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. [19]For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. [20]But law came in, so that the trespass might increase, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,* [21]so that, just as sin reigned in death, so grace might also reign through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6

DYING AND RISING WITH CHRIST

1 What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace
may increase?* [2]By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in
it?* [3]Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?* [4]Therefore we were buried with him by
baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the
glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.*

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will
certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. [6]We know that our
old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed,
so we might no longer be enslaved to sin.* [7]For whoever has died is freed[c]
from sin. [8]But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with
him. [9]We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;
death no longer has dominion over him.* [10]The death he died, he died to sin
once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God.* [11]So you also must
consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey
their desires.* [13]No longer present your members to sin as instruments[d] of
unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been
brought from death to life, and present your members to God as
instruments[e] of righteousness.* [14]For sin will have no dominion over you,
since you are not under law but under grace.*

SLAVES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

15 What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under
grace? By no means! [16]Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to
anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either
of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?*
[17]But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become
obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were

entrusted[*] 18and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness.[*] 19I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations.[f] For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.[*]

20 When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.[*] 21So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death.[*] 22But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life.[*] 23For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.[*]

Romans 7

AN ANALOGY FROM MARRIAGE

1 Or do you not know, brothers and sisters—for I am speaking to those who
know the law—that the law is binding on a person only during that person's
lifetime? [2]Thus a married woman is bound by the law to her husband as
long as he lives, but if her husband dies, she is discharged from the law
concerning the husband.* [3]Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if
she belongs to another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband
dies, she is free from that law, and if she belongs to another man, she is not
an adulteress.*

4 In the same way, my brothers and sisters, you have died to the law
through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who
was raised from the dead in order that we may bear fruit for God.* [5]For
while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law,
were at work in our members to bear fruit for death.* [6]But now we are
discharged from the law, dead to that which held us captive, so that we are
enslaved in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the written
code.*

THE LAW AND SIN

7 What then are we to say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet, if it
had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have
known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."*
[8]But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me
all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law sin lies dead.* [9]I was once
alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived
[10]and I died, and the very commandment that promised life proved to be
death to me.* [11]For sin, seizing an opportunity in the commandment,
deceived me and through it killed me. [12]So the law is holy, and the
commandment is holy and just and good.*

13 Did what is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin
that was working death in me through what is good, in order that it might be
shown to be sin, so that through the commandment sin might become sinful
beyond measure.

THE INNER CONFLICT

14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold into
slavery under sin.[g] 15I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do
what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.* 16Now if I do what I do not
want, I agree that the law is good. 17But in fact it is no longer I who do it
but sin that dwells within me. 18For I know that the good does not dwell
within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at
hand, but not the ability.* 19For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do
not want is what I do. 20Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I
who do it but sin that dwells within me.

21 So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies
close at hand. 22For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self,* 23but I
see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me
captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.* 24Wretched person
that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25Thanks be to
God[h] through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am enslaved to the law of God, but with my
flesh I am enslaved to the law of sin.

Romans 8

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.* [2]For the law of the Spirit[i] of life in Christ Jesus has set you[j] free from the law of sin and of death.* [3]For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin,[k] he condemned sin in the flesh,* [4]so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.[l,*] [5]For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit[m] set their minds on the things of the Spirit.[n,*] [6]To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit[o] is life and peace.* [7]For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot,* [8]and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit,[p] since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.* [10]But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit[q] is life because of righteousness. [11]If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus[r] from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through[s] his Spirit that dwells in you.*

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—[13]for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.* [14]For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.* [15]For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba![t] Father!"* [16]it is that very Spirit bearing witness[u] with our spirit that we are children of God,* [17]and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.*

FUTURE GLORY

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth
comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. [19]For the creation
waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, [20]for the
creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the
one who subjected it, in hope [21]that the creation itself will be set free from
its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the
children of God. [22]We know that the whole creation has been groaning
together as it suffers together the pains of labor, [23]and not only the creation,
but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly
while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.* [24]For in[v] hope
we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what
one already sees? [25]But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it
with patience.

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how
to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes[w] with groanings too
deep for words.* [27]And God,[x] who searches hearts, knows what is the mind
of the Spirit, because the Spirit[y] intercedes for the saints according to the
will of God.*

28 We know that all things work together[z] for good for those who love
God, who are called according to his purpose.* [29]For those whom he
foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in
order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.[a,]* [30]And those
whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also
justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

GOD'S LOVE IN CHRIST JESUS

31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is
against us?* [32]He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all
of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? [33]Who will
bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.* [34]Who is to
condemn? It is Christ[b] who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at
the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.* [35]Who will separate us

from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? [36]As it is written,

> “For your sake we are being killed all day long;
>
> we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

[37]No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us.* [38]For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,* [39]nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 9

GOD'S ELECTION OF ISRAEL

1 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms
it by the Holy Spirit* —[2]I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my
heart. [3]For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ
for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood.*
[4]They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the
covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;* [5]to them
belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the
Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever.[c] Amen.*

6 It is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all those
descended from Israel are Israelites,* [7]and not all of Abraham's children are
his descendants, but "it is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for
you."* [8]This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the
children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as descendants.
[9]For the word of the promise is this: "About this time I will return, and
Sarah shall have a son."* [10]Nor is that all; something similar happened to
Rebecca when she had conceived children by one husband, our ancestor
Isaac:* [11]even before they had been born or had done anything good or bad
(so that God's purpose of election might continue, [12]not by works but by his
call) she was told, "The elder shall serve the younger."* [13]As it is written,

"I have loved Jacob,
but I have hated Esau."*

14 What then are we to say? Is there injustice on God's part? By no
means!* [15]For he says to Moses,

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."*

[16]So it depends not on human will or exertion but on God who shows
mercy. [17]For the scripture says to Pharaoh, "I have raised you up for this
very purpose, that I may show my power in you and that my name may be

proclaimed in all the earth."* [18]So then he has mercy on whomever he chooses, and he hardens the heart of whomever he chooses.

GOD'S WRATH AND MERCY

19 You will say to me then, "Why then does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?"* [20]But who indeed are you, a human, to argue with God? Will what is molded say to the one who molds it, "Why have you made me like this?"* [21]Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one object for special use and another for ordinary use?* [22]What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience the objects of wrath that are made for destruction,* [23]and what if he has done so in order to make known the riches of his glory for the objects of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— [24]including us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the gentiles? [25]As he also says in Hosea,

"Those who were not my people I will call 'my people,'
and her who was not beloved I will call 'beloved.' "*

[26]"And in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,'
there they shall be called children of the living God."*

27 And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, "Though the number of the children of Israel were like the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved,* [28]for the Lord will execute his sentence on the earth quickly and decisively."[d] [29]And as Isaiah predicted,

"If the Lord of hosts had not left descendants to us,
we would have fared like Sodom
and been made like Gomorrah."*

ISRAEL'S UNBELIEF

30 What then are we to say? Gentiles, who did not strive for righteousness, have attained it, that is, righteousness through faith,* [31]but Israel, who did strive for the law of righteousness, did not attain that law.*

[32]Why not? Because they did not strive for it on the basis of faith but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone,* [33]as it is written,

> “See, I am laying in Zion a stone that will make people stumble, a
> rock that will make them fall,
> and whoever trusts in him[e] will not be put to shame.”*

Romans 10

1 Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. [2]For I can testify that they have a zeal for God, but it is not based on knowledge.* [3]Not knowing the righteousness of God and seeking to establish their own, they have not submitted to God's righteousness.* [4]For Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.*

SALVATION IS FOR ALL

5 Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them."* [6]But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) [7]"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). [8]But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim),* [9]because[f] if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe[g] in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.* [10]For one believes[h] with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. [11]The scripture says, "No one who believes[i] in him will be put to shame."* [12]For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.* [13]For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."*

14 But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?[j] And how are they to believe[k] in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? [15]And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"* [16]But not all have obeyed the good news,[l] for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed[m] our message?"* [17]So faith[n]

comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.[o]

18 But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have:

"Their voice has gone out to all the earth
and their words to the ends of the world."[*]

[19]Again I ask, did Israel not understand? First Moses says,

"I will use those who are not a nation to make you jealous;
with a foolish nation I will provoke you."[*]

[20]Then Isaiah is so bold as to say,

"I have been found by those who did not seek me;
I have shown myself to those who did not ask for me."[*]

[21]But of Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people."[*]

Romans 11

ISRAEL'S REJECTION IS NOT FINAL

1 I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an
Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.*
2God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what
the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?* 3"Lord,
they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars; I alone
am left, and they are seeking my life." 4But what is the divine reply to him?
"I have kept for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to
Baal."* 5So, too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace.
6But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace
would no longer be grace.[p,*]

7 What then? Israel has not achieved what it was pursuing. The elect
have achieved it, but the rest were hardened,* 8as it is written,

"God gave them a sluggish spirit,
eyes that would not see
and ears that would not hear,
down to this very day."*

9And David says,

"Let their table become a snare and a trap,
a stumbling block and a retribution for them;*
10let their eyes be darkened so that they cannot see,
and keep their backs forever bent."

THE SALVATION OF THE GENTILES

11 So I ask, have they stumbled so as to fall? By no means! But through
their stumbling[q] salvation has come to the gentiles, so as to make Israel[r]
jealous.* 12Now if their stumbling[s] means riches for the world and if their
loss means riches for gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion
mean!

13 Now I am speaking to you gentiles. Inasmuch as I am an apostle to the gentiles, I celebrate my ministry[*] [14]in order to make my own people[t] jealous and thus save some of them.[*] [15]For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? [16]If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches also are holy.

17 But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted among the others to share the rich root[u] of the olive tree, [18]do not boast over the branches. If you do boast, remember: you do not support the root, but the root supports you. [19]You will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." [20]That is true. They were broken off on account of unbelief,[v] but you stand on account of belief.[w] So do not become arrogant, but be afraid.[*] [21]For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you.[x] [22]Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen but God's kindness toward you, if you continue in his kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off.[*] [23]And even those of Israel,[y] if they do not continue in unbelief,[z] will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again.[*] [24]For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree.

ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED

25 I want you to understand this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not claim to be wiser than you are: a hardening has come upon part of Israel until the full number of the gentiles has come in.[*] [26]And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written,

"Out of Zion will come the Deliverer;
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob."[*]

[27]"And this is my covenant with them,
when I take away their sins."[*]

[28]As regards the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but as regards election they are beloved for the sake of their ancestors, [29]for the gifts and

the calling of God are irrevocable. [30]Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience,* [31]so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now[a] receive mercy. [32]For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.*

33 O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!*

[34]"For who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?"*

[35]"Or who has given a gift to him,
to receive a gift in return?"

[36]For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen.*

Romans 12

THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's
mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to
God, which is your reasonable act of worship.* [2]Do not be conformed to
this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may
discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.[b,*]

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think
of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober
judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.*
[4]For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have
the same function,* [5]so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and
individually we are members one of another. [6]We have gifts that differ
according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;*
[7]ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching;* [8]the encourager, in
encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the
compassionate, in cheerfulness.*

MARKS OF THE TRUE CHRISTIAN

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; [10]love
one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.
[11]Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. [12]Rejoice in hope;
be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.* [13]Contribute to the needs of the
saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.*

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.*
[15]Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. [16]Live in
harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the
lowly;[c] do not claim to be wiser than you are.* [17]Do not repay anyone evil
for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.* [18]If it is
possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.* [19]Beloved,
never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God,[d] for it is

written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.”* 20Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” 21Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 13

BEING SUBJECT TO AUTHORITIES

1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no
authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been
instituted by God.* [2]Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God
has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. [3]For rulers are not
a terror to good conduct but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the
authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval,* [4]for it
is God's agent for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be
afraid, for the authority[e] does not bear the sword in vain! It is the agent of
God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. [5]Therefore one must be subject,
not only because of wrath but also because of conscience.* [6]For the same
reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's agents, busy with
this very thing. [7]Pay to all what is due them: taxes to whom taxes are due,
revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to
whom honor is due.

LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER

8 Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves
another has fulfilled the law.* [9]The commandments, "You shall not commit
adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and
any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your
neighbor as yourself."* [10]Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love
is the fulfilling of the law.*

AN URGENT APPEAL

11 Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment
for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we
became believers;* [12]the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw
off[f] the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;* [13]let us walk
decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and

licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.* 14Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.*

Romans 14

DO NOT JUDGE ANOTHER

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith[g] but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.[*] [2]Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.[*] [3]Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. [4]Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord[h] is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. [6]Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.[*]

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.[*] [8]If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. [9]For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.[*]

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.[i,*] [11]For it is written,

> "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
> and every tongue shall give praise to[j] God."[*]

[12]So then, each one of us will be held accountable.[k,*]

DO NOT MAKE ANOTHER STUMBLE

13 Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother or sister.[*] [14]I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who considers it unclean.[*] [15]If

your brother or sister is distressed by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. 16So do not let your good be slandered. 17For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.* 18The one who serves Christ in this way is acceptable to God and has human approval.* 19Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.* 20Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong to make someone stumble by what you eat; 21it is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that makes your brother or sister stumble.[l,*] 22Hold the conviction that you have as your own before God. Blessed are those who do not condemn themselves because of what they approve. 23But those who have doubts are condemned if they eat because they do not act from faith,[m] for whatever does not proceed from faith[n] is sin.[o]

Romans 15

PLEASE OTHERS, NOT YOURSELVES

1 We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to
please ourselves.* [2]Each of us must please our neighbor for the good
purpose of building up the neighbor.* [3]For Christ did not please himself,
but, as it is written, "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me."
[4]For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so
that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might
have hope.* [5]May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to
live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,* [6]so that
together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ.

THE GOSPEL FOR JEWS AND GENTILES ALIKE

7 Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for
the glory of God. [8]For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the
circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the
promises given to the ancestors* [9]and that the gentiles might glorify God for
his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name";*

[10]and again he says,

"Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people";

[11]and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

[12]and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope."*

[13]May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

PAUL'S REASON FOR WRITING SO BOLDLY

14 I myself feel confident about you, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another.* [15]Nevertheless, on some points I have written to you rather boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God* [16]to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.* [17]In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to boast of my work for God. [18]For I will not be so bold as to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to win obedience from the gentiles, by word and deed, [19]by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit,[p] so that from Jerusalem and as far around as Illyricum I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.* [20]Thus I make it my ambition to proclaim the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, so that I do not build on someone else's foundation,* [21]but as it is written,

> "Those who have never been told of him shall see,
> and those who have never heard of him shall understand."*

PAUL'S PLAN TO VISIT ROME

22 This is the reason that I have so often been hindered from coming to you. [23]But now, with no further place for me in these regions, I desire, as I have for many years, to come to you* [24]when I go to Spain. For I do hope to see you on my journey and to be sent on by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a little while. [25]At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem in a ministry to the saints,* [26]for Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to share their resources with the poor among the saints at Jerusalem.* [27]They were pleased to do this, and indeed they owe it to them, for if the gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material things.* [28]So, when I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected,[q] I will set out by way of

you to Spain, [29]and I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing[r] of Christ.

30 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf,* [31]that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my ministry[s] to Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, [32]so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company.* [33]The God of peace be with all of you.[t] Amen.*

Romans 16

PERSONAL GREETINGS

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon[u] of the church at
Cenchreae,[*] 2so that you may welcome her in the Lord, as is fitting for the
saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been
a benefactor of many and of myself as well.

3 Greet Prisca and Aquila, my coworkers in Christ Jesus,[*] 4who risked
their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but also all the
churches of the gentiles. 5Greet also the church in their house. Greet my
beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert[v] in Asia for Christ.[*] 6Greet
Mary, who has worked very hard for you. 7Greet Andronicus and Junia,[w]
my fellow Israelites who were in prison with me; they are prominent among
the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was. 8Greet Ampliatus, my
beloved in the Lord. 9Greet Urbanus, our coworker in Christ, and my
beloved Stachys.[*] 10Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ. Greet those
who belong to the family of Aristobulus. 11Greet my fellow Israelite
Herodion. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of Narcissus.
12Greet those workers in the Lord, Tryphaena and Tryphosa. Greet the
beloved Persis, who has worked hard in the Lord. 13Greet Rufus, chosen in
the Lord, and greet his mother—a mother to me also. 14Greet Asyncritus,
Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers and sisters who are
with them. 15Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas,
and all the saints who are with them.[*] 16Greet one another with a holy kiss.
All the churches of Christ greet you.[*]

FINAL INSTRUCTIONS

17 I urge you, brothers and sisters, to keep an eye on those who create
dissensions and hindrances, in opposition to the teaching that you have
learned; avoid them.[*] 18For such people do not serve our Lord Christ but
their own appetites,[x] and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts
of the simple-minded.[*] 19For your obedience is known to all; therefore, I

rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good and guileless in what is evil.* 20The God of peace will shortly crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.[y,*]

21 Timothy, my coworker, greets you; so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my fellow Israelites.*

22 I Tertius, the writer of this letter, greet you in the Lord.[z]

23 Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus greet you.[a,*]

FINAL DOXOLOGY

25 Now to God[b] who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages* 26but is now disclosed and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith* — 27to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.[c]

Romans 1

* **1.2** Acts 26.6; Gal 3.8
* **1.3** Jn 1.14
a **1.4** Or *Spirit*
* **1.4** Acts 13.33; Heb 9.14
* **1.5** Acts 6.7; 9.15; Gal 1.16
* **1.7** 1 Cor 1.2, 3; Gal 1; 3; Eph 1.2
* **1.8** Rom 16.19; Phil 1.3
b **1.9** Gk *my spirit in the gospel*
* **1.9** Acts 24.14; Eph 1.16; Phil 1.8
c **1.16** Or *trusts*
* **1.16** Acts 3.26; Rom 2.9; 1 Cor 1.18; 2 Tim 1.8
d **1.17** Or *The one who is righteous through faith will live*
* **1.17** Rom 3.21; Gal 3.11; Heb 10.38
* **1.18** Eph 5.6; Col 3.6
* **1.20** Ps 19.1–6
* **1.21** Jer 2.5; Eph 4.17, 18
* **1.23** Ps 106.20; Jer 2.11; Acts 17.29
* **1.24** Eph 4.18, 19; 1 Pet 4.3
* **1.25** Isa 44.20; Jer 10.14; Rom 9.5
e **1.26** Gk *use*
* **1.26** Lev 18.22; Eph 4.19; 1 Thess 4.5
f **1.27** Gk *use*
* **1.27** Lev 18.22; 20.13
* **1.28** Eph 4.19
g **1.30** Or *God-hated*
* **1.30** Ps 5.5; 2 Tim 3.2
* **1.31** 2 Tim 3.3
* **1.32** Acts 8.1; 22.20; Rom 6.21

Romans 2

* **2.1** 2 Sam 12.5–7; Mt 7.1, 2; Rom 1.20
* **2.4** Ex 34.6; Rom 3.25; 11.22; Eph 1.7; 2.7; 2 Pet 3.9
* **2.5** Deut 32.34; Jude 6
* **2.6** Mt 16.27; 1 Cor 3.8; 2 Cor 5.10
* **2.8** Gal 5.20; 2 Thess 2.12
* **2.9** 1 Pet 4.17
* **2.11** Deut 10.17; Gal 2.6; Eph 6.9
* **2.13** Jas 1.22, 23, 25

h **2.14** Or *law by nature, do*
* **2.16** Eccl 12.14; Acts 10.42; 1 Cor 4.5; 1 Tim 1.11
* **2.17** v 23; Mic 3.11; Rom 9.4
* **2.20** Rom 6.17; 2 Tim 1.13
* **2.21** Mt 23.3, 4
i **2.24** Or *despised*
* **2.24** Isa 52.5
* **2.25** Gal 5.3
* **2.28** Mt 3.9; Jn 8.39; Rom 9.6; Gal 6.15
* **2.29** 2 Cor 10.18; Col 2.11; 1 Pet 3.4

Romans 3

j **3.2** Gk *they*
* **3.2** Deut 4.8; Ps 147.19
* **3.3** 2 Tim 2.13; Heb 4.2
k **3.4** Other ancient authorities read *you may prevail*
* **3.4** Ps 51.4; 116.11; Jn 3.33
* **3.5** Rom 6.19; Gal 3.15
* **3.8** Rom 6.1
l **3.9** Or *at any disadvantage?*
* **3.9** Gal 3.22
* **3.10** Ps 14.1–3
* **3.13** Ps 5.9
* **3.15** Isa 59.7, 8
* **3.19** Jn 10.34; Rom 2.12
* **3.20** Ps 143.2; Acts 13.39; Rom 7.7; Gal 2.16
* **3.21** Acts 10.43; Rom 1.2, 17; 9.30
m **3.22** Or *through faith in Jesus Christ*
n **3.22** Or *trust*
* **3.22** Rom 10.12; Gal 3.28; Col 3.11
* **3.23** Gal 3.22
* **3.24** Rom 4.16; Eph 1.7; 2.8; Col 1.14; Heb 9.12, 15
o **3.25** Or *a place of atonement*
* **3.25** Heb 9.14, 28; 1 Pet 1.19; 1 Jn 2.2
p **3.26** Or *has faith in Jesus*
* **3.27** Rom 2.17, 23; 4.2; 1 Cor 1.29–31; Eph 2.9
* **3.28** Acts 13.39; Eph 2.9
* **3.30** Gal 3.8

Romans 4

q **4.1** Other ancient authorities read *say about*
* **4.2** 1 Cor 1.31
r **4.3** Or *trusted in*
* **4.3** Gen 15.6; Gal 3.6; Jas 2.23
* **4.4** Rom 11.6
* **4.7** Ps 32.1, 2
s **4.11** Or *trust*
t **4.11** Or *trust*
* **4.11** Gen 17.10; Lk 19.9
* **4.13** Gen 17.4–6; Gal 3.29
* **4.15** Rom 3.20; 7.8, 10, 11; Gal 3.10
* **4.16** Rom 3.24; 9.8; 15.8
u **4.17** Or *trusted*
* **4.17** Gen 17.5; 1 Cor 1.28
v **4.19** Other ancient authorities lack *already*
* **4.19** Gen 17.17; Heb 11.11, 12
* **4.21** Gen 18.14; Heb 11.19
* **4.23** Rom 15.4; 1 Cor 9.10; 10.11
w **4.24** Or *trust*
* **4.24** Acts 2.24; Rom 10.9
* **4.25** Isa 53.5, 6; 1 Cor 15.17; 2 Cor 5.21

Romans 5

x **5.1** Other ancient authorities read *let us*
* **5.1** Rom 3.28
y **5.2** Other ancient authorities add *by faith*
z **5.2** Or *let us*
* **5.2** 1 Cor 15.1; Eph 2.18; Heb 3.6
a **5.3** Or *let us*
* **5.3** 2 Cor 12.10; Jas 1.2, 3
* **5.5** Eph 1.13; Phil 1.20
* **5.6** Rom 4.25
* **5.8** Jn 15.13; 1 Pet 3.18; 1 Jn 3.16
b **5.9** Gk *the wrath*
* **5.9** Rom 3.5, 25; 1 Thess 1.10; Heb 9.14
* **5.10** Rom 8.34; 11.28; 2 Cor 5.18; Col 1.21, 22
* **5.12** Gen 2.17; 3.6, 19; Rom 6.23; 1 Cor 15.21
* **5.14** 1 Cor 15.22, 45
* **5.20** Rom 7.7, 8; Gal 3.19; 1 Tim 1.14

Romans 6

* **6.1** v 15; Rom 3.5, 8
* **6.2** Rom 7.4, 6; Gal 2.19; Col 3.3; 1 Pet 2.24
* **6.3** Acts 2.38; 8.16; 19.5
* **6.4** Gal 6.15; Eph 4.22–24; Col 2.12; 3.10
* **6.6** Rom 7.24; Gal 2.20; Eph 4.22; Col 3.9

c **6.7** Or *justified*

* **6.9** Rev 1.18
* **6.10** Heb 7.27
* **6.11** v 2; Gal 2.19
* **6.12** v 14

d **6.13** Or *weapons*

e **6.13** Or *weapons*

* **6.13** Rom 7.5; 12.1; Col 3.5
* **6.14** Rom 8.2; Gal 5.18
* **6.16** Mt 6.24; Jn 8.34; Rom 11.2; 2 Pet 2.19
* **6.17** Rom 1.8; 2 Tim 1.13
* **6.18** Jn 8.32; Rom 8.2

f **6.19** Gk *the weakness of your flesh*

* **6.19** v 13; Rom 3.5; 15.1
* **6.20** Mt 6.24; Jn 8.34
* **6.21** Rom 7.5; 8.6, 13, 21
* **6.22** Jn 8.32; 1 Cor 7.22; 1 Pet 2.16
* **6.23** Rom 5.12, 21; Gal 6.7, 8

Romans 7

* **7.2** 1 Cor 7.39
* **7.3** Mt 5.32
* **7.4** Rom 6.2, 22; Gal 2.19; Col 1.22
* **7.5** Rom 6.13, 21; Gal 5.19; Jas 1.15
* **7.6** Rom 2.29; 2 Cor 3.6
* **7.7** Ex 20.17; Deut 5.21; Rom 3.20; 5.20
* **7.8** v 11; 1 Cor 15.56
* **7.10** Lev 18.5; Rom 10.5; Gal 3.12
* **7.12** 1 Tim 1.8

g **7.14** Gk *sold under sin*

* **7.15** Gal 5.17
* **7.18** v 25
* **7.22** Ps 1.2; 2 Cor 4.16; Eph 3.16
* **7.23** Gal 5.17

h **7.25** Other ancient authorities read *I thank God*

Romans 8

* **8.1** Rom 5.16
i **8.2** Or *spirit*
j **8.2** Gk *you* is singular; other ancient authorities read *me* or *us*
* **8.2** Jn 8.32, 36; Rom 6.14, 18; 1 Cor 15.45
k **8.3** Or *and as a sin offering*
* **8.3** Acts 13.39; Phil 2.7; Heb 2.14; 7.18
l **8.4** Or *spirit*
* **8.4** Gal 5.16, 25
m **8.5** Or *spirit*
n **8.5** Or *spirit*
* **8.5** Gal 5.19–25
o **8.6** Or *spirit*
* **8.6** Rom 6.21; Gal 6.8
* **8.7** Jas 4.4
p **8.9** Or *spirit*
* **8.9** 1 Cor 3.16; Gal 4.6; Phil 1.19; 1 Jn 4.13
q **8.10** Or *spirit*
r **8.11** Other ancient authorities read *Christ* or *the Christ* or *Jesus Christ*
s **8.11** Other ancient authorities read *on account of*
* **8.11** Jn 5.21; Acts 2.24; 1 Cor 6.14
* **8.13** Gal 6.8; Col 3.5
* **8.14** Gal 5.18
t **8.15** Aramaic for *Father*
* **8.15** Gal 4.5, 6; 2 Tim 1.7; Heb 2.15
u **8.16** Or *[15]a spirit of adoption, by which we cry, "Abba! Father!" [16]The Spirit itself bears witness*
* **8.16** 2 Cor 1.22; Eph 1.13
* **8.17** Gal 4.7; 2 Tim 2.12; 1 Pet 4.13
* **8.23** 2 Cor 1.22; 5.2, 4; Gal 5.5
v **8.24** Or *by*
w **8.26** Other ancient authorities add *for us*
* **8.26** Mt 20.22; Eph 6.18
x **8.27** Gk *And the one*
y **8.27** Gk *he* or *it*
* **8.27** Ps 139.1, 2; Lk 16.15; Rev 2.23
z **8.28** Other ancient authorities read *God makes all things work together* or *in all things God works*
* **8.28** v 32
a **8.29** Gk *among many brothers*

* **8.29** Rom 11.2; Eph 1.5, 11; Phil 3.21; Heb 1.6; 1 Pet 1.2, 20
* **8.30** Rom 9.24; 1 Cor 6.11; Eph 1.5, 11
* **8.31** Ps 118.6; Rom 4.1
* **8.33** Isa 50.8, 9; Lk 18.7
b **8.34** Other ancient authorities read *Christ Jesus*
* **8.34** Col 3.1; Heb 1.3; 7.25; 9.24; 1 Jn 2.1
* **8.36** Ps 44.22; 2 Cor 4.11
* **8.37** 1 Cor 15.57; Rev 1.5
* **8.38** Eph 1.21; 1 Pet 3.22

Romans 9

* **9.1** 2 Cor 1.23; 11.10; 1 Tim 2.7
* **9.3** Ex 32.32
* **9.4** Ps 147.19; Acts 3.25; Heb 9.1
c **9.5** Or *Messiah, who is God over all, blessed forever*; or *Messiah. May he who is God over all be blessed forever*
* **9.5** Jn 1.1; Rom 1.25; Col 1.16–19
* **9.6** Num 23.19; Rom 2.28, 29; Gal 6.16
* **9.7** Gal 4.23; Heb 11.18
* **9.9** Gen 18.10
* **9.10** Gen 25.21
* **9.12** Gen 25.23
* **9.13** Mal 1.2, 3
* **9.14** 2 Chr 19.7
* **9.15** Ex 33.19
* **9.17** Ex 9.16
* **9.19** 2 Chr 20.6; Job 23.13; Dan 4.35
* **9.20** Isa 29.16; 64.8
* **9.21** 2 Tim 2.20
* **9.22** Rom 2.4
* **9.25** Hos 2.23; 1 Pet 2.10
* **9.26** Hos 1.10
* **9.27** Gen 22.17; Isa 10.22, 23; Hos 1.10
d **9.28** Other ancient authorities read *for he will finish his work and cut it short in righteousness, because the Lord will make the sentence shortened on the earth*
* **9.29** Isa 1.9; 13.19; Jer 50.40
* **9.30** Rom 10.6; Gal 2.16; Heb 11.7
* **9.31** Rom 10.2, 3; Gal 5.4
* **9.32** 1 Pet 2.6, 8
e **9.33** Or *it*
* **9.33** Isa 28.16; Mt 21.42; Rom 10.11

Romans 10

* **10.2** Acts 21.20
* **10.3** Rom 1.17; Phil 3.9
* **10.4** Rom 7.1–4; Gal 3.24
* **10.5** Neh 9.29; Ezek 20.11, 13, 21; Rom 7.10
* **10.8** Deut 30.14

f **10.9** Or *namely, that*

g **10.9** Or *trust*

* **10.9** Mt 10.32; Lk 12.8; Acts 16.31

h **10.10** Or *trusts*

i **10.11** Or *trusts*

* **10.11** Isa 28.16; Rom 9.33
* **10.12** Acts 10.36; Rom 3.22, 29; Gal 3.28
* **10.13** Joel 2.32; Acts 2.21

j **10.14** Or *trusted*

k **10.14** Or *trust*

* **10.15** Isa 52.7

l **10.16** Or *gospel*

m **10.16** Or *trusted*

* **10.16** Isa 53.1; Jn 12.38; Heb 4.2

n **10.17** Or *trust*

o **10.17** Or *about Christ*; other ancient authorities read *of God*

* **10.18** Ps 19.4; Col 1.6, 23; 1 Thess 1.8
* **10.19** Deut 32.21; Rom 11.11
* **10.20** Isa 65.1; Rom 9.30
* **10.21** Isa 65.2

Romans 11

* **11.1** 1 Sam 12.22; Jer 31.37; 2 Cor 11.22; Phil 3.5
* **11.2** 1 Kings 19.10; Ps 94.14; Rom 8.29
* **11.4** 1 Kings 19.18

p **11.6** Other ancient authorities add *But if it is by works, it is no longer on the basis of grace, otherwise work would no longer be work*

* **11.6** Rom 4.4
* **11.7** Rom 9.18, 31
* **11.8** Deut 29.4; Isa 29.10; Mt 13.13, 14
* **11.9** Ps 69.22, 23

q **11.11** Or *transgression*

r **11.11** Gk *them*

* **11.11** Acts 13.46; Rom 10.19

s **11.12** Or *transgression*
* **11.13** Acts 9.15; Rom 15.16
t **11.14** Gk *my flesh*
* **11.14** Rom 10.19; 1 Cor 7.16; 9.22
u **11.17** Other ancient authorities read *the root and the richness*
v **11.20** Or *faithlessness* or *lack of trust*
w **11.20** Or *faithfulness* or *trust*
* **11.20** Rom 12.16; 2 Cor 1.24
x **11.21** Other ancient authorities read *perhaps he will not spare you*
* **11.22** Jn 15.2; 1 Cor 15.2; Heb 3.6
y **11.23** Gk lacks *of Israel*
z **11.23** Or *faithlessness* or *lack of trust*
* **11.23** 2 Cor 3.16
* **11.25** Rom 9.18; 1 Cor 2.7–10; Eph 3.3–5, 9
* **11.26** Isa 59.20, 21
* **11.27** Isa 27.9
* **11.30** Eph 2.2
a **11.31** Other ancient authorities lack *now*
* **11.32** Rom 3.9; Gal 3.22, 23
* **11.33** Ps 92.5; Eph 3.8
* **11.34** Job 36.22; Isa 40.13, 14; 1 Cor 2.16
* **11.36** Rom 16.27; 1 Cor 8.6; Heb 2.10; 13.21

Romans 12

* **12.1** Rom 6.13, 16, 19; 2 Cor 10.1, 2; 1 Pet 2.5
b **12.2** Or *what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God*
* **12.2** Eph 4.23; 5.10; 1 Pet 1.14; 1 Jn 2.15
* **12.3** Rom 15.15; 2 Cor 10.13; Eph 4.7
* **12.4** 1 Cor 12.12–14; Eph 4.4, 16
* **12.6** 1 Cor 7.7; 12.4, 10; 1 Pet 4.10, 11
* **12.7** 1 Cor 12.28; 14.26
* **12.8** Mt 6.2–4; Acts 15.32; 2 Cor 9.7; 1 Tim 5.17
* **12.12** Acts 1.14; Heb 10.32, 36
* **12.13** Rom 15.25; Heb 13.2
* **12.14** Mt 5.44; Lk 6.28
c **12.16** Or *give yourselves to humble tasks*
* **12.16** Rom 11.25; 15.5
* **12.17** Prov 20.22; 2 Cor 8.21
* **12.18** Mk 9.50; Rom 14.19
d **12.19** Gk *the wrath*
* **12.19** Lev 19.18; Heb 10.30

Romans 13

* **13.1** Dan 2.21; Jn 19.11; Titus 3.1; 1 Pet 2.13
* **13.3** 1 Pet 2.14
e **13.4** Gk *it*
* **13.5** Eccl 8.2; 1 Pet 2.19
* **13.8** Gal 5.14; Col 3.14; Jas 2.8
* **13.9** Ex 20.13, 14; Mt 19.19
* **13.10** Mt 22.39, 40
* **13.11** 1 Cor 7.29, 30; 15.34; Eph 5.14; 1 Thess 5.5, 6
f **13.12** Other ancient authorities read *lay aside*
* **13.12** Eph 5.11; 1 Thess 5.8; 1 Jn 2.8
* **13.13** Gal 5.21; Eph 5.18; 1 Thess 4.12
* **13.14** Gal 3.27; 5.16; Eph 4.24

Romans 14

g **14.1** Or *conviction*
* **14.1** 1 Cor 8.9; 9.22
* **14.2** 1 Tim 4.4; Titus 1.15
h **14.4** Other ancient authorities read *for God*
* **14.6** 1 Cor 10.31; 1 Tim 4.3
* **14.7** 2 Cor 5.15; Gal 2.20; Phil 1.20, 21
* **14.9** Acts 10.36; 2 Cor 5.15
i **14.10** Other ancient authorities read *of Christ*
* **14.10** 2 Cor 5.10
j **14.11** Or *confess*
* **14.11** Isa 45.23; Phil 2.10, 11
k **14.12** Other ancient authorities add *to God*
* **14.12** Mt 12.36; 1 Pet 4.5
* **14.13** Mt 7.1; 1 Cor 8.13
* **14.14** Acts 10.15; 1 Cor 8.7
* **14.17** Rom 15.13; 1 Cor 8.8
* **14.18** 2 Cor 8.21
* **14.19** Ps 34.14; Rom 15.2; Heb 12.14
l **14.21** Other ancient authorities add *or be upset or be weakened*
* **14.21** 1 Cor 8.13
m **14.23** Or *conviction*
n **14.23** Or *conviction*
o **14.23** Other ancient authorities add here 16.25–27

Romans 15

* **15.1** Rom 14.1; Gal 6.1, 2
* **15.2** Rom 14.19; 1 Cor 10.33
* **15.4** Rom 4.23, 24; 2 Tim 3.16, 17
* **15.5** Rom 12.16; 1 Cor 1.10
* **15.8** Mt 15.24; Acts 3.25, 26; Rom 3.3; 2 Cor 1.20
* **15.9** 2 Sam 22.50; Ps 18.49
* **15.12** Isa 11.10; Mt 12.21; Rev 5.5; 22.16
* **15.13** Rom 14.17; 1 Thess 1.5
* **15.14** 1 Cor 8.1, 7, 10; 2 Pet 1.12
* **15.15** Rom 12.3; Eph 3.7, 8
* **15.16** Acts 9.15; Rom 11.13; Phil 2.17
p **15.19** Other ancient authorities read *the Spirit of God* or *the Holy Spirit*
* **15.19** Acts 19.11; 2 Cor 12.12
* **15.20** 2 Cor 10.15, 16
* **15.21** Isa 52.15
* **15.23** Acts 19.21; Rom 1.11
* **15.25** Acts 19.21; 24.27
* **15.26** 2 Cor 8.1; 9.2; 1 Thess 1.7, 8
* **15.27** 1 Cor 9.11
q **15.28** Gk *have sealed to them this fruit*
r **15.29** Other ancient authorities add *of the gospel*
* **15.30** 2 Cor 1.11; Gal 5.22; Col 4.12
s **15.31** Other ancient authorities read *my bringing of a gift*
* **15.32** Acts 18.21; Rom 1.10; 1 Cor 16.18
t **15.33** One ancient authority adds 16.25–27 here
* **15.33** Rom 16.20; 2 Cor 13.11; Phil 4.9; Heb 13.20

Romans 16

u **16.1** Or *minister*
* **16.1** Acts 18.18
* **16.3** Acts 18.2; 2 Tim 4.19
v **16.5** Gk *first fruits*
* **16.5** 1 Cor 16.15, 19; Col 4.15
w **16.7** Or *Junias*; other ancient authorities read *Julia*
* **16.9** 2 Cor 5.17
* **16.15** vv 2, 14
* **16.16** 1 Cor 16.20; 2 Cor 13.12; 1 Thess 5.26
* **16.17** 2 Thess 3.6, 14; 1 Tim 1.3; 6.3; 2 Jn 10
x **16.18** Gk *their own belly*
* **16.18** Phil 3.19; Col 2.4
* **16.19** Rom 1.8; 1 Cor 14.20

y **16.20** Other ancient authorities lack this sentence

* **16.20** Gen 3.15; Rom 15.33; 1 Thess 5.28

* **16.21** Acts 13.1; 16.1; 17.5

z **16.22** Or *I Tertius, writing this letter in the Lord, greet you*

a **16.23** Other ancient authorities add verse 24, *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you. Amen.*

* **16.23** Acts 19.22; 1 Cor 1.14

b **16.25** Gk *the one*

* **16.25** Rom 2.16; Eph 1.9; 3.20

* **16.26** Rom 1.5; Eph 1.9

c **16.27** Other ancient authorities lack 16.25–27 or include it after 14.23 or 15.33; others put 16.24 after 16.27

The First Letter of Paul to the

Corinthians

1 Corinthians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord[a] and ours:[*]

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.[*]

4 I give thanks to my[b] God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5]for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—[6]just as the testimony of[c] Christ has been strengthened among you[*]—[7]so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.[*] [8]He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9]God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.[*]

DIVISIONS IN THE CHURCH

10 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose.[*] [11]For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. [12]What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." [13]Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?[*] [14]I thank

God[d] that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,* 15so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.* 17For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.*

CHRIST THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.* 19For it is written,

> "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
> and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

20Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?* 21For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe.* 22For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 23but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles,* 24but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

26 Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards,[e] not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.* 27But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;* 28God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, 29so that no one[f] might boast in the presence of God.* 30In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,* 31in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in[g] the Lord."*

1 Corinthians 2

PROCLAIMING CHRIST CRUCIFIED

1 When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the
testimony[h] of God to you with superior speech or wisdom.[*] [2]For I decided
to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. [3]And I
came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. [4]My speech
and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom[i] but
with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,[*] [5]so that your faith might
rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

THE TRUE WISDOM OF GOD

6 Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom
of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed.[*] [7]But we
speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages
for our glory [8]and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if
they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. [9]But, as it is
written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him"—[*]

[10]God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches
everything, even the depths of God.[*] [11]For what human knows what is truly
human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends
what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.[*] [12]Now we have received not
the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may
understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [13]And we speak of these things
in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting
spiritual things to those who are spiritual.[j,*]

14 Those who are unspiritual[k] do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for
they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them

because they are spiritually discerned.* 15Those who are spiritual discern all
things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

16"For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.*

1 Corinthians 3

ON DIVISIONS IN THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH

1 And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people
but rather as fleshly, as infants in Christ.* [2]I fed you with milk, not solid
food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not
ready,* [3]for you are still fleshly. For as long as there is jealousy and
quarreling[l] among you, are you not fleshly and behaving according to
human inclinations?* [4]For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another,
"I belong to Apollos," are you not all too human?*

5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came
to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. [6]I planted, Apollos watered, but
God gave the growth. [7]So neither the one who plants nor the one who
waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. [8]The one who
plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive
wages according to their own labor.* [9]For we are God's coworkers, working
together; you are God's field, God's building.*

10 According to the grace of God given to me, like a wise master builder
I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Let each builder
choose with care how to build on it.* [11]For no one can lay any foundation
other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.*
[12]Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones,
wood, hay, straw—[13]the work of each builder will become visible, for the
day[m] will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will
test what sort of work each has done.* [14]If the work that someone has built
on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a wage. [15]If the work is
burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as
through fire.

16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit
dwells in you?[n],* [17]If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that
person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

18 Do not deceive yourselves. If you think that you are wise in this age,
you should become fools so that you may become wise.* [19]For the wisdom
of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written,

"He catches the wise in their craftiness,"*

[20]and again,

"The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise,
that they are futile."

[21]So let no one boast about people.o For all things are yours,* [22]whether
Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the
future—all are yours, [23]and you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.*

1 Corinthians 4

THE MINISTRY OF THE APOSTLES

1 Think of us in this way: as servants of Christ and stewards of God's
mysteries.* [2]Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found
trustworthy. [3]But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by
you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. [4]I am not aware of
anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who
judges me. [5]Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before
the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness
and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive
commendation from God.*

6 I have applied all this to Apollos and myself for your benefit, brothers
and sisters, so that you may learn through us what "Not beyond what is
written" means, so that none of you will be puffed up in favor of one
against another. [7]For who sees anything different in you?[p] What do you
have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as
if you did not receive?*

8 Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Quite
apart from us you have become kings! If only you had become kings, so
that we might be kings with you! [9]For I think that God has exhibited us
apostles as last of all, as though sentenced to death, because we have
become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to humans.* [10]We are fools
for the sake of Christ, but you are sensible people in Christ. We are weak,
but you are strong. You are honored, but we are dishonored.* [11]To the
present hour we are hungry and thirsty, we are naked and beaten and
homeless,* [12]and we grow weary from the work of our own hands. When
reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure;* [13]when slandered, we
speak kindly. We have become like the rubbish of the world, the dregs of all
things, to this very day.

FATHERLY ADMONITION

14 I am not writing this to make you ashamed but to admonish you as my
beloved children. [15]For though you might have ten thousand guardians in
Christ, you do not have many fathers. Indeed, in Christ Jesus I fathered you
through the gospel.* [16]I appeal to you, then, be imitators of me.* [17]For this
reason I sent[q] you Timothy, who is my beloved and trustworthy child in the
Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ Jesus, as I teach them everywhere
in every church. [18]But some of you, thinking that I am not coming to you,
have become arrogant. [19]But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and
I will find out not the talk of these arrogant people but their power.* [20]For
the kingdom of God depends not on talk but on power. [21]What would you
prefer? Am I to come to you with a stick or with love in a spirit of
gentleness?*

1 Corinthians 5

SEXUAL IMMORALITY DEFILES THE CHURCH

1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you and the
sort of sexual immorality that is not found even among gentiles, for a man
is living with his father's wife.* [2]And you are arrogant! Should you not
rather have mourned, so that he who has done this would have been
removed from among you?

3 For I, though absent in body, am present in spirit, and as if present I
have already pronounced judgment [4]in the name of the Lord Jesus on the
man who has done such a thing.[r] When you are assembled and my spirit is
present with the power of our Lord Jesus,* [5]you are to hand this man over to
Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that the spirit may be saved in the
day of the Lord.[s],*

6 Your boasting is not a good thing. Do you not know that a little yeast
leavens all of the dough?* [7]Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a
new batch of dough, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb,
Christ, has been sacrificed.* [8]Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not
with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened
bread of sincerity and truth.*

SEXUAL IMMORALITY MUST BE JUDGED

9 I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral
persons, [10]not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the
greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since you would then need to go out of
the world.* [11]But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who
bears the name of brother or sister who is sexually immoral or greedy or an
idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler. Do not even eat with such a one.
[12]For what have I to do with judging those outside? Are you not judges of
those who are inside?* [13]God will judge those outside. "Drive out the
wicked person from among you."*

1 Corinthians 6

LAWSUITS AMONG BELIEVERS

1 When any of you has a grievance against another, do you dare to take it to
court before the unrighteous, instead of taking it before the saints? [2]Do you
not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be
judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases?* [3]Do you not know
that we are to judge angels, to say nothing of ordinary matters? [4]If you have
ordinary cases, then, do you appoint as judges those who have no standing
in the church? [5]I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one
person wise enough to decide between brothers and sisters? [6]Instead,
brothers and sisters go to court against one another, and this before the
unbelievers.*

7 In fact, to have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for
you. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?* [8]But you
yourselves wrong and defraud—and brothers and sisters at that.

9 Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God?
Do not be deceived! The sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, male
prostitutes,[t] men who engage in illicit sex,[u,*] [10]thieves, the greedy,
drunkards, revilers, swindlers—none of these will inherit the kingdom of
God. [11]And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you
were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ[v] and
in the Spirit of our God.*

GLORIFY GOD IN BODY AND SPIRIT

12 "All things are permitted for me," but not all things are beneficial.
"All things are permitted for me," but I will not be dominated by anything.
[13]"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,"[w] and God will
destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for sexual immorality
but for the Lord and the Lord for the body.* [14]And God raised the Lord and
will also raise us by his power.* [15]Do you not know that your bodies are
members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and

make them members of a prostitute? Never![*] [16]Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh."[*] [17]But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.[*] [18]Shun sexual immorality![x] Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person[y] sins against the body itself.[*] [19]Or do you not know that your body is a temple[z] of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?[*] [20]For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.[*]

1 Corinthians 7

DIRECTIONS CONCERNING MARRIAGE

1 Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: “It is good for a man
not to touch a woman.” [2]But because of cases of sexual immorality, each
man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. [3]The
husband should give to his wife what is due her and likewise the wife to her
husband.* [4]For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the
husband does; likewise, the husband does not have authority over his own
body, but the wife does. [5]Do not deprive one another except perhaps by
agreement for a set time, to devote yourselves to prayer,[a] and then come
together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of
self-control.* [6]This I say by way of concession, not of command.* [7]I wish
that all were as I myself am. But each has a particular gift from God, one
having one kind and another a different kind.*

8 To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to
remain unmarried as I am.* [9]But if they are not practicing self-control, they
should marry. For it is better to marry than to be aflame with passion.*

10 To the married I give this command—not I but the Lord—that the
wife should not separate from her husband* [11](but if she does separate, let
her remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband) and that the
husband should not divorce his wife.

12 To the rest I say—I and not the Lord—that if any brother has a wife
who is an unbeliever and she consents to live with him, he should not
divorce her.* [13]And if any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever and
he consents to live with her, she should not divorce the husband. [14]For the
unbelieving husband is made holy through his wife, and the unbelieving
wife is made holy through the brother.[b] Otherwise, your children would be
unclean, but as it is, they are holy.* [15]But if the unbelieving partner
separates, let it be so; in such a case the brother or sister is not bound. It is
to peace that God has called us.[c,]* [16]Wife, for all you know, you might save
your husband. Husband, for all you know, you might save your wife.*

THE LIFE THAT THE LORD HAS ASSIGNED

17 However that may be, let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned, to which God called you. This is my rule in all the churches.* [18]Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision.* [19]Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but obeying the commandments of God is everything.* [20]Let each of you remain in the condition in which you were called.*

21 Were you a slave when called? Do not be concerned about it. Even if you can gain your freedom, make the most of it.[d] [22]For whoever was called in the Lord as a slave is a freed person belonging to the Lord, just as whoever was free when called is a slave belonging to Christ.* [23]You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of humans.* [24]In whatever condition you were called, brothers and sisters, there remain with God.

THE UNMARRIED AND THE WIDOWS

25 Now concerning virgins, I have no command of the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy.* [26]I think that, in view of the impending[e] crisis,[f] it is good for you to remain as you are.* [27]Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. [28]But if you marry, you do not sin, and if a virgin marries, she does not sin. Yet those who marry will experience distress in the flesh, and I would spare you that. [29]I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none,* [30]and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, [31]and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.*

32 I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the affairs of the Lord, how to please the Lord,* [33]but the married man is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please his wife, [34]and his interests are divided. And the unmarried woman and the virgin are

anxious about the affairs of the Lord, so that they may be holy in body and spirit, but the married woman is anxious about the affairs of the world, how to please her husband.* 35I say this for your own benefit, not to put any restraint upon you but to promote good order and unhindered devotion to the Lord.

36 If anyone thinks that he is behaving indecently toward his fiancée,[g] if his passions are strong and so it has to be, let him marry as he wishes; it is no sin. Let them marry. 37But if someone stands firm in his resolve, being under no necessity but having his own desire under control, and has determined in his own mind to keep her as his fiancée,[h] he will do well. 38So then, he who marries his fiancée[i] does well, and he who refrains from marriage will do better.

39 A wife is bound as long as her husband lives. But if the husband dies,[j] she is free to marry anyone she wishes, only in the Lord.* 40But in my opinion she is more blessed if she remains as she is. And I think that I, too, have the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 8

FOOD OFFERED TO IDOLS

1 Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess
knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.* [2]Anyone who claims
to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge,* [3]but
anyone who loves God is known by him.*

4 Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol
in the world really exists" and that "there is no God but one."* [5]Indeed,
even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact
there are many gods and many lords—[6]yet for us there is one God, the
Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord,
Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.*

7 It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have
become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they
eat as food offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.*
[8]"Food will not bring us close to God."[k] We are no worse off if we do not
eat and no better off if we do.* [9]But take care that this liberty of yours does
not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.* [10]For if others see
you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they
not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating
food sacrificed to idols? [11]So by your knowledge the weak brother or sister
for whom Christ died is destroyed.* [12]But when you thus sin against
brothers and sisters and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin
against Christ. [13]Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never
again eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.*

1 Corinthians 9

THE RIGHTS OF AN APOSTLE

1 Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are
you not my work in the Lord?* [2]If I am not an apostle to others, at least I
am to you, for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.*

3 This is my defense to those who would examine me. [4]Do we not have
the right to our food and drink?* [5]Do we not have the right to be
accompanied by a believing wife,[l] as do the other apostles and the brothers
of the Lord and Cephas?* [6]Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to
refrain from working for a living?* [7]Who at any time pays the expenses for
doing military service? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat any of its
fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not get any of its milk?*

8 Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law also say the same?
[9]For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it
is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned?* [10]Or does
he not speak entirely for our sake? It was indeed written for our sake, for
whoever plows should plow in hope and whoever threshes should thresh in
hope of a share in the crop. [11]If we have sown spiritual things among you, is
it too much if we harvest material[m] things?* [12]If others share this rightful
claim on you, do not we still more?

Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything
rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.* [13]Do you not
know that those who work in the temple service get their food from the
temple and those who serve at the altar share in what is sacrificed on the
altar?* [14]In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the
gospel should get their living by the gospel.*

15 But I have made no use of any of these rights, nor am I writing this so
that they may be applied in my case. Indeed, I would rather die than that—
no one will deprive me of my ground for boasting! [16]If I proclaim the
gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on
me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! [17]For if I do this of my

own will, I have a wage, but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission.* [18]What then is my wage? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

19 For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might gain all the more.* [20]To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to gain Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might gain those under the law. [21]To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not outside God's law but am within Christ's law) so that I might gain those outside the law.* [22]To the weak I became weak, so that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. [23]I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I might become a partner in it.

24 Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it.* [25]Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one.* [26]So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air, [27]but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.*

1 Corinthians 10

WARNINGS FROM ISRAEL'S HISTORY

1 I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea,* [2]and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, [3]and all ate the same spiritual food,* [4]and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.* [5]Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.*

6 Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did.* [7]Do not become idolaters as some of them did, as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play."* [8]We must not engage in sexual immorality, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.* [9]We must not put Christ[n] to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents.* [10]And do not complain, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.* [11]These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.* [12]So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. [13]No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.*

14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from the worship of idols.* [15]I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. [16]The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? [17]Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.* [18]Consider the people of Israel:[o] Are not those who eat the sacrifices partners in the altar?* [19]What do I imply, then? That food sacrificed to idols is anything or that an idol is anything? [20]No, I imply that what they[p] sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with

demons.* 21You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons.
You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.* 22Or
are we provoking the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?*

DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD

23 "All things are permitted," but not all things are beneficial. "All things
are permitted," but not all things build up. 24Do not seek your own
advantage but that of the other.* 25Eat whatever is sold in the meat market
without raising any question on the ground of conscience, 26for "the earth
and its fullness are the Lord's."* 27If an unbeliever invites you to a meal and
you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any
question on the ground of conscience. 28But if someone says to you, "This
has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, out of consideration for the
one who informed you and for the sake of conscience— 29I mean the other's
conscience, not your own. For why should my freedom be subject to the
judgment of someone else's conscience?* 30If I partake with thankfulness,
why should I be denounced because of that for which I give thanks?*

31 So, whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do everything for
the glory of God.* 32Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church
of God,* 33just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking
my own advantage but that of many, so that they may be saved.*

1 Corinthians 11

1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.*

HEAD COVERINGS

2 I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain
the traditions just as I handed them on to you.* 3But I want you to
understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man[q] is the head of
the woman,[r] and God is the head of Christ.* 4Any man who prays or
prophesies with something on his head shames his head,* 5but any woman
who prays or prophesies with her head unveiled shames her head—it is one
and the same thing as having her head shaved. 6For if a woman will not veil
herself, then she should cut off her hair, but if it is shameful for a woman to
have her hair cut off or to be shaved, she should wear a veil. 7For a man
ought not to have his head veiled, since he is the image and reflection[s] of
God, but woman is the reflection[t] of man.* 8Indeed, man was not made from
woman but woman from man.* 9Neither was man created for the sake of
woman but woman for the sake of man.* 10For this reason a woman ought
to have authority over her head,[u] because of the angels.* 11Nevertheless, in
the Lord woman is not independent of man or man independent of woman.
12For just as woman came from man, so man comes through woman, but all
things come from God. 13Judge for yourselves: Is it proper for a woman to
pray to God with her head unveiled? 14Does not nature itself teach you that,
if a man wears long hair, it is dishonoring to him, 15but if a woman has long
hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering. 16But if
anyone is disposed to be contentious—we have no such custom, nor do the
churches of God.*

ABUSES AT THE LORD'S SUPPER

17 Now in the following instructions I do not commend you, because
when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. 18For, to
begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are

divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it.* 19Indeed, there have to be factions among you, for only so will it become clear who among you are genuine.* 20When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord's supper. 21For when the time comes to eat, each of you proceeds to eat your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. 22What! Do you not have households to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you!

THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

23 For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread,* 24and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for[v] you. Do this in remembrance of me." 25In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 26For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

PARTAKING OF THE SUPPER UNWORTHILY

27 Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord.* 28Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup.* 29For all who eat and drink[w] without discerning the body[x] eat and drink judgment against themselves. 30For this reason many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.[y] 31But if we judged ourselves, we would not be judged.* 32But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined[z] so that we may not be condemned along with the world.*

33 So then, my brothers and sisters, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. 34If you are hungry, eat at home,[a] so that when you come together, it will not be for your condemnation. About the other things I will give instructions when I come.*

1 Corinthians 12

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1 Now concerning spiritual gifts,[b] brothers and sisters, I do not want you to
be ignorant.* [2]You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and
led astray to idols that could not speak.* [3]Therefore I want you to
understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus
be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.*

4 Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit,* [5]and there are
varieties of services but the same Lord,* [6]and there are varieties of
activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. [7]To
each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.* [8]To one
is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the
utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,* [9]to another faith by
the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,* [10]to another
the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the
discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the
interpretation of tongues.* [11]All these are activated by one and the same
Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.*

ONE BODY WITH MANY MEMBERS

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the
members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.*
[13]For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks,
slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.*

14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. [15]If the
foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that
would not make it any less a part of the body. [16]And if the ear would say,
"Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not
make it any less a part of the body. [17]If the whole body were an eye, where
would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the
sense of smell be? [18]But as it is, God arranged the members in the body,

each one of them, as he chose. [19]If all were a single member, where would the body be? [20]As it is, there are many members yet one body. [21]The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” [22]On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, [23]and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, [24]whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, [25]that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. [26]If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.* [28]And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.* [29]Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? [30]Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?* [31]But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.*

1 Corinthians 13

THE GIFT OF LOVE

1 If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I
am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. [2]And if I have prophetic powers and
understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to
remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.* [3]If I give away all
my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast[c] but do not
have love, I gain nothing.*

4 Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or
arrogant* [5]or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it
keeps no record of wrongs;* [6]it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices
in the truth.* [7]It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,
endures all things.*

8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for
tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. [9]For we
know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, [10]but when the complete
comes, the partial will come to an end. [11]When I was a child, I spoke like a
child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an
adult, I put an end to childish ways. [12]For now we see only a reflection, as
in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then
I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.* [13]And now faith, hope,
and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 14

GIFTS OF PROPHECY AND TONGUES

1 Pursue love and strive for the spiritual gifts and especially that you may prophesy.* [2]For those who speak in a tongue do not speak to other people but to God, for no one understands them, since they are speaking mysteries in the Spirit.* [3]But those who prophesy speak to other people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.* [4]Those who speak in a tongue build up themselves, but those who prophesy build up the church. [5]Now I would like all of you to speak in tongues but even more to prophesy. One who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up.*

6 Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I speak to you in some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching?* [7]It is the same way with lifeless instruments that produce sound, such as the flute or the harp. If they do not give distinct notes, how will what is being played on the flute or harp be recognized? [8]And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle?* [9]So with yourselves: If in a tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is being said? For you will be speaking into the air.* [10]There are doubtless many different kinds of sounds in the world, and nothing is without sound. [11]If then I do not know the meaning of a sound, I will be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me.* [12]So with yourselves: since you are striving after spiritual gifts, seek to excel in them for building up the church.

13 Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret. [14]For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unproductive. [15]What should I do then? I will pray with the spirit, but I will pray with the mind also; I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will sing praise with the mind also.* [16]Otherwise, if you say a blessing with the spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say the “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since the outsider does not know what you are saying?* [17]For you may give thanks well enough, but the other person is not built up.* [18]I

thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you; [19]nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

20 Brothers and sisters, do not be children in your thinking; rather, be infants in evil, but in thinking be adults.* [21]In the law it is written,

"By people of strange tongues
and by the lips of foreigners
I will speak to this people,
yet even then they will not listen to me,"

says the Lord.* [22]Tongues, then, are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is not for unbelievers but for believers. [23]If, therefore, the entire church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your mind?* [24]But if all prophesy, an unbeliever or outsider who enters is reproved by all and called to account by all. [25]After the secrets of the unbeliever's heart are disclosed, that person will bow down before God and worship, declaring, "God is really among you."

ORDERLY WORSHIP

26 What should be done then, my brothers and sisters? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up.* [27]If anyone speaks in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three and each in turn, and let one interpret. [28]But if there is no one to interpret, let them be silent in church and speak to themselves and to God. [29]Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. [30]If someone sitting receives a revelation, let the first person be silent. [31]For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged [32](and the spirits of prophets are subject to the prophets, [33]for God is a God not of disorder but of peace), as in all the churches of the saints.

34 Women should be silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak but should be subordinate, as the law also says.* [35]If there is something they want to learn, let them ask their husbands at home.[d] For it is

shameful for a woman to speak in church.[e] 36Or did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only ones it has reached?

37 Anyone who claims to be a prophet or spiritual must acknowledge that what I am writing to you is a command[f] of the Lord.* 38Anyone who does not recognize this is not to be recognized. 39So, my brothers and sisters, strive to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues,* 40but all things should be done decently and in order.

1 Corinthians 15

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

1 Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news[g] that I
proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,[*]
[2]through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message
that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.[*]

3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had
received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures[*]
[4]and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in
accordance with the scriptures[*] [5]and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the
twelve.[*] [6]Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters
at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.[h] [7]Then he
appeared to James, then to all the apostles.[*] [8]Last of all, as to one untimely
born, he appeared also to me.[*] [9]For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be
called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.[*] [10]But by the
grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain.
On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but
the grace of God that is with me.[*] [11]Whether then it was I or they, so we
proclaim and so you believed.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of
you say there is no resurrection of the dead? [13]If there is no resurrection of
the dead, then Christ has not been raised, [14]and if Christ has not been
raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. [15]We are
even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he
raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not
raised.[*] [16]For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. [17]If
Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins.
[18]Then those also who have died[i] in Christ have perished. [19]If for this life
only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.[j,*] [21]For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human,[*] [22]for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. [23]But each in its own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. [24]Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power.[*] [25]For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.[*] [26]The last enemy to be destroyed is death.[*] [27]For "God[k] has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "All things are put in subjection," it is plain that this does not include the one who put all things in subjection under him.[*] [28]When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who put all things in subjection under him, so that God may be all in all.[*]

29 Otherwise, what will those people do who receive baptism on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf?

30 And why are we putting ourselves in danger every hour?[*] [31]I die every day! That is as certain, brothers and sisters, as my boasting of you—a boast that I make in Christ Jesus our Lord.[*] [32]If I fought with wild animals at Ephesus with a merely human perspective, what would I have gained by it? If the dead are not raised,

"Let us eat and drink,
for tomorrow we die."[*]

[33]Do not be deceived:

"Bad company ruins good morals."

[34]Sober up, as you rightly ought to, and sin no more, for some people have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.[*]

THE RESURRECTION BODY

35 But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" [36]Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.[*] [37]And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but

a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. [38]But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body. [39]Not all flesh is alike, but there is one flesh for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. [40]There are both heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one thing, and that of the earthly is another. [41]There is one glory of the sun and another glory of the moon and another glory of the stars; indeed, star differs from star in glory.

42 So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. [43]It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power.* [44]It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. [45]Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.* [46]But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. [47]The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is[l] from heaven.* [48]As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. [49]Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will[m] also bear the image of the one of heaven.*

50 What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.* [51]Look, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die,[n] but we will all be changed,* [52]in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.* [53]For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. [54]When this perishable body puts on imperishability and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."*

[55]"Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

[56]The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.* [57]But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord because you know that in the Lord

your labor is not in vain.*

1 Corinthians 16

THE COLLECTION FOR THE SAINTS

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints: you should follow the
directions I gave to the churches of Galatia.* [2]On the first day of every
week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn, so that
collections need not be taken when I come.* [3]And when I arrive, I will send
any whom you approve with letters to take your gift to Jerusalem. [4]If it
seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.

PLANS FOR TRAVEL

5 I will visit you after passing through Macedonia—for I intend to pass
through Macedonia*—[6]and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the
winter, so that you may send me on my way, wherever I go. [7]I do not want
to see you now just in passing, for I hope to spend some time with you, if
the Lord permits. [8]But I will stay in Ephesus until Pentecost, [9]for a wide
door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

10 If Timothy comes, see that he has nothing to fear among you, for he is
doing the work of the Lord just as I am;* [11]therefore let no one despise him.
Send him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me, for I am
expecting him with the brothers and sisters.*

12 Now concerning our brother Apollos, I strongly urged him to visit you
with the other brothers and sisters, but he was not at all willing to come
now. He will come when he has the opportunity.*

FINAL MESSAGES AND GREETINGS

13 Keep alert; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.* [14]Let all
that you do be done in love.*

15 Now, brothers and sisters, you know that members of the household of
Stephanas were the first fruits in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves
to the service of the saints;* [16]I urge you to put yourselves at the service of

such people and of everyone who works and toils with them.* 17I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence,* 18for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. So give recognition to such persons.*

19 The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, greet you warmly in the Lord.* 20All the brothers and sisters send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

21 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. 22Let anyone be accursed who has no love for the Lord. Our Lord, come![o,*] 23The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. 24My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus.[p]

1 Corinthians 1

a **1.2** Gk *theirs*
* **1.2** Acts 7.59; 18.1; Rom 1.7
* **1.3** Rom 1.7
b **1.4** Other ancient authorities lack *my*
c **1.6** Or *witness to*
* **1.6** 2 Tim 1.8; Rev 1.2
* **1.7** Phil 3.20; Titus 2.13; 2 Pet 3.12
* **1.9** Isa 49.7; 1 Jn 1.3
* **1.10** Rom 12.16; 2 Cor 13.11
* **1.13** Mt 28.19; Acts 2.38; 2 Cor 11.4
d **1.14** Other ancient authorities read *I am thankful*
* **1.14** Acts 18.8; Rom 16.23
* **1.16** 1 Cor 16.15
* **1.17** Jn 4.2; Acts 10.48; 1 Cor 2.1, 4, 13
* **1.18** Acts 17.18; Rom 1.16; 1 Cor 15.2
* **1.20** Isa 33.18; Rom 1.22
* **1.21** Gal 1.15; 1 Tim 4.16; Heb 7.25
* **1.23** 1 Cor 2.14; Gal 5.11
e **1.26** Gk *according to the flesh*
* **1.26** Rom 11.29
* **1.27** Jas 2.5
f **1.29** Gk *no flesh*
* **1.29** Eph 2.9
* **1.30** Rom 3.24; 1 Cor 6.11; Eph 1.7, 14; 1 Thess 5.23
g **1.31** Or *of*
* **1.31** Jer 9.23, 24; 2 Cor 10.17

1 Corinthians 2

h **2.1** Other ancient authorities read *mystery*
* **2.1** 1 Cor 1.17
i **2.4** Other ancient authorities read *the persuasiveness of wisdom*
* **2.4** Rom 15.19; 1 Cor 4.20
* **2.6** 1 Cor 1.20, 28; Eph 4.13; Phil 3.15
* **2.9** Isa 64.4; 65.17
* **2.10** Mt 16.17; Jn 14.26; Eph 3.3, 5
* **2.11** Prov 20.27; Jer 17.9
j **2.13** Or *interpreting spiritual things spiritually* or *comparing spiritual things with spiritual*
* **2.13** 1 Cor 1.17

k **2.14** Or *natural*
* **2.14** 1 Cor 1.18; Jas 3.15
* **2.16** Isa 40.13; Jn 15.15

1 Corinthians 3

* **3.1** Rom 7.14; 1 Cor 2.14, 15; Heb 5.13
* **3.2** Heb 5.12, 13; 1 Pet 2.2
l **3.3** Other ancient authorities add *and dissensions*
* **3.3** 1 Cor 1.11; Gal 5.20; Jas 3.16
* **3.4** 1 Cor 1.12
* **3.8** Ps 62.12; Gal 6.4, 5
* **3.9** Isa 61.3; 2 Cor 6.1; Eph 2.20–22; 1 Pet 2.5
* **3.10** Rom 12.3; 15.20; 1 Cor 15.10
* **3.11** Isa 28.6; Eph 2.20
m **3.13** Or *the Day*
* **3.13** 1 Cor 4.5; 2 Thess 1.8
n **3.16** In 3.16 and 3.17 the Greek word for *you* is plural
* **3.16** 1 Cor 6.19; 2 Cor 6.16
* **3.18** Isa 5.21; 1 Cor 8.2; Gal 6.3
* **3.19** Job 5.13; 1 Cor 1.20
o **3.21** Or *about human things*
* **3.21** Rom 8.32; 1 Cor 4.6
* **3.23** 1 Cor 15.23; 2 Cor 10.7; Gal 3.29

1 Corinthians 4

* **4.1** Rom 11.25; 16.25; 1 Cor 9.17; 2 Cor 6.4
* **4.5** Rom 2.1, 29; 2 Cor 10.18
p **4.7** Or *Who makes you different from another?*
* **4.7** Rom 12.3, 6
* **4.9** Rom 8.36; 1 Cor 15.31; 2 Cor 11.23; Heb 10.33
* **4.10** Acts 17.18; 1 Cor 1.18; 3.18
* **4.11** Rom 8.35; 2 Cor 11.23–27
* **4.12** Jn 15.20; Acts 18.3; Rom 8.35; 1 Pet 3.9
* **4.15** 1 Cor 1.30; Philem 10
* **4.16** Phil 3.17; 1 Thess 1.6; 2 Thess 3.9
q **4.17** Or *am sending*
* **4.19** Acts 19.21; Rom 15.32; 2 Cor 1.15
* **4.21** 2 Cor 1.23; 13.10

1 Corinthians 5

* **5.1** Lev 18.8; Deut 22.30; 2 Cor 7.12
r **5.4** Or *on the man who has done such a thing in the name of the Lord Jesus*
* **5.4** 2 Cor 2.10; 2 Thess 3.6
s **5.5** Other ancient authorities add *Jesus*
* **5.5** 1 Tim 1.20
* **5.6** Gal 5.9; Jas 4.16
* **5.7** 1 Pet 1.19
* **5.8** Deut 16.3; Mk 8.15
* **5.10** 1 Cor 10.27
* **5.12** Mk 4.11; 1 Cor 6.1–4
* **5.13** Deut 13.5; 21.21

1 Corinthians 6

* **6.2** Dan 7.22; Mt 19.28; Lk 22.30
* **6.6** 2 Cor 6.14, 15
* **6.7** Mt 5.39, 40; Rom 12.17
t **6.9** Meaning of Gk uncertain
u **6.9** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **6.9** Gal 5.21; 1 Tim 1.10; Rev 22.15
v **6.11** Other ancient authorities lack *Christ*
* **6.11** Eph 2.2; Col 3.7; Titus 3.3
w **6.13** The quotation may extend to the word *other*
* **6.13** Mt 15.17; Eph 5.23
* **6.14** Rom 6.5, 8; 8.11; 2 Cor 4.14; Eph 1.19
* **6.15** Rom 12.5; 1 Cor 12.27
* **6.16** Gen 2.24; Mt 19.5; Eph 5.31
* **6.17** Jn 17.21–23; Gal 2.20
x **6.18** Or *prostitution*
y **6.18** Or *the one who hires a prostitute*
* **6.18** Rom 6.12; 1 Thess 4.4; Heb 13.4
z **6.19** Or *sanctuary*
* **6.19** Jn 2.21; Rom 14.7, 8
* **6.20** 1 Cor 7.23; 1 Pet 1.18, 19; Rev 5.9

1 Corinthians 7

* **7.3** 1 Pet 3.7
a **7.5** Other ancient authorities read *fasting and prayer*
* **7.5** Ex 19.15; 1 Sam 21.4, 5; 1 Thess 3.5
* **7.6** 2 Cor 8.8
* **7.7** v 8; Mt 19.12; 1 Cor 9.5; 12.11

* **7.8** vv 1, 26
* **7.9** 1 Tim 5.14
* **7.10** Mal 2.14; Mt 5.32; 19.3–9; Mk 10.11; Lk 16.18
* **7.12** v 6; 2 Cor 11.17
b **7.14** Other ancient authorities read *husband*
* **7.14** Mal 2.15
c **7.15** Other ancient authorities read *you*
* **7.15** Rom 14.19; 1 Cor 14.33
* **7.16** 1 Pet 3.1
* **7.17** Rom 12.3; 1 Cor 4.17; 14.33; 2 Cor 8.18; 11.28
* **7.18** Acts 15.1, 2
* **7.19** Rom 2.25; Gal 5.6; 6.15
* **7.20** v 24
d **7.21** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **7.22** Jn 8.32, 36; Eph 6.6; Philem 16
* **7.23** 1 Cor 6.20
* **7.25** 2 Cor 8.8, 10; 1 Tim 1.13, 16
e **7.26** Or *present*
f **7.26** Or *necessity*
* **7.26** vv 1, 8
* **7.29** v 31; Rom 13.11, 12
* **7.31** 1 Cor 9.18; 1 Jn 2.17
* **7.32** 1 Tim 5.5
* **7.34** Lk 10.40
g **7.36** Gk *virgin*
h **7.37** Gk *virgin*
i **7.38** Gk *virgin*
j **7.39** Gk *falls asleep*
* **7.39** Rom 7.2; 2 Cor 6.14

1 Corinthians 8

* **8.1** Acts 15.20; Rom 14.3, 10; 15.14
* **8.2** 1 Cor 3.18; 13.8, 9, 12; 1 Tim 6.4
* **8.3** Rom 8.29; Gal 4.9
* **8.4** Deut 6.4; 1 Cor 10.19; Eph 4.6
* **8.6** Mal 2.10; Rom 11.36; Phil 2.11
* **8.7** Rom 14.14; 1 Cor 10.28
k **8.8** The quotation may extend to the end of the verse
* **8.8** Rom 14.17
* **8.9** Rom 14.1, 13, 20; Gal 5.13
* **8.11** Rom 14.15, 20

* **8.13** Rom 14.21; 2 Cor 11.29

1 Corinthians 9

* **9.1** Acts 9.3, 17; 18.9; 22.14, 18; 23.11; 1 Cor 3.6; 4.15; 2 Cor 12.12
* **9.2** 2 Cor 3.2, 3
* **9.4** 1 Thess 2.6; 2 Thess 3.8, 9
l **9.5** Gk *a sister as wife*
* **9.5** Mt 8.14; 12.46; 1 Cor 7.7, 8
* **9.6** Acts 4.36
* **9.7** Deut 20.6; Prov 27.18; 2 Cor 10.4; 1 Tim 1.18
* **9.9** Deut 25.4; 1 Tim 5.18
m **9.11** Gk *fleshly*
* **9.11** Rom 15.27
* **9.12** 2 Cor 6.3; 11.12
* **9.13** Lev 6.16; Deut 18.1
* **9.14** Mt 10.10; Lk 10.7
* **9.17** 1 Cor 3.8, 14; Gal 2.7; Phil 1.16, 17; Col 1.25
* **9.19** Mt 18.15; Gal 5.13; 1 Pet 3.1
* **9.21** Rom 2.12, 14; 1 Cor 7.22; Gal 3.2
* **9.24** 2 Tim 4.7; Heb 12.1
* **9.25** Eph 6.12; 1 Tim 6.12
* **9.27** Rom 6.18; 8.13; Col 3.5

1 Corinthians 10

* **10.1** Ex 13.21; 14.22, 29; Rom 1.13
* **10.3** Ex 16.4, 35
* **10.4** Ex 17.6; Num 20.11
* **10.5** Num 14.29, 30; Heb 3.17
* **10.6** Num 11.4, 34; Ps 106.14
* **10.7** Ex 32.4, 6
* **10.8** Num 25.1ff
n **10.9** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord*
* **10.9** Num 21.5, 6
* **10.10** Ex 12.23; Num 16.41, 49
* **10.11** Rom 13.11; Phil 4.5
* **10.13** 2 Pet 2.9
* **10.14** 2 Cor 6.17
* **10.17** Rom 12.5; 1 Cor 12.27
o **10.18** Gk *Israel according to the flesh*
* **10.18** Lev 7.6

p **10.20** Other ancient authorities read *the gentiles*
* **10.20** Deut 32.17; Ps 106.37; Rev 9.20
* **10.21** 2 Cor 6.15, 16
* **10.22** Deut 32.21; Eccl 6.10; Isa 45.9
* **10.24** v 33; Rom 15.1, 2; Phil 2.4, 21
* **10.26** Ps 24.1
* **10.29** Rom 14.16
* **10.30** Rom 14.6; 1 Tim 4.3, 4
* **10.31** Col 3.17; 1 Pet 4.11
* **10.32** 1 Cor 8.13
* **10.33** Rom 15.2; 1 Cor 9.22; 13.5

1 Corinthians 11

* **11.1** 1 Cor 4.16
* **11.2** 1 Cor 4.17; 2 Thess 2.15
q **11.3** Or *husband*
r **11.3** Or *wife*
* **11.3** 1 Cor 3.23; Eph 1.22; 4.15; 5.23
* **11.4** Acts 13.1; 1 Thess 5.20
s **11.7** Or *glory*
t **11.7** Or *glory*
* **11.7** Gen 1.26
* **11.8** Gen 2.21–23
* **11.9** Gen 2.18
u **11.10** Or *have freedom of choice regarding her head*
* **11.10** Gen 24.65
* **11.16** 1 Cor 7.17
* **11.18** 1 Cor 1.10–12
* **11.19** Deut 13.3; Mt 18.7; Lk 17.1; 1 Tim 4.1; 1 Jn 2.19
* **11.23** Mt 26.26–28; Mk 14.22–24; Lk 22.17–20; 1 Cor 15.3
v **11.24** Other ancient authorities read *is broken for*
* **11.26** Jn 14.3; Acts 1.11; 1 Cor 4.5; Rev 1.7
* **11.27** Heb 10.29
* **11.28** 2 Cor 13.5
w **11.29** Other ancient authorities add *in an unworthy manner,*
x **11.29** Other ancient authorities read *the Lord's body*
y **11.30** Gk *fallen asleep*
* **11.31** Ps 32.5; 1 Jn 1.9
z **11.32** Or *When we are judged, we are being disciplined by the Lord*
* **11.32** Ps 94.12; 1 Cor 1.20; Heb 12.7–10
a **11.34** Gk *in a household*

* **11.34** 1 Cor 4.19

1 Corinthians 12

b **12.1** Or *spiritual persons*
* **12.1** Rom 1.13; 1 Cor 14.1, 37
* **12.2** Ps 115.5; Eph 2.11, 12; 1 Thess 1.9; 1 Pet 4.3
* **12.3** Rom 9.3; 10.9; 1 Jn 4.2, 3
* **12.4** Rom 12.4–7; Heb 2.4
* **12.5** Eph 4.11
* **12.7** Eph 4.7
* **12.8** Rom 15.4; 1 Cor 2.6, 7; 2 Cor 8.7
* **12.9** vv 28, 30; Mt 17.19, 20; 2 Cor 4.13
* **12.10** Acts 2.4; Rom 12.6; 1 Cor 13.1; Gal 3.5; 1 Jn 4.1
* **12.11** 2 Cor 10.13; Heb 2.4
* **12.12** Rom 12.4; Gal 3.16
* **12.13** Jn 7.37–39; Gal 3.28; Eph 2.18; Col 3.11
* **12.27** Rom 12.5; Eph 1.23; 4.12; 5.30; Col 1.18, 24
* **12.28** vv 9, 10; Rom 12.6, 8; Eph 3.5; 4.11
* **12.30** v 10
* **12.31** 1 Cor 14.1, 39

1 Corinthians 13

* **13.2** Mt 7.22; 17.20; 21.21; Acts 13.1; 1 Cor 12.9; 14.1
c **13.3** Other ancient authorities read *body to be burned*
* **13.3** Mt 6.2
* **13.4** Prov 10.12; 1 Pet 4.8
* **13.5** 1 Cor 10.24; 2 Cor 5.19
* **13.6** 2 Jn 4
* **13.7** Rom 15.1; 1 Cor 9.12
* **13.12** 1 Cor 8.3; 2 Cor 5.7; Phil 3.12; 1 Jn 3.2

1 Corinthians 14

* **14.1** 1 Cor 12.1, 31; 13.2; 16.14
* **14.2** Acts 10.46; 1 Cor 12.10, 28, 30; 13.1
* **14.3** vv 5, 12, 17, 26; Acts 4.36
* **14.5** Num 11.29
* **14.6** v 26; Rom 6.17; 1 Cor 12.8
* **14.8** Num 10.9
* **14.9** 1 Cor 9.26
* **14.11** Acts 28.2

* **14.15** Eph 5.19; Col 3.16
* **14.16** 1 Chr 16.36; Ps 106.48; Mt 15.36; 1 Cor 11.24
* **14.17** Rom 14.19
* **14.20** Ps 131.2; Rom 16.19; Eph 4.14; Heb 5.12, 13; 1 Pet 2.2
* **14.21** Isa 28.11, 12; Jn 10.34
* **14.23** Acts 2.13
* **14.26** 1 Cor 12.7–10; 2 Cor 12.19; Eph 4.12
* **14.34** Gen 3.16; 1 Tim 2.11, 12; 1 Pet 3.1

d **14.35** Gk *in a household*

e **14.35** Other ancient authorities put 14.34–35 after 14.40

f **14.37** Other ancient authorities lack *a command*

* **14.37** 2 Cor 10.7; 1 Jn 4.6
* **14.39** 1 Cor 12.31

1 Corinthians 15

g **15.1** Or *gospel*

* **15.1** Rom 2.16; 5.2; Gal 1.11
* **15.2** Rom 1.16; 11.22; Gal 3.4
* **15.3** Isa 53.5–12; Lk 24.25–27; Acts 26.22, 23; 1 Cor 11.23; 1 Pet 2.24
* **15.4** Mt 16.8–10; Acts 2.24, 25
* **15.5** Mt 28.17; Lk 24.34; 1 Cor 1.12

h **15.6** Gk *fallen asleep*

* **15.7** Lk 24.33, 36, 37; Acts 1.3, 4
* **15.8** Acts 9.3–8; 1 Cor 9.1; Gal 1.16
* **15.9** Acts 8.3; Eph 3.8; 1 Tim 1.15
* **15.10** 2 Cor 3.5; 11.23; Gal 2.8; Eph 3.7, 8; Phil 2.13
* **15.15** Acts 2.24

i **15.18** Gk *fallen asleep*

j **15.20** Gk *fallen asleep*

* **15.20** v 23; Acts 26.23; 1 Pet 1.3; Rev 1.5
* **15.21** Rom 5.12
* **15.24** Dan 7.14, 27
* **15.25** Ps 110.1
* **15.26** 2 Tim 1.10; Rev 20.14

k **15.27** Gk *he*

* **15.27** Ps 8.6; Mt 28.18; Heb 2.8
* **15.28** 1 Cor 3.23; Phil 3.21
* **15.30** 2 Cor 11.26
* **15.31** Rom 8.36; 2 Cor 4.10; 11.23
* **15.32** Lk 12.19; 2 Cor 1.8
* **15.34** 1 Cor 6.5; 1 Thess 4.5

* **15.36** Jn 12.24
* **15.43** Phil 3.21
* **15.45** Gen 2.7; Rom 5.14; 8.2
l **15.47** Other ancient authorities add *the Lord*
* **15.47** Gen 2.7; 3.19; Jn 3.31
m **15.49** Other ancient authorities read *let us*
* **15.49** Gen 5.3; Rom 8.29; 1 Jn 3.2
* **15.50** Mt 16.17; Jn 3.3, 5
n **15.51** Gk *fall asleep*
* **15.51** Phil 3.21; 1 Thess 4.15–17
* **15.52** Mt 24.31; Jn 5.25; 1 Thess 4.16
* **15.54** Isa 25.8; Heb 2.14; Rev 20.14
* **15.56** Rom 4.15; 5.12, 13
* **15.58** 1 Cor 16.10; 2 Pet 3.14

1 Corinthians 16

* **16.1** Acts 9.13; 16.6; 24.17
* **16.2** Acts 20.7; 2 Cor 9.4, 5
* **16.5** Acts 19.21
* **16.10** Acts 16.1; 19.22; 1 Cor 15.58
* **16.11** Acts 15.33; 1 Tim 4.12
* **16.12** Acts 18.24; 1 Cor 1.12; 3.5, 6
* **16.13** Eph 6.10; Phil 1.27; 2 Thess 2.15
* **16.14** 1 Cor 14.1
* **16.15** Rom 16.5; 2 Cor 8.4; Heb 6.10
* **16.16** Heb 13.17
* **16.17** 2 Cor 7.6, 7; 11.9
* **16.18** 2 Cor 7.13; Phil 2.29
* **16.19** Acts 16.6; Rom 16.5
o **16.22** Or *Our Lord has come*
* **16.22** Eph 6.24
p **16.24** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Second Letter of Paul to the

Corinthians

2 Corinthians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, together with all the saints throughout Achaia:*

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

PAUL'S THANKSGIVING AFTER AFFLICTION

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation,* 4who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. 5For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.* 6If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. 7Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

8 We do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, of the affliction we experienced in Asia, for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself.* 9Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. 10He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us;[a] on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again,* 11as you also

join in helping us by your prayers, so that many may give thanks on our[b] behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.*

THE POSTPONEMENT OF PAUL'S VISIT

12 Indeed, this is our boast, the testimony of our conscience: we have behaved in the world with holiness[c] and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God—and all the more toward you.* 13For we write you nothing other than what you can read and also understand; I hope you will understand until the end—14as you have already understood us in part—that on the day of the Lord Jesus we are your boast even as you are our boast.*

15 Since I was sure of this, I wanted to come to you first, so that you might have a double favor;[d,*] 16I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia and to come back to you from Macedonia and have you send me on to Judea.* 17Was I vacillating when I wanted to do this? Do I make my plans according to ordinary human standards,[e] ready to say "Yes, yes" and "No, no" at the same time? 18As surely as God is faithful, our word to you is not[f] "Yes and No." 19For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not "Yes and No," but in him it has always been "Yes."* 20For in him every one of God's promises is a "Yes." For this reason it is through him that we say the "Amen," to the glory of God.* 21But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us,* 22who has put his seal on us and given[g] us his Spirit in our hearts as a down payment.*

23 But I call on God as witness against me: it was to spare you that I did not come again to Corinth.* 24I do not mean to imply that we lord it over your faith; rather, we are workers with you for your joy because you stand firm in faith.*

2 Corinthians 2

1 So I made up my mind not to make another visit that causes you grief.[*]
[2]For if I cause you grief, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I
have grieved? [3]And I wrote as I did, so that when I came, I might not suffer
grief from those who should have made me rejoice, for I am confident about
all of you, that my joy would be the joy of all of you.[*] [4]For I wrote you out
of much distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you
grief but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

FORGIVENESS FOR THE OFFENDER

5 But if anyone has caused grief, he has caused it not to me but to some
extent—not to exaggerate it—to all of you. [6]This punishment by the
majority is enough for such a person;[*] [7]so now instead you should forgive
and console him, so that he may not be overwhelmed by even worse grief.
[8]So I urge you to reaffirm your love for him. [9]I wrote for this reason: to test
you and to know whether you are obedient in everything.[*] [10]Anyone whom
you forgive, I also forgive. In fact, what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven
anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ. [11]And we do this
so that we may not be outwitted by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his
designs.

PAUL'S ANXIETY IN TROAS

12 When I came to Troas to proclaim the good news[h] of Christ, a door
was opened for me in the Lord,[*] [13]but my mind could not rest because I did
not find my brother Titus there. So I said farewell to them and went on to
Macedonia.

14 But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal
procession and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes
from knowing him.[i] [15]For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those
who are being saved and among those who are perishing:[*] [16]to the one
group a fragrance from death[j] to death, to the other a fragrance from life[k] to

life. Who is qualified for these things?* 17For we are not peddlers of God's
word like so many,[l] but as persons of sincerity, as persons sent from God,
we are speaking in Christ before God.*

2 Corinthians 3

MINISTERS OF THE NEW COVENANT

1 Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Surely we do not need,
as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we?* [2]You
yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by all, [3]and
you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink
but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets
that are human hearts.[m,*]

4 Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. [5]Not
that we are qualified of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our
qualification is from God,* [6]who has made us qualified to be ministers of a
new covenant, not of letter but of spirit, for the letter kills, but the Spirit
gives life.*

7 Now if the ministry of death, chiseled in letters on stone tablets,[n] came
in glory so that the people of Israel could not gaze at Moses's face because
of the glory of his face, a glory now set aside,* [8]how much more will the
ministry of the Spirit come in glory? [9]For if there was glory in the ministry
of condemnation,[o] much more does the ministry of justification abound in
glory!* [10]Indeed, what once had glory has in this respect lost its glory
because of the greater glory, [11]for if what was set aside came through glory,
much more has the permanent come in glory!

12 Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with complete frankness,*
[13]not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel
from gazing at the end of the glory that[p] was being set aside.* [14]But their
minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading
of the old covenant, the same veil is still there; it is not unveiled since in
Christ it is set aside.* [15]Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a
veil lies over their minds,[q] [16]but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is
removed.* [17]Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom.* [18]And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of
the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the

same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.*

2 Corinthians 4

TREASURE IN CLAY JARS

1 Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry,
we do not lose heart.* [2]We have renounced the shameful, underhanded
ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word, but by the
open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of
everyone in the sight of God.* [3]And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled
to those who are perishing.* [4]In their case the god of this world has blinded
the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing clearly the light of
the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.* [5]For we do not
proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your
slaves for Jesus's sake.* [6]For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of
darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of
the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

7 But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that
this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.* [8]We
are afflicted in every way but not crushed, perplexed but not driven to
despair, [9]persecuted but not forsaken, struck down but not destroyed,
[10]always carrying around in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of
Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.* [11]For we who are living are
always being handed over to death for Jesus's sake, so that the life of Jesus
may also be made visible in our mortal flesh. [12]So death is at work in us but
life in you.

13 But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with
scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and therefore we
also speak,* [14]because we know that the one who raised Jesus[r] will also
raise us with Jesus and will present us with you in his presence.* [15]Indeed,
everything is for your sake, so that grace, when it has extended to more and
more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

LIVING BY FAITH

16 So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting
away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.* 17For our slight,
momentary affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond
all measure,* 18because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot
be seen, for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is
eternal.*

2 Corinthians 5

1 For we know that, if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a
building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*
[2]For in this tent we groan, longing to be further clothed with our heavenly
dwelling, [3]for surely when we have been clothed in it[s] we will not be found
naked. [4]For while we are in this tent, we groan under our burden because
we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal
may be swallowed up by life.* [5]The one who has prepared us for this very
thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a down payment.*

6 So we are always confident, even though we know that while we are at
home in the body we are away from the Lord—[7]for we walk by faith, not
by sight.* [8]Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from
the body and at home with the Lord. [9]So whether we are at home or away,
we make it our aim to be pleasing to him. [10]For all of us must appear before
the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive due recompense for
actions done in the body, whether good or evil.*

THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade people,
but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well
known to your consciences.* [12]We are not commending ourselves to you
again but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be
able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart.*
[13]For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it
is for you.* [14]For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced
that one has died for all; therefore all have died.* [15]And he died for all, so
that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for the one who
for their sake died and was raised.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of
view;[t] even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,[u] we
no longer know him in that way.* [17]So if anyone is in Christ, there[v] is a new

creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being![w,*] 18All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;[*] 19that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself,[x] not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.[*] 20So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God.[*] 21For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.[*]

2 Corinthians 6

1 As we work together with him,[y] we entreat you also not to accept the
grace of God in vain.[*] [2]For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation![*] [3]We
are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with
our ministry,[*] [4]but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in
every way: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, [5]beatings,
imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger;[*] [6]in purity,
knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, [7]truthful
speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the
right hand and for the left;[*] [8]in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good
repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true, [9]as unknown and yet
are well known, as dying and look—we are alive, as punished and yet not
killed,[*] [10]as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich,
as having nothing and yet possessing everything.

11 We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to
you. [12]There is no restriction in our affections but only in yours. [13]In return
—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.[*]

THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD

14 Do not be mismatched with unbelievers. For what do righteousness
and lawlessness have in common? Or what partnership is there between
light and darkness?[*] [15]What agreement does Christ have with Beliar? Or
what does a believer share with an unbeliever? [16]What agreement has the
temple of God with idols? For we[z] are the temple of the living God, as God
said,

"I will live in them[a] and walk among them,
and I will be their God,

and they shall be my people.*
17Therefore come out from them,
and be separate from them, says the Lord,
and touch nothing unclean;
then I will welcome you,*
18and I will be your father,
and you shall be my sons and daughters,
says the Lord Almighty."*

2 Corinthians 7

1 Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from
every defilement of flesh and of spirit, making holiness perfect in the fear of
God.*

PAUL'S JOY AT THE CHURCH'S REPENTANCE

2 Make room in your hearts[b] for us; we have wronged no one; we have
corrupted no one; we have taken advantage of no one.* [3]I do not say this to
condemn you, for I have already said that you are in our hearts, to die
together and to live together.* [4]I am being completely frank with you; I
have great pride in you; I am filled with consolation; I am overjoyed in all
our affliction.*

5 For even when we came into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we
were afflicted in every way—disputes without and fears within.* [6]But God,
who consoles the downcast, consoled us by the arrival of Titus,* [7]and not
only by his arrival but also by the consolation with which he was consoled
about you, as he told us of your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me,
so that I rejoiced still more. [8]For although I grieved you with my letter, I do
not regret it. Although I did regret it (for[c] I see that that letter caused you
grief, though only briefly), [9]now I rejoice, not because you were grieved but
because your grief led to repentance, for you felt a godly grief, so that you
were not harmed in any way by us. [10]For godly grief produces a repentance
that leads to salvation and brings no regret, but worldly grief produces
death.* [11]For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you,
what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what
longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved
yourselves guiltless in the matter. [12]So although I wrote to you, it was not
on account of the one who did the wrong nor on account of the one who
suffered the wrong but in order that your zeal for us might be made known
to you before God.* [13]In this we have found consolation.

In addition to our own consolation, we rejoiced still more at the joy of
Titus, because his mind has been set at rest by all of you.* [14]For if I have

been somewhat boastful about you to him, I was not put to shame, but just as everything we said to you was true, so our boasting to Titus has proved true as well.* 15And his heart goes out all the more to you, as he remembers the obedience of all of you and how you welcomed him with fear and trembling.* 16I rejoice because I have complete confidence in you.*

2 Corinthians 8

ENCOURAGEMENT TO BE GENEROUS

1 We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that
has been granted to the churches of Macedonia, [2]for during a severe ordeal
of affliction their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed
in a wealth of generosity on their part. [3]For, as I can testify, they voluntarily
gave according to their means and even beyond their means, [4]begging us
earnestly for the favor[d] of partnering in this ministry to the saints,* [5]and not
as we expected. Instead, they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the
will of God, to us, [6]so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made
a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking[e] among
you.* [7]Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge,
in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you[f]—so we want you to excel also
in this generous undertaking.[g,*]

8 I do not say this as a command, but I am, by mentioning the eagerness
of others, testing the genuineness of your love.* [9]For you know the
generous act[h] of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your
sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.*
[10]And in this matter I am giving my opinion: it is beneficial for you who
began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do
something.* [11]Now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched
by completing it according to your means.* [12]For if the eagerness is there,
the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one
does not have.* [13]For I do not mean that there should be relief for others
and hardship for you, but it is a question of equality between [14]your present
abundance and their need, so that their abundance may also supply your
need, in order that there may be equality. [15]As it is written,

> "The one who had much did not have too much,
>
> and the one who had little did not have too little."*

COMMENDATION OF TITUS

16 But thanks be to God, who put in the heart of Titus the same eagerness
for you that I myself have. [17]For he not only accepted our appeal, but since
he is more eager than ever, he is going to you of his own accord. [18]With
him we are sending the brother who is praised among all the churches for
his work for the gospel,* [19]and not only that, but he has also been appointed
by the churches to travel with us while we are administering this generous
undertaking[i] for the glory of the Lord himself[j] and to show our goodwill.*
[20]We are making this arrangement lest anyone blame us about this generous
gift that we are administering, [21]for we are setting our minds on what is
right not only before the Lord but also before the people.* [22]And with them
we are sending our brother whom we have often tested and found eager in
many matters but who is now more eager than ever because of his great
confidence in you. [23]As for Titus, he is my partner and coworker in your
service; as for our brothers, they are messengers[k] of the churches, the glory
of Christ.* [24]Therefore openly before the churches, show them the proof of
your love and of our reason for boasting about you to them.*

2 Corinthians 9

THE COLLECTION FOR CHRISTIANS AT JERUSALEM

1 Now it is not necessary for me to write you about the ministry to the
saints, [2]for I know your eagerness, which is the subject of my boasting
about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready
since last year, and your zeal has stirred up most of them.* [3]But I am
sending[l] the brothers in order that our boasting about you may not prove to
have been empty in this case, so that you may be ready, as I said you would
be;* [4]otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are
not ready, we would be put to shame—to say nothing of you—in this
undertaking.[m] [5]So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead
to you and arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have
promised, so that it may be ready as a bountiful gift and not as an extortion.

6 The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.* [7]Each of you
must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under
compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* [8]And God is able to provide
you with every blessing[n] in abundance, so that by always having enough of
everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.* [9]As it is
written,

> "He scatters abroad; he gives to the poor;
> his righteousness[o] endures forever."*

[10]He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and
multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your
righteousness.[p] [11]You will be enriched in every way for your great
generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, [12]for the
rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also
overflows with many thanksgivings to God. [13]Through the testing of this
ministry you[q] glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel
of Christ and by the generosity of your partnership with them and with all
others,* [14]while they long for you and pray for you because of the

surpassing grace of God that he has given you. [15]Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift![*]

2 Corinthians 10

PAUL DEFENDS HIS MINISTRY

1 I myself, Paul, appeal to you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—I
who am humble when face to face with you but bold toward you when I am
away![*] —[2]I ask that when I am present I need not show boldness by daring
to oppose those who think we are acting according to human standards.[r,*]
[3]Indeed, we live as humans[s] but do not wage war according to human
standards,[t] [4]for the weapons of our warfare are not merely human,[u] but they
have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments[*] [5]and
every proud obstacle raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take
every thought captive to obey Christ.[*] [6]We are ready to punish every
disobedience when your obedience is complete.[*]

7 Look[v] at what is before your eyes. If you are confident that you belong
to Christ, remind yourself of this, that just as you belong to Christ, so also
do we.[*] [8]Now, even if I boast a little too much of our authority, which the
Lord gave for building you up and not for tearing you down, I will not be
ashamed of it.[*] [9]I do not want to seem as though I am trying to frighten you
with my letters. [10]For someone says,[w] "His letters are weighty and strong,
but his bodily presence is weak and his speech contemptible."[*] [11]Let such a
person understand that what we say by letter when absent we will also do
when present.

12 We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some of those
who commend themselves. But when they measure themselves by one
another and compare themselves with one another, they do not show good
sense.[*] [13]We, however, will not boast beyond limits but will keep within the
field that God has assigned to us, to reach out even as far as you. [14]For we
were not overstepping our limits when we reached you; we were the first to
come all the way to you with the good news[x] of Christ.[*] [15]We do not boast
beyond limits, that is, in the labors of others, but our hope is that, as your
faith increases, our field among you may be greatly enlarged, [16]so that we
may proclaim the good news[y] in lands beyond you, without boasting of
work already done in someone else's field. [17]"Let the one who boasts, boast

in the Lord.”* [18]For it is not those who commend themselves that are approved but those whom the Lord commends.*

2 Corinthians 11

PAUL AND THE FALSE APOSTLES

1 I wish you would put up with me in a little foolishness. Yes, do put up[z] with me!* [2]I feel a divine jealousy for you, for I promised you in marriage to one husband, to present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.* [3]But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by its cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure[a] devotion to Christ.* [4]For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.* [5]I think that I am not in the least inferior to these super-apostles.* [6]Even if I am untrained in speech, I certainly am not with respect to knowledge; certainly in every way and in all things we have made this evident to you.*

7 Did I commit a sin by humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I proclaimed God's good news[b] to you free of charge?* [8]I robbed other churches by accepting support from them in order to serve you. [9]And when I was with you and was in need, I did not burden anyone, for my needs were supplied by the brothers who came from Macedonia. So I refrained and will continue to refrain from burdening you in any way.* [10]As the truth of Christ is in me, this boast of mine will not be silenced in the regions of Achaia.* [11]And why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!*

12 And what I do I will also continue to do, in order to deny an opportunity to those who want an opportunity to be recognized as our equals in what they boast about. [13]For such boasters are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.* [14]And no wonder! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. [15]So it is not strange if his ministers also disguise themselves as ministers of righteousness. Their end will match their deeds.*

PAUL'S SUFFERINGS AS AN APOSTLE

16 I repeat, let no one think that I am a fool, but if you do, then accept me
as a fool, so that I, too, may boast a little. [17]What I am saying in regard to
this boastful undertaking, I am saying not with the Lord's authority but as a
fool;* [18]since many boast according to human standards,[c] I will also boast.
[19]For you gladly put up with fools, being wise yourselves! [20]For you put up
with it when someone makes slaves of you or preys upon you or takes
advantage of you or puts on airs or gives you a slap in the face. [21]To my
shame, I must say, we were too weak for that!

But whatever anyone dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also
dare to boast of that.* [22]Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So
am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I.* [23]Are they ministers of
Christ? I am talking like a madman—I am a better one: with far greater
labors, far more imprisonments, with countless floggings, and often near
death.* [24]Five times I have received from the Jews the forty lashes minus
one.* [25]Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I received a stoning.
Three times I was shipwrecked; for a night and a day I was adrift at sea;*
[26]on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from bandits, danger
from my own people, danger from gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the
wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers and sisters;* [27]in toil
and hardship, through many a sleepless night, hungry and thirsty, often
without food,[d] cold and naked.* [28]And, besides other things, I am under
daily pressure because of my anxiety for all the churches. [29]Who is weak,
and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I am not indignant?*

30 If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.*
[31]The God and Father of the Lord Jesus (blessed be he forever!) knows that
I do not lie.* [32]In Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the
city of Damascus in order to[e] seize me,* [33]but I was let down in a basket
through a window in the wall[f] and escaped from his hands.

2 Corinthians 12

PAUL'S VISIONS AND REVELATIONS

1 It is necessary to boast; nothing is to be gained by it, but I will go on to
visions and revelations of the Lord. [2]I know a person in Christ who fourteen
years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of
the body I do not know; God knows.* [3]And I know that such a person—
whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—[4]was
caught up into paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no
mortal is permitted to repeat. [5]On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on
my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. [6]But if I wish to
boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from
it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard
from me,* [7]even considering the exceptional character of the revelations.
Therefore, to keep[g] me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the
flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too
elated.[h] [8]Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave
me,* [9]but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power[i] is made
perfect in weakness." So I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses,
so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.* [10]Therefore I am content with
weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of
Christ, for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.*

PAUL'S CONCERN FOR THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH

11 I have been a fool! You forced me to it. Indeed you should have been
the ones commending me, for I am not at all inferior to these super-apostles,
even though I am nothing.* [12]The signs of an apostle were performed
among you with utmost patience, signs and wonders and mighty works.*
[13]How have you been worse off than the other churches, except that I
myself did not burden you? Forgive me this wrong!*

14 Here I am, ready to come to you this third time, and I will not be a
burden because I do not want what is yours but you, for children ought not

to save up for their parents but parents for their children.* 15I will most gladly spend and be spent for you. If I love you more, am I to be loved less? * 16Be that as it may, I did not burden you. But, crafty person that I am, did I take you in by deceit? 17Did I take advantage of you through any of those whom I sent to you? 18I urged Titus to go and sent the brother with him. Titus did not take advantage of you, did he? Did we not conduct ourselves with the same spirit? Did we not walk in the same footsteps?*

19 Have you been thinking all along that we have been defending ourselves before you? We are speaking in Christ before God. Everything we do, beloved, is for the sake of building you up.* 20For I fear that when I come I may find you not as I wish and that you may find me not as you wish; I fear that there may perhaps be quarreling, jealousy, anger, selfishness, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder.* 21I fear that when I come again my God may humble me before you and that I may have to mourn over many who previously sinned and have not repented of the impurity, sexual immorality, and debauchery that they have practiced.*

2 Corinthians 13

FURTHER WARNING

1 This is the third time I am coming to you. "Any charge must be sustained
by the evidence of two or three witnesses."* [2]I warned those who sinned
previously and all the others, and I warn them now while absent, as I did
when present on my second visit, that if I come again I will not be lenient—
[3]since you desire proof that Christ is speaking in me. He is not weak in
dealing with you but is powerful in you.* [4]For he was crucified in weakness
but lives by the power of God. For we are weak in him,[j] but in dealing with
you we will live with him by the power of God.*

5 Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test
yourselves. Do you not realize that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless, indeed,
you fail to meet the test!* [6]I hope you will find out that we have not failed.
[7]But we pray to God that you may not do anything wrong—not that we may
appear to have met the test but that you may do what is right, though we
may seem to have failed. [8]For we cannot do anything against the truth but
only for the truth. [9]For we rejoice when we are weak but you are strong.
This is what we pray for, that you may be restored.* [10]So I write these
things while I am away from you, so that when I come I may not have to be
severe in using the authority that the Lord has given me for building up and
not for tearing down.*

FINAL GREETINGS AND BENEDICTION

11 Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell.[k] Be restored; listen to my
appeal;[l] agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and
peace will be with you.* [12]Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints
greet you.*

13 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of[m] the Holy Spirit be with all of you.*

2 Corinthians 1

* **1.1** 1 Cor 1.1; Col 1.1; 1 Tim 1.1
* **1.2** Rom 1.7; 1 Cor 1.3; Gal 1.3
* **1.3** Rom 15.5; Eph 1.3; 1 Pet 1.3
* **1.5** 2 Cor 4.10; Col 1.24
* **1.8** Acts 19.23; 1 Cor 15.32

a **1.10** Other ancient authorities read *is rescuing us* or lack the phrase

* **1.10** 2 Pet 2.9

b **1.11** Other ancient authorities read *your*

* **1.11** Rom 15.30; 2 Cor 4.15; Phil 1.19

c **1.12** Other ancient authorities read *simplicity*

* **1.12** 1 Cor 2.4, 13; 2 Cor 2.17
* **1.14** 1 Cor 1.8

d **1.15** Other ancient authorities read *joy*

* **1.15** Rom 1.11; 15.29; 1 Cor 4.19
* **1.16** 1 Cor 16.6–7

e **1.17** Gk *according to the flesh*

f **1.18** Other ancient authorities read *was not*

* **1.19** Mt 16.16; 1 Thess 1.1; Heb 13.8
* **1.20** Rom 15.8, 9; 1 Cor 14.16
* **1.21** 1 Cor 1.8; 1 Jn 2.20, 27

g **1.22** Other ancient authorities read *by putting . . . and giving*

* **1.22** Eph 1.13
* **1.23** 1 Cor 4.21; 2 Cor 2.3; Gal 1.20
* **1.24** Rom 11.20; 1 Cor 15.1; 1 Pet 5.3

2 Corinthians 2

* **2.1** 2 Cor 1.23
* **2.3** 2 Cor 7.16; 8.22; 12.21
* **2.6** 1 Cor 5.4, 5
* **2.9** 2 Cor 7.15; 10.6; Phil 2.22

h **2.12** Or *the gospel*

* **2.12** Acts 16.8; 1 Cor 16.9

i **2.14** Gk *the fragrance of the knowledge of him*

* **2.15** 2 Cor 4.3; Eph 5.2; Phil 4.18

j **2.16** Other ancient authorities read *fragrance of death that leads*

k **2.16** Other ancient authorities read *fragrance of life that leads*

* **2.16** Jn 9.39; 1 Pet 2.7

l **2.17** Other ancient authorities read *like the rest*

* **2.17** 2 Cor 1.12; 4.2; 12.19

2 Corinthians 3

* **3.1** Acts 18.27; 2 Cor 5.12; 12.11
m **3.3** Gk *hearts of flesh*
* **3.3** Jer 31.33; Ezek 11.19
* **3.5** 1 Cor 15.10; 2 Cor 2.16
* **3.6** Jn 6.63; Gal 3.10; Heb 8.6, 8
n **3.7** Gk *on stones*
* **3.7** Ex 34.29–35
o **3.9** Other ancient authorities read *If the ministry of condemnation constituted glory*
* **3.9** v 7; Rom 1.17; 3.21
* **3.12** 2 Cor 7.4; Eph 6.19
p **3.13** Gk *of what*
* **3.13** v 7; Ex 34.33
* **3.14** v 6; Acts 13.15; Rom 11.7
q **3.15** Gk *their heart*
* **3.16** Rom 11.23
* **3.17** Isa 61.1, 2; Jn 8.32; 1 Cor 15.45
* **3.18** Rom 8.29; 1 Cor 13.12; 2 Cor 4.4, 6

2 Corinthians 4

* **4.1** 1 Cor 7.25; 2 Cor 3.6
* **4.2** 2 Cor 2.17
* **4.3** 1 Cor 1.18; 2 Cor 2.12; 3.14
* **4.4** Jn 1.18; 12.31; Col 1.15
* **4.5** 1 Cor 1.13, 23; 9.19
* **4.6** Gen 1.3; 2 Pet 1.19
* **4.7** 1 Cor 2.5; 2 Cor 5.1
* **4.10** Rom 8.17; Gal 6.17
* **4.13** Ps 116.10
r **4.14** Other ancient authorities read *Lord Jesus*
* **4.14** 1 Thess 4.14
* **4.16** Rom 7.22; Col 3.10
* **4.17** Rom 8.18; 1 Pet 1.6
* **4.18** Rom 8.24; Heb 11.1

2 Corinthians 5

* **5.1** 2 Pet 1.13, 14
s **5.3** Other ancient authorities read *taken it off*

* **5.4** 1 Cor 15.53, 54
* **5.5** Rom 8.23; 2 Cor 1.22
* **5.7** 1 Cor 13.12
* **5.10** Rom 14.10; Eph 6.8
* **5.11** 2 Cor 4.2; Heb 10.31; Jude 23
* **5.12** 2 Cor 1.14; 3.1
* **5.13** 2 Cor 11.1, 16, 17
* **5.14** Acts 18.5; Rom 5.15; Gal 2.20

t **5.16** Gk *according to the flesh*

u **5.16** Gk *according to the flesh*

* **5.16** Jn 8.15; 2 Cor 11.18; Phil 3.4

v **5.17** Or *that person*

w **5.17** Other ancient authorities read *everything has become new*

* **5.17** Rom 16.7; Gal 5.6; Rev 21.4, 5
* **5.18** Rom 5.10; Col 1.20

x **5.19** Or *God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself*

* **5.19** Rom 3.24, 25
* **5.20** 2 Cor 3.6; 6.1; Eph 6.20
* **5.21** Gal 3.13; 1 Pet 2.22; 1 Jn 3.5

2 Corinthians 6

y **6.1** Gk *As we work together*

* **6.1** 1 Cor 3.9; 2 Cor 5.20; Heb 12.15
* **6.2** Isa 49.8
* **6.3** Rom 14.13; 1 Cor 9.12; 10.32
* **6.5** 2 Cor 11.23
* **6.7** 2 Cor 4.2; 10.4; Eph 6.11, 13
* **6.9** Rom 8.36; 2 Cor 1.8–10; 4.10, 11
* **6.13** 1 Cor 4.14
* **6.14** Deut 7.2, 3; 1 Cor 5.9, 10; Eph 5.7, 11; 1 Jn 1.6

z **6.16** Other ancient authorities read *you*

a **6.16** Or *in their midst*

* **6.16** Jer 31.1; 1 Cor 3.16
* **6.17** Isa 52.11; Rev 18.4
* **6.18** Isa 43.6; Hos 1.10

2 Corinthians 7

* **7.1** 2 Cor 6.17, 18

b **7.2** Gk lacks *in your hearts*

* **7.2** 2 Cor 6.12, 13

* **7.3** 2 Cor 6.11, 12
* **7.4** 2 Cor 1.4, 14; 3.12
* **7.5** Deut 32.35; 2 Cor 2.13; 4.8
* **7.6** v 13; 2 Cor 1.3, 4; 2.13
c **7.8** Other ancient witnesses lack *for*
* **7.10** Acts 11.18
* **7.12** v 8; 1 Cor 5.1, 2; 2 Cor 2.3, 9
* **7.13** v 6; 1 Cor 16.18
* **7.14** vv 4, 6
* **7.15** 2 Cor 2.9; Phil 2.12
* **7.16** 2 Thess 3.4

2 Corinthians 8

d **8.4** Gk *grace* or *gift*
* **8.4** Acts 24.17; Rom 15.25; 2 Cor 9.1
e **8.6** Gk *this grace* or *gift*
* **8.6** vv 10, 16, 17, 23; 2 Cor 12.18
f **8.7** Other ancient authorities read *your love for us*
g **8.7** Gk *this grace* or *gift*
* **8.7** 1 Cor 1.5; 12.13; 2 Cor 9.8
* **8.8** 1 Cor 7.6
h **8.9** Gk *the grace* or *gift*
* **8.9** Phil 2.6, 7
* **8.10** 1 Cor 7.25; 16.2, 3; 2 Cor 9.2
* **8.11** 2 Cor 9.2
* **8.12** Mk 12.43, 44; Lk 21.3
* **8.15** Ex 16.18
* **8.18** 2 Cor 12.18
i **8.19** Gk *this grace* or *gift*
j **8.19** Other ancient authorities lack *himself*
* **8.19** vv 4, 6, 11; 1 Cor 16.3, 4
* **8.21** Rom 12.17; 14.18
k **8.23** Gk *apostles*
* **8.23** Phil 2.25
* **8.24** 2 Cor 7.14; 9.2

2 Corinthians 9

* **9.2** Acts 18.12; Rom 15.26; 2 Cor 7.4; 8.10
l **9.3** Or *I have sent*
* **9.3** 1 Cor 16.2

m **9.4** Other ancient authorities add *of boasting*
* **9.6** Gal 6.7, 9
* **9.7** Ex 25.2; Deut 15.7, 10; Rom 12.8; 2 Cor 8.12
n **9.8** Gk *gift* or *grace*
* **9.8** Eph 3.20; Phil 4.19
o **9.9** Or *benevolence*
* **9.9** Ps 112.9
p **10.10** Or *benevolence*
q **9.13** Or *they*
* **9.13** Mt 9.8; Rom 15.31; 2 Cor 2.12; 8.4
* **9.15** Rom 5.15, 16; 2 Cor 2.14

2 Corinthians 10

* **10.1** Rom 12.1; Gal 5.2
r **10.2** Gk *according to the flesh*
* **10.2** 1 Cor 4.21; 2 Cor 13.2, 10
s **10.3** Gk *in the flesh*
t **10.3** Gk *according to the flesh*
u **10.4** Gk *fleshly*
* **10.4** Jer 1.10; Acts 7.22; 1 Cor 2.5; 1 Tim 1.18; 2 Tim 2.3
* **10.5** Isa 2.11, 12; 1 Cor 1.19; 2 Cor 9.13
* **10.6** 2 Cor 2.9
v **10.7** Or *You look*
* **10.7** Jn 7.24; 1 Cor 1.12; 14.37
* **10.8** 2 Cor 7.4; 13.10
w **10.10** Other ancient authorities read *they say*
* **10.10** 1 Cor 1.17; 2.3; Gal 4.13, 14
* **10.12** 2 Cor 3.1; 5.12
x **10.14** Or *the gospel*
* **10.14** 2 Cor 2.12
y **10.16** Or *the gospel*
* **10.17** Jer 9.24; 1 Cor 1.31
* **10.18** Rom 2.29; 1 Cor 4.5

2 Corinthians 11

z **11.1** Or *But indeed you do put up*
* **11.1** vv 16, 17, 21; 2 Cor 5.13
* **11.2** Hos 2.19; 2 Cor 4.14
a **11.3** Other ancient authorities lack *and pure*
* **11.3** Gen 3.4; Jn 8.44

* **11.4** 1 Cor 3.11; Gal 1.6–8
* **11.5** 2 Cor 12.11; Gal 2.6
* **11.6** 1 Cor 1.17; 2 Cor 4.2
b **11.7** Gk *the gospel of God*
* **11.7** 1 Cor 9.18; 2 Cor 12.13
* **11.9** 2 Cor 12.13, 14
* **11.10** Acts 18.12; Rom 9.1
* **11.11** 2 Cor 12.15
* **11.13** Gal 1.7; Phil 3.2
* **11.15** Phil 3.19
* **11.17** 1 Cor 7.6, 12, 25
c **11.18** Gk *according to the flesh*
* **11.21** 2 Cor 10.10; Phil 3.4
* **11.22** Acts 6.1; Rom 9.4
* **11.23** 1 Cor 15.10; 2 Cor 6.5
* **11.24** Deut 25.3
* **11.25** Acts 16.22
* **11.26** Acts 9.23; Gal 2.4
d **11.27** Gk *with frequent fasting*
* **11.27** 2 Cor 6.5; 1 Thess 2.9
* **11.29** 1 Cor 9.22
* **11.30** 1 Cor 2.3
* **11.31** Rom 9.5; Gal 1.20
e **11.32** Other ancient authorities read *and wanted to*
* **11.32** Acts 9.24, 25
f **11.33** Gk *through the wall*

2 Corinthians 12

* **12.2** Rom 16.7; 2 Cor 11.11; Eph 4.10
* **12.6** 2 Cor 10.8; 11.16
g **12.7** Other ancient authorities read *To keep*
h **12.7** Other ancient authorities lack *to keep me from being too elated*
* **12.8** Mt 26.44
i **12.9** Other ancient authorities read *my power*
* **12.9** 2 Cor 11.30; Phil 4.13; 1 Pet 4.14
* **12.10** Rom 5.3; 2 Cor 6.4; 2 Thess 1.4
* **12.11** 2 Cor 11.1, 5
* **12.12** Rom 15.18, 19
* **12.13** 1 Cor 9.12, 18; 2 Cor 11.7
* **12.14** Prov 19.14; 1 Cor 4.14, 15; 10.24, 33; 2 Cor 13.1
* **12.15** Phil 2.17; 1 Thess 2.8

* **12.18** 2 Cor 8.6, 16, 18
* **12.19** Rom 9.1; 2 Cor 10.8
* **12.20** 1 Cor 1.11; 3.3; 2 Cor 2.1–4
* **12.21** 2 Cor 2.1, 4; 13.2; Gal 5.19

2 Corinthians 13

* **13.1** Deut 19.15; Mt 18.16; 2 Cor 12.14
* **13.3** Mt 10.20; 1 Cor 5.4; 2 Cor 9.8; 10.4
j **13.4** Other ancient authorities read *with him*
* **13.4** v 9; Rom 6.4, 8; Phil 2.7, 8; 1 Pet 3.18
* **13.5** Jn 6.6; 1 Cor 9.27; 11.28
* **13.9** 2 Cor 11.30
* **13.10** 2 Cor 2.3; 10.8; Titus 1.13
k **13.11** Or *rejoice*
l **13.11** Or *encourage one another*
* **13.11** Rom 15.33; Eph 6.23
* **13.12** Rom 16.16
m **13.13** Or *and the sharing in*
* **13.13** Rom 16.20

The Letter of Paul to the

Galatians

Galatians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from human
authorities but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him
from the dead—[2]and all the brothers and sisters with me,

To the churches of Galatia:*

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,
[4]who gave himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age,
according to the will of our God and Father,* [5]to whom be the glory forever
and ever. Amen.

THERE IS NO OTHER GOSPEL

6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called
you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—[7]not that
there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want
to pervert the gospel of Christ.* [8]But even if we or an angel[a] from heaven
should proclaim to you a gospel contrary to what we proclaimed to you, let
that one be accursed!* [9]As we have said before, so now I repeat, if anyone
proclaims to you a gospel contrary to what you received, let that one be
accursed!

10 Am I now seeking human approval or God's approval? Or am I trying
to please people? If I were still pleasing people, I would not be a servant of
Christ.*

PAUL'S VINDICATION OF HIS APOSTLESHIP

11 For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was
proclaimed by me is not of human origin,* [12]for I did not receive it from a

human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

13 You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it.* [14]I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.* [15]But when the one[b] who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace was pleased* [16]to reveal his Son to me,[c] so that I might proclaim him among the gentiles, I did not confer with any human,* [17]nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterward I returned to Damascus.

18 Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days,* [19]but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother.* [20]In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! [21]Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia,* [22]and I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea that are in Christ;* [23]they only heard it said, "The one who formerly was persecuting us is now proclaiming the faith he once tried to destroy." [24]And they glorified God because of me.

Galatians 2

PAUL AND THE OTHER APOSTLES

1 Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas,
taking Titus along with me.* [2]I went up in response to a revelation. Then I
laid before them (though only in a private meeting with the acknowledged
leaders) the gospel that I proclaim among the gentiles, in order to make sure
that I was not running, or had not run, in vain.* [3]But even Titus, who was
with me, was not compelled to be circumcised, though he was a Greek.*
[4]But because of false brothers and sisters secretly brought in, who slipped
in to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might enslave
us*—[5]we did not submit to them even for a moment, so that the truth of the
gospel might always remain with you.* [6]And from those who were
supposed to be acknowledged leaders (what they actually were makes no
difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those leaders contributed
nothing to me.* [7]On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted
with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with
the gospel for the circumcised* [8](for he who worked through Peter making
him an apostle to the circumcised also worked through me in sending me to
the gentiles), [9]and when James and Cephas and John, who were
acknowledged pillars, recognized the grace that had been given to me, they
gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship, agreeing that we
should go to the gentiles and they to the circumcised.* [10]They asked only
one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was[d] eager
to do.*

PAUL REBUKES PETER AT ANTIOCH

11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face because
he stood self-condemned,* [12]for until certain people came from James, he
used to eat with the gentiles. But after they came, he drew back and kept
himself separate for fear of the circumcision faction.* [13]And the other Jews
joined him in this hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their
hypocrisy. [14]But when I saw that they were not acting consistently with the

truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel the gentiles to live like Jews?"[e,*]

JEWS AND GENTILES ARE SAVED BY FAITH

15 We ourselves are Jews by birth and not gentile sinners, [16]yet we know that a person is justified[f] not by the works of the law but through the faith of Jesus Christ.[g] And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by the faith of Christ[h] and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law.[*] [17]But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! [18]But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. [19]For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ,[*] [20]and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God,[i] who loved me and gave himself for me.[*] [21]I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness[j] comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

Galatians 3

LAW OR FAITH

1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes
that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified!* [2]The only thing I
want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the
works of the law or by believing what you heard?* [3]Are you so foolish?
Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh?* [4]Did
you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing.* [5]Well
then, does God[k] supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you
by your doing the works of the law or by your believing what you heard?

6 Just as Abraham "believed God, and it was reckoned to him as
righteousness,"* [7]so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of
Abraham. [8]And the scripture, foreseeing that God would reckon as
righteous the gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham,
saying, "All the gentiles shall be blessed in you."* [9]For this reason, those
who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

10 For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, for it is
written, "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things
written in the book of the law."* [11]Now it is evident that no one is reckoned
as righteous before God by the law, for "the one who is righteous will live
by faith."[l,*] [12]But the law does not rest on faith; on the contrary, "Whoever
does the works of the law[m] will live by them."* [13]Christ redeemed us from
the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed
is everyone who hangs on a tree"*—[14]in order that in Christ Jesus the
blessing of Abraham might come to the gentiles, so that we might receive
the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

THE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

15 Brothers and sisters, I give an example from daily life: once a person's
will[n] has been ratified, no one adds to it or annuls it.* [16]Now the promises
were made to Abraham and to his offspring;[o] it does not say, "And to

offsprings,"[p] as of many, but it says, "And to your offspring,"[q] that is, to one person, who is Christ.* 17My point is this: the law, which came four hundred thirty years later, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise.* 18For if the inheritance comes from the law, it no longer comes from the promise, but God granted it to Abraham through the promise.*

THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW

19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring[r] would come to whom the promise had been made, and it was ordained through angels by a mediator.* 20Now a mediator involves more than one party, but God is one.*

21 Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. 22But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through the faith of Jesus Christ[s] might be given to those who believe.*

23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. 24Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous[t] by faith.* 25But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, 26for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.* 27As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.* 28There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.* 29And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring,[u] heirs according to the promise.*

Galatians 4

1 My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than those
who are enslaved, though they are the owners of all the property, [2]but they
remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. [3]So with
us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental principles[v] of
the world.[*] [4]But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman, born under the law,[*] [5]in order to redeem those who were
under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.[*] [6]And because
you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our[w] hearts, crying,
"Abba![x] Father!"[*] [7]So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child
then also an heir through God.[y]

PAUL REPROVES THE GALATIANS

8 Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings
that by nature are not gods.[*] [9]Now, however, that you have come to know
God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the
weak and beggarly elemental principles?[z] How can you want to be enslaved
to them again?[*] [10]You are observing special days and months and seasons
and years. [11]I am afraid that my work for you may have been wasted.

12 Brothers and sisters, I beg you: become as I am, for I also have
become as you are. You have done me no wrong. [13]You know that it was
because of a physical infirmity that I first announced the gospel to you;
[14]though my condition put you to the test, you did not scorn or despise me
but welcomed me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. [15]What has become
of the goodwill you felt? For I testify that, had it been possible, you would
have torn out your eyes and given them to me. [16]Have I now become your
enemy by telling you the truth? [17]They make much of you but for no good
purpose; they want to exclude you, so that you may make much of them.
[18]It is good to be made much of for a good purpose at all times and not only
when I am present with you. [19]My little children, for whom I am again in

the pain of childbirth until Christ is formed in you,* 20I wish I were present with you now and could change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

THE ALLEGORY OF HAGAR AND SARAH

21 Tell me, you who desire to be subject to the law, will you not listen to the law? 22For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by an enslaved woman and the other by a free woman.* 23One, the child of the enslaved woman, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise.* 24Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One woman, in fact, is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery. 25Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia[a] and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother.* 27For it is written,

> "Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children,
> burst into song and shout, you who endure no birth pangs,
> for the children of the desolate woman are more numerous
> than the children of the one who is married."*

28Now you,[b] my brothers and sisters, are children of the promise, like Isaac. 29But just as at that time the child who was born according to the flesh persecuted the child who was born according to the Spirit, so it is now also.* 30But what does the scripture say? "Drive out the enslaved woman and her child, for the child of the enslaved woman will not share the inheritance with the child of the free woman."* 31So then, brothers and sisters, we are children, not of an enslaved woman but of the free woman.

Galatians 5

1 For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not
submit again to a yoke of slavery.*

THE NATURE OF CHRISTIAN FREEDOM

2 Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that, if you let yourselves be
circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. 3Once again I testify to
every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the
entire law. 4You who want to be reckoned as righteous[c] by the law have cut
yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.* 5For through
the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.* 6For in
Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything;
the only thing that counts is faith working[d] through love.*

7 You were running well; who prevented you from obeying the truth?*
8Such persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. 9A little yeast
leavens the whole batch of dough. 10I am confident about you in the Lord
that you will not think otherwise. But whoever it is that is confusing you
will pay the penalty.* 11But my brothers and sisters, why am I still being
persecuted if I am still preaching circumcision? In that case the offense of
the cross has been removed. 12I wish those who unsettle you would castrate
themselves!

13 For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use
your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence,[e] but through love
become enslaved to one another.* 14For the whole law is summed up in a
single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* 15If,
however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not
consumed by one another.

THE WORKS OF THE FLESH

16 Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.*
17For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit

desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want.* 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.* 19Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery,* 20idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, 21envy,[f] drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

22 By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,* 23gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. 24And those who belong to Christ[g] have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.* 25If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. 26Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

Galatians 6

BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS

1 My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who
have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness.
Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. [2]Bear one another's burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill[h] the law of Christ.* [3]For if those who are
nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves.* [4]All must test
their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will
become a cause for pride.* [5]For all must carry their own loads.

6 Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their
teacher.*

7 Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you
sow.* [8]If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the
flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.*
[9]So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest
time, if we do not give up.* [10]So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let
us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.*

FINAL ADMONITIONS AND BENEDICTION

11 See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! [12]It
is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel
you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross
of Christ.* [13]Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they
want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. [14]May
I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by
which[i] the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.* [15]For[j] neither
circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is
everything!* [16]As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them,
and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

17 From now on, let no one make trouble for me, for I carry the marks of
Jesus branded on my body.*

18 May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Ephesians 1

* **1.2** 1 Cor 16.1; Phil 4.21
* **1.4** Rom 4.25; 2 Cor 4.4; Gal 2.20
* **1.7** Acts 15.24; Gal 5.10
a **1.8** Or *a messenger*
* **1.8** Rom 9.3; 2 Cor 11.4, 14
* **1.10** 1 Thess 2.4
* **1.11** 1 Cor 15.1
* **1.13** Acts 8.3; 9.21
* **1.14** Acts 22.3; Col 2.8
b **1.15** Other ancient authorities read *God*
* **1.15** Isa 49.1, 5; Jer 1.5; Acts 9.15; Rom 1.1
c **1.16** Gk *in me*
* **1.16** Acts 9.20; Eph 6.12
* **1.18** Acts 9.22, 23, 26, 27
* **1.19** Mt 13.55
* **1.21** Acts 9.30
* **1.22** Rom 16.7; 1 Thess 2.14

Ephesians 2

* **2.1** Acts 15.2
* **2.2** Acts 15.12; Gal 1.6; Phil 2.16
* **2.3** Acts 16.3; 1 Cor 9.21; 2 Cor 2.13
* **2.4** Acts 15.1; 2 Cor 11.26
* **2.5** v 14; Col 1.5
* **2.6** Rom 2.11; 2 Cor 12.11; Gal 6.3
* **2.7** Acts 13.46; 1 Thess 2.4
* **2.9** Rom 12.3; Gal 1.16
d **2.10** Or *had been*
* **2.10** Acts 11.29, 30; 24.17
* **2.11** Acts 11.19
* **2.12** Acts 11.2, 3
e **2.14** Some interpreters hold that the quotation extends into the following paragraph
* **2.14** vv 5, 9, 11
f **2.16** Or *reckoned as righteous*
g **2.16** Or *faith in Jesus Christ*
h **2.16** Or *faith in Christ*
* **2.16** Acts 13.39; Rom 1.17; 3.20
* **2.19** Rom 6.14; 8.2; 2 Cor 5.15; 1 Thess 5.10

i **2.20** Or *by faith in the Son of God*
* **2.20** Eph 5.2; Titus 2.14; 1 Pet 4.2
j **2.21** Or *justification*

Ephesians 3

* **3.1** 1 Cor 1.23; Gal 1.2; 5.7
* **3.2** Acts 2.38; Rom 10.16, 17
* **3.3** Gal 4.9; Heb 7.16
* **3.4** 1 Cor 15.2
k **3.5** Gk *he*
* **3.6** Gen 15.6; Rom 4.3; Jas 2.23
* **3.8** Gen 12.3; Acts 3.25
* **3.10** Deut 27.26
l **3.11** Or *The one who is righteous through faith will live*
* **3.11** Hab 2.4; Gal 2.16; Heb 10.38
m **3.12** Gk *does them*
* **3.12** Lev 18.5; Rom 10.5
* **3.13** Deut 21.23; Acts 5.30; Gal 4.5
* **3.14** Joel 2.28; Acts 2.33; Rom 4.9
n **3.15** Or *covenant*
* **3.15** Heb 9.17
o **3.16** Gk *seed*
p **3.16** Gk *seeds*
q **3.16** Gk *seed*
* **3.16** Gen 12.3; 13.15; Acts 3.25
* **3.17** Ex 12.40; Rom 4.13
* **3.18** Rom 4.14; 8.17
r **3.19** Gk *seed*
* **3.19** Deut 5.5; Acts 7.53
* **3.20** Heb 8.6; 9.15; 12.24
s **3.22** Or *through faith in Jesus Christ*
* **3.22** Rom 3.9–19; 11.32
t **3.24** Or *be justified*
* **3.24** Rom 10.4; 1 Cor 4.15; Gal 2.16
* **3.26** Jn 1.12; Rom 8.14
* **3.27** Rom 6.3; 13.14
* **3.28** Jn 10.16; Eph 2.14, 15; Col 3.11
u **3.29** Gk *seed*
* **3.29** 1 Cor 3.23; Gal 4.28

Ephesians 4

v **4.3** Or *spirits*
* **4.3** Col 2.8, 20; Heb 5.12
* **4.4** Mt 5.17; Eph 1.10
* **4.5** Jn 1.12; Eph 1.5, 7
w **4.6** Other ancient authorities read *your*
x **4.6** Aramaic for *Father*
* **4.6** Rom 5.5; 8.15
y **4.7** Other ancient authorities read *an heir of God through Christ*
* **4.8** Rom 1.23; 1 Cor 12.2; Eph 2.12; 1 Thess 4.5
z **4.9** Or *spirits*
* **4.9** 1 Cor 8.3; Col 2.20
* **4.19** 1 Cor 4.15; Eph 4.13; 1 Jn 2.1
* **4.22** Gen 16.15; 21.2, 9
* **4.23** Gen 18.10; Rom 9.7; Heb 11.11
a **4.25** Other ancient authorities read *For Sinai is a mountain in Arabia*
* **4.26** Isa 2.2; Heb 12.22; Rev 3.12
* **4.27** Isa 54.1
b **4.28** Other ancient authorities read *we*
* **4.29** Gen 21.9
* **4.30** Gen 21.10–12

Ephesians 5

* **5.1** Jn 8.32; Acts 15.10
c **5.4** Or *justified*
* **5.4** Heb 12.15; 2 Pet 3.17
* **5.5** Rom 8.23, 24; 2 Tim 4.8
d **5.6** Or *made effective*
* **5.6** 1 Cor 7.19; Jas 2.18
* **5.7** 1 Cor 9.24; Gal 3.1
* **5.10** 2 Cor 2.3; Gal 1.7
e **5.13** Gk *the flesh*
* **5.13** 1 Cor 8.9; 9.19; 1 Pet 2.16
* **5.14** Lev 19.18; Mt 7.12; 22.39; Rom 13.8
* **5.16** vv 24, 25; Rom 8.4; Eph 2.3
* **5.17** Rom 7.15–23
* **5.18** Rom 6.14
* **5.19** Eph 5.3; Col 3.5
f **5.21** Other ancient authorities add *murder*
* **5.21** 1 Cor 6.9

* **5.22** 1 Cor 13.7; Eph 5.9; Col 3.12–15
g **5.24** Other ancient authorities read *Christ Jesus*
* **5.24** Rom 6.6

Ephesians 6

h **6.2** Other ancient authorities read *in this way fulfill*
* **6.2** Rom 15.1; Jas 2.8
* **6.3** Rom 12.3; 1 Cor 8.2; 2 Cor 3.5
* **6.4** 1 Cor 11.28; Phil 1.26
* **6.6** 1 Cor 9.11
* **6.7** Job 13.9; 1 Cor 6.9
* **6.8** Hos 8.7; Jas 3.18
* **6.9** 1 Cor 15.58; Heb 3.6; Rev 2.10
* **6.10** Jn 9.4; Eph 2.19; Titus 3.8
* **6.12** Mt 23.27, 28; Acts 15.1; Gal 5.11
i **6.14** Or *through whom*
* **6.14** Rom 6.2, 6; Gal 2.20
j **6.15** Other ancient authorities add *in Christ Jesus*
* **6.15** 2 Cor 5.17
* **6.17** 2 Cor 1.5

The Letter of Paul to the

Ephesians

Ephesians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful[a] in Christ Jesus:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,[b,*] [4]just as he chose us in Christ[c] before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.* [5]He destined us[d] for adoption as his children[e] through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,* [6]to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. [7]In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace* [8]that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight [9]he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ,* [10]as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.* [11]In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance,[f] having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,* [12]so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. [13]In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit;* [14]this[g] is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.*

PAUL'S PRAYER

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love[h] toward all
the saints, and for this reason [16]I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers,* [17]that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the
Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you
come to know him,* [18]so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you
may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the
riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, [19]and what is the
immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the
working of his great power. [20]God[i] put this power to work in Christ when
he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly
places,[j,*] [21]far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and
above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to
come.* [22]And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the
head over all things for the church,* [23]which is his body, the fullness of him
who fills all in all.*

Ephesians 2

FROM DEATH TO LIFE

1 You were dead through the trespasses and sins [2]in which you once walked, following the course of this world,[k] following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.[l,*] [3]All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, doing the will of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else,[*] [4]but God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us[*] [5]even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ[m]—by grace you have been saved—[6]and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places[n] in Christ Jesus, [7]so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. [8]For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—[9]not the result of works, so that no one may boast. [10]For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.[*]

ONE IN CHRIST

11 So then, remember that at one time you gentiles by birth,[o] called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a circumcision made in the flesh by human hands[*]—[12]remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.[*] [13]But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.[*] [14]For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us,[*] [15]abolishing the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace,[*] [16]and might reconcile both to God in one body[p] through the cross, thus putting to death that

hostility through it.[q,*] 17So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were
far off and peace to those who were near, 18for through him both of us have
access in one Spirit to the Father.* 19So then, you are no longer strangers
and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of
the household of God,* 20built upon the foundation of the apostles and
prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone;[r,*] 21in him the whole
structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord,* 22in
whom you also are built together spiritually[s] into a dwelling place for God.

Ephesians 3

PAUL'S MINISTRY TO THE GENTILES

1 This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for[t] Christ Jesus[u] for the sake
of you gentiles, [2]for surely[v] you have already heard of the commission of
God's grace that was given me for you [3]and how the mystery was made
known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words,[w,*] [4]a reading
of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of
Christ.[*] [5]In former generations this mystery[x] was not made known to
humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets
by the Spirit:[*] [6]that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of
the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the
gospel.[*]

7 Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's
grace that was given me by the working of his power. [8]Although I am the
very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the
gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ[*] [9]and to make everyone
see[y] what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in[z] God, who created
all things,[*] [10]so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich
variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the
heavenly places.[a,*] [11]This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that
he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, [12]in whom we have access in
boldness and confidence through faith in him.[b,*] [13]I pray, therefore, that
you[c] may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory.

PRAYER FOR THE READERS

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,[d] [15]from whom
every family[e] in heaven and on earth takes its name. [16]I pray that, according
to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in
your inner being with power through his Spirit[*] [17]and that Christ may dwell
in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.
[18]I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints,

what is the breadth and length and height and depth[*] 19and to know the love
of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the
fullness of God.[*]

20 Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish
abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,[*] 21to him be glory in
the church and[f] in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 4

UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

1 I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy
of the calling to which you have been called,* 2with all humility and
gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,* 3making every
effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: 4there is one
body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your
calling,* 5one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6one God and Father of all, who
is above all and through all and in all.[g]

7 But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's
gift.* 8Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive;[h]
he gave gifts to his people."*

9(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also
descended[i] into the lower parts of the earth?[j] 10He who descended is the
same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all
things.) 11He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists,
pastors and teachers* 12to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for
building up the body of Christ,* 13until all of us come to the unity of the
faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity,[k] to the measure
of the full stature of Christ.* 14We must no longer be children, tossed to and
fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their
craftiness in deceitful scheming;* 15but speaking the truth in love, we must
grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,* 16from whom
the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is
equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in
building itself up in love.

THE OLD LIFE AND THE NEW

17 Now this I affirm and insist on in the Lord: you must no longer walk
as the[l] gentiles walk, in the futility of their minds;* 18they are darkened in

their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of their ignorance and hardness of heart.* 19They have lost all sensitivity and have abandoned themselves to licentiousness, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. 20That is not the way you learned Christ! 21For surely you have heard about him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus, 22to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts,* 23and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*

RULES FOR THE NEW LIFE

25 So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another.* 26Be angry but do not sin;[m] do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27and do not make room for the devil. 28Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. 29Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up,[n] as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. 30And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.* 31Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice.* 32Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.[o,*]

Ephesians 5

1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,* [2]and walk in love, as
Christ loved us[p] and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice
to God.*

RENOUNCE PAGAN WAYS

3 But sexual immorality and impurity of any kind or greed must not even
be mentioned among you, as is proper among saints.* [4]Entirely out of place
is obscene, silly, and vulgar talk; but instead, let there be thanksgiving. [5]Be
sure of this, that no sexually immoral or impure person or one who is
greedy (that is, an idolater) has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ
and of God.*

6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things
the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient.[q],* [7]Therefore do not
be associated with them, [8]for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord
you are light. Walk as children of light,* [9]for the fruit of the light[r] is found
in all that is good and right and true. [10]Try to find out what is pleasing to the
Lord. [11]Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose
them.* [12]For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly,
[13]but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, [14]for everything that
becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake!
  Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."*

15 Be careful, then, how you live,[s] not as unwise people but as wise,
[16]making the most of the time, because the days are evil.* [17]So do not be
foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.* [18]Do not get drunk
with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,* [19]as you sing
psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to one another, singing and making
melody to the Lord in your hearts,* [20]giving thanks to God the Father at all

times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,* 21being subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

THE CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLD

22 Wives, be subject[t] to your husbands as to the Lord,* 23for the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior.* 24Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, 27so as to present the church to himself in splendor, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind, so that she may be holy and without blemish.* 28In the same way, husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29For no one ever hates his own flesh, but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, 30because we are members of his body.[u],* 31"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."* 32This is a great mystery, but I am speaking about Christ and the church. 33Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect[v] her husband.

Ephesians 6

CHILDREN AND PARENTS

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord,[w] for this is right. [2]"Honor your father and mother"—this is the first commandment with a promise[*]—[3]"so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

4 And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.[*]

SLAVES AND MASTERS

5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect[x] and trembling, in singleness of heart, as you obey Christ,[*] [6]not with a slavery performed merely for looks, to please people, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the soul. [7]Render service with enthusiasm, as for the Lord and not for humans, [8]knowing that whatever good we do, we will receive the same again from the Lord, whether we are enslaved or free.

9 And, masters,[y] do the same to them. Stop threatening them, for you know that both of you have the same Lord[z] in heaven, and with him there is no partiality.[*]

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; [11]put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, [12]for our[a] struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present[b] darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.[c,*] [13]Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm.[*] [14]Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness[*] [15]and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. [16]With all of these,[d] take the shield of faith, with

which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.* [17]Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.* [18]Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.* [19]Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,[e,*] [20]for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.*

PERSONAL MATTERS AND BENEDICTION

21 So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus will tell you everything. He is a dear brother and a faithful minister in the Lord.* [22]I am sending him to you for this very purpose, to let you know how we are and to encourage your hearts.

23 Peace be to the brothers and sisters and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* [24]Grace be with all who have an undying love for[f] our Lord Jesus Christ.[g]

Galatians 1

a **1.1** Other ancient authorities lack *in Ephesus*, reading *saints who are also faithful*
b **1.3** Gk *heavenlies*
* **1.3** 2 Cor 1.3; Eph 2.6; 3.10; 6.12
c **1.4** Gk *in him*
* **1.4** Eph 4.2, 15, 16; 5.27; Col 1.22
d **1.5** Or *before him; he destined us in love*
e **1.5** Or *sonship*
* **1.5** Rom 8.29ff
* **1.7** Col 1.14
* **1.9** Rom 16.25
* **1.10** Gal 4.4; Col 1.16, 20
f **1.11** Or *been made a heritage*
* **1.11** Rom 9.11; Eph 3.11; Heb 6.17
* **1.13** Eph 4.30; Col 1.5
g **1.14** Other ancient authorities read *who*
* **1.14** Acts 20.32; 2 Cor 1.22
h **1.15** Other ancient authorities lack *and your love*
* **1.16** Rom 1.8, 9; Col 1.3, 9
* **1.17** Jn 20.17; Col 1.9
i **1.20** Gk *He*
j **1.20** Gk *heavenlies*
* **1.20** Acts 2.24; Heb 1.3
* **1.21** Phil 2.9, 10
* **1.22** Mt 28.18; Eph 4.15; 5.23
* **1.23** Rom 13.5; Col 2.17

Galatians 2

k **2.2** Gk *according to the aeon*
l **2.2** Gk *sons of disobedience*
* **2.2** Eph 5.6; 6.12
* **2.3** Rom 2.14; 5.12; Gal 5.16, 17
* **2.4** Rom 10.12
m **2.5** Other ancient authorities read *in Christ*
n **2.6** Gk *heavenlies*
* **2.10** Eph 4.24; Titus 2.14
o **2.11** Gk *in the flesh*
* **2.11** Rom 2.28; Col 2.11
* **2.12** Gal 4.8; 1 Thess 4.5

* **2.13** Acts 2.39; Col 1.20
* **2.14** 1 Cor 12.13; Col 3.15
* **2.15** Gal 6.15; Col 1.21, 22
p **2.16** Or *reconcile both of us in one body for God*
q **2.16** Or *in him* or *in himself*
* **2.16** Col 1.20, 22
* **2.18** 1 Cor 12.13; Eph 3.12; Col 1.12
* **2.19** Gal 6.10; Phil 3.20
r **2.20** Or *keystone (in an arch)*
* **2.20** Mt 16.18; Rev 21.14
* **2.21** 1 Cor 3.16, 17
s **2.22** Gk *in the Spirit*

Galatians 3

t **3.1** Or *of*
u **3.1** Other ancient authorities lack *Jesus*
v **3.2** Or *if indeed*
w **3.3** Or *wrote before in brief*
* **3.3** Acts 22.17; Rom 16.25; Gal 1.12
* **3.4** 1 Cor 4.1
x **3.5** Gk *it*
* **3.5** Rom 16.26
* **3.6** Gal 3.29; Eph 2.15, 16
* **3.8** 1 Cor 15.9; Gal 1.16; Col 1.27
y **3.9** Other ancient authorities read *to bring to light*
z **3.9** Or *by*
* **3.9** Col 1.26, 27
a **3.10** Gk *heavenlies*
* **3.10** 1 Cor 2.7; Eph 1.21; 1 Pet 1.12
b **3.12** Or *the faith of him*
* **3.12** Eph 2.18; Heb 4.16
c **3.13** Or *I*
d **3.14** Other ancient authorities add *of our Lord Jesus Christ*
e **3.15** Gk *fatherhood*
* **3.16** Rom 7.22; Eph 1.18; Col 1.11
* **3.18** Job 11.8, 9; Eph 1.18
* **3.19** Eph 1.23; Col 2.10
* **3.20** Rom 16.25
f **3.21** Other ancient authorities omit *and*

Galatians 4

* **4.1** Eph 3.1; Col 1.10
* **4.2** Eph 1.4; Col 3.12
* **4.4** 1 Cor 12.12; Eph 1.18; 2.16
g **4.6** Other ancient authorities read *in us all*
* **4.7** Rom 12.3
h **4.8** Or *he led captive a host of captives*
* **4.8** Judg 5.12; Ps 68.18; Col 2.15
i **4.9** Other ancient authorities add *first*
j **4.9** Or *parts, to the earth*
* **4.11** 1 Cor 12.28
* **4.12** 1 Cor 12.27; 2 Cor 13.9; Eph 1.23
k **4.13** Gk *to a mature man*
* **4.13** 1 Cor 14.20; Col 1.28; 2.2
* **4.14** 1 Cor 14.20; Eph 6.11
* **4.15** 2 Cor 4.2; Col 1.18
l **4.17** Other ancient authorities add *other*
* **4.17** Rom 1.21; Col 3.7
* **4.18** 2 Cor 3.14; Eph 2.1, 12
* **4.22** Rom 6.6; 1 Pet 2.1
* **4.24** Rom 6.4; 2 Cor 5.17
* **4.25** Zech 8.16; Rom 12.5
m **4.26** Or *If you are angry, do not sin*
n **4.29** Other ancient authorities read *building up faith*
* **4.30** Rom 8.23; 1 Thess 5.19
* **4.31** Col 3.8; Titus 3.3
o **4.32** Other ancient authorities read *us*
* **4.32** Mt 6.14, 15; 2 Cor 2.10

Galatians 5

* **5.1** Lk 6.36
p **5.2** Other ancient authorities read *you*
* **5.2** 2 Cor 2.15; Gal 1.4; 1 Thess 4.9
* **5.3** Rom 6.13; 1 Cor 5.1
* **5.5** 1 Cor 6.9; Col 3.5
q **5.6** Gk *sons of disobedience*
* **5.6** Jer 29.8; Rom 1.18
* **5.8** Lk 16.8; Jn 8.12
r **5.9** Other ancient authorities read *of the Spirit*
* **5.11** Rom 6.21; 1 Cor 5.9

* **5.14** Isa 60.1; Jn 5.25
s **5.15** Gk *walk*
* **5.16** Eph 6.13; Col 4.5
* **5.17** Rom 12.2; 1 Thess 4.3
* **5.18** Prov 20.1; Lk 1.15
* **5.19** Acts 16.25; Col 3.16
* **5.20** Ps 34.1; Heb 13.15
t **5.22** Gk lacks *be subject*
* **5.22** Gen 3.16; Eph 6.5
* **5.23** 1 Cor 11.3; Eph 1.23; Col 1.18
* **5.27** Eph 1.4; Col 1.22
u **5.30** Other ancient authorities add *of his flesh and of his bones*
* **5.30** 1 Cor 6.15; Eph 1.23
* **5.31** Gen 2.24; Mt 19.5; 1 Cor 6.16
v **5.33** Or *fear*

Galatians 6

w **6.1** Other ancient authorities lack *in the Lord*
* **6.2** Deut 5.16
* **6.4** Gen 18.19; Col 3.21
x **6.5** Or *fear*
* **6.5** 1 Chr 29.17; Phil 2.12; Col 3.22; 1 Tim 6.1
y **6.9** In Gk the same word is used for *master* and *Lord*
z **6.9** In Gk the same word is used for *master* and *Lord*
* **6.9** Lev 25.43; Jn 13.13; Col 3.25
a **6.12** Other ancient authorities read *your*
b **6.12** Gk lacks *present*
c **6.12** Gk *heavenlies*
* **6.12** Rom 8.38; 1 Cor 9.25
* **6.13** 2 Cor 10.4; Eph 5.16
* **6.14** Isa 11.5; 59.17
d **6.16** Or *In all circumstances*
* **6.16** 1 Jn 5.4
* **6.17** Isa 59.17; Heb 4.12
* **6.18** Mt 26.41; Lk 18.1; Phil 1.4
e **6.19** Other ancient authorities lack *of the gospel*
* **6.19** Acts 4.29; 2 Cor 3.12
* **6.20** 2 Cor 5.20; Phil 1.20
* **6.21** Acts 20.4
* **6.23** Gal 5.6; 1 Pet 5.14
f **6.24** Or *Grace immortal be with all who love*

g **6.24** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Letter of Paul to the

Philippians

Philippians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops[a] and deacons:[b]

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE PHILIPPIANS

3 I thank my God for every remembrance of you, [4]always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy [5]for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.* [6]I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete[c] it until the day of Jesus Christ. [7]It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart,[d] for all of you are my partners in God's grace,[e] both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.* [8]For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus.* [9]And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight* [10]to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, [11]having produced the harvest[f] of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

PAUL'S PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES

12 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually resulted in the progress of the gospel, [13]so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard[g] and to everyone else

that my imprisonment is for Christ, [14]and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word[h] with greater boldness and without fear.

15 Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry but others from goodwill. [16]These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel; [17]the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. [18]What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true, and in that I rejoice.

Yes, and I will rejoice, [19]for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my salvation.* [20]It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way but that by my speaking with all boldness Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death.* [21]For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. [22]If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. [23]I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better,* [24]but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. [25]Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, [26]so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.*

27 Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel [28]and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing.* [29]For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well,* [30]since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.*

Philippians 2

IMITATING CHRIST'S HUMILITY

1 If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any
partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy,* 2make my joy
complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord
and of one mind.* 3Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but
in humility regard others as better than yourselves.* 4Let each of you look
not to your own interests but to the interests of others.* 5Let the same mind
be in you that was[i] in Christ Jesus,*

6who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,*
7but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,*
8he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.*

9Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,*
10so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*
11and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.*

SHINING AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD

12 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only
in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own
salvation with fear and trembling,* [13]for it is God who is at work in you,
enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

14 Do all things without murmuring and arguing,* [15]so that you may be
blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a
crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the
world,* [16]holding forth the word of life so that I can boast on the day of
Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.*

17 But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and
the service of your faith, I rejoice, and I rejoice together with all of you;*
[18]in the same way also you should rejoice and rejoice together with me.

TIMOTHY AND EPAPHRODITUS

19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I, too,
may be consoled by news of you. [20]I have no one so like myself who will
be genuinely concerned for your welfare. [21]All of them are seeking their
own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.* [22]But Timothy's[j] worth you know,
how like a son with a father he has served with me in the work of the
gospel.* [23]I hope therefore to send him as soon as I see how things go with
me, [24]and I trust in the Lord that I will also come soon.

25 Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus—my brother
and coworker and fellow soldier, your messenger[k] and minister to my
need,* [26]for he has been longing for[l] all of you and has been distressed
because you heard that he was ill. [27]He was indeed so ill that he nearly died.
But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, so that I
would not have one sorrow after another. [28]I am the more eager to send
him, therefore, in order that you may rejoice at seeing him again and that I
may be less anxious. [29]Welcome him, then, in the Lord with all joy, and
honor such people,* [30]because he came close to death for the work of

Christ,[m] risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me.

Philippians 3

1 Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord.

BREAKING WITH THE PAST

To write the same things to you is not troublesome to me, and for you it is a source of steadfastness.

2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of those who mutilate the flesh![n,*] [3]For it is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God[o] and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh[*]—[4]even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: [5]circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;[*] [6]as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.[*] [8]More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ[*] [9]and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ,[p] the righteousness from God based on faith.[*] [10]I want to know Christ[q] and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, [11]if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.[*]

PRESSING TOWARD THE GOAL

12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal,[r] but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ[s] has laid hold of me.[*] [13]Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold[t] of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward

to what lies ahead,* 14I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly[u] call of God in Christ Jesus.* 15Let those of us, then, who are mature[v] think this way, and if you think differently about anything, this, too, God will reveal to you.* 16Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.*

17 Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.* 18For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.* 19Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.* 20But our citizenship[w] is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21He will transform the body of our humiliation[x] that it may be conformed to the body of his glory,[y] by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.*

Philippians 4

1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

EXHORTATIONS

2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.
3 Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion,[z] help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.*

4 Rejoice[a] in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.[b,*] 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.* 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.* 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about[c] these things. 9 As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PHILIPPIANS' GIFT

10 I rejoice[d] in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me but had no opportunity to show it.[e,*] 11 Not that I am referring to being in need, for I have learned to be content with whatever I have.* 12 I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need.* 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.* 14 In any case, it was kind of you to share my distress.

15 You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel,
when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving
and receiving except you alone.* [16]For even when I was in Thessalonica,
you sent me help for my needs more than once. [17]Not that I seek the gift,
but I seek the profit[f] that accumulates to your account.* [18]I have been paid
in full and have more than enough; I am fully satisfied, now that I have
received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a
sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.* [19]And my God will fully satisfy
every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.* [20]To
our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

FINAL GREETINGS AND BENEDICTION

21 Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are
with me greet you. [22]All the saints greet you, especially those of the
emperor's household.

23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.[g]

Philippians 1

a **1.1** Or *overseers*
b **1.1** Or *helpers*
* **1.2** 1 Pet 1.2
* **1.5** Acts 2.42; 16.17
c **1.6** Or *perfect*
d **1.7** Or *because you hold me in your heart*
e **1.7** Gk *in grace*
* **1.7** vv 13, 14, 17; 2 Cor 7.3; 2 Pet 1.13
* **1.8** Rom 1.9; Gal 1.20
* **1.9** Col 1.9; 1 Thess 3.12
f **1.11** Gk *fruit*
g **1.13** Gk *whole praetorium*
h **1.14** Other ancient authorities read *word of God*
* **1.19** 2 Cor 1.11
* **1.20** Rom 5.5; 8.19; Eph 6.19
* **1.23** 2 Cor 5.8; 2 Tim 4.6
* **1.26** 2 Cor 1.14; 5.12
* **1.28** Rom 8.17; 2 Thess 1.5
* **1.29** Mt 5.12; Acts 14.22
* **1.30** Acts 16.19; Col 2.1; 1 Thess 2.2

Philippians 2

* **2.1** Col 3.12
* **2.2** Jn 3.29; Rom 12.16; 1 Pet 3.8
* **2.3** Rom 12.10; Gal 5.26; 1 Pet 5.5
* **2.4** Rom 15.1, 2
i **2.5** Or *that you have*
* **2.5** Mt 11.29; 1 Pet 2.21
* **2.6** Jn 1.1; 5.18; 2 Cor 4.4
* **2.7** Jn 1.14; Gal 4.4; Heb 2.17
* **2.8** Mt 26.39; Heb 5.8
* **2.9** Acts 2.33; Eph 1.20, 21; Heb 2.9
* **2.10** Mt 28.18; Rom 14.11
* **2.11** Jn 13.13; Acts 2.36
* **2.12** Eph 6.5; Phil 1.5
* **2.14** Rom 14.1; 1 Cor 10.10
* **2.15** Mt 5.45; Eph 5.1, 8
* **2.16** 2 Cor 1.14; 1 Thess 2.19

* **2.17** Rom 15.16; Col 1.24; 2 Tim 4.6
* **2.21** 1 Cor 10.24; 13.5
j **2.22** Gk *his*
* **2.22** 1 Cor 4.17; 1 Tim 1.2
k **2.25** Gk *apostle*
* **2.25** Phil 4.18; Philem 2
l **2.26** Other ancient authorities read *longing to see*
* **2.29** 1 Cor 16.18; 1 Tim 5.17
m **2.30** Other ancient authorities read *of the Lord*

Philippians 3

n **3.2** Gk *the mutilation*
* **3.2** 2 Cor 11.13; Gal 5.15
o **3.3** Other ancient authorities read *worship God in spirit*
* **3.3** Rom 2.28, 29; Gal 6.14, 15
* **3.5** Rom 11.1; 2 Cor 11.22
* **3.7** Mt 13.44; Lk 14.33
* **3.8** Eph 4.13; 2 Pet 1.3
p **3.9** Or *through the faith of Christ*
* **3.9** Rom 10.5
q **3.10** Gk *him*
* **3.11** Acts 26.7
r **3.12** Or *have already been made perfect*
s **3.12** Other ancient authorities read *Christ Jesus*
* **3.12** Acts 9.5, 6; 1 Tim 6.12
t **3.13** Other ancient authorities read *yet laid hold*
* **3.13** Lk 9.62; 1 Cor 9.24
u **3.14** Gk *upward*
* **3.14** 2 Tim 1.9; Heb 6.1
v **3.15** Or *perfect*
* **3.15** 1 Cor 2.6; Gal 5.10
* **3.16** Rom 12.16; Gal 6.16
* **3.17** 1 Cor 4.16; 1 Pet 5.3
* **3.18** Acts 20.31; Gal 6.14
* **3.19** Rom 16.18; 2 Cor 11.15
w **3.20** Or *commonwealth*
x **3.21** Or *our humble bodies*
y **3.21** Or *his glorious body*
* **3.21** 1 Cor 15.43; Eph 1.19

Philippians 4

z **4.3** Or *loyal Syzygus*
* **4.3** Rom 16.3; Rev 3.5
a **4.4** Or *Farewell*
b **4.4** Or *Farewell*
* **4.4** Rom 12.12; Phil 3.1
* **4.5** Heb 10.37; Jas 5.8, 9
* **4.6** Mt 6.25; Eph 6.18
* **4.7** Jn 14.27; 1 Pet 1.5
c **4.8** Gk *take account of*
* **4.9** Rom 15.33; Phil 3.17
d **4.10** Gk *I rejoiced*
e **4.10** Gk lacks *to show it*
* **4.10** 2 Cor 11.9
* **4.11** 1 Tim 6.6
* **4.12** 1 Cor 4.11; 2 Cor 11.9
* **4.13** Jn 15.5; 2 Cor 12.9
* **4.15** 2 Cor 11.8, 9
f **4.17** Gk *fruit*
* **4.17** Titus 3.14
* **4.18** 2 Cor 2.14; Phil 2.25
* **4.19** Ps 23.1; 2 Cor 9.8; Eph 1.7
* **4.20** Rom 11.36; Gal 1.4
g **4.23** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Letter of Paul to the

Colossians

Colossians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

2 To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.[a]

PAUL THANKS GOD FOR THE COLOSSIANS

3 In our prayers for you we always thank God, the[b] Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,* 4for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,* 5because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel* 6that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God.* 7This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our[c] behalf,* 8and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

9 For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's[d] will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,* 10so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.* 11May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully* 12giving thanks to the Father,[e] who has enabled[f] you[g] to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom

of his beloved Son,* 14in whom we have redemption,[h] the forgiveness of sins.

THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,* 16for in[i] him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. 17He himself is before all things, and in[j] him all things hold together. 18He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.* 19For in him all the fullness of God[k] was pleased to dwell, 20and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.*

21 And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22he has now reconciled[l] in his fleshly body[m] through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him,* 23provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature[n] under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.*

PAUL'S INTEREST IN THE COLOSSIANS

24 I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. 25I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,* 26the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints.* 27To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.* 28It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.[o,*] 29For this I toil and strive with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.*

Colossians 2

1 For I want you to know how greatly I strive for you and for those in
Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face. [2]I want their hearts
to be encouraged and united in love, so that they may have all the riches of
assured understanding and have the knowledge of God's mystery, that is,
Christ,[p,*] [3]in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.[*]
[4]I am saying this so that no one may deceive you with plausible arguments.
[5]For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, and I rejoice to
see your orderly conduct and the firmness of your faith in Christ.[*]

FULLNESS OF LIFE IN CHRIST

6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk
in him, [7]rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you
were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.[*]

8 Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty
deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles[q]
of the world, and not according to Christ.[*] [9]For in him the whole fullness of
deity dwells bodily, [10]and you have come to fullness in him, who is the
head of every ruler and authority.[*] [11]In him also you were circumcised with
a spiritual circumcision,[r] by the removal of the body[s] of the flesh in the
circumcision of Christ;[*] [12]when you were buried with him in baptism, you
were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised
him from the dead.[*] [13]And when you were dead in trespasses and the
uncircumcision of your flesh, God[t] made you[u] alive together with him,
when he forgave us all our trespasses,[*] [14]erasing the record that stood
against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross.
[15]He disarmed[v] the rulers and authorities and made a public example of
them, triumphing over them in it.[*]

16 Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or[w]
drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths.[*] [17]These are only a
shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ. [18]Do not let

anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, initiatory visions,[x] puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking,[y] 19and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God.*

WARNINGS AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS

20 If with Christ you died to the elemental principles[z] of the world, why do you live as if you still belonged to the world? Why do you submit to regulations,* 21"Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22All these regulations refer to things that perish with use; they are simply human commands and teachings.* 23These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-imposed piety, humility, and severe treatment of the body, but they are of no value in checking self-indulgence.[a]

Colossians 3

THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above,
where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.* [2]Set your minds on the
things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, [3]for you have died,
and your life is hidden with Christ in God.* [4]When Christ who is your[b] life
is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.*

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality,
impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry).* [6]On account of
these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.[c,*] [7]These
are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.[d] [8]But
now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and
abusive[e] language from your mouth.* [9]Do not lie to one another, seeing that
you have stripped off the old self with its practices [10]and have clothed
yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge
according to the image of its creator.* [11]In that renewal[f] there is no longer
Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian,
enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!*

12 Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves
with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.* [13]Bear with
one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each
other; just as the Lord[g] has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. [14]Above
all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect
harmony. [15]And let the peace of Christ[h] rule in your hearts, to which indeed
you were called in one body. And be thankful.* [16]Let the word of Christ[i]
dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and
with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to
God.[j,*] [17]And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name
of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

RULES FOR CHRISTIAN HOUSEHOLDS

18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.* [19]Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.

20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord.* [21]Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart. [22]Slaves, obey your earthly masters[k] in everything, not with a slavery performed merely for looks, to please people, but wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord.[l,*] [23]Whatever task you must do, work as if your soul depends on it, as for the Lord and not for humans, [24]since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ.* [25]For the wrongdoer will be paid back for whatever wrong has been done, and there is no partiality.*

Colossians 4

1 Masters, treat your slaves justly and fairly, for you know that you also have a Master in heaven.

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving.* [3]At the same time, pray for us as well, that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison,* [4]so that I may reveal it clearly, as I should.

5 Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time.[m,*] [6]Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.*

FINAL GREETINGS AND BENEDICTION

7 Tychicus will tell you all the news about me; he is a beloved brother, a faithful minister, and a fellow servant in the Lord.* [8]I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know how we are[n] and that he may encourage your hearts; [9]he is coming with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.*

10 Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, as does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you have received instructions; if he comes to you, welcome him.* [11]And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These are the only ones of the circumcision among my coworkers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. [12]Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ,[o] greets you. He is always striving in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured[p] in everything that God wills.* [13]For I testify for him that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. [14]Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you.* [15]Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters in Laodicea and to Nympha and the church in her[q] house.* [16]And when this

letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. [17]And say to Archippus, “See that you complete the task that you have received in the Lord.”[*]

18 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.[r,*]

Colossians 1

a **1.2** Other ancient authorities add *and the Lord Jesus Christ*
b **1.3** Other ancient authorities read *thank the God and*
* **1.3** Eph 1.16
* **1.4** Gal 5.6; Eph 1.15
* **1.5** 1 Thess 5.8; 1 Pet 1.4
* **1.6** Mt 24.14; Jn 15.16
c **1.7** Other ancient authorities read *your*
* **1.7** Col 4.7; Philem 23
d **1.9** Gk *his*
* **1.9** Rom 12.2; Eph 1.15–17
* **1.10** Rom 1.13; Eph 4.1; 1 Thess 4.1
* **1.11** Acts 5.41; Eph 3.16; 4.2
e **1.12** Other ancient authorities read *God the Father or the God and Father*
f **1.12** Other ancient authorities read *called*
g **1.12** Other ancient authorities read *us*
* **1.13** Eph 6.12; 2 Pet 1.11
h **1.14** Other ancient authorities add *through his blood*
* **1.15** 2 Cor 4.4; Rev 3.14
i **1.16** Or *by*
j **1.17** Or *by*
* **1.18** Eph 1.22, 23; Rev 1.5
k **1.19** Gk lacks *of God*
* **1.20** 2 Cor 5.18; Eph 2.13, 14
l **1.22** Other ancient authorities read *you have now been reconciled*
m **1.22** Gk *in the body of his flesh*
* **1.22** Rom 7.4; Eph 2.15; 5.27
n **1.23** Or *in all creation*
* **1.23** Rom 10.18; Eph 3.17
* **1.25** Eph 3.2
* **1.26** Rom 16.25, 26
* **1.27** Rom 9.23; 2 Cor 2.14; 1 Tim 1.1
o **1.28** Other ancient authorities add *Jesus*
* **1.28** 1 Cor 2.6, 7; Col 3.16
* **1.29** 1 Cor 15.10; Eph 1.19; Col 2.1

Colossians 2

p **2.2** Other ancient authorities read *of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ*
* **2.2** Phil 3.8

* **2.3** Isa 45.3; Rom 11.33
* **2.5** 1 Cor 14.40; 1 Thess 2.17; 1 Pet 5.9
* **2.7** Eph 2.21
q **2.8** Or *spirits*
* **2.8** 1 Cor 8.9; Gal 4.3; 1 Tim 6.20
* **2.10** Eph 1.21, 22
r **2.11** Gk *a circumcision made without hands*
s **2.11** Other ancient authorities add *of the sins*
* **2.11** Rom 2.29; 6.6; Gal 5.24; Phil 3.3
* **2.12** Acts 2.24; Rom 6.4, 5
t **2.13** Gk *he*
u **2.13** Other ancient authorities read *made us* or *made*
* **2.13** Eph 2.1
v **2.15** Or *divested himself of*
* **2.15** Gen 3.15; Isa 53.12; Eph 6.12
w **2.16** Other ancient authorities read *and*
* **2.16** Rom 14.3, 5, 17; Gal 4.10; Jas 4.11
x **2.18** Meaning of Gk uncertain
y **2.18** Gk *by the mind of his flesh*
* **2.19** Eph 1.22; 4.16
z **2.20** Or *spirits*
* **2.20** Rom 6.3, 5; Gal 4.3, 9
* **2.22** Isa 29.13; 1 Cor 6.13; Titus 1.14
a **2.23** Or *are of no value, serving only to indulge the flesh*

Colossians 3

* **3.1** Ps 110.1; Rom 8.34
* **3.3** Rom 6.2; 2 Cor 5.14
b **3.4** Other authorities read *our*
* **3.4** Jn 14.6; 1 Jn 3.2
* **3.5** Rom 6.13; Eph 5.3, 5
c **3.6** Gk *the sons of disobedience*; other ancient authorities lack *on those who are disobedient*
* **3.6** Rom 1.18; Eph 5.6
d **3.7** Or *living among such people*
e **3.8** Or *filthy*
* **3.8** Eph 4.22, 29
* **3.10** Rom 12.2; Eph 2.10; 4.23
f **3.11** Gk *its creator,* [11] *where*
* **3.11** Gal 3.28; Eph 1.23
* **3.12** 2 Cor 6.6; Gal 5.22, 23; Phil 2.3

g **3.13** Other ancient authorities read *just as Christ*
h **3.15** Other ancient authorities read *of God*
* **3.15** 1 Cor 7.15; Eph 4.4; Phil 4.7
i **3.16** Other ancient authorities read *of God* or *of the Lord*
j **3.16** Other ancient authorities read *to the Lord*
* **3.16** Eph 5.19
* **3.17** 1 Cor 10.31; Eph 5.20
* **3.18** Eph 5.22–6.9
* **3.20** Eph 6.1
k **3.22** In Gk the same word is used for *master* and *Lord*
l **3.22** In Gk the same word is used for *master* and *Lord*
* **3.22** Eph 6.5, 6; Philem 16
* **3.24** 1 Cor 7.22
* **3.25** Acts 10.34; Eph 6.8, 9

Colossians 4

* **4.2** Rom 12.12; Eph 6.18; Col 2.7
* **4.3** 1 Cor 16.9; Eph 6.19, 20
m **4.5** Or *opportunity*
* **4.5** Eph 5.15, 16
* **4.6** Mk 9.50; Eph 4.29; 1 Pet 3.15
* **4.7** Eph 6.21, 22
n **4.8** Other ancient authorities read *that I may know how you are*
* **4.9** Philem 10
* **4.10** Acts 4.36; 15.37; 19.29
o **4.12** Other ancient authorities add *Jesus*
p **4.12** Other ancient authorities read *complete*
* **4.12** Rom 15.30; Phil 3.15; Col 1.7
* **4.14** 2 Tim 4.10, 11; Philem 24
q **4.15** Other ancient authorities read *his* or *their*
* **4.15** Rom 16.5
* **4.17** 2 Tim 4.5; Philem 2
r **4.18** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*
* **4.18** 1 Cor 16.21; Heb 13.3, 25

The First Letter of Paul to the

Thessalonians

1 Thessalonians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

THE THESSALONIANS' FAITH AND EXAMPLE

2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly[*] [3]remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. [4]For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, [5]because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.[*] [6]And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit,[*] [7]so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. [8]For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.[*] [9]For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God[*] [10]and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.[*]

1 Thessalonians 2

PAUL'S MINISTRY IN THESSALONICA

1 You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not
in vain, [2]but though we had already suffered and been shamefully
mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare
to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.* [3]For our appeal does
not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, [4]but, just as we have
been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even
so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts.*
[5]As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of
flattery or with a pretext for greed,* [6]nor did we seek praise from mortals,
whether from you or from others,* [7]though we might have made demands
as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle[a] among you, like a nurse tenderly
caring for her own children. [8]So deeply do we care for you that we are
determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own
selves, because you have become very dear to us.

9 You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night
and day so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you
the gospel of God.* [10]You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright,
and blameless our conduct was toward you believers.* [11]As you know, we
dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, [12]urging and
encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls
you into his own kingdom and glory.*

13 We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received
the word of God that you heard from us you accepted it not as a human
word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you
believers.* [14]For you, brothers and sisters, became imitators of the churches
of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you suffered the same things
from your own compatriots as they did from the Jews* [15]who killed both
the Lord Jesus and the prophets[b] and drove us out; they displease God and
oppose everyone* [16]by hindering us from speaking to the gentiles so that

they may be saved. Thus they have constantly been filling up the measure of their sins, but wrath[c] has overtaken them at last.[d,*]

PAUL'S DESIRE TO VISIT THE THESSALONIANS AGAIN

17 As for us, brothers and sisters, when for a short time we were made orphans by being separated from you—in person, not in heart—we longed with great eagerness to see you face to face.[*] [18]For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, wanted to again and again—but Satan blocked our way.[*] [19]For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?[*] [20]Yes, you are our glory and joy!

1 Thessalonians 3

1 Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we decided to be left alone in
Athens[*] [2]and sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker[e] in the gospel
of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you for the sake of your faith,[*] [3]so
that no one would be shaken by these persecutions. Indeed, you yourselves
know that this is what we are destined for.[*] [4]In fact, when we were with
you, we told you beforehand that we were to suffer persecution; so it turned
out, as you know. [5]For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to
find out about your faith; I was afraid that somehow the tempter had
tempted you and that our labor had been in vain.[*]

TIMOTHY'S ENCOURAGING REPORT

6 But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought us the
good news of your faith and love. He has told us also that you always
remember us kindly and long to see us, just as we long to see you.[*] [7]For this
reason, brothers and sisters, during all our distress and persecution we have
been encouraged about you through your faith. [8]For we now live, if you
continue to stand firm in the Lord. [9]How can we thank God enough for you
in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? [10]Night
and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and
restore whatever is lacking in your faith.[*]

11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our
way to you. [12]And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for
one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.[*] [13]And may he so
strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our
God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.[f,*]

1 Thessalonians 4

A LIFE PLEASING TO GOD

1 Finally, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that,
as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God (as, in fact,
you are doing), you should do so more and more.* 2For you know what
instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3For this is the will of
God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality;* 4that
each one of you know how to control your own body[g] in holiness and
honor, 5not with lustful passion, like the gentiles who do not know God;
6that no one wrong or exploit a brother or sister in this matter, because the
Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we have already told you
beforehand and solemnly warned you.* 7For God did not call us to impurity
but in holiness. 8Therefore whoever rejects this rejects not human authority
but God, who also gives his Holy Spirit to you.

9 Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to
have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to
love one another,* 10and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters
throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more
and more, 11to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work
with your hands, as we directed you,* 12so that you may behave properly
toward outsiders and be dependent on no one.*

THE COMING OF THE LORD

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about
those who have died,[h] so that you may not grieve as others do who have no
hope. 14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so,
through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.[i,*] 15For this
we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are
left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have
died.[j] 16For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's
call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and

the dead in Christ will rise first.* 17Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever.* 18Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 5

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do
not need to have anything written to you.* [2]For you yourselves know very
well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.* [3]When
they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come
upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be
no escape!* [4]But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day
to surprise you like a thief;* [5]for you are all children of light and children of
the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6]So, then, let us not fall
asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober,* [7]for those who
sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.* [8]But since
we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and
love and for a helmet the hope of salvation.* [9]For God has destined us not
for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,* [10]who
died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.*
[11]Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you
are doing.

FINAL EXHORTATIONS, GREETINGS, AND BENEDICTION

12 But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor
among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you;*
[13]esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace
among yourselves. [14]And we urge you, brothers and sisters, to admonish the
idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of
them.* [15]See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do
good to one another and to all.* [16]Rejoice always, [17]pray without ceasing,
[18]give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus
for you. [19]Do not quench the Spirit. [20]Do not despise prophecies, [21]but test
everything; hold fast to what is good;* [22]abstain from every form of evil.

23 May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely, and may your
spirit and soul and body be kept sound[k] and blameless at the coming of our

Lord Jesus Christ.* [24]The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.*

25 Brothers and sisters, pray for us.*

26 Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. [27]I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the brothers and sisters.*

28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.[1]

1 Thessalonians 1

* **1.2** Rom 1.8, 9; 2 Thess 1.3
* **1.5** Col 2.2; 2 Thess 2.14; 3.7
* **1.6** Acts 13.52; 17.5–10; 1 Cor 4.16; 11.1
* **1.8** Rom 1.8; 10.18; 2 Thess 1.4
* **1.9** 1 Cor 12.2; Gal 4.8
* **1.10** Acts 2.24; Rom 5.9; 2 Pet 3.12

1 Thessalonians 2

* **2.2** Acts 16.22; Phil 1.30; 1 Thess 1.5
* **2.4** 2 Cor 2.17; Gal 1.10; 2.7
* **2.5** Acts 20.33; Rom 1.9
* **2.6** 1 Cor 9.1, 2; 2 Cor 4.5

a **2.7** Other ancient authorities read *infants*

* **2.9** Acts 20.34; 2 Cor 12.13; 2 Thess 3.8
* **2.10** 2 Cor 1.12; 1 Thess 1.5
* **2.12** Eph 4.1; 1 Pet 5.10
* **2.13** Gal 4.14; 1 Thess 1.2
* **2.14** Acts 17.5; 2 Thess 1.4

b **2.15** Other ancient authorities read *their own prophets*

* **2.15** Acts 2.23; 7.52

c **2.16** Other ancient authorities read *God's wrath*

d **2.16** Or *completely* or *forever*

* **2.16** Mt 23.32; Acts 9.23; 13.45, 50ff
* **2.17** 1 Cor 5.3; 1 Thess 3.10
* **2.18** Rom 1.13; 15.22
* **2.19** 2 Cor 1.14; Phil 4.1; 1 Thess 3.13

1 Thessalonians 3

* **3.1** v 5; Acts 17.15

e **3.2** Other ancient authorities read *minister* or *God's minister and our coworker*

* **3.2** 2 Cor 1.1; Col 1.1
* **3.3** Acts 9.16; 14.22
* **3.5** 2 Cor 11.3; Gal 2.2
* **3.6** Acts 18.5; 1 Thess 1.3
* **3.10** 2 Cor 13.9; 2 Tim 1.3
* **3.12** 1 Thess 4.1, 10

f **3.13** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

* **3.13** 1 Cor 1.8; 1 Thess 2.19; 4.17

1 Thessalonians 4

* **4.1** Phil 1.27; Col 1.10; 1 Thess 2.12
* **4.3** 1 Cor 6.18; Col 3.5
g **4.4** Or *control your own vessel* or *take a wife for yourself*
* **4.6** 1 Cor 6.8; Heb 13.4
* **4.9** Rom 12.10; 1 Thess 5.1
* **4.11** Eph 4.28; 2 Thess 3.10–12
* **4.12** Rom 13.13
h **4.13** Gk *are asleep*
i **4.14** Gk *fallen asleep*
* **4.14** 1 Cor 15.13, 23
j **4.15** Gk *fallen asleep*
* **4.16** Mt 24.31; 1 Cor 15.23; 2 Thess 2.1
* **4.17** 1 Cor 15.52

1 Thessalonians 5

* **5.1** Acts 1.7; 1 Thess 4.9
* **5.2** 1 Cor 1.8; 2 Pet 3.10
* **5.3** Hos 13.13
* **5.4** Acts 26.18; 1 Jn 2.8
* **5.6** Rom 13.11; 1 Pet 1.13
* **5.7** Acts 2.15; 2 Pet 2.13
* **5.8** Eph 6.14, 17, 23
* **5.9** 2 Thess 2.13, 14
* **5.10** 2 Cor 5.15
* **5.12** 1 Tim 5.17; Heb 13.17
* **5.14** Rom 14.1; 2 Thess 3.11
* **5.15** Rom 12.17; Gal 6.10
* **5.21** 1 Cor 14.29; 1 Jn 4.1
k **5.23** Or *complete*
* **5.23** Rom 15.33
* **5.24** 1 Cor 1.9
* **5.25** Eph 6.19
* **5.27** Col 4.16
l **5.28** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Second Letter of Paul to the

Thessalonians

2 Thessalonians 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Grace to you and peace from God the[a] Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

THANKSGIVING

3 We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.* 4Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.*

THE JUDGMENT AT CHRIST'S COMING

5 This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God and is intended to make you worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering.* 6For it is indeed just of God to repay with affliction those who afflict you 7and to give relief to the afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels* 8in a fiery flame, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.* 9These will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, separated from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might,* 10when he comes to be glorified by his saints and to be marveled at on that day among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. 11To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God

will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, [12]so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

2 Thessalonians 2

THE MAN OF LAWLESSNESS

1 As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together
to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters,* 2not to be quickly shaken in mind
or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the
effect that the day of the Lord is already here.* 3Let no one deceive you in
any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the
lawless one[b] is revealed, the one destined for destruction.[c,*] 4He opposes
and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that
he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God.* 5Do
you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?
6And you know what is now restraining him, so that he may be revealed
when his time comes. 7For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work,
but only until the one who now restrains it is removed.* 8And then the
lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus[d] will destroy[e] with the
breath of his mouth, annihilating him by the manifestation of his coming.*
9The coming of the lawless one is apparent in the working of Satan, who
uses all power, signs, lying wonders,* 10and every kind of wicked deception
for those who are perishing because they refused to love the truth and so be
saved.* 11For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion, leading them
to believe what is false,* 12so that all who have not believed the truth but
took pleasure in unrighteousness will be condemned.*

CHOSEN FOR SALVATION

13 But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters
beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits[f] for salvation
through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth.* 14For
this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the
glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.* 15So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm
and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of
mouth or by our letter.*

16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope,
[17]comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.*

2 Thessalonians 3

REQUEST FOR PRAYER

1 Finally, brothers and sisters, pray for us, so that the word of the Lord may
spread rapidly and be glorified everywhere, just as it is among you,* [2]and
that we may be rescued from wicked and evil people, for not all have faith.
[3]But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil
one.[g,*] [4]And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are
doing and will go on doing the things that we command.* [5]May the Lord
direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

WARNING AGAINST IDLENESS

6 Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly
and not according to the tradition that they[h] received from us.* [7]For you
yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible
when we were with you,* [8]and we did not eat anyone's bread without
paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we
might not burden any of you.* [9]This was not because we do not have that
right but in order to give you an example to imitate.* [10]For even when we
were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work
should not eat. [11]For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere
busybodies, not doing any work.* [12]Now such persons we command and
exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their
own living.* [13]Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

14 Take note of those who do not obey what we say in this letter; have
nothing to do with them, so that they may be ashamed.* [15]Do not regard
them as enemies, but admonish them as brothers and sisters.

FINAL GREETINGS AND BENEDICTION

16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all
ways. The Lord be with all of you.

17 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the mark in every letter of mine; it is the way I write. [18]The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.[i]

2 Thessalonians 1

a **1.2** Other ancient authorities read *our*
* **1.3** 1 Thess 1.2; 3.12
* **1.4** 2 Cor 7.14; 1 Thess 1.3; 2.14
* **1.5** Phil 1.28; 1 Thess 2.14
* **1.7** 1 Thess 4.16; Jude 14
* **1.8** Rom 2.8; Gal 4.8
* **1.9** Phil 3.19; 2 Thess 2.8; 2 Pet 3.7
* **1.12** Phil 2.9ff

2 Thessalonians 2

* **2.1** Mk 13.27; 1 Thess 4.15–17
* **2.2** 1 Cor 1.8; Eph 5.6; 2 Thess 3.17
b **2.3** Gk *the man of lawlessness*; other ancient authorities read *the man of sin*
c **2.3** Gk *the son of destruction*
* **2.3** Dan 7.25; 8.25; 11.36; Jn 17.12; Eph 5.6–8; Rev 13.5ff
* **2.4** Isa 14.13, 14; Ezek 28.2; 1 Cor 8.5
* **2.7** Rev 17.5, 7
d **2.8** Other ancient authorities lack *Jesus*
e **2.8** Other ancient authorities read *consume*
* **2.8** Dan 7.10; Rev 19.15
* **2.9** Mt 24.24; Jn 4.48
* **2.10** 1 Cor 1.18
* **2.11** Mt 24.5; Rom 1.28; 1 Tim 4.1
* **2.12** Rom 1.32
f **2.13** Other ancient authorities read *from the beginning*
* **2.13** Eph 1.4; 1 Pet 1.2
* **2.14** 1 Pet 5.10
* **2.15** 1 Cor 11.2; 16.13
* **2.17** 1 Thess 3.2; 2 Thess 3.3

2 Thessalonians 3

* **3.1** 1 Thess 1.8; 4.1; 5.25
g **3.3** Or *from evil*
* **3.3** 1 Cor 1.9; 1 Thess 5.24; 2 Pet 2.9
* **3.4** 2 Cor 2.3; Gal 5.10
h **3.6** Other ancient authorities read *you*
* **3.6** 1 Cor 5.4, 11; 2 Thess 2.15

* **3.7** 1 Thess 1.6
* **3.8** Acts 18.3; Eph 4.28; 1 Thess 2.9
* **3.9** 1 Cor 9.4ff
* **3.11** 1 Tim 5.13
* **3.12** Eph 4.28; 1 Thess 4.1, 11
* **3.14** Mt 18.17
i **3.18** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The First Letter of Paul to

Timothy

1 Timothy 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of
Christ Jesus our hope,*

2 To Timothy, my true child[a] in the faith:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*

WARNING AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS

3 I urge you, as I did when I was on my way to Macedonia, to remain in
Ephesus so that you may instruct certain people not to teach different
teachings* 4and not to occupy themselves with myths and endless
genealogies that promote speculations rather than the divine training[b] that is
known by faith.* 5But the aim of such instruction is love that comes from a
pure heart, a good conscience, and sincere faith.* 6Some people have
deviated from these and turned to meaningless talk, 7desiring to be teachers
of the law without understanding either what they are saying or the things
about which they make assertions.

8 Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it legitimately; 9this
means understanding that the law is laid down not for the righteous but for
the lawless and disobedient, for the godless and sinful, for the unholy and
profane, for those who kill their father or mother, for murderers,* 10the
sexually immoral, men who engage in illicit sex,[c] slave traders, liars,
perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to the sound teaching* 11that
conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I was
entrusted.

GRATITUDE FOR MERCY

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me,
because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service,* 13even
though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence.
But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,* 14and the
grace of our Lord overflowed for me[d] with the faith and love that are in
Christ Jesus.* 15The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ
Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost.*
16But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost,
Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who
would come to believe in him for eternal life. 17To the King of the ages,
immortal, invisible,[e] the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever.[f]
Amen.*

18 This charge I commit to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with
the prophecies made earlier about you, so that by following them you may
fight the good fight,* 19having faith and a good conscience. By rejecting
conscience, certain persons have suffered shipwreck in the faith;* 20among
them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have turned over to Satan, so
that they may be taught not to blaspheme.*

1 Timothy 2

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING PRAYER

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and
thanksgivings be made for everyone, [2]for kings and all who are in high
positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and
dignity.* [3]This is right and acceptable before God our Savior,* [4]who desires
everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.* [5]For

there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,*
[6]who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time.* [7]For this I was appointed a herald and
an apostle (I am telling the truth;[g] I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles
in faith and truth.*

8 I desire, then, that in every place the men should pray, lifting up holy
hands without anger or argument, [9]also that the women should dress
themselves in moderate clothing with reverence and self-control, not with
their hair braided or with gold, pearls, or expensive clothes, [10]but with good
works, as is proper for women who profess reverence for God. [11]Let a
woman[h] learn in silence with full submission. [12]I do not permit a woman[i] to
teach or to have authority over a man;[j] she is to keep silent. [13]For Adam
was formed first, then Eve,* [14]and Adam was not deceived, but the woman
was deceived and became a transgressor.* [15]Yet she will be saved through
childbearing, provided they continue in faith and love and holiness, with
self-control.

1 Timothy 3

QUALIFICATIONS OF BISHOPS

1 The saying is sure:[k] whoever aspires to the office of bishop[l] desires a noble task.[*] [2]Now a bishop[m] must be above reproach, married only once,[n] temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, an apt teacher,[*] [3]not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and not a lover of money.[*] [4]He must manage his own household well, keeping his children submissive and respectful in every way, [5]for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church? [6]He must not be a recent convert,[o] or he may be puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. [7]Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.[*]

QUALIFICATIONS OF DEACONS

8 Deacons likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not greedy for money;[*] [9]they must hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. [10]And let them first be tested; then, if they prove themselves blameless, let them serve as deacons. [11]Women[p] likewise must be serious, not slanderers, but temperate, faithful in all things. [12]Let deacons be married only once,[q] and let them manage their children and their households well; [13]for those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

THE MYSTERY OF OUR RELIGION

14 I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these instructions to you so that, [15]if I am delayed, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.[*] [16]Without any doubt, the mystery of godliness is great:

He[r] was revealed in flesh,
    vindicated[s] in spirit,[t]
        seen by angels,
proclaimed among gentiles,
    believed in throughout the world,
        taken up in glory.[*]

1 Timothy 4

FALSE ASCETICISM

1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later[u] times some will renounce[v] the
faith by paying attention to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,*
2through the hypocrisy of liars whose consciences are seared with a hot
iron. 3They forbid marriage and abstain from certain foods, which God
created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know
the truth.* 4For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be
rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving,* 5for it is sanctified by
God's word and by prayer.

A GOOD MINISTER OF JESUS CHRIST

6 If you put these instructions before the brothers and sisters, you will be
a good servant[w] of Christ Jesus, nourished on the words of the faith and of
the sound teaching that you have followed.* 7Have nothing to do with
profane and foolish tales. Train yourself in godliness,* 8for, while physical
training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding
promise for both the present life and the life to come.* 9The saying is sure
and worthy of full acceptance. 10For to this end we toil and suffer
reproach,[x] because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the
Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.*

11 Command and teach these things.* 12Let no one despise your youth,
but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in
purity.* 13Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture,[y] to
exhorting, to teaching. 14Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was
given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of
elders.* 15Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all
may see your progress. 16Pay close attention to yourself and to your
teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both
yourself and your hearers.*

1 Timothy 5

DUTIES TOWARD BELIEVERS

1 Do not speak harshly to an older man,[z] but speak to him as to a father, to
younger men as brothers,* [2]to older women as mothers, to younger women
as sisters—with absolute purity.

3 Honor widows who are really widows. [4]If a widow has children or
grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own
family and make some repayment to their parents, for this is pleasing in
God's sight.* [5]The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and
continues in supplications and prayers night and day,* [6]but the widow[a] who
lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives.* [7]Give these commands as
well, so that they may be above reproach.* [8]And whoever does not provide
for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is
worse than an unbeliever.*

9 Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years old and
has been married only once;[b] [10]she must be well attested for her good
works, as one who has brought up children, shown hospitality, washed the
saints' feet, helped the afflicted, and devoted herself to doing good in every
way.* [11]But refuse to put younger widows on the list, for when their sensual
desires alienate them from Christ, they want to marry, [12]and so they incur
condemnation for having violated their first pledge. [13]Besides that, they
learn to be idle, gadding about from house to house, and they are not merely
idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not say.* [14]So
I would have younger widows marry, bear children, and manage their
households, so as to give the adversary no occasion to revile us.* [15]For
some have already turned away to follow Satan. [16]If any believing woman[c]
has relatives who are widows, let her assist them; let the church not be
burdened, so that it can assist those who are real widows.

17 Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor,[d]
especially those who labor in preaching and teaching,* [18]for the scripture
says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain" and
"The laborer deserves to be paid."* [19]Never accept any accusation against

an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. [20]As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest also may stand in fear.* [21]In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels, I warn you to keep these instructions without prejudice, doing nothing on the basis of partiality.* [22]Do not ordain[e] anyone hastily, and do not participate in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.*

23 No longer drink only water, but take a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

24 The sins of some people are conspicuous and precede them to judgment, while the sins of others follow them there. [25]So also good works are conspicuous, and even when they are not, they cannot remain hidden.

1 Timothy 6

1 Let all who are under the yoke of slavery regard their masters as worthy
of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be
blasphemed.* [2]Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful
to them on the ground that they are brothers and sisters; rather, they must
serve them all the more, since those who benefit by their service are
believers and beloved.[f]

FALSE TEACHING AND TRUE RICHES

Teach and urge these duties.* [3]Whoever teaches otherwise and does not
agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that is
in accordance with godliness* [4]is conceited, understanding nothing, and has
a morbid craving for controversy and for disputes about words. From these
come envy, dissension, slander, base suspicions,* [5]and wrangling among
those who are depraved in mind and bereft of the truth, imagining that
godliness is a means of gain.[g,*] [6]Of course, there is great gain in godliness
combined with contentment,* [7]for we brought nothing into the world, so
that[h] we can take nothing out of it, [8]but if we have food and clothing, we
will be content with these. [9]But those who want to be rich fall into
temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that
plunge people into ruin and destruction.* [10]For the love of money is a root
of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered
away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

11 But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness,
godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. [12]Fight the good fight of the
faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which
you made[i] the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.* [13]In the
presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his
testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you*

[14]to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation
of our Lord Jesus Christ,* [15]which he will bring about at the right time—he
who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of
lords.* [16]It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable
light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal
dominion. Amen.*

17 As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be
haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God,
who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.* [18]They are to
do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share,* [19]thus
storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future,
so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS AND BENEDICTION

20 Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the profane chatter
and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge;* [21]by professing it
some have missed the mark as regards the faith.

Grace be with you.[j]

1 Timothy 1

* **1.1** Acts 9.15; Col 1.27
a **1.2** Gk *legitimate child*
* **1.2** Acts 16.1; 2 Tim 1.2
* **1.3** Acts 20.1; Gal 1.6, 7
b **1.4** Gk *the household management of God*
* **1.4** 1 Tim 6.4; Titus 1.14
* **1.5** 2 Tim 2.2
* **1.9** Gal 3.19; 1 Pet 4.18
c **1.10** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **1.10** 2 Tim 4.3; Titus 1.9
* **1.12** 2 Cor 12.9; Col 1.25
* **1.13** Acts 8.3
d **1.14** Gk lacks *for me*
* **1.14** Rom 5.20; 2 Tim 1.13
* **1.15** 2 Tim 2.11; Titus 3.8
e **1.17** Or *unseen*
f **1.17** Gk *to the ages of the ages*
* **1.17** Rom 11.36; Col 1.15
* **1.18** 1 Tim 4.14; 2 Tim 2.2, 3
* **1.19** 1 Tim 6.12, 21
* **1.20** 2 Tim 2.17; 4.14

1 Timothy 2

* **2.2** Ezra 6.10; Rom 13.1
* **2.3** Rom 12.2; 1 Tim 4.10
* **2.4** Jn 3.16; 2 Tim 2.25
* **2.5** Gal 3.20; Heb 9.15
* **2.6** Mk 10.45; 1 Cor 1.6; Gal 4.4
g **2.7** Other ancient authorities add *in Christ*
* **2.7** Gal 1.16; Eph 3.7, 8
h **2.11** Or *wife*
i **2.12** Or *wife*
j **2.12** Or *her husband*
* **2.13** Gen 1.27; 1 Cor 11.8
* **2.14** Gen 3.6; 2 Cor 11.3

1 Timothy 3

k **3.1** Some interpreters place these words at the end of the previous paragraph. Other ancient authorities read *The saying is commonly accepted*

l **3.1** Or *overseer*

* **3.1** Acts 20.28; 1 Tim 1.15

m **3.2** Or *an overseer*

n **3.2** Gk *the husband of one wife*

* **3.2** 2 Tim 2.24; Titus 1.6–8

* **3.3** 2 Tim 2.24; 1 Pet 5.2

o **3.6** Gk *neophyte*

* **3.7** 1 Cor 5.12; 2 Tim 2.26

* **3.8** Acts 6.3; Titus 2.3

p **3.11** Or *Women deacons* or *Wives*

q **3.12** Gk *be husbands of one wife*

* **3.15** v 5; Gal 2.9; Eph 2.21; 1 Tim 4.10

r **3.16** Gk *Who*; other ancient authorities read *God* or *Which*

s **3.16** Or *justified*

t **3.16** Or *by the Spirit*

* **3.16** Jn 1.14; Acts 1.9; 1 Pet 3.18

1 Timothy 4

u **4.1** Or *the last*

v **4.1** Or *move away from*

* **4.1** Jn 16.13; 2 Thess 2.3; 2 Tim 3.1, 13; Rev 19.20

* **4.3** Gen 1.29; Rom 14.6; 1 Cor 7.28; Heb 13.4

* **4.4** Rom 14.14

w **4.6** Or *deacon*

* **4.6** 2 Cor 11.23; 1 Tim 1.10; 2 Tim 3.10

* **4.7** 2 Tim 2.16; Heb 5.14

* **4.8** Ps 37.4; Rom 8.28; 1 Tim 6.6

x **4.10** Other ancient authorities read *struggle*

* **4.10** 1 Cor 4.11; 1 Tim 2.4

* **4.11** 1 Tim 5.7; 6.2

* **4.12** 1 Tim 1.14; Titus 2.7; 1 Pet 5.3

y **4.13** Gk *to the reading*

* **4.14** Acts 6.6; 1 Tim 1.18; 5.22; 2 Tim 1.6

* **4.16** Ezek 33.9; Acts 20.28

1 Timothy 5

z **5.1** Or *an elder* or *a presbyter*

* **5.1** Lev 19.32

* **5.4** Eph 6.1, 2
* **5.5** vv 3, 16; Lk 2.37; 1 Cor 7.32
a **5.6** Gk *she*
* **5.6** Jas 5.5
* **5.7** 1 Tim 4.11
* **5.8** Gal 6.10; Titus 1.16
b **5.9** Gk *the wife of one husband*
* **5.10** v 16; Lk 7.44; Acts 16.15; Heb 13.2
* **5.13** 2 Thess 3.11; Titus 1.11
* **5.14** 1 Cor 7.9; Titus 2.5
c **5.16** Other ancient authorities read *believing man or woman* or *believing man*
d **5.17** Or *compensation*
* **5.17** Acts 28.10; Rom 12.8; Phil 2.29
* **5.18** Lev 19.13; Deut 24.14, 15; Mt 10.10; 1 Cor 9.9
* **5.20** Deut 13.11; Titus 1.13
* **5.21** 1 Tim 6.13; 2 Tim 2.14
e **5.22** Gk *Do not lay hands on*
* **5.22** Acts 6.6; Eph 5.11; 2 Tim 3.6

1 Timothy 6

* **6.1** Titus 2.5, 8, 9; 1 Pet 2.18
f **6.2** Or *since they are believers and beloved, who devote themselves to good deeds*
* **6.2** Gal 3.28; 1 Tim 4.11; Philem 16
* **6.3** 2 Tim 1.13; Titus 1.1
* **6.4** 1 Cor 8.2; 2 Tim 2.14
g **6.5** Other ancient authorities add *Withdraw yourself from such people*
* **6.5** 1 Cor 11.16; Titus 1.11; 2 Pet 2.3
* **6.6** Phil 4.11; Heb 13.5
h **6.7** Other ancient authorities read *world; it is certain that*
* **6.9** 1 Tim 1.19; 3.7
i **6.12** Gk *confessed*
* **6.12** 1 Cor 9.25, 26; 1 Tim 1.18; Heb 13.23
* **6.13** Jn 18.37; 1 Tim 5.21
* **6.14** Phil 1.6; 2 Thess 2.8
* **6.15** 1 Tim 1.11, 17; Rev 17.14; 19.16
* **6.16** Jn 1.18; Eph 3.21; 1 Tim 1.17
* **6.17** Lk 12.20, 21; Acts 14.17; 1 Tim 4.10
* **6.18** Rom 12.8, 13; 1 Tim 5.10
* **6.20** 2 Tim 1.14; 2.16
j **6.21** The Greek word for *you* here is plural; in other ancient authorities it is singular. Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Second Letter of Paul to

Timothy

2 Timothy 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

THANKSGIVING AND ENCOURAGEMENT

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.* 4Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.* 6For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, 7for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.*

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God,* 9who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,[a,*] 10but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ,[b] who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.* 11For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,[c,*] 12and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard the deposit I have entrusted to him.[d,*] 13Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have

heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.* 14Guard the
good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

15 You are aware that all who are in Asia have turned away from me,
including Phygelus and Hermogenes. 16May the Lord grant mercy to the
household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not
ashamed of my chain;* 17when he arrived in Rome, he eagerly[e] searched for
me and found me 18—may the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the
Lord on that day! And you know very well how much service he rendered
in Ephesus.*

2 Timothy 2

A GOOD SOLDIER OF CHRIST JESUS

1 You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, [2]and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well.* [3]Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. [4]No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. [5]And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules.* [6]It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. [7]Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, [9]for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained.* [10]Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.* [11]The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

[12]if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he will also deny us;*

[13]if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

he[f] cannot deny himself.*

A WORKER APPROVED BY GOD

14 Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord[g] that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening.* [15]Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth. [16]Avoid profane chatter, for it will lead people[h] into more and more impiety,* [17]and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,* [18]who have swerved from the truth, saying

resurrection[i] has already occurred. They are upsetting the faith of some.* 19But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who calls on the name of the Lord turn away from wickedness."*

20 In a large house there are utensils not only of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for special[j] use, some for ordinary.[k],* 21All who cleanse themselves of the things I have mentioned[l] will become special[m] utensils, dedicated and useful to the owner of the house, ready for every good work.* 22Shun youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.* 23Have nothing to do with stupid and senseless controversies; you know that they breed quarrels.* 24And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to everyone, an apt teacher, patient,* 25correcting opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant that they will repent and come to know the truth* 26and that they may escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.[n]

2 Timothy 3

GODLESSNESS IN THE LAST DAYS

1 You must understand this, that in the last days distressing times will
come. [2]For people will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters,
arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,*
[3]unfeeling, implacable, slanderers, profligates, brutes, haters of good,*
[4]treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than
lovers of God,* [5]holding to the outward form of godliness but denying its
power. Avoid them! [6]For among them are those who make their way into
households and captivate immature women, overwhelmed by their sins and
swayed by all kinds of desires,* [7]who are always studying yet never able to
recognize truth. [8]As Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these people, of
corrupt mind and counterfeit faith, also oppose the truth.* [9]But they will not
make much progress because, as in the case of those two men,[o] their folly
will become plain to everyone.

PAUL'S CHARGE TO TIMOTHY

10 Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my
faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness,* [11]my persecutions, and my
sufferings, the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra.
What persecutions I endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.*
[12]Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be
persecuted.* [13]But wicked people and impostors will go from bad to worse,
deceiving others and being deceived.* [14]But as for you, continue in what
you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it
[15]and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to
instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. [16]All scripture is
inspired by God and is[p] useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and
for training in righteousness,* [17]so that the person of God may be proficient,
equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 4

1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and
the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge
you:* [2]proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or
unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in
teaching.* [3]For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound
teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves
teachers to suit their own desires* [4]and will turn away from listening to the
truth and wander away to myths. [5]As for you, be sober in everything,
endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry
fully.*

6 As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of
my departure has come.* [7]I have fought the good fight; I have finished the
race; I have kept the faith.* [8]From now on there is reserved for me the
crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me
on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his
appearing.*

PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS

9 Do your best to come to me soon, [10]for Demas, in love with this
present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has
gone to Galatia,[q] Titus to Dalmatia.* [11]Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and
bring him with you, for he is useful to me in ministry.* [12]I have sent
Tychicus to Ephesus. [13]When you come, bring the cloak that I left with
Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. [14]Alexander
the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his
deeds.* [15]You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our
message.

16 At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me.
May it not be counted against them! [17]But the Lord stood by me and gave
me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and
all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.*

[18]The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.[*]

FINAL GREETINGS AND BENEDICTION

19 Greet Prisca and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus. [20]Erastus remained in Corinth; Trophimus I left ill in Miletus. [21]Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers and sisters.

22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.[r]

2 Timothy 1

* **1.3** Acts 20.37; Rom 1.8, 9; 1 Thess 1.2
* **1.5** Acts 16.1; 1 Tim 1.5
* **1.7** Jn 14.27
* **1.8** Rom 1.16; Eph 3.1; 2 Tim 2.3, 9; 4.5
a **1.9** Gk lacks *began*
* **1.9** Rom 16.25; Heb 3.1
b **1.10** Other ancient authorities read *Christ Jesus*
* **1.10** 1 Cor 15.54; Eph 1.9
c **1.11** Other ancient authorities add *of the gentiles*
* **1.11** 1 Tim 2.7
d **1.12** Or *the deposit he has entrusted to me*
* **1.12** 1 Tim 6.20; Titus 3.8
* **1.13** Rom 2.20; 1 Tim 1.14; Titus 1.9
* **1.16** 2 Tim 4.19
e **1.17** Or *promptly*
* **1.18** 2 Thess 1.10; Heb 6.10

2 Timothy 2

* **2.2** 1 Tim 1.12, 18; 6.12; 2 Tim 1.13
* **2.5** 1 Cor 9.25
* **2.9** Acts 9.16; 28.31; Phil 1.7
* **2.10** 2 Cor 1.6; Eph 3.13
* **2.12** Mt 10.33; 1 Pet 4.13
f **2.13** Other ancient authorities read *for he*
* **2.13** Num 23.19; Rom 3.3
g **2.14** Other ancient authorities read *God*
* **2.14** 1 Tim 5.21; 6.4
h **2.16** Gk *for they will advance*
* **2.16** 1 Tim 4.7
* **2.17** 1 Tim 1.20
i **2.18** Other ancient authorities read *the resurrection*
* **2.18** 1 Cor 15.12
* **2.19** Isa 28.16, 17; 1 Cor 1.2
j **2.20** Gk *honorable*
k **2.20** Gk *dishonorable*
* **2.20** Rom 9.21
l **2.21** Gk *of these things*
m **2.21** Gk *honorable*

* **2.21** Isa 52.11; 2 Tim 3.17
* **2.22** 1 Tim 6.11
* **2.23** 1 Tim 6.4; Titus 3.9
* **2.24** 1 Tim 3.3; Titus 1.7
* **2.25** Gal 6.1; 1 Pet 3.15
n **2.26** Or *by him, to do his* (that is, God's) *will*

2 Timothy 3

* **3.2** Rom 1.30; 2 Pet 2.3
* **3.3** Rom 1.31; Titus 1.8
* **3.4** Phil 3.19; 2 Pet 2.10
* **3.6** Titus 1.11
* **3.8** Ex 7.11; Acts 13.8
o **3.9** Gk lacks *two men*
* **3.10** Phil 2.22; 1 Tim 4.6
* **3.11** Acts 13.45
* **3.12** Ps 34.19; 1 Thess 3.3
* **3.13** 2 Tim 2.16; Titus 3.3
p **3.16** Or *Every scripture inspired by God is also*
* **3.16** Rom 15.4; 2 Pet 1.20, 21
* **3.17** 1 Tim 6.11; 2 Tim 2.21

2 Timothy 4

* **4.1** Acts 10.42; 1 Tim 5.21
* **4.2** 1 Tim 4.13; 5.20
* **4.3** 1 Tim 1.10; 2 Tim 3.1, 6
* **4.5** Acts 21.8
* **4.6** Phil 1.23; 2.17
* **4.7** Phil 3.14; 1 Tim 6.12
* **4.8** 2 Tim 1.12; Jas 1.12; 1 Pet 5.4
q **4.10** Other ancient authorities read *Gaul*
* **4.10** Col 4.14; 1 Jn 2.15
* **4.11** Acts 12.12; Col 4.14; 2 Tim 1.15
* **4.14** Ps 119.98, 99; Acts 19.33; Rom 12.19
* **4.17** Acts 23.11; 2 Pet 2.9
* **4.18** Ps 121.7; Rom 11.36
r **4.22** The Greek word for *you* here is plural. Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Letter of Paul to

Titus

Titus 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the
faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that is in accordance
with godliness, [2]in the hope of eternal life that God, who never lies,
promised before the ages began[*]—[3]in due time he revealed his word
through the proclamation with which I have been entrusted by the command
of God our Savior,[*]

4 To Titus, my true child[a] in the faith we share:

Grace[b] and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.[*]

TITUS IN CRETE

5 I left you behind in Crete for this reason, so that you should put in order
what remained to be done and should appoint elders in every town, as I
directed you:[*] [6]someone who is blameless, married only once,[c] whose
children are believers, not accused of debauchery and not rebellious.[*] [7]For a
bishop,[d] as God's steward, must be blameless; he must not be arrogant or
quick-tempered or addicted to wine or violent or greedy for gain,[*] [8]but he
must be hospitable,[e] a lover of goodness, self-controlled, upright, devout,
and restrained, [9]holding tightly to the trustworthy word of the teaching, so
that he may be able both to exhort with sound instruction and to refute those
who contradict it.

10 There are also many rebellious people, idle talkers and deceivers,
especially those of the circumcision;[*] [11]they must be silenced, since they
are upsetting whole families by teaching for sordid gain what it is not right
to teach.[*] [12]It was one of them, their very own prophet, who said,

"Cretans are always liars, vicious brutes, lazy gluttons."

[13]That testimony is true. For this reason rebuke them sharply, so that they
may become sound in the faith,* [14]not paying attention to Jewish myths or
to commandments of those who reject the truth.* [15]To the pure all things are
pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure; their very minds
and consciences are corrupted.* [16]They profess to know God, but they deny
him by their actions; they are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good
work.*

Titus 2

TEACH SOUND DOCTRINE

1 But as for you, teach what is consistent with sound instruction. [2]Tell the
older men to be temperate, serious, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in
love, and in endurance.

3 Likewise, tell the older women to be reverent in behavior, not to be
slanderers or enslaved to much wine; they are to teach what is good,* [4]so
that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love
their children, [5]to be self-controlled, chaste, good managers of the
household, kind, submissive to their husbands, so that the word of God may
not be discredited.*

6 Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled [7]in all things,
offering yourself as a model of good works and in your teaching offering
integrity, gravity, [8]and sound speech that cannot be censured; then any
opponent will be put to shame, having nothing evil to say of us.*

9 Urge slaves to be submissive to their masters in everything, to be
pleasing, not talking back,* [10]not stealing, but showing complete and
perfect fidelity, so that in everything they may be an ornament to the
teaching of God our Savior.

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all,[f,*]
[12]training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present
age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly,* [13]while we
wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great
God and Savior,[g] Jesus Christ.* [14]He it is who gave himself for us that he
might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his
own who are zealous for good deeds.*

15 Declare these things; exhort and reprove with all authority.[h] Let no
one look down on you.

Titus 3

MAINTAIN GOOD DEEDS

1 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be
ready for every good work,* 2to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to
be gentle, and to show every courtesy to everyone.* 3For we ourselves were
once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and
pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, despicable, hating one
another.* 4But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior
appeared,* 5he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we
had done, but according to his mercy, through the water[i] of rebirth and
renewal by the Holy Spirit.* 6This Spirit he poured out on us richly through
Jesus Christ our Savior, 7so that, having been justified by his grace, we
might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.* 8The saying is
sure.

I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to
believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these
things are excellent and profitable to everyone.* 9But avoid stupid
controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they
are unprofitable and worthless.* 10After a first and second admonition, have
nothing more to do with anyone who causes divisions,* 11since you know
that such a person is perverted and sinful, being self-condemned.

FINAL MESSAGES AND BENEDICTION

12 When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, do your best to come to me
at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.* 13Make every
effort to send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way, and see that they
lack nothing. 14And let people learn to devote themselves to good works in
order to meet urgent needs, so that they may not be unproductive.

15 All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in
the faith.

Grace be with all of you.[j]

Titus 1

* **1.2** Rom 16.25; 2 Tim 1.1
* **1.3** 1 Thess 2.4; 2 Tim 1.10
a **1.4** Gk *legitimate child*
b **1.4** Other ancient authorities read *Grace, mercy,*
* **1.4** 2 Cor 2.13; Eph 1.2; 1 Tim 1.2
* **1.5** Acts 11.30; 14.23; 27.7
c **1.6** Gk *husband of one wife*
* **1.6** 1 Tim 3.2–4
d **1.7** Or *an overseer*
* **1.7** 1 Cor 4.1; Eph 5.18
e **1.8** Gk *a friend of foreigners*
* **1.10** Acts 11.2; 1 Tim 1.6
* **1.11** 1 Tim 6.5; 2 Tim 3.6
* **1.13** 2 Cor 13.10; Titus 2.2
* **1.14** Isa 29.13; 1 Tim 1.4
* **1.15** Lk 11.39, 41; Rom 14.23
* **1.16** 2 Tim 3.5, 8; 1 Jn 2.4

Titus 2

* **2.3** 1 Tim 3.8
* **2.5** 1 Cor 14.34; Eph 5.22; 1 Tim 6.1
* **2.8** 1 Tim 6.3
* **2.9** Eph 6.5
f **2.11** Or *has appeared to all, bringing salvation*
* **2.11** Rom 5.15; 1 Tim 2.4
* **2.12** 2 Tim 3.12; Titus 3.3
g **2.13** Or *of the great God and our Savior*
* **2.13** 2 Thess 2.8; 2 Pet 1.1
* **2.14** Ex 19.5; Eph 2.10; 1 Tim 2.6; Heb 9.14
h **2.15** Gk *commandment*

Titus 3

* **3.1** Rom 13.1; 2 Tim 2.21
* **3.2** Eph 4.31; 2 Tim 2.24, 25
* **3.3** 1 Cor 6.11; 1 Pet 4.3
* **3.4** 1 Tim 2.3; Titus 2.11
i **3.5** Gk *washing*

* **3.5** Rom 3.20; 12.2; Eph 5.26
* **3.7** Rom 3.24; 8.17, 24
* **3.8** 1 Tim 2.14
* **3.9** 1 Tim 1.4; 2 Tim 2.14
* **3.10** Rom 16.17
* **3.12** Acts 20.4; 2 Tim 4.9

j **3.15** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Letter of Paul to

Philemon

Philemon 1

SALUTATION

1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To our beloved coworker Philemon,[*] 2to our[a] sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your[b] house:[*]

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

PHILEMON'S LOVE AND FAITH

4 I thank my God always when I mention you[c] in my prayers, 5because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus.[*] 6I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we[d] share in Christ.[e] 7I have[f] indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.[*]

PAUL'S PLEA FOR ONESIMUS

8 For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, 9yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.[g] 10I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.[*] 11Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful[h] to[i] you and to me. 12I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.[j] 13I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel,[*] 14but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.[*] 15Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might

have him back for the long term, [16]no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.*

17 So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.* [18]If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. [19]I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. [20]Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.[k] [21]Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.*

22 One thing more: prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping through your prayers to be restored to you.*

FINAL GREETINGS AND BENEDICTION

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you,[l,*] [24]and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my coworkers.*

25 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.[m,*]

Philemon 1

* **1** 2 Cor 1.1; Eph 3.1; Phil 2.25
a **2** Other ancient authorities add *beloved*
b **2** Gk *your* is singular
* **2** Rom 16.5; Phil 2.25; Col 4.17
c **4** In verses 4–21, *you* is singular
* **5** Eph 1.15; Col 1.4
d **6** Other ancient authorities read *you* (plural)
e **6** Other ancient authorities add *Jesus*
f **7** Other *ancient authorities read we have*
* **7** v 20; 2 Cor 7.13
g **9** Or *as an ambassador of Christ Jesus, and now also his prisoner*
* **10** 1 Cor 4.14, 15; Col 4.9
h **11** The name Onesimus means *useful* or *beneficial*
i **11** Other ancient authorities read *both to*
j **12** Other ancient authorities read *you; receive him*
* **13** Phil 1.7
* **14** 2 Cor 9.7; 1 Pet 5.2
* **16** Mt 23.8; Col 3.22; 1 Tim 6.2
* **17** 2 Cor 8.23
k **20** Other ancient authorities read *in the Lord*
* **21** 2 Cor 2.3
* **22** Acts 28.23; 2 Cor 1.11; Phil 1.25; 2.24
l **23** Here *you* is singular
* **23** Col 1.7
* **24** Acts 12.12; Col 4.10
m **25** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*
* **25** 2 Tim 4.22

The Letter to the

Hebrews

Hebrews 1

GOD HAS SPOKEN BY HIS SON

1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the
prophets, [2]but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son,[a] whom he
appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.[*] [3]He
is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being,
and he sustains[b] all things by his powerful word. When he had made
purification for[c] sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,[*]
[4]having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is
more excellent than theirs.[*]

THE SON IS SUPERIOR TO ANGELS

5 For to which of the angels did God[d] ever say,

"You are my Son;
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son"?[*]

[6]And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

[7]Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds
and his servants flames of fire."[*]

[8]But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is[e] forever and ever,

and the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your[f] kingdom.*

[9]You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;[g]
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."*

[10]And,

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;*
[11]they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;*
[12]like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing[h] they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will never end."

[13]And to which of the angels has he ever said,

"Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?*

[14]Are not all angels[i] spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?*

Hebrews 2

WARNING TO PAY ATTENTION

1 Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that
we do not drift away. [2]For if the message declared through angels proved
valid, and every transgression or disobedience received a just penalty,*
[3]how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? It was declared at
first through the Lord, and it was confirmed for us by those who heard him,*
[4]while God added his testimony by signs and wonders and various miracles
and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, distributed according to his will.*

EXALTATION THROUGH ABASEMENT

5 Now God[j] did not subject the coming world, about which we are
speaking, to angels.* [6]But someone has testified somewhere,

"What are humans that you are mindful of them[k]
or mortals that you care for them?[l,*]
[7]You have made them for a little while lower[m] than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,[n]
[8]subjecting all things under their feet."

Now in subjecting all things to them, God[o] left nothing outside their
control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,* [9]but
we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower[p] than the angels,
now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that
by the grace of God[q] he might taste death for everyone.*

10 It was fitting that God,[r] for whom and through whom all things exist,
in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their
salvation perfect through sufferings.* [11]For the one who sanctifies and those
who are sanctified all have one Father.[s] For this reason Jesus[t] is not
ashamed to call them brothers and sisters,* [12]saying,

"I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters;

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."*

13 And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again,

"Here am I and the children whom God has given me."*

14 Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,* 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death.* 16 For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people.* 18 Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.*

Hebrews 3

MOSES A SERVANT, CHRIST A SON

1 Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, partners in a heavenly calling,
consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,* [2]who was
faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses also "was faithful in
all[u] God's[v] house." [3]Yet Jesus[w] is worthy of more glory than Moses, just as
the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself.* [4](For every
house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)* [5]Now
Moses was faithful in all God's[x] house as a servant, to testify to the things
that would be spoken later.* [6]Christ, however, was faithful over God's[y]
house as a son, and we are his house if we hold firm[z] the boldness and the
pride inspired by hope.*

WARNING AGAINST UNBELIEF

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says,

"Today, if you hear his voice,*
[8]do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,
as on the day of testing in the wilderness,
[9]where your ancestors put me to the test,[a]
though they had seen my works [10]for forty years.
Therefore I was angry with that generation,
and I said, 'They always go astray in their hearts,
and they have not known my ways.'
[11]As in my anger I swore,
'They will not enter my rest.' "

[12]Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you may have an evil,
unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. [13]But exhort one
another every day, as long as it is called "today," so that none of you may be

hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. [14]For we have become partners of Christ, if only we hold our first confidence firm to the end. [15]As it is said,

"Today, if you hear his voice,

do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion."*

[16]Now who were they who heard and rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt under the leadership of Moses?* [17]And with whom was he angry forty years? Was it not those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?* [18]And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, if not to those who were disobedient?* [19]So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.*

Hebrews 4

THE REST THAT GOD PROMISED

1 Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest is still open, let us take
care that none of you should seem to have failed to reach it.* 2For indeed
the good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did
not benefit them because they were not united by faith with those who
listened.b,* 3For we who have believed are entering that rest, just as Godc
has said,

"As in my anger I swore,
'They shall not enter my rest,' "

though his works were finished since the foundation of the world. 4For
somewhere it speaks about the seventh day as follows, "And God rested on
the seventh day from all his works."* 5And again in this place it says, "They
shall not enter my rest." 6Since therefore it remains open for some to enter
it and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of
disobedience, 7again he sets a certain day—"today"—saying through David
much later, in the words already quoted,

"Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts."*

8For if Joshua had given them rest, Godd would not speak later about
another day. 9So then, a Sabbath rest still remains for the people of God,
10for those who enter God's[e] rest also rest from their labors as God did from
his. 11Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one
may fall through such disobedience as theirs.

12 Indeed, the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-
edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow;
it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.* 13And before
him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the
one to whom we must render an account.*

JESUS THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST

14 Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.* 15For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested[f] as we are, yet without sin.* 16Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 5

1 Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things
pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. [2]He is
able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is
subject to weakness,* [3]and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his
own sins as well as for those of the people. [4]And one does not presume to
take this honor but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.*

5 So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest but was
appointed by[g] the one who said to him,

"You are my Son;
today I have begotten you";*

[6]as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek."*

7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus[h] offered up prayers and supplications,
with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death,
and he was heard because of his reverent submission.* [8]Although he was a
Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered,* [9]and having been
made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey
him,* [10]having been designated by God a high priest according to the order
of Melchizedek.

WARNING AGAINST FALLING AWAY

11 About this[i] we have much to say that is hard to explain, since you
have become sluggish in hearing. [12]For though by this time you ought to be
teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic elements of the
oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food,* [13]for everyone who lives on
milk, being still an infant, is unskilled in the word of righteousness. [14]But
solid food is for the mature, for those whose faculties have been trained by
practice to distinguish good from evil.*

Hebrews 6

THE PERIL OF FALLING AWAY

1 Therefore let us go on[j] toward perfection,[k] leaving behind the basic
teaching about Christ and not laying again the foundation: repentance from
dead works and faith toward God,* [2]instruction about baptisms and laying
on of hands, resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.* [3]And we will
do[l] this, if God permits. [4]For it is impossible to restore again to repentance
those who have once been enlightened and have tasted the heavenly gift and
have shared in the Holy Spirit* [5]and have tasted the good word of God and
the powers of the age to come* [6]and then have fallen away, since they are
crucifying again the Son of God to their own harm and are holding him up
to contempt.* [7]Ground that drinks up the rain falling on it repeatedly and
that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is cultivated receives a
blessing from God.* [8]But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is worthless
and on the verge of being cursed; its end is to be burned over.*

9 Even though we speak in this way, beloved, we are confident of better
things in your case, things that belong to salvation. [10]For God is not unjust;
he will not overlook your work and the[m] love that you showed for his sake[n]
in serving the saints, as you still do.* [11]And we want each one of you to
show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope to the
very end,* [12]so that you may not become sluggish but imitators of those
who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

THE CERTAINTY OF GOD'S PROMISE

13 When God made a promise to Abraham, because he had no one
greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself,* [14]saying, "I will surely
bless you and multiply you." [15]And thus Abraham,[o] having patiently
endured, obtained the promise. [16]Humans, of course, swear by someone
greater than themselves, and an oath given as confirmation puts an end to
all dispute among them.* [17]In the same way, when God desired to show
even more clearly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of

his purpose, he guaranteed it by an oath,* 18so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God would prove false, we who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us.* 19We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain,* 20where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.*

Hebrews 7

THE PRIESTLY ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK

1 This "Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met
Abraham as he was returning from defeating the kings and blessed him,"*
[2]and to him Abraham apportioned "one-tenth of everything." His name, in
the first place, means "king of righteousness"; next, he is also king of
Salem, that is, "king of peace." [3]Without father, without mother, without
genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life but resembling
the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.*

4 See how great he is! Even[p] Abraham the patriarch gave him a tenth of
the spoils.* [5]And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office
have a commandment in the law to collect tithes[q] from the people, that is,
from their kindred, though these also are descended from Abraham.* [6]But
this man, who does not belong to their ancestry, collected tithes[r] from
Abraham and blessed him who had received the promises.* [7]It is beyond
dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. [8]In the one case, tithes
are received by those who are mortal; in the other, by one of whom it is
testified that he lives.* [9]One might even say that Levi himself, who receives
tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, [10]for he was still in the loins of his
ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

ANOTHER PRIEST, LIKE MELCHIZEDEK

11 Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood
—for the people received the law under this priesthood—what further need
would there have been to speak of another priest arising according to the
order of Melchizedek rather than one according to the order of Aaron?*
[12]For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change
in the law as well. [13]Now the one of whom these things are spoken
belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar.
[14]For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in
connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.*

15 It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek, [16]one who has become a priest, not through a legal requirement concerning physical descent but through the power of an indestructible life.* [17]For it is attested of him,

"You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek."*

[18]There is, on the one hand, the abrogation of an earlier commandment because it was weak and ineffectual* [19](for the law made nothing perfect); there is, on the other hand, the introduction of a better hope through which we approach God.*

20 This was confirmed with an oath, for others have become priests without an oath, [21]but this one became a priest with an oath because of the one who said to him,

"The Lord has sworn

and will not change his mind,

'You are a priest forever' "[s],*

[22]accordingly Jesus has also become the guarantor of a better covenant.*

23 Furthermore, the former priests were many in number because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, [24]but he holds his priesthood permanently because he continues forever. [25]Consequently, he is able for all time to save[t] those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.*

26 For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.* [27]Unlike the other[u] high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself.* [28]For the law appoints as high priests humans, who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.*

Hebrews 8

MEDIATOR OF A BETTER COVENANT

1 Now the main point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high
priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the
heavens,* 2a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent[v] that the Lord, and
not any mortal, has set up.* 3For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts
and sacrifices; hence it is necessary for this priest also to have something to
offer.* 4Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there
are already those[w] who offer gifts according to the law. 5They offer worship
in a sanctuary that is[x] a sketch and shadow of the heavenly one, just as
Moses was warned when he was about to erect the tent.[y] For, God[z] said,
"See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you
on the mountain."* 6But Jesus[a] has now obtained a more excellent ministry,
and to that degree he is the mediator of a better covenant, which has been
enacted on the basis of better promises.* 7For if that first covenant had been
faultless, there would have been no need to look for a second one.*

8 God[b] finds fault with them when he says:

"The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah,*
9not like the covenant that I made with their ancestors
on the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of
the land of Egypt,
for they did not continue in my covenant,
and so I had no concern for them, says the Lord.
10This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel
after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their minds
and write them on their hearts,
and I will be their God,

and they shall be my people.*
11 And they shall not teach one another
or say to each other,[c] ‘Know the Lord,’
for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest.*
12 For I will be merciful toward their iniquities,
and I will remember their sins[d] no more.”*
13 In speaking of a new covenant, he has made the first one obsolete, and what is obsolete and growing old will soon disappear.*

Hebrews 9

THE EARTHLY AND THE HEAVENLY SANCTUARIES

1 Now[e] the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly
sanctuary. 2For a tent[f] was constructed, the first one, in which were the
lampstand, the table, and the bread of the Presence;[g] this is called the holy
place.* 3Behind the second curtain was a tent[h] called the holy of holies.* 4In
it stood the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant overlaid on
all sides with gold, in which there were a golden urn holding the manna,
and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant;* 5above it
were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.[i] Of these things
we cannot speak now in detail.*

6 These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually
into the first tent[j] to carry out their ritual duties, 7but only the high priest
goes into the second, and he but once a year and not without taking the
blood that he offers for himself and for the sins committed unintentionally
by the people.* 8By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the
sanctuary has not yet been disclosed as long as the first tent[k] is still
standing.* 9This is a symbol[l] of the present time, indicating that gifts and
sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper*
10but deal only with food and drink and various baptisms, regulations for
the body imposed until the time comes to set things right.*

11 But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have
come,[m] then through the greater and more perfect tent[n] (not made with
hands, that is, not of this creation),* 12he entered once for all into the holy
place, not with the blood of goats and calves but with his own blood, thus
obtaining eternal redemption.* 13For if the blood of goats and bulls and the
sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer sanctifies those who have been defiled so
that their flesh is purified,* 14how much more will the blood of Christ, who
through the eternal Spirit[o] offered himself without blemish to God, purify
our[p] conscience from dead works to worship the living God!*

15 For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant.[q,*] [16]Where a will[r] is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. [17]For a will[s] takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. [18]Hence not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood.[*] [19]For when every commandment had been told to all the people by Moses in accordance with the law, he took the blood of calves and goats,[t] with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the scroll itself and all the people,[*] [20]saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God has ordained for you." [21]And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent[u] and all the vessels used in worship.[*] [22]Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.[*]

CHRIST'S SACRIFICE TAKES AWAY SIN

23 Thus it was necessary for the sketches of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves need better sacrifices than these. [24]For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.[*] [25]Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the holy place year after year with blood that is not his own, [26]for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself.[*] [27]And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once and after that the judgment,[*] [28]so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.[*]

Hebrews 10

CHRIST'S SACRIFICE ONCE FOR ALL

1 Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the
true form of these realities, it[v] can never, by the same sacrifices that are
continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach.*
2 Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the
worshipers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness
of sin? 3 But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year.*
4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*
5 Consequently, when Christ[w] came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;*
6 in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.
7 Then I said, 'See, I have come to do your will, O God'
(in the scroll of the book[x] it is written of me)."*

8 When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in
sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are
offered according to the law), 9 then he added, "See, I have come to do your
will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. 10 And it is by
God's will[y] that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of
Jesus Christ once for all.*

11 And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and
again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins.* 12 But when Christ[z]
had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right
hand of God," 13 and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would
be made a footstool for his feet."* 14 For by a single offering he has
perfected for all time those who are sanctified. 15 And the Holy Spirit also
testifies to us, for after saying,

16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them

after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,"*
17and he adds,
"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."
18Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

A CALL TO PERSEVERE

19 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,* 20by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),* 21and since we have a great priest over the house of God,* 22let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.* 23Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.* 24And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, 25not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*

26 For if we willfully persist in sin after having received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins* 27but a fearful prospect of judgment and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.* 28Anyone who has violated the law of Moses dies without mercy "on the testimony of two or three witnesses."* 29How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by those who have spurned the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant by which they were sanctified, and outraged the Spirit of grace?* 30For we know the one who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay."[a] And again, "The Lord will judge his people."* 31It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

32 But recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings,* 33sometimes being publicly exposed to insults and afflictions and sometimes becoming partners with those so treated.* 34For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing

that you yourselves possessed something better and more lasting.[b,*] [35]Do not, therefore, abandon that boldness of yours; it brings a great reward. [36]For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what was promised.* [37]For yet

"in a very little while,

the one who is coming will come and will not delay,*

[38]but my righteous one will live by faith.

My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back."*

[39]But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost but among those who have faith and so preserve our souls.*

Hebrews 11

THE MEANING OF FAITH

1 Now faith is the assurance[c] of things hoped for, the conviction[d] of things
not seen.[*] [2]Indeed, by faith[e] our ancestors received approval. [3]By faith we
understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what
is seen was made from things that are not visible.[f,*]

THE EXAMPLES OF ABEL, ENOCH, AND NOAH

4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable[g] sacrifice than Cain's.
Through this he received approval as righteous, God himself giving
approval to his gifts; he died, but through his faith[h] he still speaks.[*] [5]By
faith Enoch was taken so that he did not experience death, and "he was not
found, because God had taken him." For it was attested before he was taken
away that "he had pleased God."[*] [6]And without faith it is impossible to
please him, for whoever would approach God must believe that he exists
and that he rewards those who seek him. [7]By faith Noah, warned by God
about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark to save
his household; by this he condemned the world and became an heir to the
righteousness that is in accordance with faith.[*]

THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that
he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he
was going.[*] [9]By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised,
as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs
with him of the same promise.[*] [10]For he looked forward to the city that has
foundations, whose architect and builder is God.[*] [11]By faith, with Sarah's
involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old,
because he considered[i] him faithful who had promised.[*] [12]Therefore from
one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many

as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."*

13 All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth,* 14for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 16But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.*

17 By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son,* 18of whom he had been told, "It is through Isaac that descendants shall be named for you."* 19He considered the fact that God is able even to raise someone from the dead—and, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.* 20By faith Isaac invoked blessings for the future on Jacob and Esau. 21By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, "bowing in worship over the top of his staff."* 22By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions about his burial.[j,*]

THE FAITH OF MOSES

23 By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.[k,*] 24By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 26He considered abuse suffered for the Christ[l] to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. 27By faith he left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger, for he persevered as though[m] he saw him who is invisible. 28By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.[n,*]

THE FAITH OF OTHER ISRAELITE HEROES

29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land,
but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned.* [30]By faith
the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days.* [31]By
faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient,[o]
because she had received the spies in peace.*

32 And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of
Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,
[33]who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained
promises, shut the mouths of lions,* [34]quenched the power of fire, escaped
the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty
in war, put foreign armies to flight.* [35]Women received their dead by
resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to
obtain a better resurrection.* [36]Others suffered mocking and flogging and
even chains and imprisonment.* [37]They were stoned to death; they were
sawn in two;[p] they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of
sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented*—[38]of whom the world
was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and
holes in the ground.*

39 Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not
receive what was promised, [40]since God had provided something better so
that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.*

Hebrews 12

THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us
also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,[q] and let us run
with perseverance the race that is set before us,* [2]looking to Jesus, the
pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of[r] the joy that was set
before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat
at the right hand of the throne of God.*

3 Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners,[s]
so that you may not grow weary in your souls or lose heart.* [4]In your
struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your
blood. [5]And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as
children—

> "My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord
> or lose heart when you are punished by him,*
> [6]for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves
> and chastises every child whom he accepts."*

[7]Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as children, for
what child is there whom a parent does not discipline?* [8]If you do not have
that discipline in which all children share, then you are illegitimate and not
his children.* [9]Moreover, we had human parents to discipline us, and we
respected them. Should we not be even more willing to be subject to the
Father of spirits and live? [10]For they disciplined us for a short time as
seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, in order that we
may share his holiness.* [11]Now, discipline always seems painful rather than
pleasant at the time, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to
those who have been trained by it.*

12 Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees*
[13]and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put
out of joint but rather be healed.*

WARNINGS AGAINST REJECTING GOD'S GRACE

14 Pursue peace with everyone and the holiness without which no one
will see the Lord. 15See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God,
that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble and through it many
become defiled.* 16See to it that no one becomes an immoral and godless
person, as Esau was, who sold his birthright for a single meal.* 17You know
that later, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he
found no chance to repent, even though he sought the blessing[t] with tears.*

18 You have not come to something[u] that can be touched, a blazing fire,
and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest,* 19and the sound of a trumpet, and
a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken
to them.* 20(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an
animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death."* 21Indeed, so
terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.")* 22But you
have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly
Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,* 23and to the
assembly[v] of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge
of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,* 24and to Jesus, the
mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better
word than the blood of Abel.*

25 See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not
escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much
less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven!* 26At that
time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I
will shake not only the earth but also the heaven."* 27This phrase, "Yet once
more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so
that what cannot be shaken may remain.* 28Therefore, since we are
receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which
we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, 29for
indeed our God is a consuming fire.*

Hebrews 13

SERVICE WELL-PLEASING TO GOD

1 Let mutual affection continue. [2]Do not neglect to show hospitality to
strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing
it.* [3]Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with
them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being
tortured.[w] [4]Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be
kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers.*
[5]Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you
have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you."* [6]So
we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

7 Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you;
consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. [8]Jesus
Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. [9]Do not be carried away
by all kinds of strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be
strengthened by grace, not by regulations about food,[x] which have not
benefited those who observe them.* [10]We have an altar from which those
who officiate in the tent[y] have no right to eat.* [11]For the bodies of those
animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a
sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp.* [12]Therefore Jesus also
suffered outside the city gate in order to sanctify the people by his own
blood.* [13]Let us then go to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he
endured. [14]For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city
that is to come.* [15]Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of
praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.* [16]Do not
neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are
pleasing to God.

17 Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing, for that would be harmful to you.*

18 Pray for us; we are sure that we have a good conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things.* [19]I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you very soon.

BENEDICTION

20 Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,* [21]make you complete in everything good[z] so that you may do his will, as he works among us[a] that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever.[b] Amen.*

FINAL EXHORTATION AND GREETINGS

22 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. [23]I want you to know that our brother Timothy has been set free, and if he comes in time he will be with me when I see you.* [24]Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy send you greetings. [25]Grace be with all of you.[c,*]

Hebrews 1

a **1.2** Or *the Son*
* **1.2** Ps 2.8; Jn 1.3; 1 Cor 8.6; Gal 4.4; Heb 2.3
b **1.3** Or *bears along*
c **1.3** Other ancient authorities add *our*
* **1.3** Jn 1.14; Col 1.17; Heb 7.27; 8.1
* **1.4** Eph 1.21; Phil 2.9, 10
d **1.5** Greek *he*
* **1.5** Ps 2.7
* **1.7** Ps 104.4
e **1.8** Or *God is your throne*
f **1.8** Other ancient authorities read *his*
* **1.8** Ps 45.6, 7
g **1.9** Other ancient authorities read *wickedness*
* **1.9** Isa 61.1, 3; Phil 2.9
* **1.10** Ps 102.25
* **1.11** Isa 34.4
h **1.12** Other ancient authorities lack *like clothing*
* **1.13** Ps 110.1; Heb 10.13
i **1.14** Gk *all of them*
* **1.14** Ps 103.20; Heb 5.9

Hebrews 2

* **2.2** Acts 7.53; Heb 1.1; 10.28, 35
* **2.3** Lk 1.2; Heb 1.1; 10.29
* **2.4** Jn 4.48; 1 Cor 12.4; Eph 1.5
j **2.5** Gk *he*
* **2.5** Heb 6.5
k **2.6** Gk *What is man that you are mindful of him?*
l **2.6** Gk *or the son of man that you care for him?* In the Hebrew of Psalm 8.4–6 both *man* and *son of man* refer to all humankind
* **2.6** Ps 8.4–6
m **2.7** Or *them only a little lower*
n **2.7** Other ancient authorities add *and set them over the works of your hands*
o **2.8** Gk *he*
* **2.8** Mt 28.18; 1 Cor 15.25, 27
p **2.9** Or *who was made a little lower*
q **2.9** Other ancient authorities read *apart from God*
* **2.9** Jn 3.16; Acts 2.33; Phil 2.7–9; 1 Jn 2.2

r **2.10** Gk *he*
* **2.10** Lk 13.32; 24.46; Acts 3.15; 5.31; Rom 11.36
s **2.11** Gk *are all of one*
t **2.11** Gk *he*
* **2.11** Jn 20.17; Acts 17.26; Heb 10.10
* **2.12** Ps 22.22
* **2.13** Isa 8.17, 18; Jn 10.29
* **2.14** Mt 16.17; Jn 1.14; 1 Cor 15.54–57; 1 Jn 3.8
* **2.15** Rom 8.15; 2 Tim 1.7
* **2.17** Phil 2.7; Heb 4.15; 5.1, 2; 1 Jn 2.2; 4.10
* **2.18** Heb 4.15

Hebrews 3

* **3.1** Rom 15.8; Phil 3.14; Heb 2.11; 10.21
u **3.2** Other ancient authorities lack *all*
v **3.2** Gk *his*
w **3.3** Gk *this one*
* **3.3** 2 Cor 3.7–11
* **3.4** Eph 2.10; Heb 1.2
x **3.5** Gk *his*
* **3.5** Ex 14.31; Num 12.7; Deut 18.18, 19
y **3.6** Gk *his*
z **3.6** Other ancient authorities add *to the end*
* **3.6** Rom 5.2; 1 Cor 3.16; Col 1.23; Heb 1.2
* **3.7** Ps 95.7; Heb 9.8
a **3.9** Other ancient authorities read *tempted me, tested me*
* **3.15** v 7
* **3.16** Num 14.2
* **3.17** Num 14.29; Ps 106.26
* **3.18** Num 14.23; Heb 4.6
* **3.19** Jn 3.36

Hebrews 4

* **4.1** Heb 12.15
b **4.2** Other ancient authorities read *it did not meet with faith in those who listened*
* **4.2** 1 Thess 2.13
c **4.3** Gk *he*
* **4.4** Gen 2.2; Ex 20.11
* **4.7** Ps 95.7, 8; Heb 3.7, 8
d **4.8** Gk *he*

e **4.10** Gk *his*
* **4.12** Jer 23.29; 1 Cor 14.24, 25; Eph 6.17
* **4.13** Job 26.6; Ps 33.13–15
* **4.14** Heb 3.1; 7.26; 10.23
f **4.15** Or *tempted*
* **4.15** 2 Cor 5.21; Heb 2.18; 1 Pet 2.22

Hebrews 5

* **5.2** Heb 2.18; 7.28; Jas 5.19
* **5.4** Ex 28.1; 2 Chr 26.18
g **5.5** Gk lacks *was appointed by*
* **5.5** Ps 2.7; Jn 8.54; Heb 1.1, 5
* **5.6** Ps 110.4; Heb 7.17
h **5.7** Gk *he*
* **5.7** Mt 26.39, 53; 27.46; Mk 14.36; 15.34
* **5.8** Phil 2.8; Heb 3.6
* **5.9** Heb 2.10
i **5.11** Or *him*
* **5.12** Acts 7.38; 1 Cor 3.2; Gal 4.3; Heb 6.1
* **5.14** Isa 7.15

Hebrews 6

j **6.1** Or *let us be carried along*
k **6.1** Or *toward maturity*
* **6.1** Phil 3.12–14; Heb 5.12; 9.14
* **6.2** Acts 6.6; 17.31, 32; 19.3, 4
l **6.3** Other ancient authorities read *let us do*
* **6.4** Gal 3.2, 5; Eph 2.8; Heb 10.26, 32
* **6.5** Heb 2.5
* **6.6** Heb 10.26–29
* **6.7** Ps 65.10
* **6.8** Gen 3.17, 18
m **6.10** Other ancient authorities add *labor of*
n **6.10** Gk *for his name*
* **6.10** Mt 10.42; 25.40; Rom 15.25; 1 Thess 1.3; 2 Thess 1.6, 7
* **6.11** Col 2.2; Heb 3.6, 14
* **6.12** Heb 10.36
* **6.13** Gen 22.16, 17; Lk 1.73
o **6.15** Gk *he*
* **6.16** Ex 22.11; Gal 3.15

* **6.17** Ps 110.4; Heb 11.9
* **6.18** Titus 1.2; Heb 7.19
* **6.19** Lev 16.2; Heb 9.7
* **6.20** Heb 4.14; 5.6

Hebrews 7

* **7.1** Gen 14.18–20
* **7.3** vv 6, 28
p **7.4** Other ancient authorities lack *Even*
* **7.4** Gen 14.20
q **7.5** Or *a tenth*
* **7.5** Num 18.21, 26
r **7.6** Or *a tenth*
* **7.6** Gen 14.19; Rom 4.13
* **7.8** Heb 5.6; 6.20
* **7.11** vv 17, 18, 19; Heb 8.7; 10.1
* **7.14** Isa 11.1; Mt 1.3; Lk 3.33; Rom 1.3; Rev 5.5
* **7.16** Heb 9.10, 14
* **7.17** v 21; Ps 110.4; Heb 5.6; 6.20
* **7.18** Rom 8.3; Gal 4.9
* **7.19** Acts 13.39; Rom 3.20; Gal 2.16; Heb 4.16; 6.18; 8.6; 9.9
s **7.21** Other ancient witnesses add *according to the order of Melchizedek*
* **7.21** Ps 110.4
* **7.22** Heb 8.6; 9.15; 12.24
t **7.25** Or *able to save completely*
* **7.25** v 19; Rom 8.34; Heb 9.24
* **7.26** Heb 4.15; 8.1
u **7.27** Gk lacks *other*
* **7.27** Eph 5.2; Heb 5.1, 3; 9.12, 14, 28
* **7.28** Heb 1.2; 2.10; 5.2

Hebrews 8

* **8.1** Heb 1.3; 2.17
v **8.2** Or *tabernacle*
* **8.2** Heb 9.11, 24
* **8.3** Heb 5.1; 9.14
w **8.4** Other ancient authorities read *priests*
x **8.5** Gk lacks *a sanctuary that is*
y **8.5** Or *tabernacle*
z **8.5** Gk *he*

* **8.5** Ex 25.40; Col 2.17; Heb 9.23; 10.1; 11.7; 12.25
a **8.6** Gk *he*
* **8.6** 1 Tim 2.5; Heb 7.22
* **8.7** Heb 7.11, 18
b **8.8** Gk *He*
* **8.8** Jer 31.31–34
* **8.10** Zech 8.8; 2 Cor 3.3; Heb 10.16
c **8.11** Or *teach each one their fellow-citizen and each one their sibling, saying*
* **8.11** Isa 54.13; Jn 6.45; 1 Jn 2.27
d **8.12** Other ancient authorities add *and their lawless deeds*
* **8.12** Heb 10.17
* **8.13** 2 Cor 5.17

Hebrews 9

e **9.1** Other ancient authorities add *even*
f **9.2** Or *tabernacle*
g **9.2** Gk *the presentation of the loaves*
* **9.2** Ex 25.8, 9, 23–39
h **9.3** Or *tabernacle*
* **9.3** Ex 26.31–33
* **9.4** Ex 16.32, 33; 25.10ff; 30.1–5; Num 17.10
i **9.5** Or *the place of atonement*
* **9.5** Ex 25.17ff
j **9.6** Or *tabernacle*
* **9.7** Ex 30.10; Lev 16.11ff; Heb 5.2, 3
k **9.8** Or *tabernacle*
* **9.8** Jn 14.6; Heb 10.19, 20
l **9.9** Gk *parable*
* **9.9** Gal 3.21; Heb 5.1; 11.19
* **9.10** Lev 11.2ff; Col 2.16; Heb 7.16
m **9.11** Other ancient authorities read *good things to come*
n **9.11** Or *tabernacle*
* **9.11** Heb 2.17; 8.2; 10.1
* **9.12** Heb 7.27; 10.4
* **9.13** Num 19.9, 17, 18
o **9.14** Other ancient authorities read *Holy Spirit*
p **9.14** Other ancient authorities read *your*
* **9.14** Titus 2.14; 1 Pet 3.18; 1 Jn 1.7
q **9.15** The Greek word used here means both *covenant* and *will*
* **9.15** 1 Tim 2.5; Heb 3.1; 7.22
r **9.16** The Greek word used here means both *covenant* and *will*

s **9.17** The Greek word used here means both *covenant* and *will*
* **9.18** Ex 24.6
t **9.19** Other ancient authorities lack *and goats*
* **9.19** Ex 24.6ff; Lev 14.4, 7
u **9.21** Or *tabernacle*
* **9.21** Lev 8.15
* **9.22** Lev 17.11
* **9.24** Heb 6.20; 7.25; 8.2; 1 Jn 2.1
* **9.26** Heb 1.2; 4.3; 7.27
* **9.27** Gen 3.19; 2 Cor 5.10
* **9.28** Rom 6.10; Titus 2.13; 1 Pet 2.24

Hebrews 10

v **10.1** Other ancient authorities read *they*
* **10.1** Heb 9.9, 11, 23
* **10.3** Heb 9.7
* **10.4** Mic 6.6, 7
w **10.5** Gk *he*
* **10.5** Ps 40.6–8; Heb 1.6; 1 Pet 2.24
x **10.7** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **10.7** Jer 36.2
y **10.10** Gk *by that will*
* **10.10** Jn 17.19; Heb 7.27; 1 Pet 2.24
* **10.11** v 4; Heb 5.1
z **10.12** Gk *this one*
* **10.13** Ps 110.1; Heb 1.13
* **10.16** Jer 31.33, 34
* **10.19** Eph 2.18; Heb 9.8, 12
* **10.20** Heb 9.3, 8
* **10.21** 1 Tim 3.15; Heb 2.17
* **10.22** Ezek 36.25; Eph 3.12; Heb 4.16; 9.14
* **10.23** 1 Cor 1.9; Heb 4.14
* **10.25** Acts 2.42; Phil 4.5; Heb 3.13
* **10.26** Num 15.30; 2 Pet 2.20
* **10.27** Isa 26.11; Heb 9.27
* **10.28** Deut 17.2–6; Heb 2.2
* **10.29** Eph 4.30; Heb 2.3; 6.4, 6; 13.20
a **10.30** Other ancient authorities add *says the Lord*
* **10.30** Deut 32.35, 36; Rom 12.19
* **10.32** Phil 1.29, 30; Heb 6.4
* **10.33** 1 Cor 4.9; 1 Thess 2.14

b **10.34** Other ancient authorities add *in heaven*

* **10.34** Heb 9.15

* **10.36** Lk 21.19; Col 3.24

* **10.37** Hab 2.3, 4; Lk 18.8

* **10.38** Rom 1.17; Gal 3.11

* **10.39** Acts 16.30; 2 Pet 2.20

Hebrews 11

c **11.1** Or *reality*

d **11.1** Or *evidence*

* **11.1** Rom 8.24; 2 Cor 4.18; 5.7

e **11.2** Gk *by this*

f **11.3** Or *was not made out of visible things*

* **11.3** Gen 1.1; Jn 1.3; Heb 6.5

g **11.4** Gk *greater*

h **11.4** Gk *through it*

* **11.4** Gen 4.4, 10; Heb 12.24; 1 Jn 3.12

* **11.5** Gen 5.21–24

* **11.7** Gen 6.13–22

* **11.8** Gen 12.1–4; Acts 7.2–4

* **11.9** Gen 12.8; 18.1, 9; Heb 6.17

* **11.10** Heb 12.22; 13.14; Rev 21.2

i **11.11** Other ancient authorities read *By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered*

* **11.11** Gen 17.19; 18.11–14; 21.2

* **11.12** Gen 22.17; 32.12; Rom 4.19

* **11.13** Gen 23.4; Ps 39.12

* **11.16** Ex 3.6, 15; Phil 3.20; Heb 13.14

* **11.17** Gen 22.1–10; Jas 2.21

* **11.18** Gen 21.12; Rom 9.7

* **11.19** Rom 4.21

* **11.21** Gen 48.5, 16, 20

j **11.22** Gk *his bones*

* **11.22** Gen 50.24, 25; Ex 13.19

k **11.23** Other ancient authorities add *By faith Moses, when he was grown up, killed the Egyptian, because he observed the humiliation of his brothers and sisters*

* **11.23** Ex 1.16; 2.2

l **11.26** Or *the Messiah*

m **11.27** Or *because*

n **11.28** Gk *would not touch them*

* **11.28** Ex 12.21

* **11.29** Ex 14.21–31
* **11.30** Josh 6.12–21
o **11.31** Or *unbelieving*
* **11.31** Josh 2.9ff; 6.23; Jas 2.25
* **11.33** Judg 14.5; 1 Sam 17.34; 2 Sam 7.11; Dan 6.22
* **11.34** Judg 15.8; 2 Kings 20.7
* **11.35** 1 Kings 17.22; Acts 22.25
* **11.36** Jer 20.2
p **11.37** Other ancient authorities add *they were tempted*
* **11.37** 1 Kings 21.13; 2 Kings 1.8; Acts 7.58
* **11.38** 1 Kings 18.4
* **11.40** Heb 5.9

Hebrews 12

q **12.1** Other ancient authorities read *sin that easily distracts*
* **12.1** 1 Cor 9.24; Heb 10.36
r **12.2** Or *who instead of*
* **12.2** Phil 2.8, 9; Heb 1.3, 13; 1 Pet 3.22
s **12.3** Other ancient authorities read *such hostility from sinners against themselves*
* **12.3** Mt 10.24; Gal 6.9
* **12.5** Prov 3.11, 12
* **12.6** Ps 94.12; Jas 1.12
* **12.7** Deut 8.5
* **12.8** 1 Pet 5.9
* **12.10** 2 Pet 1.4
* **12.11** Jas 3.17, 18; 1 Pet 1.6
* **12.12** Isa 35.3
* **12.13** Prov 4.26; Gal 6.1
* **12.15** Deut 29.18; Gal 5.4; Heb 3.12
* **12.16** Gen 25.33
t **12.17** Gk *it*
* **12.17** Gen 27.30–40
u **12.18** Other ancient authorities read *a mountain*
* **12.18** Ex 19.12–22; Deut 4.11
* **12.19** Ex 20.19; Deut 5.5
* **12.20** Ex 19.12, 13
* **12.21** Ex 19.16
* **12.22** Gal 4.26; Phil 3.20
v **12.23** Or *angels, and to the festal gathering* [23] *and assembly*
* **12.23** Lk 10.20; Phil 3.12

* **12.24** Gen 4.10; 1 Tim 2.5; Heb 11.4
* **12.25** Heb 2.2, 3; 8.5; 11.7
* **12.26** Ex 19.18; Hag 2.6
* **12.27** 1 Cor 7.31; 2 Pet 3.10
* **12.29** Deut 4.24

Hebrews 13

* **13.2** Gen 18.3; 1 Pet 4.9
w **13.3** Gk *were in the body*
* **13.4** 1 Cor 6.9; Rev 22.15
* **13.5** Deut 31.6, 8; Josh 1.5; Phil 4.11
x **13.9** Gk *not by foods*
* **13.9** Eph 4.14; Col 2.7, 16
y **13.10** Or *tabernacle*
* **13.10** 1 Cor 9.13; 10.18
* **13.11** Ex 29.14; Lev 16.27
* **13.12** Jn 19.17
* **13.14** Phil 3.20; Heb 10.34; 12.22
* **13.15** Isa 57.19; Hos 14.2; 1 Pet 2.5
* **13.17** Isa 62.6; Acts 20.28
* **13.18** Acts 24.16; 1 Thess 5.25
* **13.20** Zech 9.11; Rom 15.33
z **13.21** Other ancient authorities read *for every good work*
a **13.21** Other ancient authorities read *you*
b **13.21** Other ancient authorities add *and ever*
* **13.21** Phil 2.13; 1 Pet 5.10
* **13.23** 1 Thess 3.2; 1 Tim 6.12
c **13.25** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*
* **13.25** Col 4.18; Titus 3.15

The Letter of

James

James 1

SALUTATION

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,
To the twelve tribes in the dispersion:
Greetings.

FAITH AND WISDOM

2 My brothers and sisters, whenever you face various trials, consider it
all joy,* [3]because you know that the testing of your faith produces
endurance. [4]And let endurance complete its work, so that you may be
complete and whole, lacking in nothing.

5 If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all
generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.* [6]But ask in faith,
never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and
tossed by the wind.* [7,8]For the doubter, being double-minded and unstable
in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

POVERTY AND RICHES

9 Let the brother or sister of humble means boast in having a high
position [10]and the rich in having been humbled, because the rich will
disappear like a flower in the field.* [11]For the sun rises with its scorching
heat and withers the field; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. It is the
same way with the rich; in the midst of a busy life, they will wither away.

TRIAL AND TEMPTATION

12 Blessed is anyone who endures temptation. Such a one has stood the
test and will receive the crown of life that the Lord[a] has promised to those

who love him.* 13No one, when tempted, should say, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one. 14But one is tempted by one’s own desire, being lured and enticed by it; 15then, when desire has conceived, it engenders sin, and sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death.*

16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers and sisters. 17Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.[b,*] 18In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave birth to us by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.*

HEARING AND DOING THE WORD

19 You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger,* 20for human anger does not produce God’s righteousness.[c] 21Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.*

22 But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.* 23For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves[d] in a mirror;* 24for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. 25But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.*

26 If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.* 27Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.*

James 2

WARNING AGAINST PARTIALITY

1 My brothers and sisters, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of
glory while showing partiality.* [2]For if a person with gold rings and in fine
clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also
comes in, [3]and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and
say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor
you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool,"* [4]have you not made
distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?
[5]Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in
the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has
promised to those who love him?* [6]But you have dishonored the poor
person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into
the courts?* [7]Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was
invoked over you?

8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall
love your neighbor as yourself," you do well.* [9]But if you show partiality,
you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. [10]For
whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable
for all of it.* [11]For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also
said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but you
murder, you have become a transgressor of[e] the law.* [12]So speak and so act
as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.* [13]For judgment will be
without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over
judgment.*

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD

14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have
faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it?* [15]If a
brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food* [16]and one of you says to
them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply

their bodily needs, what is the good of that? 17So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith apart from works, and I by my works will show you faith.* 19You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder.* 20Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is worthless?[f] 21Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?* 22You see that faith was active along with his works, and by works faith was brought to completion.* 23Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,"[g] and he was called the friend of God.* 24You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers[h] and sent them out by another road?* 26For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

James 3

TAMING THE TONGUE

1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you
know that we who teach will face stricter judgment.* [2]For all of us make
many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is mature,[i]
able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.* [3]If we put bits into the
mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. [4]Or
look at ships: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, yet
they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.
[5]So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a such a small fire!* [6]And the tongue
is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it
stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of life, and is itself set on fire by
hell.[j,*] [7]For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can
be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, [8]but no one can tame
the tongue—a restless[k] evil, full of deadly poison.* [9]With it we bless the
Lord[l] and Father, and with it we curse people, made in the likeness of God.*
[10]From the same mouth comes a blessing and a curse. My brothers and
sisters, this ought not to be so. [11]Does a spring pour forth from the same
opening both fresh and brackish water? [12]Can a fig tree, my brothers and
sisters, yield olives or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

TWO KINDS OF WISDOM

13 Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life
that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom.* [14]But if you
have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and
lie about the truth. [15]This is not wisdom that comes down from above but is
earthly, unspiritual, devilish.* [16]For where there is envy and selfish
ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind.* [17]But
the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield,
full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.*

[18]And the fruit of righteousness[m] is sown in peace by those who make peace.[*]

James 4

FRIENDSHIP WITH THE WORLD

1 Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do
they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? [2]You want
something and do not have it, so you commit murder. And you covet[n]
something and cannot obtain it, so you engage in disputes and conflicts.
You do not have because you do not ask. [3]You ask and do not receive
because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your
pleasures.* [4]Adulterers![o] Do you not know that friendship with the world is
enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world
becomes an enemy of God.* [5]Or do you suppose that the scripture speaks to
no purpose? Does the spirit that God caused to dwell[p] in us desire envy?*
[6]But God gives all the more grace; therefore it says,

> "God opposes the proud
> but gives grace to the humble."*

[7]Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from
you.* [8]Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands,
you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.* [9]Lament and
mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy
into dejection. [10]Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.*

WARNING AGAINST JUDGING ANOTHER

11 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever
speaks evil against another or judges another speaks evil against the law
and judges the law, but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law
but a judge.* [12]There is one lawgiver and judge[q] who is able to save and to
destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor?*

BOASTING ABOUT TOMORROW

13 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money.”* [14]Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.* [15]Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that.”* [16]As it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. [17]Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it commits sin.*

James 5

WARNING TO RICH OPPRESSORS

1 Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are
coming to you. [2]Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten.[*]
[3]Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against
you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure[r] during the
last days. [4]Listen! The wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which
you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached
the ears of the Lord of hosts.[*] [5]You have lived on the earth in luxury and in
pleasure; you have nourished your hearts in a day of slaughter.[*] [6]You have
condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

PATIENCE IN SUFFERING

7 Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord.
The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it
until it receives the early and the late rains.[*] [8]You also must be patient.
Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.[s,*] [9]Brothers and
sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged.
See, the Judge is standing at the doors![*] [10]As an example of suffering and
patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of
the Lord. [11]Indeed, we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have
heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the outcome that the Lord
brought about, for the Lord is compassionate and merciful.[*]

12 Above all, brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by
earth or by any other oath, but let your "Yes" be yes and your "No" be no,
so that you may not fall under condemnation.[t]

THE PRAYER OF FAITH

13 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful?
They should sing songs of praise.[*] [14]Are any among you sick? They should
call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing

them with oil in the name of the Lord.* 15The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. 16Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.* 17Elijah was a human like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.* 18Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest.*

19 My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth[u] and is brought back by another, 20you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's[v] soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.*

James 1

* **1.2** Mt 5.12; Heb 10.34; 1 Pet 1.6
* **1.5** 1 Kings 3.9; Prov 2.3; 1 Jn 5.14
* **1.6** Mk 11.24
* **1.10** 1 Cor 7.31; 1 Pet 1.24
a **1.12** Gk *he*; other ancient authorities read *God*
* **1.12** Heb 12.5; Jas 2.5
* **1.15** Job 15.35; Ps 7.14; Rom 6.21, 23
b **1.17** Other ancient authorities read *variation due to a shadow of turning*
* **1.17** Mal 3.6; Jn 3.27
* **1.18** Jn 1.13; Eph 1.12; Rev 14.4
* **1.19** Prov 5.1, 2; 10.19
c **1.20** Or *justice*
* **1.21** Eph 1.13; 4.22; Titus 2.11; 1 Pet 2.1
* **1.22** Mt 7.21; Rom 2.13; 1 Jn 3.7
d **1.23** Gk *at the face of his birth*
* **1.23** Lk 6.47; 1 Cor 13.12
* **1.25** Jn 13.17; 2 Cor 3.18; Jas 2.12
* **1.26** Ps 34.13; 1 Pet 3.10
* **1.27** Mt 25.36; Rom 12.2; 1 Jn 5.18

James 2

* **2.1** Prov 24.23; Mt 22.16; 1 Cor 2.8
* **2.3** v 2
* **2.5** Lk 12.21; 1 Cor 1.26–28; Jas 1.12
* **2.6** Acts 8.3; 1 Cor 11.22
* **2.8** Lev 19.18; Mt 22.39
* **2.10** Mt 5.19; Gal 3.10
e **2.11** Other ancient authorities read *a rebel against*
* **2.11** Ex 20.13, 14; Deut 5.17, 18
* **2.12** Jas 1.25
* **2.13** Mt 5.7; 18.32–35
* **2.14** Mt 7.26; Jas 1.22ff
* **2.15** Lk 3.11
* **2.18** Jas 3.13
* **2.19** Deut 6.4; Mt 8.29; Lk 4.34
f **2.20** Other ancient authorities read *dead* or empty
* **2.21** Gen 22.9
* **2.22** Heb 11.17

g **2.23** Or *justice*
* **2.23** Gen 15.6; 2 Chr 20.7; Isa 41.8; Rom 4.3
h **2.25** Other ancient authorities read *spies*
* **2.25** Josh 2.1ff; Heb 11.31

James 3

* **3.1** Mt 23.8; Lk 6.37
i **3.2** Gk *a mature man*
* **3.2** 1 Kings 8.46; Mt 12.37; Jas 1.26; 1 Pet 3.10
* **3.5** Ps 12.3; Prov 12.18
j **3.6** Gk *Gehenna*
* **3.6** Prov 16.27; Mt 15.11, 18, 19
k **3.8** Other ancient authorities read *uncontrollable*
* **3.8** Ps 140.3; Rom 3.13
l **3.9** Other ancient authorities read *God*
* **3.9** Gen 1.26
* **3.13** Gal 6.4; Jas 2.18
* **3.15** 1 Tim 4.1; Jas 1.17
* **3.16** Gal 5.20
* **3.17** Rom 12.9; 1 Cor 2.6; 1 Pet 1.22
m **3.18** Or *justice*
* **3.18** Prov 11.18; Isa 32.17

James 4

n **4.2** Or *you murder and you covet*
* **4.3** Ps 18.41; 1 Jn 3.22; 5.14
o **4.4** Gk *Adulterous women*; other ancient authorities read *Adulterous men and women*
* **4.4** Jn 15.19; Jas 1.27; 1 Jn 2.15
p **4.5** Other ancient authorities read *the spirit that dwells*
* **4.5** Gen 6.5; Num 11.29
* **4.6** Ps 138.6; Prov 3.34
* **4.7** 1 Pet 5.6–9
* **4.8** 2 Chr 15.2; Isa 1.16; Jas 1.8
* **4.10** Mt 23.12
* **4.11** 1 Pet 2.1
q **4.12** Other ancient authorities lack *and judge*
* **4.12** Mt 10.28; Rom 14.4
* **4.13** Prov 27.1
* **4.14** Job 7.7; Ps 102.3
* **4.15** Acts 18.21

* **4.17** Lk 12.47; Jn 9.41

James 5

* **5.2** Job 13.28; Mt 6.20
r **5.3** Or *will eat your flesh, since you have stored up fire*
* **5.4** Lev 19.13; Deut 24.15; Rom 9.29
* **5.5** Jer 12.3; 25.34; Am 6.1
* **5.7** Deut 11.14; Jer 5.24
s **5.8** Or *is at hand*
* **5.8** 1 Pet 4.7
* **5.9** Mt 24.33; Jas 4.11, 12
* **5.11** Num 14.18; Job 1.21, 22; 42.10; Mt 5.10
t **5.12** Other ancient authorities read *into hypocrisy*
* **5.13** v 10; Ps 50.15; Col 3.16
* **5.14** Mk 6.13
* **5.16** Mt 3.6; Jn 9.31; 1 Pet 2.24
* **5.17** 1 Kings 17.1; Lk 4.25; Acts 14.15
* **5.18** 1 Kings 18.42, 45
u **5.19** Other ancient authorities read *from the way of truth*
v **5.20** Gk *his*
* **5.20** Rom 11.14; 1 Pet 4.8

The First Letter of

Peter

1 Peter 1

SALUTATION

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, [2]who have been chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood:

May grace and peace be yours in abundance.*

A LIVING HOPE

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead* [4]and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, [5]who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.* [6]In this you rejoice,[a] even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials,* [7]so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.* [8]Although you have not seen[b] him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,* [9]for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.[c]

10 Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace intended for you made careful search and inquiry,* [11]inquiring about the time and circumstances[d] that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when it testified in advance to the sufferings intended for Christ and the subsequent glory.* [12]It was revealed to them that they were serving not

themselves but you, in regard to the things that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look![*]

A CALL TO HOLY LIVING

13 Therefore prepare your minds for action;[e] discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed.[*] [14]Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. [15]Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct,[*] [16]for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."[*]

17 If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile.[*] [18]You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold [19]but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.[*] [20]He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.[*] [21]Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

22 Now that you have purified your souls[f] by your obedience to the truth[g] so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart.[h,*] [23]You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.[i,*] [24]For

"All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,[*]
[25]but the word of the Lord endures forever."

That word is the good news that was announced to you.[*]

1 Peter 2

THE LIVING STONE AND A CHOSEN PEOPLE

1 Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice and all guile, insincerity, envy, and
all slander.* [2]Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that
by it you may grow into salvation*—[3]if indeed you have tasted that the
Lord is good.[j,*]

4 Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and
precious in God's sight, and [5]like living stones let yourselves be built[k] into
a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.* [6]For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."*

[7]This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,[l]

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"*

[8]and

"A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.*

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's
own people,[m] in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who
called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

[10]Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.*

LIVE AS SERVANTS OF GOD

11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of
the flesh that wage war against the soul.[n,*] [12]Conduct yourselves honorably
among the gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may
see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.[o,*]

13 For the Lord's sake be subject to every human authority,[p] whether to
the emperor as supreme[*] [14]or to governors as sent by him to punish those
who do wrong and to praise those who do right. [15]For it is God's will that
by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. [16]As servants
of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for
evil.[*] [17]Honor everyone. Love the family of believers.[q] Fear God. Honor
the emperor.[*]

THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST'S SUFFERING

18 Slaves, be subject to your masters with all respect,[r] not only those
who are good and gentle but also those who are dishonest. [19]For it is a
commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while
suffering unjustly. [20]If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong,
what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it,
this is a commendable thing before God.[*] [21]For to this you have been
called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that
you should follow in his steps.[*]

[22]"He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

[23]When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did
not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.[*] [24]He
himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,[s] so that, having died to sins,
we might live for righteousness; by his wounds[t] you have been healed.[*]
[25]For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the
shepherd and guardian of your souls.[u,*]

1 Peter 3

WIVES AND HUSBANDS

1 Wives, in the same way, be subject to your husbands, so that, even if some
of them do not obey the word, they may be won over without a word by
their wives' conduct,* [2]when they see the purity and respect of your
conduct. [3]Do not adorn yourselves outwardly by braiding your hair and by
wearing gold ornaments or fine clothing;* [4]rather, let your adornment be the
inner self with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very
precious in God's sight.* [5]It was in this way long ago that the holy women
who hoped in God used to adorn themselves by being subject to their
husbands. [6]Thus Sarah obeyed Abraham and called him lord. You have
become her daughters as long as you do what is good and never let fears
alarm you.*

7 Husbands, in the same way, show consideration for your wives in your
life together, paying honor to the woman—though the weaker vessel,[v] they
are joint heirs of the gracious gift of life—so that nothing may hinder your
prayers.*

SUFFERING FOR DOING RIGHT

8 Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another,
a tender heart, and a humble mind.* [9]Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for
abuse, but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were
called—that you might inherit a blessing.* [10]For

"Those who desire to love life
and to see good days,
let them keep their tongues from evil
and their lips from speaking deceit;
[11]let them turn away from evil and do good;
let them seek peace and pursue it.
[12]For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,

and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

13 Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? [14]But even if you do suffer for doing what is right,[w] you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear,[x] and do not be intimidated,* [15]but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you,* [16]yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned,[y] those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.* [17]For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. [18]For Christ also suffered[z] for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you[a] to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,* [19]in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, [20]who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water.* [21]And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for[b] a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,* [22]who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.*

1 Peter 4

GOOD STEWARDS OF GOD'S GRACE

1 Since, therefore, Christ suffered in the flesh,[c] arm yourselves also with the
same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin),[*]
[2]so as to live for the rest of your time in the flesh no longer by human
desires but by the will of God.[*] [3]You have already spent enough time in
doing what the gentiles like to do, living in debauchery, passions,
drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry.[*] [4]They are surprised
that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so
they blaspheme.[d,*] [5]But they will have to give an accounting to him who
stands ready to judge the living and the dead.[*] [6]For this is the reason the
gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been
judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as
God does.

7 The end of all things is near;[e] therefore be serious and discipline
yourselves for the sake of your prayers.[*] [8]Above all, maintain constant love
for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.[*] [9]Be hospitable to one
another without complaining. [10]Like good stewards of the manifold grace
of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.[*]
[11]Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God;
whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God
may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory
and the power forever and ever. Amen.[*]

SUFFERING AS A CHRISTIAN

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place
among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
[13]But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may
also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.[*] [14]If you are
reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory,[f]
which is the Spirit of God,[g] is resting on you.[h,*] [15]But let none of you suffer

as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or even as a mischief maker.[i,*] 16Yet if any of you suffers as a Christian, do not consider it a disgrace, but glorify God because you bear this name.[j] 17For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who do not obey the gospel of God?[*] 18And

"If it is hard for the righteous to be saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

19Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with God's will entrust their lives to a faithful Creator, while continuing to do good.

1 Peter 5

TENDING THE FLOCK OF GOD

1 Now as an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well
as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among
you* [2]to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the
oversight,[k] not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do
it,[l] not for sordid gain but eagerly.* [3]Do not lord it over those in your
charge, but be examples to the flock.* [4]And when the chief shepherd
appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.* [5]In the
same way, you who are younger must be subject to the elders.[m] And all of
you must clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another,
for

> "God opposes the proud
> but gives grace to the humble."*

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he
may exalt you in due time. [7]Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares
for you.* [8]Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your
adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.* [9]Resist
him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in
all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.* [10]And after you
have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to
his eternal glory in Christ,[n] will himself restore, support, strengthen, and
establish you.* [11]To him be the power[o] forever and ever. Amen.

FINAL GREETINGS AND BENEDICTION

12 Through Silvanus, whom I consider a faithful brother, I have written
this short letter to encourage you and to testify that this is the true grace of
God. Stand fast in it.* [13]Your sister church[p] in Babylon, chosen together
with you, sends you greetings, and so does my son Mark. [14]Greet one
another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.[q,*]

1 Peter 1

* **1.2** 2 Thess 2.13; Heb 10.22; 2 Pet 1.2
* **1.3** 1 Cor 15.20; 2 Cor 1.3; Jas 1.18
* **1.5** Jn 10.28
a **1.6** Or *Rejoice in this*
* **1.6** Rom 5.2; Jas 1.2; 1 Pet 5.10
* **1.7** Ps 66.10; Rom 2.7; Jas 1.3
b **1.8** Other ancient authorities read *known*
* **1.8** Jn 20.29; 1 Jn 4.20
c **1.9** Or *lives*
* **1.10** Mt 13.17; 26.24
d **1.11** Or *the person and time*
* **1.11** Isa 53; 2 Pet 1.21
* **1.12** Dan 9.24; Eph 3.10
e **1.13** Gk *gird up the loins of your mind*
* **1.13** Eph 6.14; 1 Thess 5.6
* **1.15** 2 Cor 7.1
* **1.16** Lev 11.44
* **1.17** Deut 10.17; Heb 12.28
* **1.19** Ex 12.5
* **1.20** Eph 1.4; Heb 9.26
f **1.22** Or *lives*
g **1.22** Other ancient authorities add *through the Spirit*
h **1.22** Other ancient authorities read *a pure heart*
* **1.22** Heb 13.1; Jas 4.8
i **1.23** Or *through the word of the living and enduring God*
* **1.23** Jn 1.13; 3.3; Heb 4.12
* **1.24** Isa 40.6–9; Jas 1.10, 11
* **1.25** Jn 1.1

1 Peter 2

* **2.1** Eph 4.22; Jas 1.21; 4.11
* **2.2** Mk 10.15; 1 Cor 3.2
j **2.3** Or *kind*
* **2.3** Titus 3.4; Heb 6.5
k **2.5** Or *you yourselves are being built*
* **2.5** Phil 4.18; Heb 13.15
* **2.6** Isa 28.16; Eph 2.20
l **2.7** Other ancient authorities read *obey*

* **2.7** Ps 118.22; Mt 21.42
* **2.8** Isa 8.14; Rom 9.22; 1 Cor 1.23
m **2.9** Gk *a people for his possession*
* **2.9** Deut 10.15; Acts 26.18
* **2.10** Hos 1.9, 10
n **2.11** Or *one's life*
* **2.11** Ps 39.12; Rom 12.1; Gal 5.16; Jas 4.1
o **2.12** Gk *God on the day of visitation*
* **2.12** Mt 5.16; Phil 2.15; 1 Pet 3.16
p **2.13** Or *every authority ordained for humans*
* **2.13** Rom 13.1
* **2.16** 1 Cor 7.22; Gal 5.1
q **2.17** Gk *Love the brotherhood*
* **2.17** Rom 12.10; Heb 13.1
r **2.18** Or *fear*
* **2.20** 1 Pet 3.17
* **2.21** Mt 16.24; Acts 14.22
* **2.23** Isa 53.7; Lk 23.46; Heb 12.3
s **2.24** Or *carried up our sins in his body to the tree*
t **2.24** Gk *bruise*
* **2.24** Isa 53.5; Rom 6.2; Heb 9.28
u **2.25** Or *lives*
* **2.25** Isa 53.6; 1 Pet 5.4

1 Peter 3

* **3.1** 1 Cor 7.16; Eph 5.22
* **3.3** Isa 3.18–23; 1 Tim 2.9
* **3.4** Rom 7.22
* **3.6** Gen 18.12
v **3.7** Or *body*
* **3.7** Mt 5.23ff; Eph 5.25; 1 Thess 4.4
* **3.8** Phil 2.3; 1 Pet 5.5
* **3.9** Rom 12.17; Heb 6.14
w **3.14** Or *for righteousness' sake*
x **3.14** Gk *their fear*
* **3.14** Isa 8.12, 13; 1 Pet 2.19ff
* **3.15** Col 4.6; 1 Pet 1.3, 17
y **3.16** Other ancient authorities read *when they malign you as evildoers*
* **3.16** Heb 13.18; 1 Pet 2.12, 15
z **3.18** Other ancient authorities read *died*
a **3.18** Other ancient authorities read *us*

* **3.18** 2 Cor 13.4; Eph 3.12; 1 Pet 2.21; 4.1, 6
* **3.20** Gen 6.3, 5; 8.18; Heb 11.7
b **3.21** Or *a pledge to God from*
* **3.21** Titus 3.5; Heb 9.14; 1 Pet 1.3
* **3.22** Rom 8.34, 38

1 Peter 4

c **4.1** Other ancient authorities add *for us* or *for you*
* **4.1** Gal 5.24; 1 Pet 3.18
* **4.2** Rom 6.11; Gal 2.20
* **4.3** Eph 4.17
d **4.4** Or *they malign you*
* **4.4** 1 Pet 3.16
* **4.5** Acts 10.42; 2 Tim 4.1
e **4.7** Or *is at hand*
* **4.7** Rom 13.11; 1 Pet 1.13
* **4.8** 1 Cor 13.7; Heb 13.1
* **4.10** Rom 12.6, 7; 1 Cor 4.1
* **4.11** Eph 5.20; 6.10; 1 Tim 6.16
* **4.13** Rom 8.17; Phil 3.10
f **4.14** Other ancient authorities add *and of power*
g **4.14** Or *spirit of glory and of God*
h **4.14** Other ancient authorities add *On their part he is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified*
* **4.14** Mt 5.11
i **4.15** Meaning of Gk uncertain
* **4.15** 1 Thess 4.11
j **4.16** Other ancient authorities read *in this respect*
* **4.17** Jer 25.29; Mal 3.5

1 Peter 5

* **5.1** Lk 24.28; 1 Pet 1.5, 7; Rev 1.9
k **5.2** Other ancient authorities lack *exercising the oversight*
l **5.2** Or *in a godly manner*; other ancient authorities lack *as God would have you do it*
* **5.2** Jn 21.16; 1 Cor 9.17; 1 Tim 3.3, 8; Titus 1.7
* **5.3** Ezek 34.4; Phil 3.17
* **5.4** 2 Tim 4.8; Heb 13.20
m **5.5** Or *of those who are older*
* **5.5** Isa 57.15; Jas 4.6
* **5.7** Ps 37.5; Mt 6.25; Heb 13.5
* **5.8** Job 1.7; Lk 21.34

* **5.9** Acts 14.22; Col 2.5; Jas 4.7
n **5.10** Other ancient authorities read *Christ Jesus*
* **5.10** 2 Thess 2.17; Heb 13.21
o **5.11** Other ancient authorities read *glory and power*
* **5.12** 2 Cor 1.19; Heb 13.22
p **5.13** Gk *She who is*
q **5.14** Other ancient authorities add *Jesus* or *Amen* or *Jesus. Amen*
* **5.14** Rom 16.16; Eph 6.23

The Second Letter of
Peter

2 Peter 1

SALUTATION

1 Simeon[a] Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have received a faith as equally honorable as ours through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

THE CHRISTIAN'S CALL AND ELECTION

3 His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by[b] his own glory and excellence.* 4Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust and may become participants of the divine nature.* 5For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with excellence, and excellence with knowledge,* 6and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, 7and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. 8For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.* 9For anyone who lacks these things is blind, suffering from eye disease, forgetful of the cleansing of past sins.* 10Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will never stumble. 11For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you.

12 Therefore I intend to keep on reminding you of these things, though you know them already and are established in the truth that has come to

you.* 13I think it right, as long as I am in this body,[c] to refresh your memory,* 14since I know that my death[d] will come soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.* 15And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

EYEWITNESSES OF CHRIST'S GLORY

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.* 17For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved,[e] with whom I am well pleased."* 18We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.*

19 So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.* 20First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's[f] own interpretation, 21because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.[g,*]

2 Peter 2

FALSE PROPHETS AND THEIR PUNISHMENT

1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false
teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive opinions. They
will even deny the Master who bought them—bringing swift destruction on
themselves.[*] [2]Even so, many will follow their debaucheries, and because of
these teachers[h] the way of truth will be maligned. [3]And in their greed they
will exploit you with deceptive words. Their condemnation, pronounced
against them long ago, has not been idle, and their destruction is not
asleep.[*]

4 For if God did not spare the angels when they sinned but cast them into
hell and committed them to chains[i] of deepest darkness to be kept until the
judgment;[*] [5]and if he did not spare the ancient world, even though he saved
Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood
on the world of the ungodly;[*] [6]and if by turning the cities of Sodom and
Gomorrah to ashes he condemned them to destruction[j] and made them an
example of what is coming to the ungodly;[k] [7]and if he rescued Lot, a
righteous man greatly distressed by the debauchery of the lawless[*] [8](for that
righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his
righteous soul by their lawless deeds that he saw and heard), [9]then the Lord
knows how to rescue the godly from trial and to keep the unrighteous until
the day of judgment, when they will be punished[*] [10]—especially those who
indulge their flesh in depraved lust and who despise authority.

Bold and willful, they are not afraid to slander the glorious ones,[l,*]
[11]whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not bring against
them a slanderous judgment.[m] [12]These people, however, are like irrational
animals, mere creatures of instinct, born to be caught and killed. They
slander what they do not understand, and as those creatures are destroyed,[n]
they also will be destroyed, [13]suffering[o] the wages of doing wrong. They
count it a pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes,
reveling in their pleasures[p] while they feast with you.[*] [14]They have eyes
full of adultery,[q] insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have

hearts trained in greed. Accursed children! 15They have left the straight road and have gone astray, following the road of Balaam son of Bosor,[r] who loved the wages of doing wrong* 16but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with a human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

17 These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm; for them the deepest darkness has been reserved.* 18For they speak bombastic nonsense, and with debased[s] desires of the flesh they entice people who have just[t] escaped from those who live in error. 19They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption, for people are slaves to whatever masters them.* 20For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the[u] Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overpowered, the last state has become worse for them than the first.* 21For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment that was handed on to them.* 22It has happened to them according to the true proverb,

"The dog turns back to its own vomit,"

and,

"The sow is washed only to wallow in the mud."*

2 Peter 3

THE PROMISE OF THE LORD'S COMING

1 This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you; in them I am
trying to arouse your sincere intention by reminding you [2]that you should
remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the
commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken through your apostles. [3]First
of all you must understand this, that in the last days scoffers will come,
scoffing and indulging their own lusts* [4]and saying, "Where is the promise
of his coming? For ever since our ancestors died,[v] all things continue as
they were from the beginning of creation!"* [5]They deliberately ignore this
fact, that by the word of God heavens existed long ago and an earth was
formed out of water and by means of water,* [6]through which the world of
that time was deluged with water and perished.* [7]But by the same word the
present heavens and earth have been reserved for fire, being kept until the
day of judgment and destruction of the godless.*

8 But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is
like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.* [9]The Lord is
not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with
you,[w] not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.* [10]But the
day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away
with a loud noise, and the elements will be destroyed with fire, and the earth
and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.[x,*]

11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of
persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, [12]waiting
for and hastening[y] the coming of the day of God, because of which the
heavens will be set ablaze and destroyed and the elements will melt with
fire? [13]But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a
new earth, where righteousness is at home.*

FINAL EXHORTATION AND DOXOLOGY

14 Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish,* [15]and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him,* [16]speaking of this as he does in all his letters. There are some things in them hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist[z] to their own destruction, as they do the other scriptures. [17]You therefore, beloved, since you are forewarned, beware that you are not carried away with the error of the lawless and lose your own stability.* [18]But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.[a]

2 Peter 1

a **1.1** Other ancient authorities read *Simon*
b **1.3** Other ancient authorities read *through*
* **1.3** 1 Thess 2.12; 1 Pet 1.5
* **1.4** 2 Cor 7.1; Eph 4.24; 2 Pet 2.18–20; 1 Jn 3.2
* **1.5** Col 2.3; 2 Pet 3.18
* **1.8** Jn 15.2; Titus 3.14
* **1.9** Eph 5.26; 1 Jn 1.7; 2.11
* **1.12** 1 Jn 2.21
c **1.13** Gk *tent*
* **1.13** 2 Cor 5.1
d **1.14** Gk *the putting off of my tent*
* **1.14** Jn 21.18, 19; 2 Tim 4.6
* **1.16** Mt 17.1; Mk 9.2; 1 Tim 1.4
e **1.17** Other ancient authorities read *my beloved Son*
* **1.17** Mt 3.17; Lk 9.35
* **1.18** Mt 17.6
* **1.19** Ps 119.105; 1 Pet 1.10, 11; Rev 22.16
f **1.20** Or *the prophet's*
g **1.21** Other ancient authorities read *but, moved by the Holy Spirit, saints of God spoke*
* **1.21** Acts 1.16; 2 Tim 3.16; 1 Pet 1.11

2 Peter 2

* **2.1** 1 Cor 6.20; 1 Tim 4.1; Jude 18
h **2.2** Gk *because of them*
* **2.3** Deut 32.25; 2 Cor 2.17; 1 Tim 6.5
i **2.4** Other ancient authorities read *pits*
* **2.4** Jn 8.44; Jude 6; Rev 20.1, 2
* **2.5** Gen 7.1; Heb 11.7; 1 Pet 3.20
j **2.6** Other ancient authorities lack *to destruction*
k **2.6** Other ancient authorities read *an example to those who were to be ungodly*
* **2.7** Gen 19.16; 2 Pet 3.17
* **2.9** 1 Cor 10.13; Jude 6
l **2.10** Or *angels*; Gk *glories*
* **2.10** Titus 1.7; 2 Pet 3.3; Jude 8
m **2.11** Other ancient authorities add *from the Lord* or *before the Lord*
n **2.12** Gk *in their destruction*
o **2.13** Other ancient authorities read *receiving*
p **2.13** Other ancient authorities read *love feasts*

* **2.13** Rom 13.13; 1 Cor 11.20, 21; Jude 12
q **2.14** Gk *adulteress*; or *longing for an adulteress*
r **2.15** Other ancient authorities read *Beor*
* **2.15** Num 22.5, 7; Jude 11
* **2.17** Jude 12, 13
s **2.18** Or *debauched*
t **2.18** Other ancient authorities read *actually*
* **2.19** Jn 8.34; Rom 6.16
u **2.20** Other ancient authorities read *our*
* **2.20** Mt 12.45; Lk 11.26; 2 Pet 1.2
* **2.21** Heb 6.4ff; 2 Pet 3.2; Jude 3
* **2.22** Prov 26.11

2 Peter 3

* **3.3** 1 Tim 4.1; 2 Pet 2.10; Jude 18
v **3.4** Gk *our fathers fell asleep*
* **3.4** Jer 17.15; Ezek 12.22; Mt 10.6; 24.48; Acts 7.60
* **3.5** Gen 1.6, 9; Ps 24.2; Col 1.17; Heb 11.3
* **3.6** Gen 7.21, 22
* **3.7** v 10; 1 Cor 3.13; 2 Thess 1.7
* **3.8** Ps 90.4
w **3.9** Other ancient authorities read *on your account*
* **3.9** Isa 30.18; Rom 2.4; Heb 10.37; 1 Pet 3.20
x **3.10** Other ancient authorities read *will not be found* or *will be burned up*
* **3.10** Ps 50.3; Isa 34.4; Mt 24.35, 43; 1 Cor 1.7; 1 Thess 5.2; Titus 2.13; Rev 21.1, 12
y **3.12** Or *earnestly desiring*
* **3.13** Isa 65.17; Rev 21.1
* **3.14** 1 Cor 15.58; Phil 2.15; 2 Pet 1.10
* **3.15** 1 Cor 3.10; Eph 3.3
z **3.16** Other ancient authorities read *will twist*
* **3.17** 1 Cor 10.12; 2 Pet 2.18; Rev 2.5
a **3.18** Other ancient authorities lack *Amen*

The First Letter of

John

1 John 1

THE WORD OF LIFE

1 We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard,
what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with
our hands, concerning the word of life*—[2]this life was revealed, and we
have seen it and testify to it and declare to you the eternal life that was with
the Father and was revealed to us*—[3]what we have seen and heard we also
declare to you so that you also may have fellowship with us, and truly our
fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.* [4]We are
writing these things so that our[a] joy may be complete.

GOD IS LIGHT

5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that
God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.* [6]If we say that we have
fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do
what is true; [7]but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we
have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses
us from all sin.* [8]If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and
the truth is not in us. [9]If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will
forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* [10]If we say
that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.*

1 John 2

CHRIST OUR ADVOCATE

1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not
sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus
Christ the righteous,* [2]and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not
for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.*

3 Now by this we know that we have come to know him, if we obey his
commandments. [4]Whoever says, "I have come to know him," but does not
obey his commandments is a liar, and in such a person the truth does not
exist; [5]but whoever obeys his word, truly in this person the love of God has
reached perfection. By this we know that we are in him:* [6]whoever says, "I
abide in him," ought to walk in the same way as he walked.*

A NEW COMMANDMENT

7 Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment but an old
commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old
commandment is the word that you have heard. [8]Yet I am writing you a new
commandment that is true in him and in you, because[b] the darkness is
passing away and the true light is already shining.* [9]Whoever says, "I am in
the light," while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness.*
[10]Whoever loves a brother or sister abides in the light, and in such a person[c]
there is no cause for stumbling. [11]But whoever hates a brother or sister is in
the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go,
because the darkness has brought on blindness.*

[12]I am writing to you, little children,
because your sins are forgiven on account of his name.*
[13]I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I am writing to you, young people,
because you have conquered the evil one.

[14]I write to you, children,
because you know the Father.
I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young people,
because you are strong
and the word of God abides in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.*

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world,* [16]for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. [17]And the world and its desire[d] are passing away, but those who do the will of God abide forever.*

WARNING AGAINST ANTICHRISTS

18 Children, it is the last hour! As you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. From this we know that it is the last hour.* [19]They went out from us, but they did not belong to us, for if they had belonged to us they would have remained[e] with us. But by going out they made it plain that none of them belongs to us.* [20]But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and all of you have knowledge.[f],* [21]I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and you know that no lie comes from the truth. [22]Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ?[g] This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. [23]No one who denies the Son has the Father; everyone who confesses the Son has the Father also.* [24]Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you will abide in the Son and in the Father.* [25]And this is what he has promised us,[h] eternal life.*

26 I write these things to you concerning those who would deceive you. [27]As for you, the anointing that you received from him abides in you, so you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you

about all things and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, abide in him.[i,*]

28 And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he is revealed we may have confidence and not be put to shame before him at his coming.[*]

CHILDREN OF GOD

29 If you perceive that he is righteous, you also know that everyone who does right has been born of him.[*]

1 John 3

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children
of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is
that it did not know him. [2]Beloved, we are God's children now; what we
will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he[j] is
revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.* [3]And all who
have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.*
[5]You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no
sin.* [6]No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him
or known him. [7]Little children,[k] let no one deceive you. Everyone who does
what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. [8]Everyone who commits
sin is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The
Son of God was revealed for this purpose: to destroy the works of the
devil.* [9]Those who have been born of God do not sin because God's seed
abides in them;[l] they cannot sin because they have been born of God.*
[10]The children of God and the children of the devil are revealed in this way:
all who do not do what is right are not from God, nor are those who do not
love a brother or sister.*

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

11 For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we
should love one another.* [12]We must not be like Cain, who was from the
evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because
his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. [13]Do not be astonished,
brothers and sisters, that the world hates you.* [14]We know that we have
passed from death to life because we love the brothers and sisters. Whoever
does not love abides in death.* [15]All who hate a brother or sister are
murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in
them.* [16]We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we
ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters.* [17]How does God's

love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?*

18 Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.* [19]And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him* [20]whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. [21]Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, [22]and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.*

23 And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.* [24]All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.*

1 John 4

TESTING THE SPIRITS

1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether
they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.*
[2]By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus
Christ has come in the flesh is from God, [3]and every spirit that does not
confess Jesus[m] is not from God. And this is the spirit of the antichrist, of
which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.*
[4]Little children, you are from God and have conquered them, for the one
who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. [5]They are from the
world; therefore what they say is from the world, and the world listens to
them. [6]We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us, and whoever is
not from God does not listen to us. From this we know the spirit of truth
and the spirit of error.*

GOD IS LOVE

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone
who loves is born of God and knows God.* [8]Whoever does not love does
not know God, for God is love. [9]God's love was revealed among us in this
way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through
him.* [10]In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent
his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.* [11]Beloved, since God loved
us so much, we also ought to love one another.* [12]No one has ever seen
God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in
us.*

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has
given us of his Spirit. [14]And we have seen and do testify that the Father has
sent his Son as the Savior of the world. [15]God abides in those who confess
that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God.* [16]So we have known
and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. [17]Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world.* [18]There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. [19]We love[n] because he first loved us. [20]Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.* [21]The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

1 John 5

FAITH CONQUERS THE WORLD

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ[o] has been born of God, and
everyone who loves the parent loves the child.[*] [2]By this we know that we
love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.
[3]For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his
commandments are not burdensome,[*] [4]for whatever is born of God
conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our
faith.[*] [5]Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that
Jesus is the Son of God?[*]

TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE SON OF GOD

6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the
water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that
testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.[*] [7]There are three that testify:[p,*] [8]the Spirit
and the water and the blood, and these three agree. [9]If we receive human
testimony, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God
that he has testified to his Son.[*] [10]Those who believe in the Son of God
have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God[q] have
made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given
concerning his Son.[*] [11]And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life,
and this life is in his Son. [12]Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not
have the Son of God does not have life.[*]

EPILOGUE

13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God,
so that you may know that you have eternal life.[r,*]

14 And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything
according to his will, he hears us. [15]And if we know that he hears us in
whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him.
[16]If you see your brother or sister committing what is not a deadly sin, you

will ask, and God[s] will give life to such a one—to those whose sin is not deadly. There is sin that is deadly; I do not say that you should pray about that.* 17All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that is not deadly.

18 We know that those who are born of God do not sin, but the one who was born of God protects them, and the evil one does not touch them.[t,*] 19We know that we are God's children and that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one.* 20And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true;[u] and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.*

21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.[v]

1 John 1

* **1.1** Jn 1.1, 14; 20.27; 2 Pet 1.16
* **1.2** Jn 1.1–4; 21.24; Rom 16.26
* **1.3** Acts 4.20; 1 Cor 1.9
a **1.4** Other ancient authorities read *your*
* **1.5** 1 Jn 3.11
* **1.7** Heb 9.14; 1 Pet 1.19; Rev 1.5
* **1.9** Ps 51.2
* **1.10** 1 Jn 2.14; 5.10

1 John 2

* **2.1** Rom 8.34; Heb 7.25
* **2.2** Jn 1.29; Rom 3.25
* **2.5** Jn 14.23; 1 Jn 4.12, 13
* **2.6** Jn 15.4; 1 Pet 2.21
b **2.8** Or *that*
* **2.8** Jn 1.9; Eph 5.8; 1 Thess 5.5
* **2.9** 2 Pet 1.9
c **2.10** Or *in it*
* **2.11** Jn 12.35
* **2.12** Lk 24.47
* **2.14** Jn 5.38; Eph 6.10; 1 Jn 1.1
* **2.15** Mt 6.24; Rom 12.2; Jas 4.4
d **2.17** Or *the desire for it*
* **2.17** 1 Cor 7.31
* **2.18** 1 Pet 4.7; 1 Jn 4.1, 3
e **2.19** Or *abided*
* **2.19** Mt 24.24; Acts 20.30; 1 Cor 11.19
f **2.20** Other ancient authorities read *you know all things*
* **2.20** Jn 14.26; Acts 3.14; 2 Cor 1.21
g **2.22** Or *the Messiah*
* **2.23** Jn 14.7
* **2.24** Jn 14.23; 2 Jn 6
h **2.25** Other ancient authorities read *you*
* **2.25** Jn 17.3
i **2.27** Or *it*
* **2.27** Jn 14.17, 26
* **2.28** Mk 8.38; 1 Thess 2.19; 1 Jn 3.2, 21; 4.17
* **2.29** 1 Jn 3.7, 9; 4.7

1 John 3

j **3.2** Or *it*
* **3.2** Rom 8.15, 29; 2 Cor 3.18; 4.17; 2 Pet 1.4
* **3.4** Rom 4.15; 1 Jn 5.17
* **3.5** Isa 53.5, 6; 2 Cor 5.21
k **3.7** Other ancient authorities read *Children*
* **3.8** Jn 8.44; 16.11; Heb 2.14
l **3.9** Or *because the children of God abide in him*
* **3.9** 1 Pet 1.23; 1 Jn 5.18
* **3.10** 1 Jn 2.29
* **3.11** Jn 13.34, 35; 1 Jn 1.5; 2 Jn 5
* **3.13** Jn 15.18
* **3.14** Jn 5.24; 1 Jn 2.9, 11
* **3.15** Mt 5.21, 22; Jn 8.44; Gal 5.20, 21
* **3.16** Jn 3.16; 13.1; 15.13
* **3.17** Deut 15.7; 1 Jn 4.20
* **3.18** Rom 12.9; Jas 1.22
* **3.19** 1 Jn 2.21
* **3.22** Mt 7.7; 21.22; 1 Jn 2.3
* **3.23** 1 Jn 2.8
* **3.24** Rom 8.9; 1 Jn 4.13

1 John 4

* **4.1** Mt 24.4; 2 Pet 2.1; 1 Jn 2.18
m **4.3** Other ancient authorities read *does away with Jesus*
* **4.3** 2 Thess 2.7; 1 Jn 2.22; 5.4; 2 Jn 7
* **4.6** Jn 8.47; 14.17; 1 Cor 14.37; 1 Tim 4.1
* **4.7** 1 Jn 3.10, 11
* **4.9** Jn 3.16; 1 Jn 5.11
* **4.10** Rom 5.8, 10; 1 Jn 2.2
* **4.11** Jn 3.16; 15.12
* **4.12** Jn 1.18; 1 Tim 6.16; 1 Jn 2.5
* **4.15** Rom 10.9
* **4.17** 1 Jn 2.28
n **4.19** Other ancient authorities add *him* or *God*
* **4.20** 1 Jn 1.6; 2.4; 3.17

1 John 5

o **5.1** Or *the Messiah*
* **5.1** Jn 1.12, 13; 8.42; 1 Jn 2.22, 23

* **5.3** Jn 14.15; 1 Jn 2.5; 2 Jn 6
* **5.4** Jn 16.33
* **5.5** 1 Jn 4.15
* **5.6** Jn 19.34

p **5.7** Other ancient authorities read (with variations) *7There are three that testify in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one. 8And there are three that testify on earth:*

* **5.7** Jn 15.26
* **5.9** Mt 3.16, 17; Jn 8.17, 18

q **5.10** Other ancient authorities read *in the Son*

* **5.10** Jn 3.33; Rom 8.16; Gal 4.6
* **5.12** Jn 3.36

r **5.13** Other ancient authorities add *and that you may believe in the name of the Son of God*

* **5.13** Jn 20.31; 1 Jn 1.1, 2

s **5.16** Gk *he*

* **5.16** Heb 6.4, 6; Jas 5.15

t **5.18** Other ancient authorities read *protects himself, and the evil one does not touch him*

* **5.18** Jn 14.30; 1 Jn 3.9
* **5.19** Gal 1.4; 1 Jn 4.6

u **5.20** Other ancient authorities read *know the true God*

* **5.20** Lk 24.45; Jn 17.3; Rev 3.7

v **5.21** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Second Letter of

John

2 John 1

SALUTATION

1 The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth, and
not only I but also all who know the truth,* 2because of the truth that abides
in us and will be with us forever:

3 Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from[a]
Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, in truth and love.*

TRUTH AND LOVE

4 I was overjoyed to find some of your children walking in the truth, just
as we have been commanded by the Father. 5But now, dear lady, I ask you,
not as though I were writing you a new commandment but one we have had
from the beginning: let us love one another.* 6And this is love, that we walk
according to his commandments; this is the commandment just as you have
heard it from the beginning—you must walk in it.*

7 Many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess
that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh; any such person is the deceiver and
the antichrist!* 8Be on your guard, so that you do not lose what we[b] have
worked for but may receive a full reward.* 9Everyone who does not abide in
the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it,[c] does not have God; whoever
abides in the teaching[d] has both the Father and the Son.* 10If anyone comes
to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive and welcome this
person into your house,* 11for to welcome is to participate in the evil deeds
of such a person.*

FINAL GREETINGS

12 Although I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper
and ink; instead, I hope to come to you and talk with you face to face, so
that our[e] joy may be complete.[*]

13 The children of your elect sister send you their greetings.[f]

2 John 1

* **1** Jn 8.32
a **3** Other ancient authorities add *the Lord*
* **3** 1 Tim 1.2
* **5** 1 Jn 2.7; 3.11
* **6** 1 Jn 2.5, 24
* **7** 1 Jn 2.22; 4.1–3
b **8** Other ancient authorities read *you*
* **8** Mk 13.9; 1 Cor 3.8; Heb 10.32
c **9** Other ancient authorities read *turns aside*
d **9** Other ancient authorities add *of Christ*
* **9** 1 Jn 2.23
* **10** Rom 16.17
* **11** 1 Tim 5.22
e **12** Other ancient authorities read *your*
* **12** 1 Jn 1.4; 3 Jn 13, 14
f **13** Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

The Third Letter of

John

3 John 1

SALUTATION

1 The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

GAIUS COMMENDED FOR HIS HOSPITALITY

2 Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in
good health, just as it is well with your soul. [3]For I was overjoyed when
some brothers and sisters arrived and testified to your faithfulness to the
truth, how you walk in the truth.* [4]I have no greater joy than this, to hear
that my children are walking in the truth.*

5 Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brothers and sisters,
even though they are strangers to you;* [6]they have testified to your love
before the church. You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of
God,* [7]for they began their journey for the sake of Christ,[a] accepting no
support from nonbelievers.[b,*] [8]Therefore we ought to support such people,
so that we may become coworkers with the truth.

DIOTREPHES AND DEMETRIUS

9 I have written something to the church, but Diotrephes, who likes to put
himself first, does not welcome us. [10]So if I come, I will call attention to
what he is doing in spreading false charges against us. And not content with
those charges, he refuses to welcome the brothers and sisters and even
prevents those who want to do so and expels them from the church.*

11 Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but imitate what is good.
Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.*
[12]Everyone has testified favorably about Demetrius, and so has the truth[c]
itself. We also testify for him,[d] and you know that our testimony is true.*

FINAL GREETINGS

13 I have much to write to you, but I would rather not write to you with
pen and ink;* [14]instead, I hope to see you soon, and we will talk together
face to face.

15 Peace to you. The friends send you their greetings. Greet the friends
there, each by name.*

3 John 1

* **3** vv 5, 10; 2 Jn 4
* **4** 1 Cor 4.15; Philem 10
* **5** Rom 12.13; Heb 13.2
* **6** Acts 15.3; Titus 3.13

a **7** Gk *for the sake of the name*

b **7** Gk *the gentiles*

* **7** Acts 5.41; 20.33, 35
* **10** v 5; Jn 9.34; 2 Jn 12
* **11** Ps 37.27; 1 Jn 2.29; 3.6, 9

c **12** Other ancient authorities read *church* or *church and truth*

d **12** Gk lacks *for him*

* **12** Jn 21.24; 1 Tim 3.7
* **13** 2 Jn 12
* **15** 1 Pet 5.14

The Letter of

Jude

Jude 1

SALUTATION

1 Jude,[a] a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,

To those who are called, who are beloved[b] in[c] God the Father and kept safe for[d] Jesus Christ:[*]

2 May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance.

OCCASION OF THE LETTER

3 Beloved, while eagerly preparing to write to you about the salvation we share, I find it necessary to write and appeal to you to contend for the faith that was once and for all handed on to the saints.[*] 4For certain intruders have stolen in among you, people who long ago were designated for this condemnation as ungodly, who pervert the grace of our God into debauchery and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.[e,*]

JUDGMENT ON FALSE TEACHERS

5 Now I desire to remind you, though you are fully informed, once and for all, that Jesus, who saved[f] a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.[*] 6And the angels who did not keep their own position but deserted their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains in deepest darkness for the judgment of the great day.[*] 7Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which, in the same manner as they, indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural lust,[g] serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.[*]

8 Yet in the same way these dreamers also defile the flesh, reject authority, and slander the glorious ones.[h,*] 9But when the archangel Michael disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, he did not dare

to bring a condemnation of slander[i] against him but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"* 10But these people slander whatever they do not understand, and they are destroyed by those things that, like irrational animals, they know by instinct. 11Woe to them! For they go the way of Cain and abandon themselves to Balaam's error for the sake of gain and perish in Korah's rebellion.* 12These are blots[j] on your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, feeding themselves.[k] They are waterless clouds carried along by the winds; autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, uprooted;* 13wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the deepest darkness has been reserved forever.*

14 It was also about these that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "See, the Lord is coming[l] with ten thousands of his holy ones,* 15to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly[m] of all the deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him." 16These are grumblers and malcontents; they indulge their lusts;[n] their mouths utter bombastic nonsense, flattering people to their own advantage.*

WARNINGS AND EXHORTATIONS

17 But you, beloved, must remember the words previously spoken by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, 18for they said to you, "In the last time there will be scoffers, indulging their own ungodly lusts."* 19It is these worldly people, devoid of the Spirit, who are causing divisions. 20But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit;* 21keep yourselves in the love of God; look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to[o] eternal life.* 22And have mercy on some who are wavering; 23save others by snatching them out of the fire; and have mercy on still others with fear, hating even the tunic defiled by their bodies.[p],*

BENEDICTION

24 Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing,* 25to the

only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.*

Jude 1

a **1** Gk *Judas*
b **1** Other ancient authorities read *sanctified*
c **1** Or *by*
d **1** Or *by*
* **1** Acts 1.13; 1 Pet 1.5
* **3** 1 Tim 6.12; Titus 1.4
e **4** Or *the only Master and our Lord Jesus Christ*
* **4** Rom 9.22; Gal 2.4; 2 Pet 2.1
f **5** Other ancient authorities read *informed, that the Lord who once and for all saved*
* **5** Num 14.29; Ps 106.26
* **6** Jn 8.44; 2 Pet 2.4; Rev 20.10
g **7** Gk *went after other flesh*
* **7** Gen 19.24; 2 Pet 2.6
h **8** Or *angels*; Gk *glories*
* **8** 2 Pet 2.10
i **9** Or *condemnation for blasphemy*
* **9** Dan 10.13; Zech 3.2
* **11** Gen 4.3–8; Num 16.1–3, 31–35; 22.7; 2 Pet 2.15; 1 Jn 3.12
j **12** Or *reefs*
k **12** Or *without fear. They are shepherds who care only for themselves*
* **12** Mt 15.13; 1 Cor 11.20ff; Eph 4.14; 2 Pet 2.13
* **13** Isa 57.20; Phil 3.19; 2 Pet 2.17
l **14** Gk *came*
* **14** Gen 5.18; Deut 33.2; Dan 7.10
m **15** Other ancient authorities read *everyone*
n **16** Other ancient authorities read *their own lusts*
* **16** 2 Pet 2.18
* **18** 1 Tim 4.1; 2 Pet 2.1
* **20** Eph 6.18; Col 2.7
o **21** Gk *Christ to*
* **21** Titus 2.13; 2 Pet 3.12
p **23** Gk *by the flesh*
* **23** Am 4.11; Zech 3.2–5
* **24** Rom 16.25; Eph 3.20; Col 1.22
* **25** Rom 11.36; 1 Tim 1.17

The Revelation to John

Revelation 1

INTRODUCTION AND SALUTATION

1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants
what must soon take place, and he made it known by sending his angel to
his servant John,* [2]who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of
Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.*

3 Blessed is the one who reads the words of the prophecy, and blessed are
those who hear and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to
come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,* [5]and from Jesus
Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the
kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed[a] us from our sins by his blood [6]and made
us a kingdom, priests serving[b] his God and Father, to him be glory and
dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

[7]Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him,
and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him.
So it is to be. Amen.*

8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who
was and who is to come, the Almighty.*

A VISION OF CHRIST

9 I, John, your brother who share with you the persecution and the
kingdom and the endurance in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos
because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.[c,*] [10]I was in the
spirit[d] on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet[*]
[11]saying, "Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches,
to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to
Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."

12 Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on
turning I saw seven golden lampstands,[*] [13]and in the midst of the
lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and
with a golden sash across his chest.[*] [14]His head and his hair were white as
white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire;[*] [15]his feet
were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like
the sound of many waters.[*] [16]In his right hand he held seven stars, and from
his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun
shining with full force.[*]

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his
right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last[*]
[18]and the Living One. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever, and I
have the keys of Death and of Hades.[*] [19]Now write what you have seen,
what is, and what is to take place after this. [20]As for the mystery of the
seven stars that you saw in my right hand and the seven golden lampstands:
the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven
lampstands are the seven churches.[*]

Revelation 2

THE MESSAGE TO EPHESUS

1 "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him
who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven
golden lampstands:

2 "I know your works, your toil and your endurance. I know that you
cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles
but are not and have found them to be false.* [3]I also know that you are
enduring and bearing up for the sake of my name and that you have not
grown weary.* [4]But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the
love you had at first. [5]Remember, then, from where you have fallen; repent
and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your
lampstand from its place, unless you repent. [6]Yet this is to your credit: you
hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. [7]Let anyone who has
an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who
conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the
paradise of God.*

THE MESSAGE TO SMYRNA

8 "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words
of the First and the Last, who was dead and came to life:*

9 "I know your affliction and your poverty, even though you are rich. I
know the slander on the part of those who say that they are Jews and are not
but are a synagogue of Satan.* [10]Do not fear what you are about to suffer.
Beware, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison so that you may
be tested, and for ten days you will have affliction. Be faithful until death,
and I will give you the crown of life.* [11]Let anyone who has an ear listen to
what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Whoever conquers will not be
harmed by the second death.*

THE MESSAGE TO PERGAMUM

12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the
words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword:*

13 “I know where you are living, where Satan’s throne is. Yet you are
holding fast to my name, and you did not deny your faith in me[e] even in the
days of Antipas my witness, my faithful one, who was killed among you,
where Satan lives. 14But I have a few things against you: you have some
there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a
stumbling block before the people of Israel, so that they would eat food
sacrificed to idols and engage in sexual immorality.[f,*] 15So you also have
some who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. 16Repent, then. If not, I
will come to you soon and wage war against them with the sword of my
mouth.* 17Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to
the churches. To everyone who conquers I will give some of the hidden
manna, and I will give a white stone, and on the white stone is written a
new name that no one knows except the one who receives it.*

THE MESSAGE TO THYATIRA

18 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words
of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire and whose feet are like
burnished bronze:*

19 “I know your works: your love, faith, service, and endurance. I know
that your latest works are greater than the first. 20But I have this against
you: you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet and is
teaching and beguiling my servants to engage in sexual immorality[g] and to
eat food sacrificed to idols.* 21I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to
repent of her sexual immorality.[h,*] 22Beware, I am throwing her on a bed,
and those who commit adultery with her I am throwing into great distress,
unless they repent of her doings, 23and I will strike her children dead. And
all the churches will know that I am the one who searches minds and hearts,
and I will give to each of you as your works deserve.* 24But to the rest of
you in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not learned what
some call ‘the deep things of Satan,’ to you I say, I do not lay on you any
other burden;* 25only hold fast to what you have until I come. 26To
everyone who conquers and continues to do my works to the end,

I will give authority over the nations,*
[27]to rule[i] them with an iron scepter,
as when clay pots are shattered—*
[28]"even as I also received authority from my Father. To the one who conquers I will also give the morning star.* [29]Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

Revelation 3

THE MESSAGE TO SARDIS

1 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of
him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars:

"I know your works; you have a name of being alive, but you are dead.*
2Wake up and strengthen what remains and is on the point of death, for I
have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God. 3Remember,
then, what you received and heard; obey it and repent. If you do not wake
up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come
to you.* 4Yet you have still a few persons in Sardis who have not soiled
their clothes; they will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.*
5If you conquer, you will be clothed like them in white robes, and I will not
erase your name from the book of life; I will confess your name before my
Father and before his angels.* 6Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the
Spirit is saying to the churches.

THE MESSAGE TO PHILADELPHIA

7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

These are the words of the Holy One, the True One,
who has the key of David,
who opens and no one will shut,
who shuts and no one opens:*

8 "I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door that no
one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, yet you have kept
my word and have not denied my name.* 9I will make those of the
synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not but are lying—I
will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn
that I have loved you.* 10Because you have kept my word of endurance, I
will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world to
test the inhabitants of the earth.* 11I am coming soon; hold fast to what you
have, so that no one takes away your crown. 12If you conquer, I will make

you a pillar in the temple of my God; you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name.* 13Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

THE MESSAGE TO LAODICEA

14 "And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin[j] of God's creation:*

15 "I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. 16So, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17For you say, 'I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing.' You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.* 18Therefore I advise you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich, and white robes to clothe yourself and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen, and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.* 19I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent.* 20Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you with me.* 21To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.* 22Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

Revelation 4

THE HEAVENLY WORSHIP

1 After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first
voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up
here, and I will show you what must take place after this."* 2At once I was
in the spirit,[k] and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the
throne!* 3And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and
around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. 4Around the
throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four
elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads.* 5Coming
from the throne are flashes of lightning and rumblings and peals of thunder,
and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven
spirits of God,* 6and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of
glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living
creatures, full of eyes in front and back:* 7the first living creature like a lion,
the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face
like a human, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle.* 8And the
four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all
around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

"Holy, holy, holy,
the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come."*

9And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the
one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever,* 10the twenty-
four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the
one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne,
singing,*

11"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,

and by your will they existed and were created."*

Revelation 5

THE SCROLL AND THE LAMB

1 Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll
written on the inside and on the back, sealed[l] with seven seals,* [2]and I saw a
mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the
scroll and break its seals?" [3]And no one in heaven or on earth or under the
earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. [4]And I began to weep
bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into
it. [5]Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. See, the Lion of the
tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the
scroll and its seven seals."*

6 Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among
the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, with seven horns
and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the
earth.* [7]He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was
seated on the throne. [8]When he had taken the scroll, the four living
creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a
harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.*
[9]They sing a new song:

"You are worthy to take the scroll
and to break its seals,
for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from[m] every tribe and language and people and nation;*
[10]you have made them a kingdom and priests serving[n] our God,
and they will reign[o] on earth."*

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the
throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of
myriads and thousands of thousands,* [12]singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered

to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!”

13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth
and in the sea and all that is in them, singing,
“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might
forever and ever!”*

14 And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and
worshiped.

Revelation 6

THE SEVEN SEALS

1 Then I saw the Lamb break one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures call out, as with a voice of thunder, "Come!"[p,*] [2]I looked, and there was a white horse! Its rider had a bow; a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering and to conquer.[*]

3 When he broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature call out, "Come!"[q] [4]And out came[r] another horse, bright red; its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people would slaughter one another, and he was given a great sword.[*]

5 When he broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature call out, "Come!"[s] I looked, and there was a black horse! Its rider held a pair of scales in his hand,[*] [6]and I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a day's pay[t] and three quarts of barley for a day's pay,[u] but do not damage the olive oil and the wine!"

7 When he broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature call out, "Come!"[v] [8]I looked, and there was a pale green horse! Its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed with him; they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, famine, and pestilence and by the wild animals of the earth.[*]

9 When he broke the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slaughtered for the word of God and for the testimony they had given;[*] [10]they cried out with a loud voice, "Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long will it be before you judge and avenge our blood on the inhabitants of the earth?"[*] [11]They were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number would be complete both of their fellow servants and of their brothers and sisters who were soon to be killed as they themselves had been killed.[*]

12 When he broke the sixth seal, I looked, and there was a great earthquake; the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like

blood,* 13and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree drops its
winter fruit when shaken by a gale.* 14The sky vanished like a scroll rolling
itself up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.*
15Then the kings of the earth and the magnates and the generals and the rich
and the powerful and everyone, slave and free, hid in the caves and among
the rocks of the mountains,* 16calling to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on
us and hide us from the face of the one seated on the throne and from the
wrath of the Lamb,* 17for the great day of theirw wrath has come, and who
is able to stand?”*

Revelation 7

THE 144,000 OF ISRAEL SEALED

1 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth,
holding back the four winds of the earth so that no wind could blow on
earth or sea or against any tree.* [2]I saw another angel ascending from the
rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud
voice to the four angels who had been given power to damage earth and sea,
[3]saying, "Do not damage the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have
marked the servants of our God with a seal on their foreheads."*

4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred forty-
four thousand, sealed out of every tribe of the people of Israel:*

[5]From the tribe of Judah twelve thousand sealed,
from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand,
from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,
[6]from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand,
from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand,
from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,
[7]from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand,
from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand,
from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,
[8]from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand,
from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand,
from the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand sealed.

THE MULTITUDE FROM EVERY NATION

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could
count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,
standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm
branches in their hands.* [10]They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to
the Lamb!"*

11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the
four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and
worshiped God, 12 singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."*

13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in
white, and where have they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the
one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out
of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in
the blood of the Lamb.*

15 For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.*

16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,*

17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."*

Revelation 8

THE SEVENTH SEAL AND THE GOLDEN CENSER

1 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for
about half an hour.* 2And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and
seven trumpets were given to them.*

3 Another angel with a golden censer came and stood at the altar; he was
given a great quantity of incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on
the golden altar that is before the throne.* 4And the smoke of the incense,
with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel.*
5Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and
threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of
lightning, and an earthquake.*

THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

6 Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets made ready to blow
them.x

7 The first angel blew his trumpet, and there came hail and fire, mixed
with blood, and they were hurled to the earth, and a third of the earth was
burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was
burned up.*

8 The second angel blew his trumpet, and something like a great
mountain, burning with fire, was thrown into the sea.* 9A third of the sea
became blood, a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of
the ships were destroyed.

10 The third angel blew his trumpet, and a great star fell from heaven,
blazing like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of
water.* 11The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became
wormwood, and many died from the water because it was made bitter.*

12 The fourth angel blew his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck,
and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of their light

was darkened; a third of the day was kept from shining and likewise the night.*

13 Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew in midheaven, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!"*

Revelation 9

1 And the fifth angel blew his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from
heaven to earth, and he was given the key to the shaft of the bottomless pit;*
2 he opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke
like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened
with the smoke from the shaft.* 3 Then from the smoke came locusts on the
earth, and they were given authority like the authority of scorpions of the
earth.* 4 They were told not to damage the grass of the earth or any green
growth or any tree, but only those people who do not have the seal of God
on their foreheads.* 5 They were allowed to torment them for five months
but not to kill them, and the agony suffered was like that caused by a
scorpion when it stings someone.* 6 And in those days people will seek
death but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will flee from
them.*

7 In appearance the locusts were like horses equipped for battle. On their
heads were what looked like crowns of gold; their faces were like human
faces,* 8 their hair like women's hair, and their teeth like lions' teeth;* 9 they
had scales like iron breastplates, and the noise of their wings was like the
noise of many chariots with horses rushing into battle.* 10 They have tails
like scorpions, with stingers, and in their tails is their power to harm people
for five months. 11 They have as king over them the angel of the bottomless
pit; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon,[y] and in Greek he is called Apollyon.[z,*]

12 The first woe has passed. There are still two woes to come.*

13 Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the
horns[a] of the golden altar before God,* 14 saying to the sixth angel who had
the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great River
Euphrates."* 15 So the four angels were released, who had been held ready
for the hour, the day, the month, and the year, to kill a third of humankind.
16 The number of the troops of cavalry was two hundred million; I heard
their number.* 17 And this was how I saw the horses in my vision: the riders
wore breastplates the color of fire and of sapphire[b] and of sulfur; the heads
of the horses were like lions' heads, and fire and smoke and sulfur came out

of their mouths.* 18By these three plagues a third of humankind was killed,
by the fire and smoke and sulfur coming out of the horses'[c] mouths. 19For
the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails; their tails are
like serpents, with heads, and with them they inflict harm.

20 The rest of humankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not
repent of the works of their hands or give up worshiping demons and idols
of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear
or walk.* 21And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or
their prostitution or their thefts.

Revelation 10

THE ANGEL WITH THE LITTLE SCROLL

1 And I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a
cloud, with a rainbow over his head; his face was like the sun and his legs
like pillars of fire.* 2He held a little scroll open in his hand. Setting his right
foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, 3he gave a great shout, like a
lion roaring. And when he shouted, the seven thunders sounded.* 4And
when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a
voice from heaven saying, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and
do not write it down."* 5Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and
the land

raised his right hand to heaven*

6and swore by him who lives forever and ever,

who created heaven and what is in it, the earth and what is in it, and the sea
and what is in it: "There will be no more delay,* 7but in the days when the
seventh angel is to blow his trumpet, the mystery of God will be fulfilled, as
he announced to his servants the prophets."*

8 Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying,
"Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on
the sea and on the land." 9So I went to the angel and told him to give me the
little scroll, and he said to me, "Take it and eat; it will be bitter to your
stomach but sweet as honey in your mouth."* 10So I took the little scroll
from the hand of the angel and ate it; it was sweet as honey in my mouth,
but when I had eaten it my stomach was made bitter.*

11 Then they said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples
and nations and languages and kings."

Revelation 11

THE TWO WITNESSES

1 Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, "Come and
measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there,* 2but
do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given
over to the nations, and they will trample over the holy city for forty-two
months.* 3And I will grant my two witnesses authority to prophesy for one
thousand two hundred sixty days, wearing sackcloth."*

4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before
the Lord of the earth.* 5And if anyone wants to harm them, fire pours from
their mouth and consumes their foes; anyone who wants to harm them must
be killed in this manner.* 6They have authority to shut the sky, so that no
rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have authority
over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every
kind of plague, as often as they desire.*

7 When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from
the bottomless pit will wage war on them and conquer them and kill them,*
8and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that is
prophetically[d] called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was
crucified.* 9For three and a half days members of the peoples and tribes and
languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them
be placed in a tomb, 10and the inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them
and celebrate and exchange presents, because these two prophets tormented
the inhabitants of the earth.*

11 But after the three and a half days, the breath[e] of life from God
entered the two witnesses,[f] and they stood on their feet, and those who saw
them were terrified.* 12Then they[g] heard a loud voice from heaven saying to
them, "Come up here!" And they went up to heaven in a cloud while their
enemies watched them.* 13At that moment there was a great earthquake,
and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the
earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of
heaven.*

14 The second woe has passed. The third woe is coming very soon.*

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

15 Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying,

"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord
and of his Messiah,[h]
and he will reign forever and ever."*

16 Then the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God,* [17]singing,

"We give you thanks, Lord God Almighty,
who are and who were,
for you have taken your great power
and begun to reign.*
[18]The nations raged,
but your wrath has come,
and the time for judging the dead,
for rewarding your servants, the prophets
and saints and all who fear your name,
both small and great,
and for destroying those who destroy the earth."*

19 Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple, and there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.*

Revelation 12

THE WOMAN AND THE DRAGON

1 A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with
the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. [2]She was
pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth.*
[3]Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven
heads and ten horns and seven diadems on his heads.* [4]His tail swept down
a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. Then the dragon
stood before the woman who was about to deliver a child, so that he might
devour her child as soon as it was born.* [5]And she gave birth to a son, a
male child, who is to rule[i] all the nations with a scepter of iron. But her
child was snatched away and taken to God and to his throne,* [6]and the
woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, so
that there she can be nourished for one thousand two hundred sixty days.*

MICHAEL DEFEATS THE DRAGON

7 And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the
dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back,* [8]but they were defeated,
and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. [9]The great dragon
was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan,
the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his
angels were thrown down with him.*

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven proclaiming,

"Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,[j]
for the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.*
[11]But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,

for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.*
12Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath
because he knows that his time is short!"*

THE DRAGON FIGHTS AGAIN ON EARTH

13 So when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued[k] the woman who had delivered the male child. 14But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle, so that she could fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to her place where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time.* 15Then from his mouth the serpent poured water like a river after the woman, to sweep her away with the flood.* 16But the earth came to the help of the woman; it opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. 17Then the dragon was angry with the woman and went off to wage war on the rest of her children, those who keep the commandments of God and hold the testimony of Jesus.*

THE FIRST BEAST

18 Then the dragon[l] took his stand on the sand of the seashore.

Revelation 13

1 And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads,
and on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads were blasphemous
names.* [2]And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a
bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave it his
power and his throne and great authority.* [3]One of its heads seemed to have
received a death blow, but its fatal wound[m] had been healed. In amazement
the whole earth followed the beast.* [4]They worshiped the dragon, for he had
given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who
is like the beast, and who can fight against it?"*

5 The beast was given a mouth speaking arrogant and blasphemous
words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.* [6]It
opened its mouth to speak blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name
and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. [7]Also, it was allowed
to wage war on the saints and to conquer them.[n] It was given authority over
every tribe and people and language and nation,* [8]and all the inhabitants of
the earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from
the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was
slaughtered.[o,*]

9 Let anyone who has an ear listen:

[10]If you are to be taken captive,
into captivity you go;
if you kill with the sword,
with the sword you must be killed.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.*

THE SECOND BEAST

11 Then I saw another beast that rose out of the earth; it had two horns
like a lamb, and it spoke like a dragon. [12]It exercises all the authority of the
first beast on its behalf, and it makes the earth and its inhabitants worship
the first beast, whose fatal wound[p] had been healed. [13]It performs great

signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in the sight of all,* 14and by the signs that it is allowed to perform on behalf of the beast it deceives the inhabitants of earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that had been wounded by the sword[q] and yet lived,* 15and it was allowed to give breath[r] to the image of the beast so that the image of the beast could even speak and cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. 16Also, it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be given a brand on the right hand or the forehead,* 17so that no one can buy or sell who does not have the brand, that is, the name of the beast or the number for its name.* 18This calls for wisdom: let anyone with understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number for a person. Its number is six hundred sixty-six.[s,*]

Revelation 14

THE LAMB AND THE 144,000

1 Then I looked, and there was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion! And
with him were one hundred forty-four thousand who had his name and his
Father's name written on their foreheads.* [2]And I heard a voice from
heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder;
the voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps,* [3]and
they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures
and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the one hundred
forty-four thousand who have been redeemed from the earth. [4]It is these
who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins; these
follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They have been redeemed from
humankind as first fruits for God and the Lamb,* [5]and in their mouth no lie
was found; they are blameless.*

THE MESSAGES OF THE THREE ANGELS

6 Then I saw another angel flying in midheaven, with an eternal gospel to
proclaim to those who live[t] on the earth—to every nation and tribe and
language and people.* [7]He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him
glory, for the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made
heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."*

8 Then another angel, a second, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is
Babylon the great! She has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath
of her prostitution."*

9 Then another angel, a third, followed them, crying with a loud voice,
"Those who worship the beast and its image and receive the brand on their
foreheads or on their hands,* [10]they will also drink the wine of God's wrath,
poured unmixed into the cup of his anger, and they will be tormented with
fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the
Lamb.* [11]And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever. There is
no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image and for
anyone who receives the brand of its name."*

12 Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and hold fast to the faith of[u] Jesus.*

13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord." "Yes,"[v] says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them."*

REAPING THE EARTH'S HARVEST

14 Then I looked, and there was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one like the Son of Man, with a golden crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand!* 15Another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to the one who sat on the cloud, "Use your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is fully ripe."* 16So the one who sat on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.

17 Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he, too, had a sharp sickle. 18Then another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over fire, and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe."* 19So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the vintage of the earth, and he threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for a distance of about one thousand six hundred stadia.*

Revelation 15

THE ANGELS WITH THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES

1 Then I saw another portent in heaven, great and amazing: seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is ended.*

2 And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mixed with fire and those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands.* [3]And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:

"Great and amazing are your deeds,
Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways,
King of the nations![w,*]
[4]Lord, who will not fear
and glorify your name?
For you alone are holy.
All nations will come
and worship before you,
for your judgments have been revealed."*

5 After this I looked, and the temple of the tent[x] of witness in heaven was opened, [6]and out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues, robed in pure bright linen,[y] with golden sashes across their chests. [7]Then one of the four living creatures gave the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever;* [8]and the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were ended.*

Revelation 16

THE BOWLS OF GOD'S WRATH

1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple telling the seven angels, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God."*

2 So the first angel went and poured his bowl on the earth, and a foul and painful sore came on those who had the brand of the beast and who worshiped its image.*

3 The second angel poured his bowl into the sea, and it became like the blood of a corpse, and every living thing in the sea died.*

4 The third angel poured his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood.* [5]And I heard the angel of the waters say,

"You are just, O Holy One, who are and were,
for you have judged these things;*
[6]because they shed the blood of saints and prophets,
you have given them blood to drink.
It is what they deserve!"

[7]And I heard the altar respond,

"Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty,
your judgments are true and just!"*

8 The fourth angel poured his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to scorch people with fire; [9]they were scorched by the fierce heat, but they cursed the name of God, who had authority over these plagues, and they did not repent and give him glory.*

10 The fifth angel poured his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness; people gnawed their tongues in agony* [11]and cursed the God of heaven because of their pains and sores, and they did not repent of their deeds.

12 The sixth angel poured his bowl on the great River Euphrates, and its water was dried up in order to prepare the way for the kings from the east.*

13 And I saw three foul spirits like frogs coming from the mouth of the
dragon, from the mouth of the beast, and from the mouth of the false
prophet.* 14 These are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to
the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day
of God the Almighty.* 15 ("See, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one
who stays awake and is clothed,[z] not going about naked and exposed to
shame.")* 16 And the demonic spirits[a] assembled the kings[b] at the place that
in Hebrew is called Harmagedon.

17 The seventh angel poured his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came
out of the temple, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" 18 And there came
flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, and a violent earthquake,
such as had not occurred since people were upon the earth, so violent was
that earthquake.* 19 The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of
the nations fell. God remembered great Babylon and gave her the wine cup
of the fury of his wrath.* 20 And every island fled away, and no mountains
were to be found, 21 and huge hailstones, each weighing about a hundred
pounds,[c] dropped from heaven on people, until they cursed God for the
plague of the hail, so fearful was that plague.*

Revelation 17

THE GREAT WHORE AND THE BEAST

1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great whore[d] who is seated on many waters,* 2with whom the kings of the earth have engaged in sexual immorality[e] and with the wine of whose prostitution the inhabitants of the earth have become drunk."* 3So he carried me away in the spirit[f] into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.* 4The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her prostitution,* 5and on her forehead was written a name, a mystery: "Babylon the great, mother[g] of whores[h] and of earth's abominations."* 6And I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints and the blood of the witnesses to Jesus.

When I saw her, I was greatly amazed.* 7But the angel said to me, "Why are you so amazed? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. 8The beast that you saw was and is not and is about to ascend from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the inhabitants of the earth, whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will be amazed when they see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come.*

9 "This calls for a mind that has wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; also, they are seven kings,* 10of whom five have fallen, one is living, and the other has not yet come, and when he comes he must remain only a little while. 11As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth, but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction. 12And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast.* 13These are united in yielding their power and authority to the beast; 14they will wage war on the Lamb, and the Lamb

will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."*

15 And he said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the whore[i] is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages.* 16And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the whore;[j] they will make her desolate and naked; they will devour her flesh and burn her up with fire.* 17For God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by agreeing to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will be fulfilled.* 18The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth."*

Revelation 18

THE FALL OF BABYLON

1 After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great
authority, and the earth was illumined by his splendor.* [2]He called out with
a mighty voice,

"Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!
It has become a dwelling place of demons,
a haunt of every foul spirit,
a haunt of every foul bird,
a haunt of every foul and hateful beast.[k,*]
[3]For all the nations have fallen[l]
from the wine of the wrath of her prostitution,
and the kings of the earth have engaged in sexual immorality[m] with her,
and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power[n] of her luxury."*

4 Then I heard another voice from heaven saying,

"Come out of her, my people,
so that you do not take part in her sins
and so that you do not share in her plagues,*
[5]for her sins are heaped high as heaven,
and God has remembered her iniquities.*
[6]Render to her as she herself has rendered,
and repay her double for her deeds;
mix a double dose for her in the cup she mixed.*
[7]As she glorified herself and lived luxuriously,
so give her a like measure of torment and grief.
Since in her heart she says,

‘I rule as a queen;
I am no widow,
and I will never see grief,’*
8 therefore her plagues will come in a single day—
pestilence and mourning and famine—
and she will be burned with fire,
for mighty is the Lord God who judges her.”*

9 And the kings of the earth, who engaged in sexual immorality[o] and lived in luxury with her, will weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning;* 10 they will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say,

“Alas, alas, the great city,
Babylon, the mighty city!
For in one hour your judgment has come.”*

11 And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her, since no one buys their cargo any more, 12 cargo of gold, silver, jewels and pearls, fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet, all kinds of scented wood, all articles of ivory, all articles of costly wood, bronze, iron, and marble,* 13 cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, frankincense, wine, olive oil, choice flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, slaves—and human lives.[p,*]

14 “The fruit for which your soul longed
has gone from you,
and all your delicacies and your splendor
are lost to you,
never to be found again!”

15 The merchants of these wares, who grew wealthy from her, will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud,*

16 “Alas, alas, the great city,
clothed in fine linen,
in purple and scarlet,
adorned with gold,

with jewels, and with pearls![*]

[17]For in one hour all this wealth has been laid waste!”

And all shipmasters and seafarers, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off[*] [18]and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning,

“What city was like the great city?”[*]

[19]And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out,

“Alas, alas, the great city,
where all who had ships at sea
grew rich by her wealth!
For in one hour she has been laid waste.”[*]

20 Rejoice over her, O heaven, you saints and apostles and prophets! For God has condemned her condemnation of you.[*]

21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying,

“With such violence Babylon the great city
will be thrown down
and will be found no more;[*]
[22]and the sound of harpists and entertainers and of flutists and trumpeters
will be heard in you no more,
and an artisan of any trade
will be found in you no more,
and the sound of the millstone
will be heard in you no more,[*]
[23]and the light of a lamp
will shine in you no more,
and the voice of bridegroom and bride
will be heard in you no more,
for your merchants were the magnates of the earth,
and all nations were deceived by your sorcery.[*]

[24]And in you[q] was found the blood of prophets and of saints
and of all who have been slaughtered on earth.”[*]

Revelation 19

THE REJOICING IN HEAVEN

1 After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in
heaven, saying,

"Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory and power to our God,*

[2]for his judgments are true and just;

he has judged the great whore[r]

who corrupted the earth with her prostitution,

and he has avenged on her the blood of his servants."*

[3]Once more they said,

"Hallelujah!

The smoke goes up from her forever and ever."*

[4]And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and
worshiped God who is seated on the throne, saying,

"Amen. Hallelujah!"*

5 And from the throne came a voice saying,

"Praise our God,

all you his servants

and[s] all who fear him,

small and great."*

[6]Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the
sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying
out,

"Hallelujah!

For the Lord[t] God

the Almighty reigns.*

[7]Let us rejoice and exult

and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready;*
8to her it has been granted to be clothed
with fine linen, bright and pure"—
for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.*

9 And the angel said[u] to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God."* 10Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers and sisters who hold the testimony of Jesus.[v] Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus[w] is the spirit of prophecy."*

THE RIDER ON THE WHITE HORSE

11 Then I saw heaven opened, and there was a white horse! Its rider is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and wages war.* 12His eyes are like[x] a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name inscribed that no one knows but himself.* 13He is clothed in a robe dipped in[y] blood, and his name is called The Word of God.* 14And the armies of heaven, wearing fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. 15From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule[z] them with a scepter of iron; he will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.* 16On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, "King of kings and Lord of lords."*

THE BEAST AND ITS ARMIES DEFEATED

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly in midheaven, "Come, gather for the great supper of God,* 18to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of the mighty, the flesh of horses and their riders—flesh of all, both free and slave, both small and great."* 19Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to wage war against the rider on the horse

and against his army.* [20]And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who had performed in its presence the signs by which he deceived those who had received the brand of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. [21]And the rest were killed by the sword of the rider on the horse, the sword that came from his mouth, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

Revelation 20

THE THOUSAND YEARS

1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the
key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. [2]He seized the dragon, that
ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand
years* [3]and threw him into the pit and locked and sealed it over him, so that
he would deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years were ended.
After that he must be let out for a little while.*

4 Then I saw thrones, and those seated on them were given authority to
judge. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their
testimony to Jesus[a] and for the word of God. They had not worshiped the
beast or its image and had not received its brand on their foreheads or their
hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.* [5](The
rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.)
This is the first resurrection. [6]Blessed and holy are those who share in the
first resurrection. Over these the second death has no power, but they will
be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him a thousand
years.*

SATAN'S DOOM

7 When the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his
prison [8]and will come out to deceive the nations at the four corners of the
earth, Gog and Magog, in order to gather them for battle; they are as
numerous as the sands of the sea.* [9]They marched up over the breadth of
the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And
fire came down from heaven[b] and consumed them.* [10]And the devil who
had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur, where the
beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night
forever and ever.

THE DEAD ARE JUDGED

11 Then I saw a great white throne and the one who sat on it; the earth
and the heaven fled from his[c] presence, and no place was found for them.[*]
12And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and
books were opened. Also another book was opened, the book of life. And
the dead were judged according to their works, as recorded in the books.[*]
13And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up
the dead who were in them, and all were judged according to what they had
done.[*] 14Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the
second death, the lake of fire,[*] 15and anyone whose name was not found
written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21

THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first
earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.* 2And I saw the holy city,
the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a
bride adorned for her husband.* 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne
saying,

> "See, the home[d] of God is among mortals.
> He will dwell[e] with them;
> they will be his peoples,[f]
> and God himself will be with them and be their God;[g,*]
> 4he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
> Death will be no more;
> mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
> for[h] the first things have passed away."*

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all
things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and
true."* 6Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the
Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the
spring of the water of life.* 7Those who conquer will inherit these things,
and I will be their God, and they will be my children. 8But as for the
cowardly, the faithless,[i] the polluted, the murderers, the sexually immoral,[j]
the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that
burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."*

VISION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM

9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven
last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the
wife of the Lamb."* 10And in the spirit[k] he carried me away to a great, high
mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of

heaven from God.* 11It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare
jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal.* 12It has a great, high wall with twelve
gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the
names that are the names[l] of the twelve tribes of the Israelites:* 13on the
east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on
the west three gates. 14And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and
on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.*

15 The angel[m] who talked to me had a measuring rod of gold to measure
the city and its gates and walls.* 16The city has four equal sides, its length
the same as its width, and he measured the city with his rod, twelve
thousand stadia; its length and width and height are equal. 17He also
measured its wall, one hundred forty-four cubits by human measurement,
which the angel was using. 18The wall is built of jasper, while the city is
pure gold, clear as glass. 19The foundations of the wall of the city are
adorned with every jewel; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third
agate, the fourth emerald, 20the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh
chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the
eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. 21And the twelve gates are twelve
pearls, each of the gates is a single pearl, and the street of the city is pure
gold, transparent as glass.

22 I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the
Almighty and the Lamb. 23And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine
on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.* 24The
nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their
glory into it.* 25Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no
night there.* 26People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the
nations. 27But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices
abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's
book of life.*

Revelation 22

THE RIVER OF LIFE

1 Then the angel[n] showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb[*] [2]through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life[o] with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.[*] [3]Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him;[*] [4]they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.[*] [5]And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.[*]

6 And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true, for the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place."[*]

7 "See, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."[*]

EPILOGUE AND BENEDICTION

8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, [9]but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers and sisters the prophets and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God!"

10 And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. [11]Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy."[*]

12 "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work.[*] [13]I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes,[p] so that they will have the
right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. [15]Outside are the
dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral[q] and murderers and idolaters and
everyone who loves and practices falsehood.*

16 "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the
churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning
star."*

[17]The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.*

18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if
anyone adds to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in
this book;* [19]if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this
prophecy, God will take away that person's share in the tree of life and in
the holy city, which are described in this book.

20 The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.[r]

Revelation 1

* **1.1** Jn 12.49; Rev 22.16
* **1.2** 1 Cor 1.6; Rev 12.17
* **1.4** Jn 1.1; Rev 3.1; 4.5

a **1.5** Other ancient authorities read *washed*

b **1.6** Gk *priests to*

* **1.6** Rom 11.36; 1 Pet 2.5; Rev 5.10
* **1.7** Zech 12.10; Lk 23.28
* **1.8** Rev 4.8; 16.7; 21.6

c **1.9** Or *testimony to Jesus*

* **1.9** Phil 4.14; 2 Tim 2.12

d **1.10** Or *in the Spirit*

* **1.10** Rev 4.1, 2
* **1.12** Ex 25.37; Zech 4.2
* **1.13** Ezek 1.26; Dan 7.13; 10.5
* **1.14** Dan 7.9; 10.6; Rev 19.12
* **1.15** Ezek 43.2; Dan 10.6
* **1.16** Heb 4.12; Rev 2.1, 12, 16; 3.1
* **1.17** Isa 41.4; Ezek 1.28; Dan 8.18; 10.10
* **1.18** Rom 6.9; Rev 4.9; 20.1
* **1.20** Zech 4.2

Revelation 2

* **2.2** 2 Cor 11.13; 1 Jn 4.1; Rev 3.1, 8
* **2.3** Jn 15.21
* **2.7** Gen 2.9; Mt 11.15; Rev 3.6, 13; 22.2, 14
* **2.8** Rev 1.11, 17, 18
* **2.9** Jas 2.5; Rev 1.9; 3.9
* **2.10** Dan 1.12; Rev 3.10
* **2.11** Rev 20.14; 21.8
* **2.12** Rev 1.11, 16

e **2.13** Or *deny my faith*

f **2.14** Or *prostitution*

* **2.14** Num 24.14; 1 Cor 6.13; 8.9; 10.19, 20; 2 Pet 2.15; Jude 11
* **2.16** 2 Thess 2.8; Rev 1.16
* **2.17** Isa 62.2; Jn 6.49, 50; Rev 19.12
* **2.18** Rev 1.11; 14.15

g **2.20** Or *prostitution*

* **2.20** 1 Kings 16.31; 21.25; 2 Kings 9.7; Acts 15.20

h **2.21** Or *prostitution*
* **2.21** Rom 2.4; Rev 9.20
* **2.23** Ps 62.12; Jer 11.20; Acts 1.24; Rom 8.27
* **2.24** Acts 15.28
* **2.26** Ps 2.8; Heb 3.6; Rev 3.21
i **2.27** Or *to shepherd*
* **2.27** Isa 30.14; Jer 19.11; Rev 12.5
* **2.28** Rev 22.16

Revelation 3

* **3.1** 1 Tim 5.6; Rev 1.4, 16; 2.2
* **3.3** 1 Thess 5.2, 6; 2 Pet 3.10
* **3.4** Acts 1.15; Jude 23; Rev 6.11; 7.9, 13
* **3.5** Mt 10.32
* **3.7** Isa 22.22; Acts 3.14; 1 Jn 5.20
* **3.8** Acts 14.27; Rev 2.13
* **3.9** Isa 43.4; 49.23; Rev 2.9
* **3.10** 2 Pet 2.9; Rev 6.10; 16.14; 17.8
* **3.12** Gal 2.9; Rev 21.2; 22.4
j **3.14** Or *beginning*
* **3.14** Isa 65.16
* **3.17** Hos 12.8; Zech 11.5; 1 Cor 4.8
* **3.18** Isa 55.1; Mt 13.44; Rev 7.13
* **3.19** Prov 3.11; Heb 12.5, 6; Rev 2.5
* **3.20** Mt 24.33; Lk 12.36; Jn 14.23
* **3.21** Mt 19.28; Rev 2.7; 5.5

Revelation 4

* **4.1** Rev 1.10, 19; 11.12
k **4.2** Or *in the Spirit*
* **4.2** Isa 6.1; Ezek 1.26–28; Dan 7.9; Rev 1.10
* **4.4** Rev 3.4, 5; 11.16
* **4.5** Zech 4.2; Rev 1.4; 8.5; 16.18
* **4.6** Ezek 1.5; Rev 15.2
* **4.7** Ezek 1.10; 10.14
* **4.8** Isa 6.2, 3; Rev 1.4, 8
* **4.9** Ps 47.8; Rev 10.6; 15.7
* **4.10** vv 2, 4, 9; Rev 5.8, 14
* **4.11** Gen 1.1; Eph 3.9; Rev 5.12; 10.6

Revelation 5

l **5.1** Or *written on the inside and sealed on the back*
* **5.1** vv 7, 13; Isa 29.11; Ezek 2.9, 10; Dan 12.4
* **5.5** Gen 49.9; Isa 11.1, 10; Rom 15.12; Heb 7.14; Rev 22.16
* **5.6** Isa 53.7; Zech 3.9; 4.10; Rev 4.5, 6; 13.8
* **5.8** Ps 141.2; Rev 14.2
m **5.9** Gk *ransomed for God from*
* **5.9** Ps 40.3; 1 Cor 6.20; Heb 9.12; Rev 4.11
n **5.10** Gk *priests to*
o **5.10** Other ancient authorities read *they reign*
* **5.10** Ex 19.6; Isa 61.6
* **5.11** Dan 7.10; Heb 12.22
* **5.13** v 3; Phil 2.10; 1 Tim 6.16; Rev 1.6; 6.16; 7.10

Revelation 6

p **6.1** Or *"Go!"*
* **6.1** Rev 5.1, 5–7; 14.2; 19.6
* **6.2** Zech 6.3, 11; Rev 14.14; 19.11
q **6.3** Or *"Go!"*
r **6.4** Or *went*
* **6.4** Zech 6.2
s **6.5** Or *"Go!"*
* **6.5** Zech 6.2; Rev 4.7
t **6.6** Gk *a denarius*
u **6.6** Gk *a denarius*
v **6.7** Or *"Go!"*
* **6.8** Ezek 5.12; Hos 13.14; Zech 6.3
* **6.9** Rev 1.9; 12.17; 14.18; 16.7; 20.4
* **6.10** Ps 79.10; Zech 1.12; Rev 3.7; 19.2
* **6.11** Heb 11.40; Rev 3.5; 7.9; 14.13
* **6.12** Joel 2.31; Mt 24.29; Acts 2.20; Rev 16.18
* **6.13** Isa 34.4; Rev 8.10; 9.1
* **6.14** Isa 34.4; Jer 3.23; 4.24; Rev 16.20
* **6.15** Isa 2.10, 19
* **6.16** Hos 10.8; Lk 23.30; Rev 9.6
w **6.17** Other ancient authorities read *his*
* **6.17** Ps 76.7; Zeph 1.14; Rev 16.14

Revelation 7

* **7.1** Rev 9.4

* **7.3** Ezek 9.4; Rev 6.6; 22.4
* **7.4** Rev 9.16; 14.1
* **7.9** Rom 11.25; Rev 3.5, 18; 4.4; 5.9; 6.11
* **7.10** Ps 3.8; Rev 5.13; 12.10; 19.1
* **7.12** Rev 5.12–14
* **7.14** Zech 3.3–5; Mt 24.21; Heb 9.14; 1 Jn 1.7
* **7.15** Isa 4.5, 6; Rev 21.3
* **7.16** Ps 121.5, 6; Isa 49.10; Rev 21.4
* **7.17** Ps 23.1; Isa 25.8; Jn 10.11, 14

Revelation 8

* **8.1** Rev 6.1
* **8.2** 1 Cor 15.52; 1 Thess 4.16
* **8.3** Ex 30.1; Rev 5.8; 6.9; 7.2
* **8.4** Ps 141.2
* **8.5** Lev 16.12; Rev 4.5; 6.12
x **8.6** Other ancient authorities read *made themselves ready to blow*
* **8.7** Ezek 38.22; Rev 9.4
* **8.8** Jer 51.25; Rev 16.3
* **8.10** Isa 14.12; Rev 9.1; 16.4
* **8.11** Jer 9.15; 23.15
* **8.12** Rev 6.12, 13
* **8.13** Rev 9.12; 11.14; 14.6; 19.17

Revelation 9

* **9.1** Lk 8.31; Rev 8.10; 17.8; 20.1
* **9.2** Gen 19.28; Ex 19.18; Joel 2.2, 10
* **9.3** v 10; Ex 10.12–15
* **9.4** Rev 6.6; 7.2, 3; 8.7
* **9.5** vv 3, 10
* **9.6** Job 3.21; Jer 8.3; Rev 6.16
* **9.7** Dan 7.8; Joel 2.4; Nah 3.17
* **9.8** Joel 1.6
* **9.9** Joel 2.5
y **9.11** That is, *Destruction*
z **9.11** That is, *Destroyer*
* **9.11** Eph 2.2
* **9.12** Rev 8.13
a **9.13** Other ancient authorities read *four horns*
* **9.13** Ex 30.1–3; Rev 8.3

* **9.14** Rev 16.12
* **9.16** Rev 5.11; 7.4
b **9.17** Gk *hyacinth*
* **9.17** v 18; Rev 11.5
c **9.18** Gk *their*
* **9.20** Deut 31.29; Ps 115.4; 135.15; Dan 5.23; 1 Cor 10.20

Revelation 10

* **10.1** Mt 17.2; Rev 1.15, 16; 5.2
* **10.3** Isa 31.4; Rev 4.5
* **10.4** Dan 8.26; 12.4, 9; Rev 22.10
* **10.5** Ex 6.8; Dan 12.7
* **10.6** Rev 4.11; 14.7; 16.17
* **10.7** Rom 16.25; Rev 11.15
* **10.9** Jer 15.16; Ezek 2.8
* **10.10** Ezek 3.3

Revelation 11

* **11.1** Ezek 40.3; Rev 21.15
* **11.2** Ezek 40.17; Lk 21.24; Rev 13.5
* **11.3** Rev 12.6; 19.10
* **11.4** Ps 52.8; Jer 11.16; Zech 4.3, 11, 14
* **11.5** Num 16.29; 2 Kings 1.10; Jer 5.14
* **11.6** Ex 7.17, 19; 1 Kings 17.1
* **11.7** Dan 7.21; Rev 9.1, 2; 13.1
d **11.8** Or *allegorically*; Gk *spiritually*
* **11.8** Isa 1.9; Heb 13.12; Rev 14.8
* **11.10** Esth 9.19, 22; Rev 3.10
e **11.11** Or *the spirit*
f **11.11** Gk *them*
* **11.11** Ezek 37.5, 9, 10, 14
g **11.12** Other ancient authorities read *I*
* **11.12** 2 Kings 2.11; Acts 1.9; Rev 4.1
* **11.13** Rev 6.12; 14.7; 16.11
* **11.14** Rev 9.12
h **11.15** Gk *Christ*
* **11.15** Dan 2.44; 7.14, 27; Rev 10.7; 12.10; 16.17; 19.1
* **11.16** Rev 4.4; 5.8
* **11.17** Rev 1.8; 19.6
* **11.18** Ps 2.1; Dan 7.9, 10; Rev 10.7; 19.5

* **11.19** Rev 8.5; 15.5, 8; 16.21

Revelation 12

* **12.2** Isa 66.7; Gal 4.19
* **12.3** Dan 7.7; Rev 13.1; 19.12
* **12.4** Dan 8.10; Rev 8.7, 12
i **12.5** Or *to shepherd*
* **12.5** 2 Cor 12.2
* **12.6** Rev 11.3
* **12.7** Dan 10.13; Rev 20.2
* **12.9** Gen 3.1, 4; Jn 12.31; Rev 20.2, 3, 8, 10
j **12.10** Gk *Christ*
* **12.10** Job 1.9–11; Zech 3.1; Rev 11.15
* **12.11** Lk 14.26; Rom 16.20
* **12.12** Ps 96.11; Isa 49.13; Rev 8.13; 10.6; 18.20
k **12.13** Or *persecuted*
* **12.14** Ex 19.4; Dan 7.25; 12.7
* **12.15** Isa 59.19
* **12.17** Gen 3.15; Rev 1.2, 9; 11.7; 14.12
l **12.18** Gk *Then he*; other ancient authorities read *Then I stood*

Revelation 13

* **13.1** Dan 7.1–6; Rev 17.3
* **13.2** Rev 16.10
m **13.3** Gk *the plague of its death*
* **13.3** Rev 17.8
* **13.4** Rev 18.18
* **13.5** Dan 7.8, 11, 25; Rev 11.2
n **13.7** Other ancient authorities lack this sentence
* **13.7** Dan 7.21; Rev 5.9; 11.7
o **13.8** Or *written in the book of life of the Lamb that was slaughtered from the foundation of the world*
* **13.8** Phil 4.3; Rev 3.5; 5.6; 17.8
* **13.10** Isa 33.1; Mt 26.52; Rev 14.12
p **13.12** Gk *whose plague of its death*
* **13.13** 1 Kings 18.38; Mt 24.24; Rev 16.14; 20.9
q **13.14** Or *that had received the plague of the sword*
* **13.14** 2 Thess 2.9, 10; Rev 12.9
r **13.15** Or *spirit*
* **13.16** Rev 11.18; 14.9; 19.5, 18

* **13.17** Rev 14.9, 11; 15.2
s **13.18** Other ancient authorities read *six hundred sixteen*
* **13.18** Rev 15.2; 17.9; 21.17

Revelation 14

* **14.1** Ps 2.6; Rev 3.12; 5.6; 7.3
* **14.2** Rev 1.15; 5.8
* **14.4** 2 Cor 11.2; Jas 1.18; Rev 3.4; 5.9
* **14.5** Ps 32.2; Zeph 3.13; Eph 5.27
t **14.6** Gk *sit*
* **14.6** Rev 3.10; 5.9; 8.13
* **14.7** Rev 4.11; 8.10; 11.13; 15.4
* **14.8** Isa 21.9; Jer 51.8; Rev 17.5; 18.2, 10
* **14.9** Rev 13.14–16
* **14.10** Isa 51.17; Jer 25.15; Rev 18.6; 19.20; 20.10
* **14.11** Isa 34.10; Rev 4.8; 13.17; 19.3
u **14.12** Or *to their faith in*
* **14.12** Rev 12.17; 13.10
v **14.13** Other ancient authorities lack *Yes*
* **14.13** 1 Cor 15.18; 1 Thess 4.16; Rev 20.6
* **14.14** Dan 7.13; Rev 1.13; 6.2
* **14.15** Jer 51.33; Joel 3.13; Rev 13.12
* **14.18** Joel 3.13; Rev 16.8
* **14.20** Isa 63.3; Heb 13.12; Rev 11.8

Revelation 15

* **15.1** Lev 26.21; Rev 12.1, 3; 14.10; 16.1
* **15.2** Rev 4.6; 5.8; 13.14, 15
w **15.3** Other ancient authorities read *the ages*
* **15.3** Deut 32.3, 4; Ps 111.2; 145.17; Hos 14.9
* **15.4** Isa 66.23; Jer 10.7
x **15.5** Or *tabernacle*
y **15.6** Other ancient authorities read *stone*
* **15.7** Rev 4.6, 9; 10.6
* **15.8** Ex 40.34; 1 Kings 8.10; Isa 6.4

Revelation 16

* **16.1** Rev 15.1
* **16.2** Ex 9.9–11; Rev 8.7; 13.15–17
* **16.3** Rev 8.8, 9

* **16.4** Ex 7.17–21; Rev 8.10
* **16.5** Rev 11.17; 15.3, 4
* **16.7** Rev 6.9; 14.18; 15.3; 19.2
* **16.9** Rev 2.21; 11.13
* **16.10** Rev 9.2; 11.10; 13.2
* **16.12** Isa 41.2; Rev 9.14
* **16.13** Rev 12.3; 13.1; 19.20
* **16.14** 1 Tim 4.1; Rev 3.10; 13.13; 17.14
z **16.15** Gk *and keeps his robes*
* **16.15** 2 Cor 5.3; 1 Thess 5.2
a **16.16** Gk *they*
b **16.16** Gk *them*
* **16.18** Dan 12.1; Rev 4.5; 6.12
* **16.19** Rev 14.8, 10; 17.18; 18.5
c **16.21** Gk *weighing about a talent*
* **16.21** Ex 9.23; Rev 11.19

Revelation 17

d **17.1** Or *prostitute*
* **17.1** Jer 51.13; Rev 16.19; 19.2; 21.9
e **17.2** Or *prostitution*
* **17.2** Rev 14.8; 18.3
f **17.3** Or *in the Spirit*
* **17.3** Rev 12.3, 6, 14
* **17.4** Jer 51.7; Rev 18.6, 16
g **17.5** Or *Babylon, the great mother*
h **17.5** Or *prostitutes*
* **17.5** 2 Thess 2.7; Rev 14.8; 16.19; 18.9
* **17.6** Rev 12.11; 13.15; 18.24
* **17.8** Rev 3.10; 11.7; 13.3, 8, 10
* **17.9** Rev 13.18
* **17.12** Dan 7.20; Rev 13.1; 18.10, 17, 19
* **17.14** Mt 22.14; 1 Tim 6.15; Rev 16.14; 19.16
i **17.15** Or *prostitute*
* **17.15** Isa 8.7; Rev 5.9; 13.7
j **17.16** Or *prostitute*
* **17.16** Ezek 16.37, 39; Rev 18.8, 17, 19; 19.18
* **17.17** 2 Thess 2.11; Rev 10.7
* **17.18** Rev 14.8

Revelation 18

* **18.1** Ezek 43.2; Rev 10.1; 17.1
k **18.2** Other ancient authorities read *a haunt of every foul and hateful bird*
* **18.2** Isa 13.21, 22; Jer 50.39; Rev 14.8
l **18.3** Other ancient authorities read *all the nations have drunk*
m **18.3** Or *prostitution*
n **18.3** Or *resources*
* **18.3** Jer 25.15, 27; Rev 14.8
* **18.4** Isa 48.20; Jer 50.8; 2 Cor 6.17
* **18.5** Jer 51.9; Rev 16.19
* **18.6** Ps 137.8; Jer 50.15; Rev 14.10; 16.19
* **18.7** Isa 47.7, 8; Ezek 28.2–8; Zeph 2.15
* **18.8** Isa 47.9; Jer 50.34; Rev 11.17; 17.16
o **18.9** Or *prostitution*
* **18.9** v 18; Jer 50.46; Rev 17.2; 19.3
* **18.10** vv 15–17, 19
* **18.12** Rev 17.4
p **18.13** Or *chariots, and human bodies and souls*
* **18.13** Ezek 17.13
* **18.15** Ezek 27.31, 36
* **18.16** Rev 17.4
* **18.17** Isa 23.14; Ezek 27.29; Rev 17.16
* **18.18** Ezek 27.30; Rev 13.4
* **18.19** Josh 7.6; Job 2.12; Ezek 27.30
* **18.20** Isa 44.23; Jer 51.48; Rev 19.2
* **18.21** Jer 51.63; Rev 12.8
* **18.22** Isa 24.8; Jer 25.10; Ezek 26.13
* **18.23** Isa 23.8; Jer 7.34; 16.9; 25.10; Nah 3.4
q **18.24** Gk *her*
* **18.24** Jer 51.49; Rev 17.6

Revelation 19

* **19.1** Rev 4.11; 7.10, 12; 11.15; 12.10
r **19.2** Or *prostitute*
* **19.2** Deut 32.43; Rev 6.10
* **19.3** Isa 34.10; Rev 14.11
* **19.4** Rev 4.4, 6; 5.14
s **19.5** Other ancient authorities lack *and*
* **19.5** Ps 134.1; Rev 11.18; 20.12
t **19.6** Other ancient authorities add *our*

* **19.6** Rev 11.15, 17; 14.2
* **19.7** Mt 22.2; 25.10; 2 Cor 11.2; Eph 5.32; Rev 21.2, 9
* **19.8** Rev 15.4
u **19.9** Gk *he said*
* **19.9** v 10; Lk 14.15; Rev 1.19; 21.5
v **19.10** Or *to Jesus*
w **19.10** Or *to Jesus*
* **19.10** Acts 10.26; Rev 12.17; 22.8, 9
* **19.11** Isa 11.4; Rev 3.14; 6.2; 15.5
x **19.12** Other ancient authorities omit *like*
* **19.12** Rev 1.14; 2.17; 6.2
y **19.13** Other ancient authorities read *sprinkled with*
* **19.13** Isa 63.2, 3; Jn 1.1
z **19.15** Or *will shepherd*
* **19.15** Ps 2.9; Isa 11.4; 2 Thess 2.8; Rev 2.27; 14.19, 20
* **19.16** Dan 2.47; Rev 17.14
* **19.17** Ezek 39.17; Rev 8.13
* **19.18** Ezek 39.18–20; Rev 11.18
* **19.19** Rev 11.7; 16.14, 16

Revelation 20

* **20.2** 2 Pet 2.4; Jude 6; Rev 12.9
* **20.3** Dan 6.17; Rev 12.9
a **20.4** Or *for the testimony of Jesus*
* **20.4** Dan 7.9, 22, 27; Rev 6.9; 13.12, 15, 16
* **20.6** Rev 1.6; 2.11; 14.13; 21.8
* **20.8** Ezek 38.2; 39.1; Heb 11.12; Rev 16.14
b **20.9** Other ancient authorities read *from God, out of heaven,* or *out of heaven from God*
* **20.9** Ezek 38.9, 22; 39.6
c **20.11** Gk *the*
* **20.11** Dan 2.35; Rev 4.2; 12.8
* **20.12** Mt 16.27; Rev 2.3; 22.12
* **20.13** Isa 26.19; Rev 2.23; 6.8
* **20.14** 1 Cor 15.26; Rev 6.8

Revelation 21

* **21.1** Isa 65.17; 2 Pet 3.13; Rev 20.11
* **21.2** Heb 11.10; 12.22; Rev 3.12
d **21.3** Gk *the tabernacle*
e **21.3** Gk *will tabernacle*

f **21.3** Other ancient authorities read *people*
g **21.3** Other ancient authorities lack *and be their God*
* **21.3** Ezek 37.27; 2 Cor 6.16; Rev 7.15
h **21.4** Other ancient authorities lack *for*
* **21.4** Isa 35.10; 65.19; 1 Cor 15.26; Rev 7.17; 20.14
* **21.5** Isa 43.19; Rev 4.9; 19.9; 20.11
* **21.6** Jn 4.10; Rev 1.8; 16.17; 22.13
i **21.8** Or *the unbelieving*
j **21.8** Or *prostitutes*
* **21.8** Heb 12.14; Rev 2.11; 19.20; 22.15
* **21.9** Rev 15.1, 6, 7; 20.14ff
k **21.10** Or *in the Spirit*
* **21.10** Ezek 40.2; Rev 1.10; 17.3
* **21.11** Rev 4.6; 15.8; 22.5
l **21.12** Other ancient authorities lack *that are the names*
* **21.12** Ezek 48.31–34
* **21.14** Mt 16.18; Eph 2.20
m **21.15** Gk *He*
* **21.15** Rev 11.1
* **21.23** Isa 24.23; 60.19, 20; Rev 22.5
* **21.24** Isa 60.3, 5
* **21.25** Isa 60.11; Zech 14.7; Rev 22.5
* **21.27** Isa 52.1; Joel 3.17; Rev 3.5; 22.14

Revelation 22

n **22.1** Gk *he*
* **22.1** Ezek 47.1; Zech 14.8; Rev 4.6
o **22.2** Or *the Lamb*. [2]*In the middle of the street of the city, and on either side of the river, is the tree of life*
* **22.2** Gen 2.9; Ezek 47.12; Rev 2.7
* **22.3** Zech 14.11; Rev 7.15
* **22.4** Mt 5.8; Rev 14.1
* **22.5** Dan 7.27; Rev 21.23, 25
* **22.6** Rev 1.1; 19.19; 21.5
* **22.7** Rev 1.3; 3.11
* **22.11** Ezek 3.27; Dan 12.10
* **22.12** Isa 40.10; Jer 17.10; Rev 2.23
p **22.14** Other ancient authorities read *do his commandments*
q **22.15** Or *prostitutes*
* **22.15** Gal 5.19ff; Phil 3.2; Col 3.6
* **22.16** 2 Pet 1.19; Rev 1.1; 2.28; 5.5

* **22.17** Isa 55.1; Rev 2.7; 21.2, 6
* **22.18** Deut 4.2; Prov 30.6; Rev 15.6–16.21
* **22.20** Rom 16.20; 2 Thess 3.18; 2 Tim 4.8
r **22.21** Other ancient authorities lack *all* or *the saints* or *Amen*